

# The Center for Jewish Studies

Established in 1973, the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida is now the largest and most comprehensive program of its kind in the South. Made up of 26 faculty experts on Jewish history, literature, philosophy, religious thought, politics and society, the program offers a bachelor's degree, an undergraduate minor, and is in the process of developing a graduate program.

In addition to its academic programs, the center also coordinates study abroad programs, offers annual lecture and film series, sponsors the Summer Holocaust Institute for Teachers, provides support for graduate research, and presents art and photography exhibitions. The center also enhances the university's library resources by contributing to the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, endowed by the Price family of Jacksonville, which currently contains more than 70,000 volumes on Jewish history.

All Lectures will be held at 7:30 pm in the David A. Stein Jewish Community Alliance in Jacksonville, Florida. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 352-392-9247.

# Bess K Shorstein

Although Bess K. Shorstein never attended UF, she did build strong ties with the university. As a single parent to sons Jack, Buddy and Harry, she supported her family by working as a secretary to the director of the Jacksonville Jewish Community Council, the predecessor to the Jacksonville Jewish Federation.

As each of her sons graduated from high school, Bess encouraged them to go to UF and get an education. An enduring link was formed between the Shorstein family and the University of Florida and in the many years since the eldest son, Jack, first entered UF in 1947, a son, daughter-in-law, grandson or great grandson has found their way to the university.

In honor of Bess K. Shorstein and her role in the Jewish community, the Shorstein Family Foundation, Inc. is proud to sponsor a lecture series, presented by the UF Center for Jewish Studies, in her memory.

Series Co-Sponsors: David A. Stein Jewish Community Alliance, Jacksonville Jewish Federation, Beth El-The Beaches Synagogue, Beth Shalom Congregation, Congregation Ahavath Cehsed, Etz Chaim, Jacksonville Jewish Center

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Center for Jewish Studies  
105 Walker Hall  
PO Box 118020  
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# 2003 Bess K Shorstein Lecture Series 2004



Presented by the University of Florida Center for Jewish Studies  
and the Shorstein Family Foundation, Inc.

## Conflicting Visions: Social Movements and the Religious Law Conflict in Israel

*Patricia J Woods* is a political science and Jewish studies assistant professor at the University of Florida and is currently serving as a visiting scholar at Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies. She will offer insight on the conflict between the Israel High Court of Justice and religious institutions and discuss the implications the dispute has on the everyday lives of Israeli citizens and on Israeli society as a whole.

Thursday  
October 30  
2003



Sponsored by Ronald and Joan Levin

## Images of Florida in Jewish-American Literature

*Andrew Gordon* is an English professor at the University of Florida who will present a surprising look at Florida as written in Jewish-American fiction. By highlighting the works of Norman Mailer, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Saul Bellow, Thane Rosenbaum and Cynthia Ozick, he will offer a radically different picture of the paradisiacal Florida most familiar to American Jews.

Tuesday  
December 2  
2003



Sponsored by the Dubow Family Foundation, Inc.

## The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: Perceptions of Jews and Judaism in Germany

*Leah Hochman* is an assistant professor of religion and Jewish studies at the University of Florida who has long been fascinated by the study of the Beautiful and its flip side, the Ugly. She will discuss the history of those ideas in Germany and the ways the identification of ugliness became associated and connected to Jews and Judaism.

Sunday  
February 15  
2004



Sponsored by the Seymour Marco Family Foundation

## Another Kind of Judaism: The Dead Sea Scrolls

*James Mueller* is an associate professor of religion at the University of Florida who will address the enigma of the Dead Sea Scrolls. From the time of their discovery to the present, the Scrolls have been identified with various groups of early Jews and Christians. What kinds of ideas are represented in the Scrolls that might lead to such identifications? By examining this and other questions he will present an overview of one of the many variations of Judaism of the Greco-roman period.

Thursday  
March 11  
2004



Sponsored by the Ansbacher Family Foundation