

Jewish Life at Queens College



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The Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Hebrew is a new program at Queens College. Here is an article from the Winter 2024 issues of *Queens*:



How To Teach Hebrew

With support from the Steinhardt Foundation, QC launches a program to professionalize instruction in a critical language

By Leslie Jay

Seven years ago, World Language Education at Queens College added to its undergraduate, post-bac, and graduate options by launching a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Critical Languages, the only such program in the United States. As might be expected in the polyglot Borough of Queens, where estimates for the number of languages spoken by residents start at 130, the MAT keeps expanding. Through the program, teacher certification is now available in a dozen of the languages deemed to have particular value for national security: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Russian, and Urdu.

This year, through a generous grant from the Steinhardt Foundation for Jewish Life and in collaboration with the Brandeis University Consortium for the Teaching of Hebrew Language and Culture, QC has begun offering its 13th MAT in Critical Languages—in modern Hebrew, the national language of Israel.

Thirteen is a favorable number in Jewish culture. For starters, it's the age when a boy becomes a bar mitzvah (girls can become bat mitzvahs as early as 12). By some accounts, Israel's founders named 13 members to its first provisional government, to enhance their luck. Clearly, 13 is proving auspicious for QC. The Steinhardt grant will fund scholarships, adjuncts for specific courses in Hebrew language and culture, guest lectures, and related programs. "We are thrilled to support Queens College in this work," says Rabbi David Gedzelman, president and CEO of the foundation. "We are excited to partner with an institution that looks at teaching languages the way we do."

For learners who spent years drilling the grammar of a foreign language without developing the ability to use it, the methods of World Language Education—a unit within the School of Education's Department of Secondary Education and Youth Services (SEYS)—would represent a welcome change.

World Language Education prepares teachers to stress practical skills. "We emphasize intercultural competence and language proficiency that learners can use right away in the community, at college, at work, and in the world," says Jennifer Eddy, the program's director. World Language Education graduates are so effective that districts accept its candidates as interns even if they haven't quite completed the program.

It was only natural for QC to become part of the Consortium for the Teaching of Hebrew Language and Culture, which gets some of its funding from Steinhardt and advances principles similar to those of World Language Education. One challenge to overcome in the United States is that classes in modern Hebrew are often led by native speakers, whether or not they have pedagogical backgrounds.

"There's a big difference between language learning and language acquisition," observes Vardit Ringvald, the

consortium's director. "For retention, teacher training is key." Consequently, the consortium, which originally comprised Brandeis and Middlebury College and now, in addition to QC, also includes Universidad Hebraica in Mexico City, seeks to professionalize Hebrew instruction. Demand already exceeds supply in the New York metro area and beyond. Growing numbers of public schools, charter schools, Jewish day schools, and yeshivas are in the market for credentialed Hebrew teachers.

"We always need Hebrew teachers," says Valerie Khaytina, chief external officer of Hebrew Public, which oversees a network of five managed charter schools and six affiliates across the country, reaching children of all backgrounds. "We look everywhere for native or near-native speakers with American classroom management experience. Having that [MAT] training will help them be successful."

Ringvald and Eddy began discussing the Hebrew MAT before the pandemic. "When I conceived of this program, I couldn't think of any institution better suited to it than QC," says Eddy, citing the college's supportive community and excellent Hebrew language and Jewish studies faculty, and the track record of World Language Education.

Rabbi Gedzelman, who collaborated with David Gerwin (SEYS) on Hebrew language charter schools, is equally enthusiastic. "We have a good relationship with

the School of Education. World Languages Education has a great model for creating a community of teacher-scholars of all backgrounds learning to teach languages."

"QC is proud to partner with the Steinhardt Foundation in meeting an urgent need for professionally trained and certified Hebrew language teachers, including coursework on modern Hebrew culture and expression," says Gerwin.

Many world language teachers end up in schools where they lead one-person departments. Like the MATs in other languages, QC's 39-credit, post-baccalaureate program in modern Hebrew will prepare people to design as well as teach K-12 curriculum. Upon completing the first 24 credits, candidates receive initial certification, which allows them to start working in the classroom. To earn the MAT and become eligible for professional certification, they have to finish the remaining 15 graduate credits.

Career changers are encouraged to apply to the program. "Whether it's five years or 20 years after they graduated, we welcome them with open arms," Eddy says. A degree in Hebrew is not required; neither is previous teaching experience. Instead, applicants will be asked to demonstrate their language skills through an oral interview and a writing proficiency test administered by Language Testing International. For more information about the MAT in Critical Languages Education in Hebrew, contact Jennifer Eddy at jennifer.eddy@qc.cuny.edu.

For a look at Jewish life on the Queens College campus, please see this article from the Fall/Winter 2022–2023 issues of *Queens*:

Jewish Life at QC

New Programs and Technologies Enhance the Collective Experience

By Leslie Jay

Online programs. Outdoor gatherings. “Shabbat To Go.” Adaptations like these have kept Jewish Studies, Queens College Hillel, and Chabad of Queens College engaged with communities on campus and beyond—and ready to move forward in the new, COVID-cautious environment.

Jewish Studies, which comprises an interdisciplinary undergraduate department and a center offering public events, was already undergoing a reorganization when the pandemic started. The CUNY-wide shift to remote operations proved advantageous in certain ways, observes Arnold Franklin (History), director of the Center for Jewish Studies (CJS). For example, “a fund was created 20 to 25 years ago to support a visiting scholar from Israel, but it hasn’t been used in some years for logistical reasons,” Franklin explains. “Trying to restart this in the age of Zoom should be theoretically easier.” The department, which offers a major and a minor and for the most part aggregates courses offered by other departments, is exploring the possibility of establishing an augmented Jewish Studies minor, geared for students thinking about teaching at Jewish day schools.

CJS, meanwhile, replaced its glossy brochures with electronic communications and began holding presentations online, during daytime. “Moving things online has been beneficial,” says Franklin, noting that the center’s audience, which skews older, had been finding it difficult to drive to campus at night and find parking. He anticipates that working online will also simplify options for bringing speakers into classrooms. Among CJS events held on Zoom in the fall were “The Land Is Mine: Sephardi Jews and Bible Commentary in the Renaissance,” a lecture by historian Andrew Berns; “White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial



Students in Arnold Franklin’s classroom and on campus



Divide,” a classroom conversation with Emory University professor and author Carol Anderson; and a Kristallnacht commemoration featuring a talk by Eliyana Adler, author of *Survival on the Margins: Polish Jewish Refugees in the Wartime Soviet Union*.

QC Hillel has also evolved, comments Executive Director Jenna Citron. “The Hillels of 10 years ago are different from the Hillels of 20 years ago and 30 years ago.” She and her staff focus on mentoring Jewish students and organizations—which at QC include Alpha Epsilon Pi, the Bukharian Cultural Club, the Israel Student Association, the Persian Club, and the a cappella vocal ensemble Tizmoret, open by audition to college students throughout New York City—to help them realize goals and address issues within a Jewish values lens.

In response to the pandemic, Hillel relied on technology to keep in touch with what is one of the largest Jewish campus communities in the nation. Even Tizmoret pivoted, holding rehearsals in a synagogue parking lot.

Prior to 2020, Citron had given thought to better serving a population primarily composed of commuter students and night students. She had introduced programs in areas such as wellness and professional development, adding a social worker to her team. But COVID and its attendant economic stress exacerbated existing issues, such as food security. “Most of our students live at home,” she reports. “Some parents won’t go to a food pantry, but students might. However, QC’s food pantry doesn’t always have kosher food.” In response, QC Hillel, in partnership with the Metropolitan Council and Commonpoint Queens, launched a digital kosher food pantry in September. Students place orders through an app on their phone or through an iPad at QC Hillel, and then pick up their food every week.

Similarly, Rabbi Shaul Wertheimer has steered the Chabad of Queens College through challenges. He and his wife established Chabad in a house near campus in 2004, and are grateful for the opportunity to work with students at a critical time of their lives. “We’re creating a beautiful, lifelong bond with students’ heritage and the campus,” he comments. His children have grown up alongside QC students, developing lasting friendships.

When the threat of coronavirus prompted the Wertheimers to temporarily suspend indoor gatherings, the rabbi took his weekly Torah classes online and, with funding from the children of a generous alumna, set up Shabbat To Go. “We offered Shabbat in a bag: homemade challah, matzoh ball soup, kugel,” says Wertheimer. “Students and alumni could call, ask for a bag, and pick it up.” In-person operations were resumed as soon as safely possible. “After two doctors established guidelines, we opened physically,” he continues. “We rented a tent and set it up in the backyard. For most of 2020, we had Shabbat dinner and Torah classes outside.”

Because of his connections with students, Wertheimer is routinely asked to officiate at weddings, baby namings, and funerals. “I recently held the first *yahrzeit* for a student I met in 2004,” he recalls. “He suffered from the terrible, terrible disease of drug addiction. I assisted with trying to get him into treatment; I officiated at his funeral.” But there have been plenty of happy occasions, the rabbi concludes. “I performed more QC weddings during COVID than during the previous 16 years, almost.”

The Forward published an article titled “Queens College president condemns Muslim student group’s denial of Hamas attacks” on November 8, 2023:



View of the Rosenthal Library at Queens College in New York. Photo by iStock/Littleny

Queens College president condemns Muslim student group’s denial of Hamas attacks

Frank Wu, who heads Queens CUNY campus, says ‘false and misleading’ posts about ‘obvious atrocities’ are ‘hurtful, offensive’

By Beth Harpaz

November 8, 2023

The president of Queens College on Wednesday condemned social media posts by a Muslim student group that “deny the brutal actions and atrocities committed by Hamas” on Oct. 7.

“Queens College strongly denounces such obviously false and misleading posts that in no way represent the

views of Queens College,” said Frank H. Wu, president of the college, which is part of the City University of New York. “This behavior is contrary to our community values.”

In an open letter, Wu added that while “we respect and uphold freedom of speech, this same right includes our condemnation of the denial included in these posts of the obvious atrocities that occurred on October 7. We will not hesitate to denounce what is so deeply hurtful, offensive, and damaging.”

Muslim student group alleges ‘Zionist false narrative’

The posts denying Hamas attacks appeared as Instagram stories earlier this week on the Queens College Muslim Students Association account. Instagram stories only remain visible for 24 hours, but others made screenshots of the posts. One post by the student group falsely claimed there is “ZERO evidence that Palestinians deliberately killed women and children. There is a great deal of video evidence that they deliberately *avoided* targeting women and children. There is nothing wrong with Palestinians taking prisoners of war in their struggle against the Zionist terror occupation. We cannot allow the Zionist false narrative (to) become the accepted history of what happened.”

Hamas gunmen murdered 1,400 people in surprise attacks Oct. 7, carrying out massacres at kibbutzim and a music festival. They also took 240 hostages, including a baby and seven more children under the age of 5. Israel is now waging a war on Gaza that Gaza health officials say has killed more than 10,000 people, including thousands of children.

Wu said the school’s Office of Compliance & Diversity was investigating the student group’s posts, and those responsible for them “may be subject to sanction and/or disciplinary action. We have contacted and will continue to cooperate with the NYPD regarding these incidents.”

He exhorted the college community to “respectfully engage in civil dialogue and factual discourse, consistent with college and university policies as well as governmental laws.”

The U.S. Department of Education issued a memo Tuesday reminding schools of their legal obligation under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to provide an environment free from discrimination or harassment for all students, including those who “are or are perceived to be Jewish, Israeli, Muslim, Arab, or Palestinian.” Schools that fail to address such bias risk losing federal funding under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Holocaust denial and now ‘massacre denial’

Many pro-Palestinian voices on social media and elsewhere have denied the veracity of the Hamas attacks. On Wednesday, Israeli police released eyewitness testimony of a gang rape and murder by Hamas terrorists carrying out the massacre at the music festival, and within minutes of a Haaretz police reporter posting a horrific excerpt from the report, trolls responded with comments like this: “The problem is that your propaganda isn’t working, and no one believes it.”

For decades, Jewish institutions, government agencies and other entities around the world have devoted considerable resources to fighting Holocaust denial, described by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum as claims that “the Holocaust was invented or exaggerated by Jews as part of a plot to advance Jewish interests.” Those efforts fighting Holocaust denial have included publicizing detailed testimony by Holocaust survivors about their ordeals, opening concentration camp sites to the public and requiring Holocaust history in curricula.

Now the Israeli government has similarly started to fight “massacre denial.” Israeli officials have begun showing a 43-minute film documenting atrocities committed by Hamas on Oct. 7 to invitation-only events for journalists, Jewish organizations and Hollywood celebrities. While some of the footage came from Israeli security cameras, much of it was shot by Hamas gunmen themselves on cellphones, GoPros and bodycams as they carried out the attacks. Israel Defense Forces originally planned to withhold the footage out of respect for the victims and their families. But as propaganda began to crop up denying what had happened, officials decided to show the film to counter that misinformation.

“We all know about Holocaust denial,” Israel’s U.N. ambassador, Gilad Erdan, told journalists at a screening in New York. “We are starting to see a phenomenon of massacre denial.”

President Frank H. Wu wrote an op-ed that appeared in *The Daily News* on November 12, 2023: “Colleges must welcome debate: But hate and antisemitism must be called out.”

DAILY NEWS

Opinion

Colleges must welcome debate: But hate and antisemitism must be called out

By Frank H. Wu

November 12, 2023 at 5:00 a.m.

As president of Queens College, I identify with both our Jewish students, who fear violence on campus which harkens back to perennial themes of antisemitism, and with Muslim students, familiar with neglect and stereotyping. I feel an especially strong bond in light of the recent pandemic. As an Asian-American, I felt vulnerable to not only disease but also hatred.

However we identify ourselves, whatever our ethnicity or faith, the challenge is to ensure empathy is genuine and sympathies not selective. Through our own histories, we can approach one another while recognizing the limits of our experiences — not everything that can be compared should be deemed equivalent.

Institutions of higher education throughout the nation have been the sites of controversy over the ongoing war in the Middle East. That is not unexpected. Colleges are supposed to offer opportunities for debate and expected to facilitate dialogue. We appreciate how our students are acutely aware of current events, many of them having relatives in the region or even being called into military service.

We strive to live up to norms that can be modeled: to take turns expressing our own opinion and listening to others as they do the same. Perhaps we will persuade. Perhaps we will be persuaded. We should not be shouted

down or silenced. We must not threaten, nor accept being threatened. The quadrangle is a civic space, a refuge, where people who might not encounter one another elsewhere can gather to learn. Our experiment of an open society, self-governed, depends on mutual promises of a social contract.

As we look at what is happening that causes suffering and trauma, sometimes inflicted deliberately as well as needlessly, I am humbled to be entrusted with a leadership role in a college community of students, faculty, staff and alumni.

We must be clear that the brutal atrocities committed by Hamas terrorists on Israeli citizens on Oct. 7 was immoral in the extreme. It would be a failure, in my own conscience at a minimum, if I were not resolute in that regard. That means having a duty to guard ones’ self against the “fake news” on social media. We may not be sure of what is factual, but we can try to discern what is likely a lie.

Much of my own work in civil rights has been oriented toward bridge building. I have protested stereotyping and the tendency toward guilt by association. The blaming of a group is at the crux of so much ongoing strife. For Asian-Americans, the pandemic was another example. The imprisonment of 125,000 persons, two-thirds of them native-born citizens of the United States, because they were perceived as perpetual foreigners loyal to the Japanese Empire during World War II shows how prejudice has concrete effects on a massive scale.

That discredited episode is what compels me to say all Arabs, Muslims, Gazans, and Palestinians cannot be justly held accountable for the murders carried out by Hamas. Following 9/11, Arabs and Muslims who were neighbors and co-workers — and Sikhs, who are neither Arab nor Muslim but wear turbans and may have darker skin — were treated with suspicion, even killed, as has happened again.

Among them are our own students, such as Salman Hamdani. An EMT and police cadet, the young man who had only just graduated was a hero of 9/11, running in the opposite direction of those fleeing, in order to save people in the twin towers, sacrificing his own life, only to be accused afterward, wrongly, of having helped the hijackers, apparently because his family was of Pakistani origin and the Islamic religion. He was ultimately vindicated. We recently unveiled a memorial plaque for him on our plaza that has the backdrop of the Manhattan skyline.

Now, our government has sought to intervene with humanitarian goals as the civilian casualties in Gaza mount. Those who talk about “diversity, equity, and inclusion” have an obligation not to stand by.

Each of us has a perspective influenced by our position. To acknowledge our vantage point is crucial to comprehending someone else’s. None of us is merely an observer in this world. Neutrality can be no better than indifference to tragedy.

Just three years ago as COVID-19 spread, Asian-Americans saw the news reports and heard so much from family and friends about the real risks of physical violence. Even if they were born in America to parents who also were New Yorkers before them, whether you were walking down the street minding your own business or standing on the subway platform waiting for the next train, someone might come along and start shouting slurs before the rhetoric escalated into actual assaults.

It is debilitating to feel you are not safe where you have felt at home until suddenly it changed as if to reveal you had been naïve all along. American Jews are reporting hate incidents at a horrifying rate that exceeds even the pandemic worst.

As children, many of us have had to endure the common cruelty of bullying, and as an adult we continue to confront its grown up counterparts. Strangers, even acquaintances we were confident welcomed us, who

are angry about Pearl Harbor or the Vietnam War, or economic competition from overseas leading to layoffs in American factories take out their resentments on people whom they identify with the enemy.

The perpetrators of bigoted acts target even victims who fought or fled the very regimes they are assumed to be associated with, regardless of how they strive to be assimilated on a daily basis.

What gave me hope in the face of scapegoating for a virus, however, were rallies such as none of us had ever witnessed before. These events brought together Asian immigrants and their American children, who can struggle to understand each other, because they are using literally different languages. They united communities whose distant cousins remain in conflict over ancestral grievances.

As much as Asian-Americans were standing up and speaking out, embracing the democratic process, they had support. Allies who were white and black ranging from Gov. Hochul to Queens Borough President Donovan Richards declared that they would protect their fellow citizens.

Alongside Latinos and LGBTQ leaders, Jewish and Muslim advocates came to these gatherings. That spirit of unity takes constant effort and it is not without moments of frustration. These are the tests of our ability to implement our ideals.

The common bond among all our students, like those who participated in gatherings to protect Asian-Americans, is confidence in our diverse democracy. It might be fashionable in some quarters to mock “the American Dream.” But I know that our students, no different than my parents, believe in it. That faith is what brought all our families to those shores and what enables us to persevere — and eventually prevail against the odds.

Even if our students face bias, as my family did, they — and I — can embrace the principles set forth in our Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Our institutions can promote such values. Our students are engaging, mustering respect and tolerance, which depend on reciprocity to be sustained. In the face of evil and the apathy which enables it, we must foster equality, trust and communication.

Wu has been president of Queens College since 2020.



President Frank H. Wu's messages to the Queens College Community following the October 7 attacks by Hamas:

OCTOBER 7

"Attack on Israel" <https://conta.cc/3FnuEh6>

OCTOBER 10

"Support for the QC Community as the War in Israel Continues"
<https://conta.cc/46RwXVk>

OCTOBER 18

"Message to the QC Community" <https://conta.cc/3Fj6q7D>

OCTOBER 26

"Message to the QC Community" <https://conta.cc/3FxtCir>

NOVEMBER 1

"College Community Events" (from President Frank H. Wu and Chief Diversity Officer & Dean of Diversity Jerima DeWese)
<https://conta.cc/46QtZA4>

NOVEMBER 2

"Recent Social Media Posts" ((from President Frank H. Wu and Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Jennifer Jarvis) <https://conta.cc/3FOyOys>

NOVEMBER 8

"Social Media Misinformation Matters" <https://conta.cc/472BoNy>

NOVEMBER 21

"Thanksgiving Message" <https://conta.cc/3R5LHcH>

NOVEMBER 29

"Message to the College Community" <https://conta.cc/3uASB23>



The QView and Frankly Speaking, which together are weekly publications during the academic year, regularly promote programs and activities related to Jewish life. Here are some examples:



QView 118, January 25, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3F9RAji>):
The college, together with the Queens Jewish Community Council and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, welcomed Ambassador Asaf Zamir, Consul General of Israel in New York, to campus on Friday, January 21.

QView 126, April 12, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3OSGQL5>):
Announcement of Yom HaShoah event on April 27 to be presented by The Center for Jewish Studies and QC: conversation between the national Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt and President Frank H. Wu.

QView 127, April 26, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/49HATti>):
Follow-up article promoting Yom HaShoah event. Coverage of anti-hate rally on campus April 13, when Governor Kathy Hochul announced that 205 nonprofit organizations had been awarded almost \$16 million in total through the Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes program.

QView 135, September 20, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3wtBOit>):
Queens College is among 12 campuses—seven of them from CUNY—joining Hillel International’s Campus Climate Initiative, a program that strives to foster a college environment in which Jewish students feel comfortable expressing their identity free of antisemitism, harassment, or marginalization.

QView 137, October 12, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3zBtWdh>):
President Frank H. Wu, QC Hillel Director Jenna Citron Schwab, and students erected Sukkah near the Music Building.

QView 138, October 18, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/42S6VAp>):
Article about QC anniversary activities—which took place during Sukkot—mentions that Assembly Member Nily Rozic, CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, President Frank H. Wu, and Higher Education Services Corporation President Guillermo Linares were among visitors to the Sukkah.

QView 139, October 25, 2022 (<https://conta.cc/47gpgsN>):
In an Oct. 19 visit arranged by Congresswoman Grace Meng, Shelley Greenspan, White House liaison to the Jewish community, met with leaders of the Jewish community in Queens and student members of QC Hillel. Also in attendance: Assemblymembers Nily Rozic and Daniel Hevesi; representatives of City Councilmembers James Gennaro and Lynn Schulman. Center for Jewish Studies fall events include lecture—The Land Is Mine: Sephardi Jews and Bible Commentary in the Renaissance—on Friday, October 28, at 10 am over Zoom, and Kristallnacht

commemoration on November 8 featuring a talk by Eliyana Adler, author of *Survival on the Margins: Polish Jewish Refugees in the Wartime Soviet Union*.

QView 145, January 31, 2023 (<https://conta.cc/3OVsiLm>):

At the Hillel International Global Assembly in Dallas, Texas last month, QC Hillel received the Joseph Meyerhoff Award for Jewish Education Vision for the Building Bridges Interfaith Fellowship. The award recognizes a campus Hillel that finds new ways to keep students connected to their Judaism amid many competing factors and commitments.

QView 155, May 16, 2023 (<https://conta.cc/4c4ihFM>):

On Tuesday, May 9, Sophia McGee (History; Intercultural Student Engagement and Dialogue, CUNY) invited guest lecturers to a session of History 255: Mark Rosenblum (History, emeritus), director of the Ibrahim Student Leadership & Dialogue Middle East Program with Queens College, and Samir Al Taqui, a medical professional, political researcher, and activist. The discussion of the modern Middle East touched on topics including current events in Israel and the Palestinian Territories.

QView 158, August 1, 2023 (<https://conta.cc/49Nhsiw>):

On July 26, President Wu hosted senior officials, board members and interns with the American Jewish Committee.

QView 161, September 27, 2023 (<https://conta.cc/3OUyMu8>):

Presentation of Excellence in Leadership Award to Jerusalem-born Palestinian scholar and peace activist Mohammed S. Dajani Daoudi on September 20. “How To Teach Hebrew,” article about QC’s new MAT in Teaching Critical Languages in Hebrew; program to be launched in January 2024.

QView 162, October 11, 2023 (<https://conta.cc/3SYhYTU>):

President Frank H. Wu visited campus Sukkah with QC Hillel Executive Director Jenna Citron. Press coverage of Daoudi presentation in “Heard Around Campus.”

QView 170, January 30, 2024 (<https://conta.cc/4bVMXZu>):

Center for Jewish Studies Events

Frankly Speaking

Message from President Frank H. Wu



Frankly Speaking, February 2022 (<https://conta.cc/4bUkNOM>):

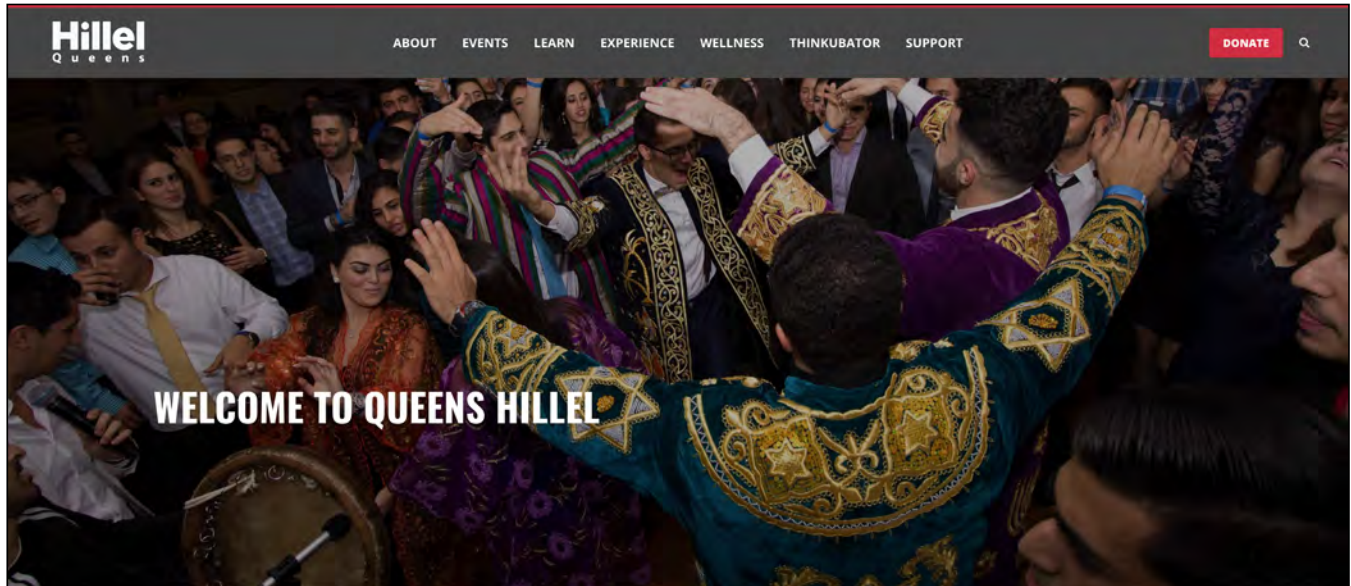
Meeting with Ambassador Asaf Zamir, Consul General of Israel in New York.

Frankly Speaking, May 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3wxMv3w>):

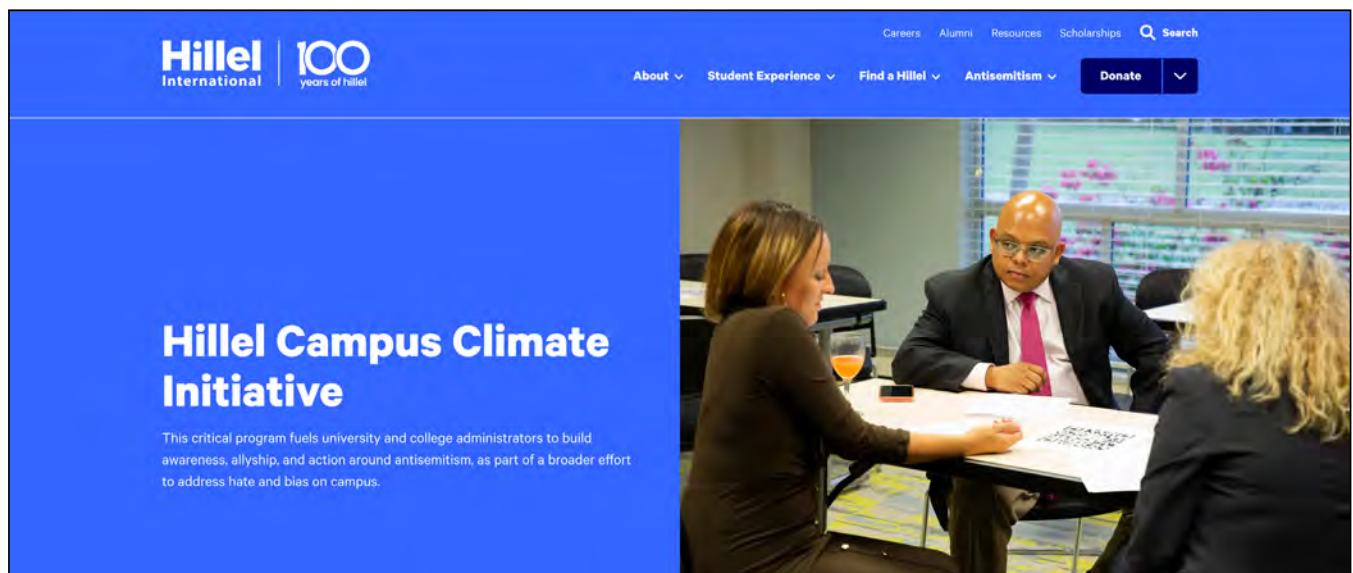
Conversation with national Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt.

Frankly Speaking, October 2022 (<https://conta.cc/3UWhTTn>):

At invitation of Michael Nussbaum '69, president of the Queens Jewish Community Council (QJCC), Wu spoke at a community meeting on September 15 at the Young Israel Synagogue of Jamaica Estates. With campus representatives of the QC Hillel chapter, he participated in a program aimed at combatting antisemitism and bigotry in Queens County.



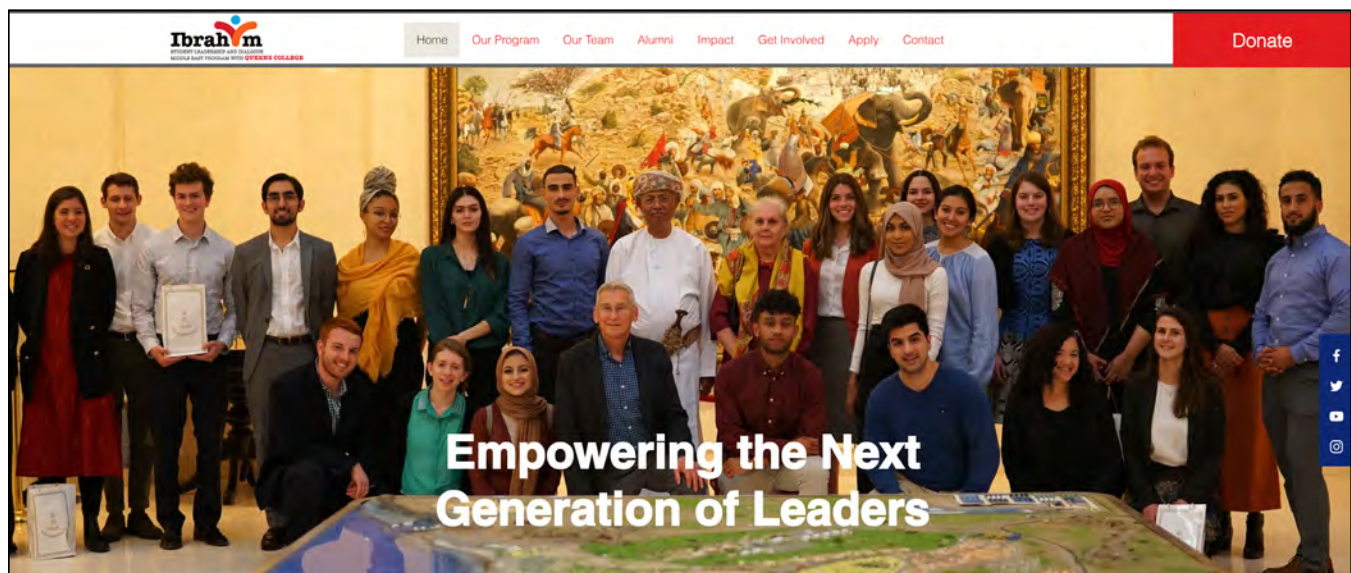
Queens College works closely with the campus Hillel, located in the Student Union, which has many programs for Jewish students as well as many interfaith programs.



In September 2022, Hillel International selected Queens College to join its Campus Climate Initiative (CCI). CCI is a comprehensive program that works to foster a campus climate where Jewish students feel comfortable expressing identity free of antisemitism, harassment, and marginalization. The Chief Diversity Officer & Dean of Diversity Jerima DeWese works closely with Hillel to implement CCI programming. Read more about the program at <https://www.hillel.org/campus-climate-initiative/>.



Queens College has a longstanding Center for Jewish Studies that offers programs for faculty, staff, students, and the wider community.



Queens College is home to the Ibrahim Student Leadership and Dialogue Middle East Program. This program empowers cross-cultural and multifaith networks of student-scholar activists with a nuanced understanding of the complexities of this strategically vital and tumultuous region. Participants interact with a broad spectrum of Middle Eastern cultures and perspectives, particularly in the fields of religious understanding, social entrepreneurship, and conflict transformation to fortify their role as thought leaders and informed actors on the front lines of hope, empathy, and innovation.

Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus

ORTHODOX UNION

MEET THE BRUKIRERS MEET CHAYA POLLAK MEET THE COMMUNITY MINYAN TIMES SCHEDULE CONTACT

MEET THE COMMUNITY

ORTHODOX LIFE AT QUEENS COLLEGE

With over 1,000 Orthodox students at Queens College, the Orthodox population at QC ranges the entire spectrum – centrist, modern, yeshivish, liberal, ultra, social, and everything in between, with significant numbers of each constituency. As such, OU-JLIC offers a wide variety of Torah learning opportunities, programs, and social events to service all of the diverse interests amongst the Orthodox population. Additionally, the OU-JLIC has been instrumental in “turning a commuter campus into a Queens College Jewish community.” There is now a full Shabbat program every week, holiday celebrations on campus, and a growing on-campus student community in the surrounding area. Explore and see all of the amazing opportunities here at OU-JLIC Queens College!

QUEENS HILLEL

Student involvement is at the heart and soul of every campus, and Queens College is no exception. Hillel Club is a student run organization that takes the reigns of Jewish life on campus. Run by an visionary E-Board consisting of a student elected President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, these students shape the energy and atmosphere of Hillel. Students can get involved in E-Board or one Hillel Clubs many committees, including Shabbat, Holidays, Chessed, Social Justice, Residential and Community Life, Religious Life, Social Events, Intercollegiate Events, Engagement and more!

Queens College welcomes the Orthodox Union-Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus (OU-JLIC).

PHOTOS



APRIL 17–21, 2023: Inaugural Diversity Week at Queens College. Events included “Combating Antisemitism Workshop for QC Administrators and Faculty” and the “Dismantling and Combating Hate Conference.”



DECEMBER 11, 2023: Grand Menorah Lighting & Dinner at Queens College



JANUARY 3, 2024: X Post from Rabbi Shaul Wertheimer, Chabad of Queens College

Queens College Schools, Academic Departments, and Programs

SCHOOL OF ARTS

- Advertising
- Animation and Illustration
- Art Education
- Art History*
- Dance
- Design
- Digital Graphics
- Digital Moviemaking and Imagemaking
- Drama
- Drama and Theatre
- Fashion and Design
- Film Studies
- Graphic Design
- Interaction Design
- Photography and Imaging
- Media Studies*
- Studio Art*
- Theatre Dance

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

- American Studies
- Applied Linguistics (TESOL)*
- Classics: Classics, Ancient Greek, Latin, Classical Studies
- Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Comparative Literature
- East Asian Studies: East Asian Studies, Chinese, Chinese for Business, Japanese, Korean
- English*
- European Languages and Literatures: French*, German, Greek, Italian*, Russian
- General Linguistics
- Hebrew and Middle Eastern Studies: Arabic, Hebrew, Middle Eastern Studies
- Religious Studies
- Spanish*

AARON COPLAND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- Music*
- Music Education*
- Music Literature
- Music Performance*
- Music Performance/Music Education†
- Music and Production
- Music Theory

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

- Accounting*
- Actuarial Studies*
- Business and Liberal Arts (BALA)*
- Economics*
- Finance*
- International Business*
- Quantitative Economics

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

- Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)*
- Secondary Education and Youth Services (Grades 7-12)*

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

- Applied Physics
- Biochemistry*
- Biology*
- Chemistry*
- Chemistry Education*†
- Computer Science*
- Environmental Science*
- Environmental Studies
- Family and Consumer Studies
- Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Education
- Food Management Studies
- Geology*
- Human Development and Family Science
- Mathematics: Applied Mathematics*, Data Science, Pure Mathematics*, Mathematics Education*

- Medical Career Prep: Chiropractic, Dentistry, Medicine, Optometry, Podiatry and Veterinary Medicine
- Neuroscience*
- Nutrition and Dietetics*
- Nutrition and Exercise Sciences
- Physical Education
- Physics: Physics*, Physics/Pre-Engineering†
- Psychology*
- Psychology-Neuroscience*

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

- Anthropology*
- Cities and Social Medicine
- Cultural Heritage and Memory
- Data Analytics and Applied Research
- Health and Culture
- History*
- Human Ecology
- Labor Studies
- Legal Studies
- Philosophy*
- Political Science*
- Power and Inequality
- Sociology*
- Urban Planning
- Urban Studies*

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

- Africana Studies
- Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies
- Computational Linguistics
- Irish Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Latin American and Latino Studies
- Women and Gender Studies

JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE

- Italian American Studies

For a closer look at Queens College, call our Admissions Office at **718-997-5600** or visit us at www.qc.cuny.edu.

† Indicates track to dual degree available.

* Indicates Accelerated Master's option available.

