JEWISH IDENTITY IN 21ST CENTURY THEATER

DeCal facilitated by Emili Bondar

Theater has an affinity to capture life’s deepest complexities—turning fictional characters and literary themes into words wished to be spoken and emotions longed to be openly expressed by its audience. This course will grapple with themes on Jewish identity, experienced in the contemporary age. Students will be explore Jewish identity as it fits with homosexuality, women’s roles in society, and familial and spiritual belonging in the modern-day. The plays explored in this course will expand on the complexities and expectations of society, family, and oneself in being Jewish, and what it truly means to be a “Jew”. The goal of the class is to analyze the internal and external afflictions that we face as individuals, and as a society, in the struggle between self-identity and social acceptance. The second half of the course will include a full-length play or a series of short acts which will culminate with a final performance. Students are not required to act in the play.