Instructor:
Professor Hindy Najman,
Religious Studies and the Program in Judaic Studies, Yale University

Prerequisites: HEBI 60003
Students should have background in the Old Testament and some working knowledge of the Second Temple Period with some introductory knowledge of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Apocrypha, Pseudeipgrapha and Hellenistic Judaism.

Description of Content:
How can Judaism survive destruction and exile? How can it renew itself when its leading institutions have been devastated? What happens to the idea of divine revelation when the Temple is destroyed? What does it mean to receive prophecy and how does a community defined by its prophets survive in a post-prophetic era? Through our study of Biblical, Second Temple and Rabbinic texts, we will explore this tumultuous period in the life of the Jewish nation and reflect on how choices that were made then continue to shape Jewish identity throughout history.

Class Procedures:
Introductory lectures to the primary and secondary texts; extensive class discussions; group workshops; student presentations; daily writing preparation (to bring to class each day with writing prompts pre-circulated prior to the beginning of the course).

Requirements:
1. Preparatory reading assignments
2. Attendance and informed participation in class sessions and in group workshops
3. Daily writing assignments (to be brought to class)
4. First paper due May 7th (5-7 pages)
   a. Exegesis of two texts (choice of texts from Philo of Alexandria and excerpts from 4 Ezra):
      i. Choice of two texts
      ii. Explain how the later text reworks and transforms the earlier text.
4. Second paper is due on May 24th (8-10 pages) (choice of one of two research topics based upon class readings and workshops).

Texts:
For the most part I will post reading on the electronic server. I recommend the following purchases:

<http://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-jewish-study-bible-9780195297546?cc=&lang=en#>:

*JPS TANAKH: The Holy Scriptures.*

Hendrickson, 2012.

Kugel, James. *The Bible As It Was.*
<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674069411>

2 Volumes.
Brill, 1999.

<http://www.penguinclassics.co.uk/nf/Book/BookDisplay/0,9780141197326,00.html?The_Complete_Dead_Sea_Scrolls_in_English_(7th_Edition)_Geza_Vermes>


<http://www.cambridge.org/fr/academic/subjects/religion/biblical-studies-old-testament-hebrew-bible/losing-temple-and-recovering-future-analysis-4-ezra>

<https://secure.aidcvt.com/sbl/ProdDetails.asp?ID=069530P&PG=1&Type=BL&PCS=SBL>

Charlesworth, James, ed. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha.* 2 Volumes.
Grading Procedures:
Class Participation, preparedness (daily writing assignments), workshop participation: 30%
Exegesis paper: 35%
Research paper: 35%