# F21

Department of Germanic Languages

YIDDISH
LANGUAGE
& LITERATURE





## YIDDISH STUDIES PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Department of Germanic Languages
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New York, NY 10027

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**Yiddish Studies Program at Columbia** 

Take advantage of great Yiddish opportunities offered at Columbia University!

## ייִדיש לימודים פּראָגראַם אין קאָלומביע אוניווערסיטעט

## YIDDISH STUDIES PROGRAM AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

#### **OUR FACULTY:**

#### **Professor Jeremy Dauber**

Director of the Yiddish Studies Program jad213@columbia.edu

#### Dr. Agi Legutko

Director of the Yiddish Language Program
a.legutko@columbia.edu

## A few words about the Yiddish courses offered at Columbia from student evaluations:

"This class made me want to explore the Yiddish language and culture even further."
(Elementary Yiddish I)

"Great professor. Great energy. Made me excited to learn about something I previously had zero interest in!!!"

(Women, Gender and Yiddish Literature)

"Agi's enthusiasm for Yiddish is infectious!"
(Elementary Yiddish I)

"Absolutely superb. Phenomenal. A joy. I could go on kvelling forever. Professor Dauber is brilliant."

(Humor in Jewish Literature)

#### **YIDDISH COURSES OFFERED IN FALL 2021**

#### -ELEMENTARY YIDDISH I

(Yiddish UN1101, 4 points)

TR 12:10-2:00 PM

#### -INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH I

(Yiddish UN1101, 4 points)

MW 2:10-4:00 PM

#### -ADVANCED YIDDISH

(Yiddish UN3333, 4 points)

TR 12:10-3:25 PM

#### - LIFE WRITING IN YIDDISH LITERATURE

(Yiddish GU4675, 3 points)

T 4:10-6:00 PM

### - READINGS IN JEWISH LITERATURE: AMERICAN JEWISH LITERATURE: A SURVEY

(Yiddish UN3500, 3 points)

T 2:10-4:00 PM

## We offer the Yiddish Major and Concentration in Yiddish as the only program in the US!

More info about requirements is here.

Yiddish, the language of the Ashkenazi Jews, has been spoken for over 1,000 years. Before the Second World War there were over 12 million Yiddish speakers. New York has been one of the most vibrant centers of Yiddish culture since the first half of the 20th century.

"One can find in the Yiddish tongue and in the Yiddish spirit expressions of pious joy, lust for life, longing for the Messiah, patience and deep appreciation of human individuality. There is a quiet humor in Yiddish and a gratitude for every day of life, every crumb of success, each encounter of love. ... In a figurative way, Yiddish is the wise and humble language of us all, the idiom of frightened and hopeful Humanity."

(Isaac Bashevis Singer, Nobel Prize Lecture, 1978)



Isaac Bashevis Singer (1904-1991)

The most famous Yiddish writer, winner of Nobel Prize in Literature, and two U.S. National Awards

## Columbia University has one of the most vibrant undergraduate Yiddish programs in the world.

The Yiddish Studies Program at the Department of Germanic Languages offers a variety of language, and literature courses on undergraduate, and graduate levels, as well as a series of cultural events every year!

#### **WE NOW OFFER THE**

#### **NAOMI PRAWER KADAR FELLOWSHIP**

#### **FOR YIDDISH STUDENTS!**

Fulfill language requirement in three semesters (or commit to three semesters of Yiddish) and spend the summer abroad!

&

THE IRENE KRONHILL PLETKA
YIVO RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Complete two semesters of Yiddish and do archival research in NY.



Please like our <u>Facebook page</u> to get the latest updates about Yiddish-related events happening at Columbia and in New York.

## Dr. Agi Legutko

















# LIFE WRITING IN YIDDISH LITERATURE: AUTOBIOGRAPHY, MEMOIR, OR FICTION?

## Yiddish GU4675 (3 credits) Thursday 4:10-6PM

This course will explore the borderlands between memoir, autobiography and fiction in life writing in Yiddish literature through the lens of the Eastern European Jewish experience. Employing gender and comparative approach as analytical lenses, we will read several autobiographical works and address the following questions: how to deal with the concept of memory in personal narratives? How to distinguish between truth, self-fashioning, and fiction in autobiographical writing? What role does the immigrant experience play in Jewish autobiographical narratives? The texts and class discussion will be in English.

As part of the digital humanities initiative at Columbia, this course will contribute to the Mapping Yiddish New York (MYNY) project, a growing online archive documenting Yiddish cultural history of New York. Selected essays produced in this class will be featured on the MYNY website and students will acquire skills in digital publishing and scholarly research.

## Sign up for

## ELEMENTARY YIDDISH I

(FALL 2021, Yiddish UN1101, 4 credits)



## TR 12:10pm-2:00pm

& apply for:

NAOMI PRAWER KADAR FELLOWSHIP

(commit to at least 3 semesters of Yiddish & apply for a FREE YIDDISH STUDY ABROAD program)

~ OR ~

IRENE KRONHILL PLETKA FELLOWSHIP

(take 2 semesters of Yiddish & do paid research at YIVO)

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More info: <a href="www.iijs.columbia.edu/naomi-fellowship/">www.iijs.columbia.edu/naomi-fellowship/</a>
<a href="https://germanic.columbia.edu/programs/yiddish/fellowships">https://germanic.columbia.edu/programs/yiddish/fellowships</a>
<a href="mailto:Questions?">Questions?</a> Email Dr. Agi Legutko at a.legutko@columbia.edu