



POSEN LIBRARY

OF JEWISH CULTURE & CIVILIZATION

2026 Posen Library Jewish Studies Curriculum Initiative Fellowship Call for Applications

About

The Posen Library is an educational resource grounded in primary sources and made broadly accessible through the creation and curation of engaging contextual material. Our goal is to highlight the varieties of Jewish culture and civilization across time and space for English-speaking audiences and to be the first stop for those, in university settings and beyond, who are interested in teaching about the significant breadth of Jewish experiences.

Originally conceived as a 10-volume print anthology, the Posen Library's free digital platform makes the published content globally accessible. Content from print volumes is added to the site as the volumes are published by Yale University Press. Nine out of the ten volumes have been published to date.

The Jewish Studies Curriculum Initiative (JSCI) comprises teaching modules centered around core teaching topics. Each module consists of an overview and curricular material that can be used in four class meetings, focusing on 20–25 primary sources (texts, images, and other media) with interpretive content and supplementary resources for both students and instructors. Posen Library curricula offer flexibility and are designed to be easily integrated into coursework in a variety of ways—perfect for launching a new class or refreshing a syllabus to include new perspectives and voices.

Fellowship Description

The Posen Library JSCI Fellowship is an annual, one-year offering devoted to the creation of accessible teaching materials for Jewish studies courses at the university level, in fulfillment of our mission to be the first stop for instructors teaching about the breadth of Jewish cultures and experiences. Each year the fellowship invites innovative scholars and educators to draw from the Posen Library's collection and new digital resources to engage users.

2026–2027 Topics

For this year’s JSCI fellowship, we seek to provide curricular materials that will cover broad topics in early modern and modern Jewish history (1500 to the present). These materials will constitute the building blocks of a general introductory Jewish history course. Each fellow will be responsible for creating one teaching module for the JSCI. For the 2026–2027 fellowship, we are seeking proposals on any of the following chrono-geographical topics:

1. Jews in Early Modern Europe
2. Jews in Early Modern Muslim Lands
3. Jews in the Early Modern Atlantic
4. Holocaust
5. History of Zionism
6. Jews and Judaism after World War II

Priority will be given to proposals that (1) build on—without overlapping—the [existing modules](#) and (2) integrate primary sources and interpretive scholarship that highlight key themes outlined in the appendix.

Each module will draw from Posen Library sources and be curated as a collection of text and image materials. Fellows will select from existing Posen Library content available on the digital platform, suggest new entries to add to the Posen Library, and create contextual educational resources for the chosen additions. In addition to our website search, applicants may consult the print volume tables of contents and lists of guides, available here [\[link\]](#).

Fellows will work closely with Posen Library staff to develop their modules. All modules created will be reviewed by Posen staff and by experts in the relevant fields. The modules will be housed on the Posen Library website and will be available to other faculty to choose from to build their curricula. Fellows will be cited as the creators of the modules. Fellows will also advise on and participate in at least two outreach efforts, such as writing social media posts, an article, or a conference paper about their work; Posen Library will provide outreach toolkits for these.

Time Commitment

The fellowship will run from June 1, 2026, to May 31, 2027. Communications will take place virtually and will include regular video calls with Posen staff to check in on progress, coordinate, and support work.

- June–August 2026: approx 10 hours/week of research, writing, and meetings
- August–December 2026: 3–5 hours/week of writing and meetings
- December 2026–January 2027: 10 hours/week of editing and meetings
- January–May 2027: 3–5 hours/week of writing and meetings
- May 2027: up to 5 hours of final edits and meetings

Module Content Requirements

- 1 module overview: approximately 750 words
- 4 class overviews: approximately 500 words each
- 20–25 primary source introductions: approximately 100 words each
- Adding short bios for authors and artists not already on the site
- Providing short summaries and discussion questions for classes and primary sources

Posen staff will be responsible for securing permission and translations as needed for new primary-source materials, for copyediting new content, for working with our developers on any new site functionality, and for uploading content to the site.

Course Preferred Criteria

Modules should be geared to introductory-level survey courses with high enrollments that are frequently taught in Jewish studies programs. Chosen topics should have a substantial amount of material in the Posen Library, to reduce the number of new sources that would need to be added, though we recognize that this will vary by period and place. Course content should appeal broadly to students, instructors, and nonacademic users of the site and should reflect Posen's commitment to the breadth of Jewish experience.

All faculty-generated course content will be available through open access for any Posen Library website user.

Instructor Preferred Criteria

Fellows should be scholars in the field who have completed their Ph.D. and are dedicated to pedagogical innovation and diversity. They should have a minimum of three years of teaching experience.

Compensation

Fellows will receive a stipend of \$8,000 for their work, to be paid in quarterly installments over the course of the fellowship as progress toward deliverables is met.

Applications

Interested candidates should complete an application (available [here](#)) by April 13, 2026.

Appendix: Key Themes

- Migration
- Ethnicity & belonging
- Citizenship & nationality
- Politics
- Gender & sexuality
- Space & place
- Ritual observance
- Jewish thought
- Food & drink
- Performing arts
- Visual & material culture