Jewish Law Seminar: An Illustrative Selection of Materials available through the Georgetown Law Library (there are many more titles than are listed here).

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This handout is in a Jewish Law Seminar 2020 folder on Georgetown Box. Some articles and books you may find for yourselves electronically at other sites may be accessible only by the students and faculty of those institutions, and while Georgetown Law does not subscribe to all of them, we may have print equivalents, and for journals, we may have our own subscription through journal aggregators such as ProQuest, HeinOnline, and through interlibrary loan, so please ask a librarian before concluding that you cannot benefit from remote resources, electronic or physical.

General bibliographies and academic guides:

- __________. Resources to Begin the Study of Jewish Law in Conservative Judaism, 105 LAW LIBR. J. 305 (2013) available via HeinOnline.
- __________. Jewish Law for the Law Librarian, 98 LAW LIBR. J. 219 (2006) [and for the neophyte needing some good introductory definitions] available via HeinOnline.

Internet-based Resources and Portals
Jewish Law Resources in General; together with issues relating to American law
Jewish Law from Aleph Institute, Project Genesis, and the Orthodox Institute, Center for Halacha and American Law http://www.jlaw.com/ (older source: page may be set for non-Roman characters and may not load)
http://www.jlaw.com/LawPolicy/CenterforHalacha.html Electronic Jewish law case summaries, statutes and journals, with bibliographic citations to print formats. Briefs in US cases involving First Amendment issues, education, dietary laws, etc. and some regarding US regulatory conflicts with aspects of Jewish law. Halachic forms for living wills, permissible interest charges in sales, and prenuptial agreements. The case summary page is helpful for older cases by category.
International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, (focus on international human rights) [https://www.ijl.org/](https://www.ijl.org/).

Otzar Online, **Otzar HaHochma**: the world's largest digital library of Judaic books (over 60,000, ranging over many decades), (from our catalogue: “The database is a collection of electronic books on all aspects of Jewish Law, including civil law. It covers the Bible and its commentaries, and as described at the web site, a wealth of rabbinic and Talmudic material: ‘Tannaitic literature including Mishnah, Tosefa, Midrash Halakhah and Aggadah as well as their Commentaries: Talmudic Literature from both Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds and their Commentaries, as well as Geonic works.’ It also includes "Halakah and Customs from the Rishonim and Acharonim, as well as Responsa Literature.’”).

Rabbinical Assembly (Conservative Movement), (general resources for linking to contemporary topics) [https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/](https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/)

Resnicoff, Steven H. *Understanding Jewish law*. 2d ed. New Providence, NJ: LexisNexis, 2019, and 2012 (a study aid basic text located in the law library Oakley Reading Room on the entrance floor) Reading Room Study Aids KBM524 .R47 2019

Sefaria ([https://www.sefaria.org/](https://www.sefaria.org/)): A free source, this is a kind of library of Jewish texts and documents in both Hebrew and English, It provides visualization tools showing relationships among sources of Jewish law.

**Talmudic Law and Legal Texts, Commentaries**
- Dafyomi Advancement Forum, at [http://www.dafyomi.co.il/](http://www.dafyomi.co.il/) which provides hyperlinks to free online resources. Easily accessible English summary of the Talmud, for basic orientation through daily study, from The Ministry of Religion and Culture of the State of Israel, Estate Distribution Fund of the State of Israel, Dr. Lindsay and Rivki Rosenwald, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture: [http://dafyomi.co.il/today.htm](http://dafyomi.co.il/today.htm)
- Internet Resources for the Study of Judaism and Christianity: [https://www.sas.upenn.edu/~jtreat/rs/resources.html](https://www.sas.upenn.edu/~jtreat/rs/resources.html) (This site at the University of Pennsylvania contains texts in several languages, notably Hebrew-English parallel Bible from the Masoretic text at [https://www.mechonmamre.org/p/pt/pt0.htm](https://www.mechonmamre.org/p/pt/pt0.htm)
- Central Conference of American Rabbis, digital Responsa, [https://wrlc-gulaw.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01WRLC_GUNIVLAW/1i903lm/alma991000064829704113](https://wrlc-gulaw.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01WRLC_GUNIVLAW/1i903lm/alma991000064829704113)
- Online Judaic Responsa Project, [http://www.responsa.co.il/home.en-US.aspx](http://www.responsa.co.il/home.en-US.aspx) (requires guest registration and plug-in)
- Seforim Online, at [http://www.seforimonline.org](http://www.seforimonline.org), enables one to download approximately 239 Hebrew seforim, many of which are rare or out-of-print.

• RAMBI - the Index of Articles on Jewish Studies, is a multi-lingual bibliography of selected articles on Jewish studies. [http://web.nli.org.il/sites/NLI/English/infochannels/Catalogs/bibliographic-databases/rambi/Pages/rambi.aspx](http://web.nli.org.il/sites/NLI/English/infochannels/Catalogs/bibliographic-databases/rambi/Pages/rambi.aspx)

• Thanks to the participation of Professor Samuel Levine in a panel chaired this past summer at the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting (Publicizing Faith or Privatizing Law? Researching Religious Arbitration and Private Dispute Settlement), I have a selective list of his publications and acknowledge his tips on and confirmations of many of the internet sources in this guide:


• The Library of the Faculty of Law at Bar Ilan University maintains its own Index to Articles, written in Hebrew or English, which address matters of Jewish law.
• Lexis and Westlaw in general, law reviews, and our online journals at Georgetown via the catalogue and e-Journal Finder
• For abstracts, articles or chapters (as well as a wealth of other links to web portals) - JLA’s web site, at [http://jewishlawassociation.org](http://jewishlawassociation.org) where the abstracts are gathered by subject from a variety of journals

**Special topic: ethics and bioethics:**
Sample of books on medical ethics, bioethics: visit Georgetown’s *Bioethics Research Library* and its Kampelman Collection of Jewish Ethics

Titles below are located in the Law Library:
• BM538.H43 S7413 2003 *Encyclopedia of Jewish medical ethics: a compilation of Jewish medical law on all topics of medical interest ... / compiled and written by*


**Special topic: women**


**Jewish Studies More Generally**

Jewish Studies Internet Resources,
[http://library.columbia.edu/content/libraryweb/indiv/global/jewishstudies/guides/subjects/about.html](http://library.columbia.edu/content/libraryweb/indiv/global/jewishstudies/guides/subjects/about.html) Columbia University

**Blogs**

- The Talmud Blog, [http://thetalmudblog.wordpress.com/](http://thetalmudblog.wordpress.com/), blog of Israeli academic with many interesting links including law as well as comparative sacred texts, etc.

- The Seforim Blog, [http://seforim.blogspot.com](http://seforim.blogspot.com)

**Books: Titles for 2012-2020: Books and Book Chapters** (alpha by author surname)

**Titles 2019-20:**


Jokiranta, Jutta and Molly M. Zahn, eds. *Law, literature, and society in legal texts from Qumran:*


Lincicum, David et al, eds. Law and lawlessness in early Judaism and early Christianity. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2019 KBM520.5 .L393 2019


Titles earlier than 2019


Fraade, Steven D. *Legal fictions: studies of law and narrative in the discursive worlds of ancient Jewish sectarians and sages.* Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2011. BM520.52 .F73 2011


Hayes, Christine, et al. *Jewish law and its interaction with other legal systems.* New York: Jewish Law Association [Published and distributed by Deborah Charles Publications on behalf of the JLA], 2015. JLAS XXV. KBM520.46 .J454 2014


Neusner, Jacob. *The rabbinic system: how the aggadah and the halakhah complement each other*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2012. INTL BM602 .N4835 2012.(Note that there are many titles in the collection by this author on Jewish law).


Vroom, Jonathan. *Authority of Law in the Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism: Tracing the Origins of Legal Obligation from Ezra to Qumran*. Leiden: Brill, 2018 BM520.52


A note on searching: “Jewish Law” is a subject, but only one of many that could be relevant. Be aware that there is also Women (Jewish Law) or Parent and child (Jewish Law) so try keyword in addition to subject.

Works of Bibliography


Primary texts

"A project of the Mesorah Heritage Foundation."—continuously received and newest volumes recently filled in with a standing order for more to come. Ask a librarian, as not all volumes are on the shelf at any one time while the set is being received continuously.

INTL KBM520.84.A2194 M341 Maimonides, Moses, 1135-1204. The code of Maimonides. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1949-


INTL MEDIA (Wolff library, 4th floor, Room 4011) or INTL RES BM495 .S66 1993 Electronic CD ROM, *The Soncino Talmud [electronic resource]- 1 computer laser optical disc : sd., col.; 4 3/4 in. + 1 installation disk (3 1/2 in.) NOTE: This item may not be able to be accessed and we are searching for update: technology too old. Chicago: Institute for Computers in Jewish Life; Davka Corp.; Judaica Press, 1991-1993

5th FLOOR, Soncino Talmud BM 500 .E58 1935 (and other adjacent sets).

Koren Talmud Bavli BM 499.5 .E52 W45


Commentary and selected secondary works (some accompany primary texts)


INTL BM496.6 .N48178 2008, Neusner, Jacob. *The rabbis, the law, and the prophets*. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 2008. [Note: what follows are a few selections from the over 100 titles that come up for Neusner in our library].


INTL KBM520.84 .T84 1980


From Georgetown’s Main Campus:

Periodicals; some containing bibliographic sources

INTL KBM .L27 J454, Jewish Law Association studies, Chico, Calif.: Scholars Press, 1985- (analyzed series)

JOURNALS (3RD FLR) K1 .J7  AJS review
Cambridge, Mass., Association for Jewish Studies; then publisher changed to Cambridge U. Press. (we have 1980- current in print and online from 2002 via Georgetown subscription to Cambridge Journals online)


INTL K10 .U604. Justice / International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, Tel Aviv: The Association, 1994-


Church and State
Lexis, Westlaw, etc. for American constitutional law, AcademicInfo, Law and Legal Research: Law and Religion, http://www.academicinfo.net/lawreligion.html (U.S.-based site for links relating to church/state issue, Native American religious issues, and U.S. Supreme Court cases.)

Library Research and Classification
Kuperman, Aaron W., [discussion of subject headings and classification in the new Library of Congress schedules for religious law], 25 TECHNICAL SERVICES LAW LIBRARIAN, no. 1 (1999). (A publication of the technical services special interest section of the American Association of Law Libraries)

WorldCat union catalogue of libraries around the world (link from our GULLiver catalogue) and the Georgetown gateway to Inter-library loan is an excellent place to access the Jewish law collections of other universities and theological seminaries, as well as going to those institutions on the web.

Israel- secular law
Law.gov or Guide to Law Online at Law Library of Congress includes all nations; Israel Collection is at http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide/nations/israel.php and includes links to legislation, supreme court and High court of Justice decisions, selected publication in English. There is a link to the most frequently-cited cases.


Nevo Database, http://www.nevo.co.il/. In Hebrew; Georgetown does NOT subscribe.

Takdinet database, http://www.takdin.co.il/ Legislation and case law. Fee-based; Georgetown does not have a subscription. Some free navigation and English searching but basically all in Hebrew.