

Soviet plan for Jewish studies set

Jewish studies will soon be taught at a Soviet university for the first time in a half-century. It was announced yesterday.

The program — the result of an agreement to be signed today — is expected to start in the fall of 1991.

Students will attend the Moscow State Institute of History and Archives for three years, and will spend a fourth year in New York at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

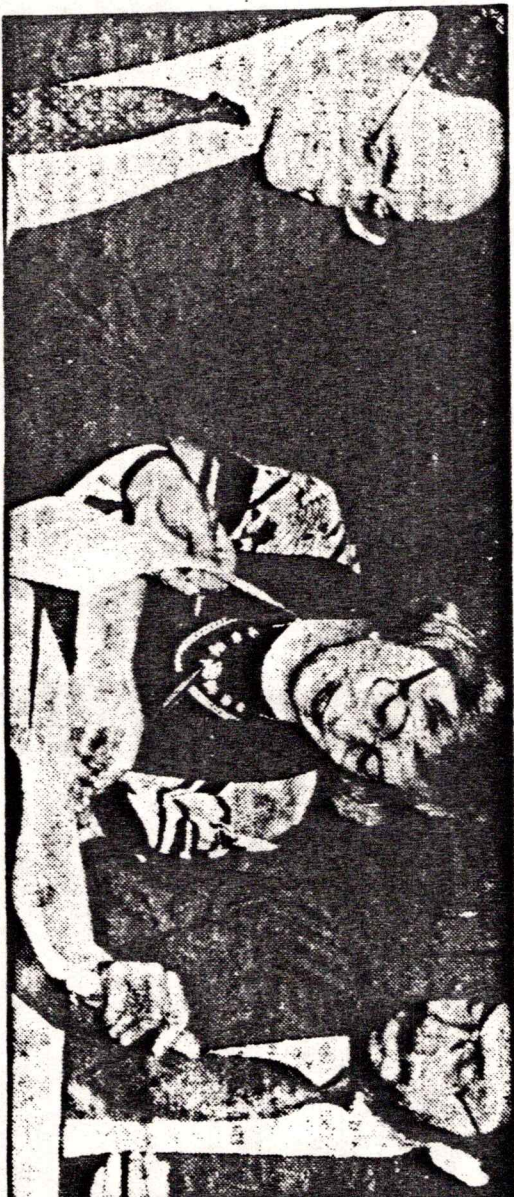
Professors from the American institutions also will teach in Moscow.

This is believed to be the first time a Soviet state university and American institutions have created a joint degree-granting program, according to Tammy Kornfeld, a spokeswoman for the seminary.

Creators of the program hope that graduates will help catalog the vast amount of Jewish manuscripts that are now surfacing in the Soviet Union.

Other graduates of the program are expected to become teachers and scholars of Judaism, as well as intellectual leaders of the Soviet Jewish community, according to David Fishman, who conceived the program. AP

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SOVIET-JEWISH ACCORD: Natalya Ivanovna Basovskaya, a vice president at the Moscow State Institute of History and Archives, signs an agreement yesterday at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research on Fifth Avenue and 86th Street to allow Jewish studies to be taught at the Moscow school. Looking on are Ismar Schorsch (right), chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and Samuel Norich, executive director of YIVO.

New York Post: Dan Brinzer