Lifelong Learning
Jewish Studies Courses and Events
2013 – 2014
Jewish Studies looks at all subjects relating to Jewishness and Judaism whether historical, political, literary, philosophical, cultural or religious.

Our courses in Jewish Studies will be of interest to anyone who wants to learn more about Judaism and Jewishness, or how different cultures and religions interact. The programme is taught by members of the University of Southampton’s Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations, whose enthusiasm for their subjects is clear in their teaching. The involvement of the Parkes Institute also encourages a multidisciplinary approach to Jewish Studies, which illustrates the connection between different aspects of Jewish history and culture. The courses present the opportunity to look at the variety of issues that have impacted on the Jewish people throughout history and have influenced the relationship between Jews and non-Jews to the present. It is a subject area that not only deals with the past to understand where we are today, but is of fundamental importance to knowledge of inter-cultural issues that impact on today’s world.

For more information about the Parkes Institute, see:

Website: www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes
Blog: parkesinstitute.wordpress.com
Twitter: @ParkesInstitute
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Parkes-Institute/134199523422157
Evening Classes

The Jewish Studies programme presents three evening courses this year:

**Jewish Culture and History**

This course will introduce you to the rich variety within Jewish history and culture, and investigate developments within Jewish culture focusing especially on relations with other groups both religious and secular.

The course will begin by asking you to discuss and evaluate the definition of Jewish culture and consider what represents a ‘Jewish’ cultural or historical development. The course will then focus on a series of case studies examined from a broadly chronological perspective, with each week analysing sources from within different media including music, art, film and literature.

The material discussed will give you a broad overview of Jewish history from antiquity to the present day, including case studies from Jerusalem in early Jewish society to approaches to studying the Holocaust. The sources and topics you will examine will consider Jewish history and culture from the perspective of both the religious and the secular and so encompass a range of facets of Jewish life.

**Jewish Culture and History**

Tutor: team-taught by members of the Parkes Institute

Duration: 12 meetings Thursdays 7-9pm
starting 10 October 2013

Fee: £180 (£155 Friends of Parkes)
Britain, Israel and the Modern World

Britain’s near 100-year formal relationship with the Jewish community in what was Palestine and later Israel has always been significant for both nations. However, this relationship has developed substantially since the end of the British controlled Mandate of Palestine in 1948 and the subsequent establishment of the State of Israel. Despite such developments, it remains of key global importance: the position of Britain on the UN Security Council as well as the interaction between the two respective Jewish communities demonstrates the continuing relevance of this historical relationship to the modern world.

This course will explore the evolving relationship between Britain and Israel from 1948 to the present day, examining a wide range of interconnected socio-political issues and themes such as ‘New’ anti-Semitism, Holocaust memory and decolonisation. This course will provide a detailed overview of a significant international relationship that continues to be of global importance, whilst also focusing on the responses of two Jewish communities to some of the defining moments in modern history.

Britain, Israel and the Modern World

Tutor: Sarah Shawyer

Duration: 12 meetings Wednesdays 7-9pm starting 5 February 2014

Fee: £180 (£155 Friends of Parkes)
Classical Hebrew (Reading the Bible)

This course will provide you with an elementary knowledge of Classical Hebrew grammar, which is needed in order to read the Tanakh or Old Testament in its original language. The course will focus on explanation of grammatical forms and syntax in order to read and translate phrases and sentences taken from the biblical text itself, and primarily from the book of Genesis.

This course is a continuation of part one, which covered the forms of the active ‘qal’ verb, masculine and feminine nouns, basic prepositions, conjunctions, adjectives and pronouns. In part two, the course will focus on the different forms of the regular verb in Classical Hebrew, the weak verbs, waw consecutive and verbal suffixes. If you missed part one, please do get in touch to see if this course is appropriate for you and new-comers are most welcome!

The course will enable you to read and translate select verses from the book of Genesis from Hebrew into English, explain your own views on issues in translation of Classical Hebrew and evaluate the importance of knowledge of the original text of the Tanakh or Old Testament in the study of biblical ideas.

Classical Hebrew
Tutor: Helen Spurling
Duration: 12 meetings Thursdays 7-9pm starting 6 February 2014
Fee: £180 (£155 Friends of Parkes)
Study Days

In addition to our 12 week courses we also hold regular, one-day cultural events consisting of a series of short talks on a particular theme that are led by experts from within the Parkes Institute. The Parkes Institute brings together academics from the variety of disciplines within the Faculty of Humanities including English, History and Modern Languages. These thought-provoking and inspiring study days provide you with the opportunity to learn and engage in discussion about particular aspects of Jewish Studies from academics of international distinction.

In the coming year we will host two study days on the following topics:

‘What is Judaism?’
Saturday 2 November 2013

‘What is Judaism?’ is not a straightforward question, and will be addressed in our first study day this year from the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations. The day will be held on 2 November 2013 and will consist of a series of talks with lots of opportunities for questions, discussion and debate. Judaism and Jewish life and identity outside of the religious sphere have developed in many different trajectories throughout different historical periods and geographical contexts. We will introduce you to some key questions in the debate about Jewishness and invite you to consider: what is Judaism?
‘The Holocaust: A beginning or an end?’
Sunday 15 June 2014

A study day for the general public on ‘The Holocaust: A beginning or an end?’ will be held on Sunday 15 June 2014. The day will consist of a series of talks by experts from the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations with plenty of opportunities for questions and discussion. The talks will cover a diverse range of topics on the Holocaust or Shoah and examine this difficult period of Jewish history from a variety of different perspectives, including history and literature, film, memoirs and Holocaust testimony. The day will present the opportunity to learn about perhaps more unfamiliar aspects of the Holocaust and examine developments within Jewish life since this defining event.

Please visit our website for further details:
www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/jewish_studies

Previous topics have included:
‘Jewish life before and after the Holocaust’ June 2010  
‘Antisemitism’ December 2010  
‘Exile and Dispersion’ March 2011  
‘Jewish Culture Through the Ages’ October 2011  
‘Responses to the Holocaust’ March 2012  
‘Jewish-Christian Relations’ June 2012  
‘Change and Continuity: The Impact of the Holocaust’ November 2012  
‘Lost in Translation? Jewish Cultures’ June 2013  

After our study day on ‘The Impact of the Holocaust’, participants remarked:

“I found the day highly informative and useful” and “Excellent, from start to finish”.

We always welcome suggestions for topics for our study days.
The Parkes Seminar Series

The Parkes Seminar Series consists of lectures by academics on both a national and international level who are invited to give talks about their latest work. Everyone is welcome to attend our lectures which are usually held on a Tuesday evening, starting at 6pm, approximately every two weeks throughout the year. Also look out for our three main public lectures: The Parkes Lecture, the Montefiore Lecture and the Karten Lecture. For details and the timetable for this year’s programme see www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes

Interfaith Week 2013:

17 – 23 November

Together with the University Chaplaincy, this year we are involved in running a series of talks and events for interfaith week 2013, including an evening examining the legacy of Revd Dr James Parkes for interfaith relations. James Parkes (1896-1981) was one of the most remarkable figures in British Christianity in the twentieth century. He became a priest in 1926 and was affiliated to the Student Christian Movement and the International Student Service, Geneva, through which he began to confront the growth of nationalist and racist organisations in Europe during the late 1920s. Thereafter, he devoted his career to fighting antisemitism and seeking out its origins. Parkes believed that in order to establish future dialogue between Christians and Jews it was essential to understand what Christians had thought about Jews and the Jewish religion throughout the ages.

Interfaith week events include discussion of an interview with James Parkes, conversations for the soul, an exhibition focusing on questions in interfaith dialogue and Space for Peace – a musical vigil for peace with a variety of religious and secular musical and choral groups. Please do get in touch for more details.
Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day 2014

For January 2014, the Parkes Institute in partnership with Solent University is organising a full programme with schools and community groups for the commemoration of Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day. The commemoration will be held on Monday 27 January at 6.00pm in the Sir James Matthews building, Above Bar Street, Southampton. The evening is open to all.

Working with Schools and Colleges

Our study days are becoming popular with sixthform and college students as a way to get a taste of university teaching and enhance their personal statements. Members of the Parkes Institute can also give lectures and workshops in local schools on request. However, we encourage you to participate in our established programmes and summer schools. Please do get in touch with Dr Helen Spurling (h.spurling@southampton.ac.uk) to discuss what would be useful for your students.

For details, see www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes
How to Apply/Further Information

For further information about the courses, including dates and times, please telephone us on 023 8059 7261, email lifelonglearning@soton.ac.uk or visit www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/jewish_studies. You can also follow us on Twitter: @sotonunilll

We need a minimum of eight people for an evening class to run and we only have a maximum of twenty places available, so don’t forget to sign up by the deadline – 18 September 2013 – for classes starting in October 2013!

Lifelong Learning is also delighted to offer a broad range of courses and study days in subjects including:

- Archaeology
- English Literature
- Film
- History
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Philosophy
and many others
Relevant web links are shown throughout this brochure. Please also consult www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning online for further details and/or any changes which have appeared since first publication of this brochure or phone 023 8059 7261 for more information.

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The University of Southampton will use all reasonable efforts to deliver advertised programmes and other services and facilities in accordance with the descriptions set out in its prospectuses, student handbooks, welcome guides and website. It will provide students with the tuition, learning support, services and facilities so described with reasonable care and skill.

The University, therefore, reserves the right if it considers it to be necessary to alter the timetable, location, content or method of delivery of events provided such alterations are reasonable.

Financial or other losses
The University will not be held liable for any direct or indirect financial or other losses or damage arising from changes made to the event timetable, location, content or method of delivery of various services and facilities set out herein.

Force majeure
The University will not be held liable for any loss, damage or expense resulting from any delay, variation or failure in the provision of services and facilities set out herein, arising from circumstances beyond the University’s reasonable control, including (but not limited to) war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, interruption in power supplies or other services for any reason, fire, boycott and telecommunications failure.

In the event that such circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the University arise, it will use all reasonable endeavours to minimise disruption as far as it is practical to do so.

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