This course will explore the relationship between Judaism and Islam from Muhammad's initial encounter with the Jews of Medina until the 13th century, a period in which the majority of Jews in the world lived under Islamic rule. Striking a balance between the examination of the relationship between these two rich religious traditions and the investigation into the historical experiences of Jews, this course will examine the shared cultural heritage of the two religions, the legal position of Jews in Islam and medieval works of polemics. Through the documents of the Cairo Geniza, we will explore the everyday realities of Jews thoroughly embedded in the surrounding Islamic and Arab culture.