The Katz Center and the Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem offer an annual week-long intensive course for graduate students. This collaborative program takes place in Philadelphia and Jerusalem in alternate years, under the joint directorship of Steven Weitzman and Elisheva Baumgarten.

Each year, the course addresses a new special topic in Jewish studies, bringing together an international group of students and faculty with special interests in that topic. Participating students are exposed to innovative scholarship and diverse teaching styles, broadening their intellectual perspectives and connecting them kindred scholars, potential mentors, and peers. The week also includes sessions devoted to professional development and directed excursions to local historic and cultural sites.

The 2019 school will take place in Jerusalem, June 30–July 4, and will be focused on Secrets and Lies: Truth, Evidence, and Deception in Jewish History and Culture.

With standards of veracity being debated around the world today, the 2019 Mandel School/Katz Center Summer School investigates hidden and concealed truths in Jewish history and culture. Over a week of intensive learning with a cohort of leading scholars from different subfields and disciplines, graduate students will explore the role of secrecy, esotericism and deception in Jewish sources, the challenge of getting at hidden historical truths, the closeting of social identities, and other topics that involve seeking out or masking the truth.

Website: https://katz.sas.upenn.edu/education-outreach/advanced-summer-school-graduate-students-jewish-studies