



**RICHARD S. DINNER CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES  
AT THE GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION**

One of the foremost centers for the study of Judaism in the country, the Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies (CJS) offers an authentic Jewish presence at the Graduate Theological Union (GTU). Established in 1967, the Center for Jewish Studies is a vital meeting point at the GTU's crossroads of interreligious collaboration. It serves as an academic resource for scholars and students in the nine GTU member seminaries while stimulating the larger interreligious dialogue that takes place daily at the Graduate Theological Union. Offering an M.A. program in Jewish Studies and a Certificate in Jewish Studies, CJS also facilitates the doctoral work of students in Jewish Studies both at the GTU and in the Joint Doctoral Program in Jewish Studies with the University of California, Berkeley.

The center's open and pluralistic approach to Judaism adds to the diverse, engaged community for which the Graduate Theological Union is known. While students engage in the study of the traditional Jewish library, working at acquiring the textual skills to read the Hebrew Bible, Talmud, and Jewish thought, the center also welcomes all faith perspectives. Students and faculty study in a collaborative atmosphere in small seminars, examining Jewish classical sources, often in the original languages. Texts are viewed through many lenses, from anthropology and cultural studies to feminism, post-colonialism, and new historicism.

This rigorous, interdisciplinary approach makes the Center for Jewish Studies a dynamic intellectual environment in which to study Judaism, committed to the tradition both textually and pedagogically while continually opening it up to new horizons. The center helps both Jews and non-Jews to build bridges of understanding through colloquia, lectures, and spiritual and "living faith" events, including the holiday observances of the Sukkot Celebration and Passover Seder as well as an annual Holocaust memorial service.

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