The legend of the Wandering Jew, the story of the Jewish shopkeeper who drove Christ away as he stopped to rest on his way to Calvary and subsequently was doomed to roam the earth until the Advent, is one of the most enduring and productive tales of the Middle Ages. Alternately a shoemaker, carpenter, or even doorkeeper to Pontius Pilate, the Wandering Jew appears frequently and uninhibitedly in the folklore, literature, and visual arts of European history. This course will explore the rich and varied traditions associated with this legend from its pre-history in the Hebrew Bible and the Gospels up through its early modern and Romantic heyday and into its twentieth century reception. In readings ranging from medieval chronicles and Reformation pamphlets to works by Schiller, Shelley, Hans Christian Andersen, Meir Goldschmidt, and August Strindberg, we will trace the evolution of this mysterious wanderer from reviled figure of anti-Jewish polemic, to righteous convert and missionary, to learned sage. Along the way we will also examine the intersection of the tale with such legendary figures as Cain, Prester John, the Flying Dutchman, and the Wild Huntsman, all the while marking the anti-Semitic stereotypes that become associated with the figure. We will close by turning to several modern literary reflections and contemporary artistic renderings of the story, including the first Jewish appropriations of the legend.