This course examines the Jewish encounter with modernity in its diverse and often conflicting manifestations. Among the major themes to be discussed: the tension between reason and belief exacerbated by the European Enlightenment and the rise of modern secularism; the growing conflict between the values placed on individual liberty and communal responsibility; the nature of relations between Jews and non-Jews, especially as interactions become more frequent, more intense, and more commonplace; the modern (re)emergence of Jewish messianism, Hasidism, and Zionism; the role of diaspora in modern Jewish thought; gender, sexuality, and Jewish identity. Three credits.