Honours Coordinator’s Contact Details:

**Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew:** Ian Young
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**Jewish Civilisation, Thought and Culture:** Avril Alba
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**Modern Hebrew:** Yona Gilead
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**Departmental Application Closing Date:** Friday 26 October 2018

**Honours in Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies**
Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies

What is Honours?
‘Honours’ is an intensive year-long program of advanced study with research at its centre. The Honours year enables students to engage with the subject of their major in depth by undertaking research of their own, under the supervision of an expert in their field. For some students, Honours is the culmination of their formal education while for other students, Honours is the first step on the path to careers as professional researchers and academics.

**Entry Requirements**

**Entry Requirements** for Honours and **Unit Descriptions of Honours Seminar and Thesis Units** can be found in the Subject Area section for the Department of European Studies in the Arts and Social Sciences Undergraduate Handbook. Please also see the Sydney Courses Honours page for more information.

**Enrolment**

In the first instance you should discuss your intention to apply for Honours with the Honours Coordinator.

Once you have been accepted into the Honours program by the Honours Coordinator (or Coordinators for Joint Honours) please go to Sydney Courses and locate your Degree with Honours (e.g. Bachelor of Arts Honours). Click on ‘Apply’ on the right-hand side.

**Please note:** although there is a note below ‘Apply’ that indicates that the information is for prospective students, current students are also deemed ‘prospective students’ for Honours and therefore need to apply through Sydney Student.
Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew To qualify for honours you must complete the major with an average of 70 percent or above, normally including at least two Classical Hebrew units of study. The honours program allows students in Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew to undertake advanced seminars on biblical compositions and themes, and write a research thesis on a topic of their choice.

Hebrew Studies (Modern) To qualify for honours, you need to have successfully completed the major with an average of 70 percent or above. An honours year affords you an even broader exposure to Modern Hebrew which involves a high level usage of the language as well as a deeper understanding and knowledge of its linguistic features. Honours culminates with the completion of a research thesis on a topic of your choice, which you can write in either English or Hebrew.

Jewish Studies Admission to honours requires completion of 48 senior credit points with an average of 70 percent or above. This requirement includes the six senior units of study required for the major and two language units, from either Modern or Classical Hebrew. The language units can be studied in a semester abroad at the Hebrew University, and participation in a semester in-country exchange experience is encouraged. An honours year allows you to focus on a specific area of specialisation within the broad spectrum of the Jewish experience.

Students whose bachelor’s degree was undertaken at another university, or students who completed their bachelor’s degrees at the University of Sydney more than two years ago should contact the relevant Honours Coordinator to discuss whether the classes they have taken are equivalent to these prerequisites.

Assessment
The Honours Program in Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew consists of:

1. a thesis written under the supervision of one or more members of academic staff
2. one seminar in semester 1 and one seminar in semester 2, each two hours per week.

The thesis should be of 20000 words in length. Each seminar will require 6000 words of written work or its equivalent. The thesis is worth 60% of the final Honours mark and each of the seminars is worth 20%.

The Honours Program in Hebrew Studies (Modern) consists of:

1. a thesis written under the supervision of one or more members of academic staff.
2. one seminar in semester 1 and one seminar in semester 2, meeting weekly for 2 hours each.

The thesis should be of 15000 words in length if written in Hebrew or 20000 words in length if written in English. Each seminar requires 6000 words of written work or its equivalent. The thesis is worth 60% of the final Honours mark and each of the seminars is worth 20%.
The Honours Program in Jewish Studies consists of:

1. a thesis written under the supervision of one or more members of academic staff
2. one seminar in semester 1 and one seminar in semester 2, each two hours per week.

The thesis should be of 20000 words in length. Each seminar requires 6000 words of written work or its equivalent. The thesis is worth 60% of the final Honours mark and each of the seminars are worth 20%. Students will choose two IV Honours options. Students can choose to specialise in either the Classical or Modern period. Their dissertation must be in their area of speciality.

Seminars
Students should consult with the relevant Honours Coordinator regarding seminar offerings in the current year.

Thesis
The honours thesis constitutes an original piece of research and writing in a field that is supervised by a member of staff. It must demonstrate both a command of a wide range of secondary source material in Hebrew, Biblical or Jewish studies, as well as a command of a particular disciplinary or interdisciplinary approach to the topic of the research.

Thesis Supervision
Contact the relevant Honours Coordinator to discuss your preferred field of Honours study. The Honours Coordinator will then be able to suggest the most appropriate member of staff within the department to supervise the thesis. The list below, whilst not exhaustive, gives an idea of the areas of interest of staff from the Department.

Dr Michael Abrahams-Sprod supervises research in the Holocaust, with a special interest in German-speaking Jewry under Nazism, German and European Jewry, Zionism, the state of Israel, the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Dr Avril Alba supervises research in the Holocaust, its memory and representation, Museums and memorials, Judaism and modernity, Jewish theology/ post Holocaust theology.

Dr Yona Gilead supervises research in sociocultural theories of second/foreign language (L2) learning & teaching, methodology of L2 learning and teaching, Modern Hebrew language learning processes and behaviours.

Dr Gili Kugler supervises research in Biblical Studies.

Assoc Prof Ian Young supervises research in Language and Text of the Hebrew Bible.

Emerita Prof Suzanne Rutland supervises research in Australian Jewry, the Holocaust and Jewish education in Australia.
Examples of Theses

**Jewish Civilisation, Thought and Culture**
Joshua Koonin, ‘Ethnic Advocacy: Private Diplomacy or Public Demonstrations?’ January 2010

**Biblical Studies & Classical Hebrew**
Bernard Tola, ‘The Introduction to David’ (2018)
Melanie Burke, ‘The Semantic Presentation of the Qatal and Yiqtol Verbal Forms in Biblical Hebrew Grammars’ (2016)
Simon Burke, ‘Critical Editions Of The Commentaries Of Dionysius Bar Ṣalībī On Obadiah, Jonah, And Nahum’ (2016)
Natalie Mylonas, ‘Fallacies in Scholarship Pertaining to the Socio-Historical Context of John’ (2013)