

## GLOSSARY

Abrogation	The idea that somethings (texts, laws, books, religions) are replaced by others
Ahl Al-Kitāb	“People of the Book” (Jews, Christians, Zoroastrians, and other non-Muslims)
Al-Andalus	Islamic Iberia / Islamic Spain
Alhambra Decree	Also called Edict of Expulsion. A law that forced all Jews to leave Spain.
Allegory	A story or imagery to be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning
Almohads	Berber dynasty (12th century), intolerant of minorities
Almoravids	Berber dynasty (11th century), religiously conservative
Amora'im	Jewish scholars (c. 230-500) responsible for the Gemara
Ananites	Followers of Anan ben David; Later called Qara'ites (or Karaites)
Andalus	Islamic Iberia / Islamic Spain
Andalusian Poetry	Poetry that follows Arabic meter (patterns of long and short syllables).
Anthropomorphism	Describing God in human terms
Apostasy	Deserting one's religion
Apostate	Someone who leaves his/her religion
Arabic meter	Poetry focused on patterns of long and short syllables
Arianism	A type of Christianity that did not believe in the Trinity. They believed that Jesus had 'become' the son of God.
Arians	Followers of Arianism
Asceticism	Severe self-restraint, abstinence, withdrawing from the world, and/or denial of physical pleasure
Ascetic	Someone who practices asceticism
Ashkenaz	Hebrew name for Germany (and northern France)
Ashkenazi	Jew/Judaism with roots in medieval Germany and/or northern France
Babylonia	Jewish name for Mesopotamia (Iraq)

Babylonian Judaism	Judaism as taught and practiced in Babylonia
Babylonian Talmud	The Talmud composed in Babylonia
Baron	Local ruler, technically under authority of the king or emperor
Bid <sup>3</sup> a	Religious innovation (considered a sin in Islam)
Bishop	Important Church leader
Blasphemy	Insulting God or religion
Blood Libel	An accusation that Jews would ritually kill a Christian
Canon	The collection of holy books, accepted as genuine within the Bible
Confess	(verb) To declare and acknowledge one's sins
Confession	(noun) Declaring and acknowledging one's sins
Confessor	Someone who hears confessions
Creed	Statement of required beliefs within a religious community
Credo	The Latin text of the (Roman Catholic) creed (see: Creed)
Christendom	Society dominated by Christianity
Conversos	Jews or Muslims (and their descendants) who had converted to Christianity (See also: New Christians)
Crypto Jew	Someone who practices Judaism in secret
Crusade	A movement of Christians to reconquer the Holy Land from the Muslims
Day of Atonement	A Jewish holiday on which one asks/prays for forgiveness and forgives others
Dhimma	Arabic word meaning toleration or protection, granted to a dhimmi (see there)
Dhimmi	A tolerated member of the People of the Book (see there) who lives under the Pact of Omar (see there)
Diaspora	Dispersion (of the Jews outside their ancestral homeland)
Djarḥa	The final two lines of a Muwaššah
Disputation	A public debate between representatives of competing religions
Dogma	An authoritative, undisputable article of faith

Edom	1) Another name for Esau (son of Isaac and brother of Jacob); 2) The nation of Edom; 3) Nickname for the Romans 4) In the Middle Ages: nickname for Christians
Edomites	1) Descendants of Edom/Esau; 2) Member of the nation of Edom; 3) Nickname for Romans; 4) Nickname for Christians
Eucharist	A Catholic and Byzantine ritual of eating bread and drinking wine representing Jesus' flesh and blood
Eunuch	A male slave whose private parts have been removed
Excommunicate	(verb) Expelling or excluding someone from the community
Excommunication	(noun) Expelling or excluding someone from the community
Exilarch	Head of the Jews in exile
Expulsion	Banishing a people (most often Jews) from a country
Festival of Weeks	See: Shavu'oth
Festival of Tabernacles	See: Sukkot
Ga'on	Head of a Talmud Academy in Babylonia or Palestine
Ge'onîm	Plural of Ga'on
Gemara	Main part of the Talmud that discusses the Mishna
Gematria	The belief that the numerical value of a word has meaning
Geniza	Storage space for discarded holy texts
Ghusn	The first three lines of each stanza within a Muwaššah
Gospel	Literally: Happy tiding 1) In the New Testament: Jesus' message that the Kingdom of God is at hand  2) A biography of the life of Jesus (the New testament contains four of such 'Gospels')
Haggadá	A booklet with the liturgy of the Passover service
Hagia Sophia	(Pronounced: Aya Sofia). Old, famous church in Constantinople
Halakha	Jewish law
Halakhic	Legal (appertaining to <i>halakha</i> )

Ḥanukka	Jewish festival commemorating a victory of Hellenistic oppressors (celebrated in Winter)
Harem	A section of a house or palace containing someone's wives, concubines, and/or female slaves.
Ḥasîd	Hebrew word for 'pietist' (see there); Someone who is exceptionally religious
Ḥasidé Ashkenaz	A specific pietistic movement in Medieval Germany (see also: pietism)
Ḥasidîm	Plural of Ḥasîd
Hasidism	A name for several pietist Jewish movements (See: pietism)
Hebrew Bible	A collection of Jewish Scriptures identical with the books of the 'Old Testament' (see there)
Hékhalót Mysticism	A type of meditation in which one's soul travels through heavenly palaces, towards God's throne
Hellenism	Adopting aspects of Greek culture, language, and/or religion. Hellenism comes in different gradations.
Hellenist	Follower of Hellenism
Heresy	Any belief or opinion that is at odds with the established dogmas
Heretic	A member of a religious community who holds religious opinions that are contrary to the established dogmas
Host	A piece of (processed) bread that -when it is 'consecrated'- is believed to change into the actual body of Christ
Host Desecration	The conscious desecration of a consecrated host (See: host)
Iberia	The peninsula that contains Spain and Portugal
Initial sin	Christian notion that the first sin of Adam and Eve renders all their descendants automatically sinful
Inquisition	A special organization whose goal was to discover, combat, and punish heresy.
Inquisitor	A member of the Inquisition (see: Inquisition)
Ishmael	Son of Abraham and brother of Isaac (See also: Ishmaelites)
Ishmaelites	1) Descendants of Ishmael; 2) Hebrew term for Arabs; 3) In the Middle Ages also: Hebrew term for Muslims

³Iřma	Arabic word meaning 'protection against sin'; infallibility
Israel	1) (People of) Israel: a term for the Jewish people; 2) (Land of) Israel
Ittiřāl	(Arabic term) A spiritual connection to God
Jerusalem Talmud	Alternative term for Palestinian Talmud; a version of the Talmud developed in Palestine (the Land of Israel)
Jewry (pl. Jewries)	Jewish community
Jizya	A special tax paid by dhimmis
Judaizer	Someone who brings Jewish influences into Christianity
Judeo-Espařol	See 'Ladino'
Kabbalah	See: Qabbala
Kalām	A type of philosophy practiced in the early Islamic world in which reason and revelation are combined
Karaites	See Qara'ites
Kavod	Glory (for Ḥasidé Ashkenaz, a personified emanation of God)
Ladino	A Jewish dialect of Spanish spoken outside of Spain
Libel	Unfounded, slanderous accusation
Ma'asé Beréřhît	Works of creation (a type of mystical meditation focused on the mysteries of creation)
Ma'asé Merkavá	Works of the Heavenly Throne (a type of mystical meditation focused on the mysteries of God's throne. See also <i>Hékhalót Mysticism</i> )
Maoz Tzur	A song, written during the time of the crusades, that is commonly sung during the festival of Hanukka
Marano	Someone who is outwardly Christian but secretly practicing Judaism (also: Crypto-Jew). Sometimes also used for a Christian from Jewish descent.
Martyr	A person who is killed because of his religion or convictions
Mashiach	Hebrew for Messiah (see under Messiah)
Mesopotamia	The land between the two rivers Euphrates and Tigris; roughly present-day Iraq

Messiah	1) For Jews: A predicted redeemer who will deliver the Jewish people and rule over the earth in peace  2) For Christians: A predicted redeemer who delivers the people from sin, and then later will come again and establish God's kingdom
Messianism	A highly raised expectation of the immanent coming of the Messiah
Midrash	Teaching or commentary through allegory (See also: allegory)
Millenarianism	A highly raised expectation of the immanent (1000 year-long) Messianic age
Mishna	The core text within the Talmud
Mishné Torah	Maimonides' code of Jewish law
Moresco	Someone who is outwardly Christian but secretly practicing Islam Sometimes also used for a Christian of Muslim descent.
Mu'tazila	A rationalist type of Kalam
Muwaššah	Special type of Arabic (or Hebrew) poem, written in stanzas. The final two lines (called the <i>djarḥa</i> ) are written in another language.
Mystic	Someone who tries to attain insight into the mysteries beyond ordinary human knowledge, by communication with the Divine, sometimes in a state of ecstasy.
Mysticism	A doctrine or practice that aims at transcending ordinary understanding and/or intimately unite the soul with God through meditation or ecstasy.
Nagîd	Leader of the Jewish communities within a certain territory
Naskh	Arabic for Abrogation (something being replaced by something else)
Negative Theology	The idea that all we can say about God is what He is not
New Christians	Christians with Jewish or Muslim ancestors
New Testament	The latest, specifically Christian part of the Bible
Old Testament	The oldest, Jewish part of the Christian Bible
Omar	The second of the four righteous Caliphs (according to Sunni Islam); See also: Pact of Omar
Oral Torah	An originally dynamic, oral Jewish tradition that accompanies the (written) Torah.
Pact of Omar	An Islamic set of rules that regulate the position of dhimmis (See: dhimmî)

Palastine	A term originally given by the Romans to the Land of Israel
Pagan	Not Jewish, Christian, or Muslim (other word for heathen)
Palastinian Judaism	Type of Judaism that originated in Palastine (the Land of Israel)
Palastinian Talmud	Version of the Talmud developed in Palastine (the Land of Israel); also called Jerusalem Talmud
Passover	Jewish Festival commemorating the Exodus/the birth of the Jewish nation. Also called Pesach (celebrated in Spring)
Pentateuch	Greek word for the Written Torah; the first five books of the Hebrew bible; also called the Torah
Penitence	Actions that show regret for having done wrong
People of the Book	Islamic term referring to those people whom God gave a Holy Book before Islam (i.e. Jews, Christians, and others)
Pesach	Jewish Festival commemorating the Exodus/the birth of the Jewish nation. Also called Passover (celebrated in Spring)
Pharisees	The Jewish leaders before and after the destruction of the Temple (70 CE) that carried the Oral Torah. / Originators of the rabbinical tradition (including the Talmud). Later called Rabbis / Rabbanites.
Pietism	A movement in which piety (exceptional religiosity) is cultivated
Pietist	Follower of a movement of pietism
Piety	Exceptional religiosity
Pious	Exceptionally religious
Piyyut	Hebrew for 'Poetry' or 'Poem'
Polemics	(In the context of this course:) Argumentation for the sake of one's religion
Pope	The head of the Roman Catholic Church
Prostration	Bowing down in prayer
Provence	Region consisting of independent fiefdoms in southern France
Qabbala	Definition 1) Passed-on tradition; Definition 2) A Medieval Jewish system of mysticism (see: mysticism)

Qara'ites	A kind of Judaism that does not accept and follow the Oral Torah and rabbinical tradition (including the Talmud)
Qelippá	An evil husk that obscures a divine spark (also written: Kelippa or Klippa)
Qelippót	Plural of <i>Qelippá</i>
Qibla	The direction in which one prays
Rabbanites	The kind of Judaism that does accept and follow the Oral Torah and rabbinical tradition (including the Talmud)
Rabbi	A Jewish spiritual leader and/or religious teacher who has been ordained as such
Rēsh Galuthā	The Head of the Diaspora
Revelation	A disclosure of God and/or His will to His creatures
Rhineland	Area in Germany around the river Rhine which used to have important Jewish communities
Rosh haShana	Jewish New Year (around the beginning of the Fall)
Sadducees	A kind of Judaism before the destruction of the Temple (70 CE) that did not accept and follow the Oral Torah and rabbinical teachings
Safwa	(Arabic for "elite") A person or group that has a special, spiritual ability to connect with God
Sefirá	A divine emanation within the system of Qabbala
Sefirot	Plural of <i>Sefirá</i>
Sepharad	Hebrew name for Iberia (Spain and Portugal)
Sephardi	Jew/Judaism with roots in medieval Iberia
Sephardic	Jew/Judaism with roots in medieval Iberia
Sabbath	Seventh day of the week (Saturday); Jewish day of rest
Shabbát	Hebrew word for 'Sabbath'
Shavu'oth	"Festival of Weeks" Jewish holiday commemorating the giving of the Torah (in the Summer)
Simt	The final two lines of each stanza within a Muwaššah
Sufi	A Muslim mystic



Sufism	A form of Islamic mysticism
Sukkot	Jewish Festival of Tabernacles, also called Festival of Booths (in the Fall)
Synagogue	Jewish house of worship
Tahrîf	The Muslim belief that Jews and Christians have corrupted their Scriptures
Taifa	Islamic, relatively small independent territory on the Iberian Peninsula
Talmud	A collection of Jewish books of rabbinic study and discussions
Tanakh	A Hebrew term for the Hebrew Bible
Tanna'im	Jewish scholars (c. 0-230) responsible for the Mishna
Tetragrammaton	The four-letter-name of God that may not be pronounced (Y-H-W-H)
Theology	Study and definition of this pertaining to God and religion
Torah	1) Divine instruction 2) Hebrew term for the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible); also called the Written Torah
Tosafists	Group of Jewish scholars that appeared after Rashi that wrote commentary glosses on Scripture and (especially) on the Talmud
Tosafot	Added commentaries written by the Tosafists (see there)
Transubstantiation	The Catholic belief that during the mass, the 'host' (a piece of bread) becomes the real body of Christ
Trinity	The Christian belief that the One God consists of three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
Virgin birth	The Christian belief that Jesus was born from a virgin (Mary)
Visigoths	A Germanic tribe that ruled over the Iberian Peninsula before the Arabic invasion
Vizier	Arabic word for minister.
Written Torah	See: Torah
Yeshiva	A Jewish religious academy
Yeshu	Hebrew for 'Jesus'
Yishmael	See: Ishmael

Yishmaelites	See: Ishmaelites
Yom Kippur	The Day of Atonement (in the Fall)
Zohar	Jewish Book of mystical teachings
Zunār	A belt that dhimmis were obligated to wear to be recognizable.