



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

WINTER/SPRING 2021



DISCOVER OUR OFFERINGS

Not sure what program is right for you?
Start by asking yourself these questions...

NEW TO JEWISH LEARNING?

- Try an Open Circle Jewish Learning class
- Young adults: We offer Open Circle Jewish Learning 20s & 30s classes throughout the year
- Parents and Grandparents: Check out Parenting and Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens

LOOKING FOR A DEEP, INTELLECTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR PEERS?

Try our Me'ah Classic (100 hours) two-year course, taught by academics from throughout Greater Boston

LOOKING TO LEARN CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW?

Try our immersive Hebrew language Ulpan classes for adults or Hebrew for Teens

LOOKING TO ENRICH YOUR JEWISH LEARNING?

- Study alongside other adult learners in a Me'ah Select semester-long class
- Try a graduate-level rabbinical, cantorial, or Jewish education non-credit course, where you'll study alongside Hebrew College ordination and graduate students

Asking yourself these questions may help too:

Which topics are you interested in?

How intense do you want your class to be?

How often do you want to have class?

Where do you want to have class?

LOOKING FOR JEWISH LEARNING FOR YOUR FAMILY AND/OR TEEN?

- Try Prozdor, Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston, or our new Teen Beit Midrash, Gesher Israel Seminar, or Prozdor Immersives programs
- Try Parenting or Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens.

Visit hebrewcollege.edu/jewish-journey to find the right program and courses to fit your learning style and schedule.

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Note: Courses listings are up to date as of January 15, 2021. Additional courses may be added. Please check the Hebrew College website at hebrewcollege.edu/learn for course updates and changes.





MESSAGE FROM Dr. SUSIE TANCHEL

Vice President of Community Education, Hebrew College

Each and every time I read the *parsha* (the weekly Torah reading) I am amazed at its relevance to our lives, right in this moment. As we in the United States are focused on a presidential transition and the essential qualities of a leader, in the cycle of Torah readings, we are learning about a leadership transition and the leadership of Moses and of Pharaoh. When I was younger my understanding of these chapters was deeply influenced by other's experience and knowledge; now my reading of this (and other Jewish texts) is informed by my life experience and knowledge and the current historical moment in which I find myself. Though the text remains the same, its possible meanings and relevance to my life now are very different. I notice new aspects of the texts, I wonder about different moments, I ask new questions, and what trouble me and what gives me hope is different. The same text is yielding many new possibilities. This, for me, is part of the joy of discovery that comes from being a life-long learner.

One of our greatest Jewish leaders was a lifelong learner. Moshe, in his adulthood, was in the midst of his usual activities as a shepherd when he noticed a bush that was burning but was not being consumed. As a curious man, with an abiding desire to know more, he was compelled to investigate further. (Exodus 3:2) Moshe noticed this bush and was ready for this moment because he had been curious and thoughtful so frequently in his life prior to this point. (Exodus 2) Moses' decision to learn more about the bush created the requisite conditions for God to choose him to lead the People out of Egypt. While the impact in our lives might not be quite as transformative, the principle remains the same for each of us. Learning more opens the doors to new possibilities and adventures.

As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel writes, "Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement [to] get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible, never treat life casually." Perhaps living this way at every moment is not possible, and maybe not even advisable given the particular demands of any given day. But there is a stance of living, a mindset, that we can each embrace that allows for us to be open to new experiences and to have our hearts and minds ready for moments of learning. This is such a critical part of being alive.

As adult learners we have the generative opportunity to continue the joys of exploration and discovery that hopefully were a critical part of our formative years. Now is our chance to venture into areas we have long wanted to explore or to delve more deeply into subjects that passionately intrigue us. Under the guide of talented teachers, and in the company of other inspiring learners, we will learn more about our world, our community, and our ourselves. This learning offers us occasions to expand our minds, to open our hearts, and to feed our souls. Why should this joy be relegated solely to the young?

I invite you to join me on a journey of exploration and discovery at Hebrew College. My hope is that whether you are looking to tip a toe in the water of learning, or to dive right in, there is an appropriate class for you here at Hebrew College. Thank you for being an important part of our community of learners who deepen our conversations and enrich our lives. And thank you to CJP for making so many of these learning opportunities possible.

Hebrew College is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership that offers community learning programs for all ages and stages within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion, as well as graduate programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education and Jewish studies. Hebrew College community education programs welcome students from all faiths, cultures, and experiences.

Community Education Staff

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ADULT & YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

Sara Brown
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Anna Katsevman
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Me'ah
Marilyn Stern
Co-Associate Director
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Erica Streit-Kaplan
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**Parenting & Grandparenting
Through a Jewish Lens**
Ahava Rosenthal
Director
arosenthal@hebrewcollege.edu

Open Circle Jewish Learning
Linna Ettinger
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Cindy Bernstein
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Hebrew Language Ulpan
Iris Schor
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TEEN PROGRAMS

Prozdor and Prozdor Immersives
Rabbi Laura Bellows `18
Director of Prozdor and Teen Learning
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**Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston
at Hebrew College (JTFFB)**
Leah Goldstein
Director
lgoldstein@hebrewcollege.edu

Teen Beit Midrash
Rabba Claudia Marbach
Director
cmarbach@hebrewcollege.edu

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Congregational Education Initiative (CEI)
Marion Gribetz
Director of Educational Initiatives
mgribetz@hebrewcollege.edu

Hebrew at the Center (HATC)
Anna Katsevman
Program Administrator, Adult Learning
akatsevman@hebrewcollege.edu

GRADUATE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Marcia Spellman
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Rabbinical and Cantorial Programs
Laurena Rosenberg
Program Administrator
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Master of Jewish Education Program
Debrah Ron
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ADULT LEARNING

HEBREW LANGUAGE ULPAN

Hebrew College Ulpan is an immersion language program that teaches grammar, reading comprehension, and conversation skills. Ulpan brings Hebrew to life through discussions of contemporary political, social, and cultural topics, and readings drawn from current Israeli news and social commentary. Ulpan is offered through ten levels of study, including beginner, intermediate and advanced.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/ulpan

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Iris Schor | ischor@hebrewcollege.edu

Instructors: Aliza Brosh, Maya Dalzell, Osnat Hazan, Shlomi Zan

Winter classes start the week of February 8. For placement, contact Iris Schor at ischor@hebrewcollege.edu. \$750 (levels 1A-9); \$635 (level 10). Financial aid is available.

Level 1A: Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 1A: Tuesday and Thursday 6:45-8:15 p.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 1B: Monday and Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., February 8-May 10, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 2A: Sunday and Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., February 7-May 20, Instructor: Shlomi Zan

Level 2A: Monday and Wednesday, 9:30-11 a.m., February 8-May 10, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 2B: Monday and Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., February 8-May 10, Instructor: Shlomi Zan

Level 3A: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-11 a.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor: Osnat Hazan

Level 3B: Wednesday and Friday, 9:30-11 a.m., February 10-May 12, Instructor: Osnat Hazan

Level 4: Monday and Wednesday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., February 8-May 10, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 5: Tuesday and Thursday 5-6:30 p.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor TBD

Level 6: Tuesday and Thursday 5-6:30 p.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor: Maya Dalzell

Level 7: Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-11 a.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor TBD

Level 8: Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-11 a.m., February 9-May 11, Instructor TBD

Level 9: Friday 9-11 a.m., February 12-May 14, Instructor TBD

Level 9: Monday and Friday, 8:30-10 a.m., February 8-May 14, Instructor Aliza Brosh

Level 10: Wednesday and Friday 10-11 a.m., February 10-May 12, Instructor Aliza Brosh

ME'AH



Journey through Jewish texts and ideas from biblical times to the present through Hebrew College's two-year Me'ah Classic program or dive into a particular historic period, time, or personality through Hebrew College's one-semester Me'ah Select classes. This semester, Me'ah is also offering a special Me'ah Select Seminar with Jewish scholar Rabbi Arthur Green, an expert on Hasidic and Neo-Hasidic thought.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/programs/meah

Registration: hebrewcollege.edu/programs/meah-select

Contact: Marilyn Stern and Erica Streit-Kaplan | meah@hebrewcollege.edu

ME'AH CLASSIC

With 100 (*me'ah* in Hebrew) hours of coursework over two years, Me'ah Classic is a comprehensive, engaging, and in-depth adult learning experience that takes students on a journey through the narrative of the Jewish people and empowers students to become part of the conversation. Readings, text study, lectures and discussions focus on core texts from biblical, rabbinic, medieval, and modern times. Students receive a certificate during a graduation ceremony at the end of their second year. Classes start each fall. Visit our website for additional information: hebrewcollege.edu/programs/meah

ME'AH SELECT

Me'ah Select is a one semester in-depth exploration of a specific theme, text, personality, or slice of Jewish history, taught by outstanding faculty members. Financial aid is available for all classes.

BRINGING THE YIDDISH FIDDLER ON THE ROOF TO LIFE! IF I WERE AN ACTOR: A PERFORMER'S PERSPECTIVE

Instructors: Amy Lieberman and Cantor Lynn Torgove `12

Mondays, 4:30-6 p.m., February 1, 8, 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22; April 12, 19, 26 (10 sessions)
\$325

A continuation of our exploration of the Yiddish Fiddler of the Roof, inspired by the recent successful Off-Broadway production. The first semester of this course is not a prerequisite for this course, which will focus on the elements of the Yiddish Fiddler production from the viewpoint of the performer. What would it be like to be a cast member in the Yiddish Fiddler? In this course, you will learn the music, the Yiddish lyrics, acting skills, and the backstage theater craft that go into creating a performance of the Yiddish Fiddler. We will explore the history of the Yiddish Language and the Jewish Music of Eastern Europe. Expert instructors and renowned guest lecturers, including Hankus Netsky and Binyumen Schaechter, among others, will teach us what it takes to put on a production of this inspiring musical. As a special L'chaim, we'll raise a glass and toast cast members of the National Yiddish Theater Folksbiene production of Fiddler on the Roof, as we gather for a final roundtable discussion.

MAIMONIDES: RABBI, PHILOSOPHER, DOCTOR AND COMMUNITY LEADER

Instructor: Dr. Alan Verskin

Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., February 1, 8, 15, 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22; April 12, 19, 26; May 3 (12 sessions)

\$335

Hosted by: Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley

Moses Maimonides is likely the most famous rabbi of all time—"From Moses to Moses, there was none like Moses." Today, although medical centers and schools are named after him, few have read his writings. We will read Maimonides to get a sense of his mindset, life, and cultural world. We will read from his enigmatic philosophical work, The Guide of the Perplexed, and explore why it was simultaneously so influential and so controversial. We will read from his summation of Jewish law, The Mishneh Torah, a book that Maimonides boldly said would make the study of the Talmud unnecessary. Finally, we will look at his responses to letters written to him from across the Jewish world that ask for his help in solving a variety of personal and communal problems, many of which still resonate today.

THE EVERCHANGING PASSOVER HAGGADAH: AN EXPLORATION OF JEWISH HISTORY AND IDENTITY

Instructors: Dr. Alan Verskin and Dr. Sara Verskin

Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., February 10, 17, 24; March 3, 10 (5 sessions)

Cost: \$165

Hosted by: Temple Emunah and Temple Isaiah, Lexington

Generations of Jews have left their unique marks on the Passover Haggadah and used it to tell their own stories. We will examine Haggadahs from medieval times to the present, from South America to India, looking at what they tell us about the diverse varieties of Jewish life. We will explore the structure and texts of the Haggadah, focusing on those most foreign to modern sensibilities, to connect with those communities for whom they were meaningful. Finally, we will have fun discussing parodies of the Haggadah, a genre long used by Jews to satirize oppressors of all kinds—employers, politicians, family-members, and more. Time will be built into class to discuss how these diverse ideas about Passover can contribute to the joy and meaning of our own seders.

WHERE THE BIBLE HAPPENED

Instructor: Rabbi Neal Gold

Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., February 11, 18; March 4, 11, 18 (5 sessions)

\$165

Hosted by: Congregation Eitz Chayim, Tremont Street Shul, Cambridge

A discovery of the important places in the Torah reveals some amazing narratives that connect times and people. If you love maps and geography, you will get a big kick out of this course; even if you don't, you'll rediscover Biblical sagas in ways you haven't seen them before. Place-names—Shechem, Beit-El, Megiddo, Hazor, Timna, and many more—become a "golden thread" that links the narratives of the Bible. We'll explore the mythic resonance of the Land of Israel and its neighbors, revealed through its geography, flora and fauna, and the people who made it home.

BERAKHAH—GIVING AND RECEIVING BLESSINGS: A COURSE ON THE INFINITE POWER OF GREETING, SALUTATION, AND GESTURES OF RESPECT

Instructor: Rabbi Nehemia Polen

Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., February 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 7, 14, 21, 28 (10 sessions)

\$335

Blessing is a core motif of Judaism. The word berakhah in its various forms appears about 450 times in the Hebrew Bible. In Genesis 12.1-3, God's call to Abram (later Abraham) invokes blessing five times, suggesting that Abrahamic religion is based on the invitation "to be a blessing." This course will explore the multiple senses of 'blessing' in the Bible, Rabbinic literature, medieval Kabbalah, Hasidism, and our own world. We will examine how to give and receive blessings; the meaning of "blessing God"; the special blessing that parents can give children; the Priestly Blessing; blessing friends and strangers; and why blessings are so important in our increasingly impersonal, mechanized world. Classes will include careful reading of classical texts in English, discussion, and a practicum on developing blessing as a skill, a faculty that can be cultivated.

MESSIAH, COMPLEX: THE JEWISH UNDERSTANDING OF THE MESSIAH FROM ANTIQUITY TO MODERNITY

Instructor: Rabbi Neal Gold

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., February 23; March 2, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4 (10 sessions)

\$335

Hosted by: Temple Beth Sholom Framingham

Since late antiquity, Judaism has proposed the audacious idea of a Messiah—a redemptive figure that will herald a new epoch in human history. We will explore the development of this idea in its most provocative incarnations: from the Bible, the Talmud, the classical Siddur, and medieval Kabbalah; through Zionism, liberal Jewish movements, Chabad, and modern understandings of Tikkun Olam. We will explore how the messianic idea has proved valuable for preserving hope during times of duress, and how it has proved to be dangerous and scandalous at other moments in Jewish history.

TRADITION ON THE SCREEN I: DIVERGENT IMAGES OF JEWISH TRADITIONAL LIFE IN FILM

Instructor: Dr. Jacob Meskin

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., February 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23 (5 sessions)

\$165

We will screen popular American and Israeli movies to study a complex and profound issue in Jewish life today. This issue is the fundamental tension between the lives and attitudes of modern Jews, and the lives and attitudes of traditional religious Jews (also sometimes referred to as Haredim, ultra-orthodox, or Hassidim). Designed as the first of two courses (each may be taken separately), this course focuses on films that offer starkly different depictions of traditional Jewish life. These films will help us attend to deep conflicts over issues such as individual self-expression, family, the value of communal life, and the experience of romance and love. Students will screen the films on their own before class; important clips will be shown in class. Carefully chosen academic readings, and short stories will be provided each week, both for background on that week's film, and to enhance the experience of viewing it.

PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP AND RESILIENCE: EXPLORING BIBLICAL, RABBINIC AND JEWISH HISTORICAL PERSONALITIES

Instructor: Rabbi Benjamin Samuels

Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 7 (5 sessions)

\$165

Hosted by: Temple Emanuel, Newton

We seek to find inspiration and uplift in the narratives of Jewish personalities whose encounters with life's challenges serve as enduring lessons in leadership and resilience. Over the course of five sessions, we will interactively study the biblical personalities of Abraham and Sarah; the rabbinic personalities of Rachel and Rabbi Akiva; and Beruria and Rabbi Meir; and the Jewish historical personalities of Moses Maimonides, Gluckel of Hameln, and Rabbi Nachman of Breslov. Each session represents a study in the courage and determination, and our study of all of them together will help us discover and strengthen our own hidden resources of leadership and resilience.

EIGHT ESSENTIAL JEWISH THINKERS: A USER-FRIENDLY GUIDE TO MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT

Instructor: Dr. Jacob Meskin

Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13 (10 sessions)

\$275

Hosted by: Jewish Community Center of the North Shore & Temple B'nai Abraham, Beverly

This course offers a hands-on introduction to eight of the most important Jewish thinkers in the modern period. They approach the question of modern Jewish existence from a wide variety of perspectives, ranging from Jewishness as a secular political identity, modernity combined with orthodox Judaism, and a mystical understanding of Zionism. Some issues we will consider include: the nature of human fulfillment, the relevance of talmudic thinking to modern life, and the meaning and importance of Zionism. Historical background on each thinker will be presented, along with manageable excerpts from his or her writings. Participants will gain a working grasp of each thinker's ideas. The thinkers are: Benedict Spinoza, Sigmund Freud, Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, Martin Buber, Hannah Arendt, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, Emmanuel Levinas, and Aviva Zornberg.

CAPES, TIGHTS, AND YARMULKES: JUDAISM AND SUPERHEROES

Instructor: Dr. Shari Lowin

Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5 (5 sessions)

\$165

Hosted by: Congregation Eitz Chayim, Tremont Street Shul, Cambridge

Did Superman keep kosher? Did Shadowcat have a Bat Mitzvah? Did Magneto lay tefillin? And, what happened when The Thing turned 13? It is well-known among comic book aficionados that many of the early superhero writers were Jews. But how much—if any—did that influence their creations? In investigating this question, we will examine the stories of four characters from superhero comics. As we analyze this intersection of religion and popular culture, we will ask not only what religious themes and narratives are found there but also why?

OLD WINE, NEW VESSELS: A HASIDIC MASTER ADDRESSES TODAY'S SEEKERS (PART TWO)

Instructor: Rabbi Arthur Green

Mondays, 12:30-2 p.m., April 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10, 24; June 7, 14 (8 sessions)
\$225

New students and those who participated in Rabbi Arthur Green's fall course are invited to join Rabbi Green for another eight-week exploration of selected texts from his recent translation of the Hasidic Classic "Me'or 'Eynayim," The Light of the Eyes (Stanford University Press 2021). Rabbi Green will focus on new texts from this remarkable Hasidic work that he describes as "a guide to the cultivation of spiritual awareness and the implications of such awareness and the implications of such awareness of one's emotional and moral life." Participants will connect with the deep spiritual wisdom and healing powers of Hasidic teachings and will explore how Hasidism can spiritually re-invigorate Judaism in today's contemporary world. Each one hour of text learning by Rabbi Green will be followed by a 30-minute Q & A.

TRADITION ON THE SCREEN II: CHALLENGES AND JOYS OF TRADITIONAL JEWISH LIFE IN FILM

Instructor: Dr. Jacob Meskin

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., April 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11 (5 sessions)
\$165

Designed as a free-standing companion to "Tradition On The Screen I" (each may be taken separately), this course screens films that explore the profound personal experiences, and struggles, of those living traditional Jewish lives today. Using the films and readings this course tries to articulate—from the "inside"—the thoughts and feelings of traditional Jews as they face both wrenching dilemmas, and truly joyous moments. Some of the topics taken up in the films include spirituality and faith, the experiences of women, the challenges faced by gays and lesbians, dealing with other religions, and the struggle to believe in God after the Holocaust. Students will screen the films on their own before class; important clips will be shown in class. Carefully chosen academic readings, and short stories will be provided each week, both for background on that week's film, and to enhance the experience of viewing it.

MISSION AND MESSAGE: THE BIBLICAL PROPHETS AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF JEWISH DESTINY

Instructor: Rabbi Benjamin Samuels

Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., April 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13 (5 sessions)
Hosted by: Temple Emunah and Temple Isaiah, Lexington
\$165

The roar of Amos. The cry of Joel. The plea of Micah. Have you heard the voice of God raging in the Prophets' words? The classical prophets of Israel represent some of the most radical, dramatic, passionate, poetic, and powerful messages that our tradition offers. Over the course of five sessions, we will study essential passages from one of the classical prophetic books of the Hebrew Bible. Our sessions will be interactive text-based studies with an eye to both literary medium and moral message. Please bring a Hebrew-English Tanakh.

PARENTING & GRANDPARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS



Join other parents in community and conversation on topics that matter to you as a parent. Explore Jewish values and teachings that can enrich your family and help parents navigate this uncharted parenting territory. Reflect on the joys and challenges of raising kids, especially during these challenging times. Find support, encouragement, and connection. Parenting Through a Jewish Lens welcomes the participation of parents from all faiths, cultures, families, and experiences. Financial aid is available.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/parenting

Registration: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Ahava Rosenthal | arosenthal@hebrewcollege.edu

ANCIENT JEWISH SECRETS FOR RAISING MODERN CHILDREN

Instructor: Rabbi Amy Grossblatt Pessah

Sundays, 8-9:30 p.m., February 7, 21; March 7, 21 (4 sessions)

\$80

Join Rabbi Amy Grossblatt Pessah as she guides us on a path to discovering parenting wisdom from a most unusual source: the Jewish prayer book or Siddur. In partnership with Hebrew College's Parenting Through a Jewish Lens program, Rabbi Amy will share some of the parenting insights she has collected in her new book, Parenting on a Prayer: Ancient Jewish Secrets for Raising Modern Children. During this four-part interactive class, she will delve into lessons learned from ancient Jewish teachings combined with her own practical life experiences from raising her three children. Participants will be invited not only to learn from Jewish texts, but also to connect to their own inner wisdom. Topics explored will include responsibility, confidence, boundaries, and joy. Open to parents with children of all ages.

GRANDPARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

Instructor: Margie Bogdanow

Wednesdays, 5:30-7 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (5 sessions)

\$80

Grandparenting can be a rewarding and challenging experience. But in these days of social distancing, and continued isolation for many, being an active grandparent has become especially fraught. In Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens, you will explore how Jewish wisdom can help us navigate our roles in our children's and grandchildren's lives, both in the day-to-day reality of living with COVID-19, as well as in contemplating a post-vaccine world where hopes for a "return to normalcy" loom large. We will also explore our personal grandparenting journeys: what came before us, and what we will leave behind.

PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH INCLUSIVE LENS

Instructor: Carolyn Keller

Sundays, 8:15-9:45 p.m., January 31; February 21; March 7, 21; April 11 (5 sessions)

\$80

Join with parents of special needs children in this 5-session class that explores how Jewish values, traditions and wisdom can sustain our parenting journeys, and helps us apply these teachings to the special challenges of supporting children with significant learning needs. Facilitated by Carolyn Keller, a long-time educator and parent of a special-needs child, this unique and meaningful course will provide parents the opportunity to build community and friendships in a safe space for sharing the ups and downs of their personal parenting experiences and allow them to learn from one another, an experience that has been even more elusive during COVID. Open to parents with children of all ages.

PARENTING YOUR TWEEN THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

Rabbi Barbara Penzner

Sundays, 4-5:30 p.m., January 24; February 7, 21; March 7, 21 (5 sessions)

\$80

Join Rabbi Barbara Penzner and fellow parents of pre-teens (9-13) for this 5-session course made even more pressing by our collective experience in this moment. As the pandemic rages on, disrupting every aspect of our families' lives, and social and political unrest rages, Parenting Your Tween invites us to come together to share the challenges of raising 'tweens in this unsettling time. Explore how ancient and contemporary sources of wisdom can help us navigate our journey through this new and complicated life stage, made that much more complex by living under COVID. Topics include: Parenting in a Time of Change, Fostering an Ethic of Caring, and Cultivating Jewish Teen Growth.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING



In Hebrew College's Open Circle Jewish Learning discussion groups, you can ask big questions, explore relevant topics, and find meaning in Jewish sources of wisdom. Delve into Jewish texts, learn and make a difference through a social justice community group, or participate in a conversation group focused on mysticism and mindfulness.

Subcategories below include 20s and 30s, Social Action, Gender Studies, Arts and Culture, Mindfulness, and Texts and Traditions. Financial aid is available.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Linna Ettinger | lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: 20S & 30S

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Ahava Rosenthal | rosenthal@hebrewcollege.edu

A SHIFTING LANDSCAPE: JEWISH IDENTITY IN 21st CENTURY AMERICA

Instructor: Akiva Nelson

Sundays, 5-6:30 p.m., April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16 (7 sessions)

\$105

The prevalent narrative of Jewish identity in 21st century America is one of assimilation and disaffiliation, but what exactly is Jewish identity and how has that concept changed over time? In this class, we will explore a variety of questions and research related to Jewish identity, from the infamous 2013 Pew Report, "A Portrait of Jewish Americans," and the rise of the Religious "Nones" to the Jewish Journey approach pioneered by Dr. Bethamie Horowitz and essays by post-ethnic Jewish thinker, Dr. Shaul Magid. We will also explore the causes underlying assimilation and disaffiliation trends, as well as promising countertrends. Finally, we will navigate not only what this changing landscape means for American Jews writ large, but what it means for us and our loved ones. What has been our personal experience of the changing American Jewish landscape and why does it matter? How can we expect it to continue to change, and what does that mean for us and our people's future?

ANGRY SEAS, TENDER SKIES: LEARNING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH MIDRASH

Instructor: Rabbi Laura Bellows `18

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., May 12, 19, 26 (3 sessions)

\$45

What can Torah teach us about how to face a climate changing world? In this mini course, we will invite the ancient wisdom of midrash into conversation with the contemporary climate crisis, reflecting on our own climate resilience in the process. Powerful nature sources appear throughout Jewish literature, from the Torah to the Talmud, from

mystical and Hasidic thought to contemporary Jewish eco-theologies. Using the core values of areyvut (personal and collective responsibility), teshuva (transformation / change), and rachamim (compassion) as guides, participants will draw on this well of Torah to identify strategies for building climate resilience personally and in our communities. This class is for climate-concerned folks of all identities and backgrounds. Midrashim will be provided in both Hebrew or Aramaic and with English translations, and our time together will be a mix of hevruta (paired) study, group discussion, creative reflection, and questions to guide our thinking and resilience practice between classes.

BAKING AND BREAKING BREAD ACROSS THE DIASPORA

Instructor: Sara Gardner

Sundays, 4-5:30 p.m., March 7, 14, 21; April 11, 18, 25 (6 sessions)

\$90

Let's break some bread! Join Sara Gardner, culinary historian and all-around lover of bread, for this adventure across the diaspora through baking. We will be exploring the diverse culinary traditions that comprise the global Jewish diaspora as we hone our technical baking skills. In each class, we will learn about a different baked good and the corresponding baking technique that makes it so delicious. We will also delve into the history and context for each culinary creation we make. From phyllo-wrapped bulemas to versatile salouf to airy babka, we will travel to Jewish communities all over the globe, kneading and sampling along the way. Come to bake along or just watch and learn.

BEYOND FIDDLER: JEWISH IDENTITY IN AMERICAN THEATER

Instructor: Elliot Lazar

Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 8, 15, 22; April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3 (8 sessions)

\$120

Over the years, "Fiddler on the Roof" has become the poster child for Jewish-American Theater. The story of a father trying to keep his family and traditions intact, despite trying times in their shtetl, Fiddler can be credited with bringing Jewish stories into the mainstream, where before they might have only played in New York's Yiddish Theatre District. "Beyond Fiddler" will present the history of Jewish-American theater from the early 20th Century until today through the viewing/reading and discussion of a collection of modern plays and musicals, some written by Jews, some written by non-Jews, all written with Jewish themes and content.

CAPTURING FOLK WISDOM: "THE DYBBUK" AND S. ANSKY

Instructor: Rabbi Noam Lerman `20

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7 (6 sessions)

\$90

We will explore the mystical play "The Dybbuk," which first premiered 100 years ago, by looking at the adventurous and fantastical life of its playwright S. Ansky. Radical spiritualist Shloyme-Zanvl Rappaport, known as S. Ansky, was an author, playwright, Jewish folklorist, polemicist, cultural political activist, organizer, revolutionary, and composer. Although much of his archives and collections were demolished by the Russian government, stories about Ansky's life journey have been making their way into historians' hands. We will trace Ansky's footsteps by engaging with the songs, folk wisdom, photographs, and stories that Ansky and his team collected while traveling through shtetlekh (small towns) in the Pale of Settlement, some of which were preserved in "The

Dybbuk.” We will watch clips of “The Dybbuk,” and read Ansky’s personal journal entries and original short stories. We will sing the political songs that he wrote, which contain his spiritual yearnings for justice and healing in this world.

DAWN: DANCING THROUGH THE DARKNESS WITH REBBE NACHMAN OF BRESLEV

Instructors: Rabbi David Curiel and Rabbi Getzel Davis `13

Thursdays, 8-9:30 p.m., Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25 (8 sessions)
\$120

Rebbe Nachman teaches that God is found even in moments so lonely and dark that divine hiddenness itself is hidden. Join Rabbis Getzel Davis and David Curiel for an exploration of Reb Nachman’s teachings, stories, and practices designed specifically for dark times of life. The class will arc metaphorically from darkness to dawn even as the Northern Hemisphere follows the calendrical trajectory from Shvat’s darkness, through Adar’s hiddenness and reversal (meeting on Purim eve for a farbrengen party) and culminating on the cusp of Passover—the light of our collective redemption from Egypt.

MODERN CONUNDRUMS: WESTERN ETHICS AND JEWISH LAW ON THE 21ST CENTURY’S HARDEST QUESTIONS

Instructors: Rabbi Getzel Davis `13, Dr. Leah Rosenberg, and Dr. Sydney Levine

Tuesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 25; June 1 (8 sessions)
\$120

Together we will explore some of the juiciest ethical dilemmas facing 21st Century Jews through the lens of modern medical ethics, western moral philosophy, and halachah (Jewish law). We’ll start by asking: what counts as a moral issue? Then, over several classes, we’ll delve into the ethics of self-driving cars; withdrawing, withholding, or requiring life-sustaining therapies; selecting embryos; and more. We’ll conclude our series by considering the role of intention in halachic and moral violations, and the role and function of halachic and moral rules in our lives.

FROM SHABBAT TO SHAVUOT: JEWISH PRACTICES AND PERSONALITIES ACROSS THE GLOBE

Instructor: Elisha Gechter

Thursdays, 8-9:30 p.m., March 4, 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (8 sessions)
\$120

Have you ever been curious about how Jews with varying identities tackle everything from Shabbat to Shavuot and how that has differed through the centuries? How might young Conservative Jews in the Midwest think about keeping kosher and older Orthodox Jews in Spain think about keeping ritual purity? Together we will explore observances and denominations, regions, and time periods, through the lens of Jewish writings and other genres along with secular sources. As we dig into the stories of individuals and communities, past and present, along with the customs that vary geographically and through time, we will explore how these identity pieces fit into to our own lives.

GRAPPLING WITH A NATION DIVIDED: TORAH FOR OUR TIMES

Instructor: Eric Feld

Tuesdays, 8:15-9:45 p.m., March 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20, 27 (6 sessions)
\$90

The state of American politics in 2021 is an issue that keeps many people up at night. What will happen to our nation in this era of disinformation and partisan politics? Why does "the other" believe what they say and how can we rebuild trust with one another amidst our political divide? What can we do to fix a broken system when we feel so powerless ourselves? Given the storied history of the Jewish people in dealing with political and territorial changes, Jewish texts have much to say about issues of strife and concord. At the heart of this course is the notion that Jewish sources can speak to us and support us as we grapple with societal tension in our contemporary lives. We will examine biblical, rabbinic, Hasidic, and contemporary readings to connect the texts to our own experiences of political upheaval, enriching our personal approaches to comprehending politics while challenging our preconceptions.

MENSCH REIMAGINED: HOW MASCULINE PEOPLE BUILD A CULTURE OF NURTURANCE

Instructor: Ian Schiffer

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 17 (7 sessions)
\$105

How do we move from "mensch" to a culture of nurturance? In this course we will connect and explore the implications that undergird our understanding and experiences of this self-identification in a Jewish context. We will create a community of support for Jewish masculine identifying people, imagining and practicing a culture of nurturance. Using tools from our spiritual inheritance including Mussar, text study, and cycle rituals, along with creative intervention tools such as roleplay and body work, we will mobilize our Jewish masculine selves as we strive for collective liberation and gender justice. This course is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Gender Studies.

SPIRALING THROUGH TIME: SHMITTA 2021

Instructors: Rabbi Getzel Davis '13 and Leora Mallach

Tuesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16 (7 sessions)
\$105

The next Shmitah year begins Rosh Hashanah 5782. How might we personally and collectively prepare for a year of rest, reset, and radical rejuvenation? Starting with study of Shabbat, each week we will ground ourselves in text and conversation. We will delve into Biblical, rabbinic, and post-modern wisdom as we vision the next year.

WORKING FOR REVELATION: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE SEFIROT

Instructors: Rabbi David Curiel and Rabbi Getzel Davis

Thursdays, 8-9:30 p.m., April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13 (7 sessions)
\$105

After the sweet heights of Pesach, we count the Omer—the 49 days between redemption from Egypt and the revelation at Mt. Sinai—an invitation to do the spiritual work that opens the pathways from humanity to Divinity (and back). Join Rabbis David Curiel and Getzel Davis in a deepened exploration of the lower sefirot—the qualities of God, self, and connection found in the mystical Kabbalah. Each week we will explore that week's

sefirah through text, soul, and self, including spiritual practices to enrich the journey. This course is open to all regardless of background or knowledge.

ZIVUG: TRANSITION TO MARRIAGE

Instructor: Rabbi Getzel Davis `13

Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., Feb 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17 (7 sessions)

\$105

Join Rabbi Getzel Davis for a series directed toward couples on love, bashert (soulmate), and the conscious transition to marriage. Through Jewish wisdom, guided exercises, and frank conversations, we will explore the growth and maintenance of vibrant relationships. This course is open to all couples in the year preceding or following a wedding. All gender and multifaith expressions of partnership are strongly welcome. Each class will be on a separate topic: What Changes When We Marry; How to Fight Better; Money, Assets, and Debt; Religious Differences; Sex and Intimacy; and Gender Roles.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: SOCIAL ACTION

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Ahava Rosenthal | arosenthal@hebrewcollege.edu

FAT TORAH: BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING FOR EVERY BODY

Instructor: Rabbi Minna Bromberg

Sundays, 9:30-11 a.m., March 7, 14, 21; April 11, 18, 25 May 2 and 9 (8 sessions)

\$144

Fatphobia is a form of systemic oppression: people in larger bodies face discrimination in education, employment, and healthcare. And for people of all sizes, internalized weight stigma saps us of energy that could be used in much more world-healing ways. In Jewish communities, fatphobia causes soul-deep moral injury. There is nothing more damaging to communities built on belonging than finding ourselves unwelcome in the only bodies we have. But there's good news: Jewish tradition can serve as a source of body liberation and inclusion for all. Course participants will create a personal action plan outlining three to five concrete steps they can take to confront fatphobia and increase inclusivity both within themselves and in their communities. We are commanded to relive the journey from Narrowness (mitzrayim) to freedom. This course offers participants the opportunity to be at the forefront of building communities and building a world where all bodies belong.

SHMITTA: A YEAR OF LETTING GO—JEWISH PRACTICES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM, AND EQUALITY

Instructor: Rabbi Natan Margalit and Kohenet Keshira haLev Fife
Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12 (6 sessions)
\$108

Starting in the fall of 2021, the Jewish world will enter its “sabbatical” or Shmitta year. Shmitta means “letting go” or “releasing.” This ancient biblical practice of releasing debts, land, and property is now being revived and reimagined by Jews around the world, who are finding innovative ways of releasing for equal and social justice, spiritual nourishment, and communal flourishing. Join us as we explore the ancient wisdom in Jewish sources and integrate Shmitta practices, ultimately creating our own Shmitta action plan for ourselves and our communities.

TRANSFORMATIVE PHILANTHROPY: GROUNDING IN JEWISH TRADITION TO GIVE FOR THE LONG HAUL

Instructor: Molly Schulman
Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 18, April 1, 15, 29; May 13, 27 (6 sessions)
\$108

This course will explore our personal stake as Jews in giving to social justice causes. Grounded in Jewish text and embodied practices, we will delve into our own socioeconomic-class and money stories. We will seek to understand the roles of anti-Semitism and racism in our giving while contextualizing our learning within the “Restorative Economies” movement. Using social justice philanthropy principles, we will explore reparations as a frame for giving. Finally, we will create our personal 2021 giving plans, guided by the principles of tzedakah (charitable giving), tzedek (justice), and gemilut chesed (acts of loving kindness). This class welcomes all levels of experience with social justice philanthropy.

WHAT TO EAT: FOOD CHOICE DILEMMAS IN A JEWISH CONTEXT

Instructors: Leora Mallach and Michelle Klieger
Wednesdays 7:30-9 p.m.; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 14 (7 sessions)
\$126

For most of human history, we have struggled to produce enough food to feed the human population. Today, higher production and lower costs means more people are food secure than ever before. It also means food is cheaper in terms of quality and price. Today many people lack food access and others are malnourished. As Jews who profess to care for planet earth (Shomrei Adamah), and each other, (Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Bazeh), how might we consider our role in the global food system? What impact do our food choices have, and what are the intended and actual consequences?

WONDEROUS CONNECTING: WEAVING OURSELVES INTO THE MORE-THAN-HUMAN WORLD

Instructors: Rabbi Katy Allen and Rabbi Josh Breindel
Wednesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 3, 10, and 17 (3 sessions)
\$54

Guided by ancient texts, Hasidic teachings, modern insights, guided meditations, and embodied practices, we will explore our sacred relationship with Creation with grounded joy. Together, we will engage with the challenge of recognizing and experiencing that we

are part of the wondrous mosaic of life that both includes and extends far beyond homo sapiens. The questions raised in our discussions also have bearing on the reality of climate change: if we are truly one with the Universe, how should we behave, and what is our role in countering human habitat and planetary destruction? Over the course of our sessions, and guided by our studies, we will work together to formulate service actions that would bring healing to the more-than-human world. Participants should be prepared to spend about an hour between sessions engaging with suggested sources (including readings and films), with journaling, and with embodied personal exploration.

ZIVUG: ACTIVIST COUPLES TRANSITIONING TO MARRIAGE

Instructor: Rabbi Getzel Davis `13

Wednesdays 8-9:30 p.m.; April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 12, 19, 26 (7 sessions)

\$126

Join Rabbi Getzel Davis for a 7-class series for couples interested in a conscious and healthy transition to marriage. Through Jewish wisdom, text study, guided exercises, and frank conversations, we will explore the growth and maintenance of vibrant relationships. This is a cohort for folks specifically interested in exploring power dynamics, feminism, and how our decisions as a couple impact the world. This course is open to couples in the year preceding or following a wedding. All gender and multifaith expressions of partnership are strongly welcome.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: GENDER STUDIES

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Linna Ettinger | lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

KING, WARRIOR, MAGICIAN, LOVER: BIBLICAL CHARACTERS AND MASCULINE ARCHITYPES

Instructor: Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire

Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., April 5, 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10 (6 sessions)

\$162

The bible is replete with fascinating masculine archetypes including some women! We will explore some of the lesser-known biblical figures and how their masculinity plays into their story. We will explore the question: does the Bible have something to teach us about masculinity today? What emerges as the Jewish masculine archetype? This course is open, of course, to people of all genders or none, as we explore the very nature of gender in our biblical tradition.

MENSCH REIMAGINED: HOW MASCULINE PEOPLE BUILD A CULTURE OF NURTURANCE

Instructor: Ian Schiffer

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 17 (7 sessions)

\$105

How do we move from “mensch” to a culture of nurturance? In this course we will connect and explore the implications that undergird our understanding and experiences of this self-identification in a Jewish context. We will create a community of support for Jewish masculine identifying people, imagining and practicing a culture of nurturance. Using tools from our spiritual inheritance including Mussar, text study, and cycle rituals, along with creative intervention tools such as roleplay and body work, we will mobilize our Jewish masculine selves as we strive for collective liberation and gender justice. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: 20s and 30s.

REVOLUTIONARY RABBIS: TALMUD STUDY AS A TOOL FOR RADICAL CHANGE

Instructor: Frankie Sandmel

Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m., April 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27 (8 sessions)

\$216

In Jewish tradition, what is more powerful: your gut feeling or the words of the Torah? How many Aramaic words, when you look into it, mean “glitter”? Were the rabbis in the Talmud queer? Inspired by SVARA’s Talmud study methodology, this course will probe Talmudic texts to expose their radical and revolutionary roots. Using empathic listening with a hevruta (study partner), we will read the Talmud with an eye towards its focus on subtle but radical systems change. Whether you have just learned your alef-bet or you are a seasoned Talmud student, we will give you the tools to read, translate, and access our tradition’s most radical text. This course is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Texts and Traditions.

TKHINES: YIDDISH YEARNINGS OF WOMEN AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING PEOPLE

Instructor: Rabbi Noam Lerman `20

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., February 3, 10, 17 and 24 (4 sessions)

\$108

We will dive into the spiritual practices and lives of the women and gender-non-conforming people who wrote and prayed in Yiddish. Tkhines are Ashkenazi prayers in Yiddish that were published in booklets, and were most popular from the 1600’s until the early 1900’s. We will learn about specific tkhines writers, Lurianic Kabbalistic prayers that influenced tkhines, and where and how tkhines were prayed. In this course, people will learn about both written and spontaneous Yiddish tkhines, and the embodied practices that can be found within them. As a class, we will sing new and original melodies that have been paired with tkhines, and we will also have a chance to write our own.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: ARTS AND CULTURE

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Linna Ettinger | lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

CREATING EACH DAY: AN OMER MAKER SPACE FOR ALL AGES

Instructor: Rabbi Laura Bellows `18

Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6 (7 sessions)

\$189

The days between Passover and Shavuot known as the Omer are a powerful opportunity to count our days, noticing and reflecting creatively on ecological, spiritual, and personal changes over this set period of uncertainty, transformation, and growth. We will use the Hasidic practice of mapping each of the seven lower sephirot (divine attribute) onto the seven weeks of the Omer, using a creative art process to reflect on and design an Omer counter for each day of the seven weeks. Drawing on the model of design thinking and maker spaces, participants will each use a pack of multi-media mini-canvasses, one for each day. We will study the sephira (attributes) for each week, reflecting on the role of that attribute in our lives, drawing on classical kabbalistic and contemporary sources to guide our learning, and ultimately, letting it inspire the next seven days of mini-canvass designs. Class time will be split between learning, discussion, and dedicated time for guided art making. Participants of all artistic backgrounds (and none) are encouraged to join us in this virtual maker space as we create a dynamic, supportive seven-week community of learning and practice—and a unique and re-usable Omer counter to guide your counting for years to come. Prior to class, please order your mini canvasses here: <https://tinyurl.com/yys4qox5> (\$8 for 50) or cut your own!

DISRUPTIVE INNOVATIONS IN JEWISH MUSICAL HISTORY

Instructor: Cantor Matthew Austerklein

Mondays, 8-9:30 p.m., March 8, 15, 22; April 5, 12, 19 (6 sessions)

\$162

Music is a beautiful, core practice of spiritual life. But it is also a transgressive one, whose innovations push against social and theological boundaries, expressing new possibilities of how human beings should be heard and relate to one another (and God!) And nowhere are musical boundaries more contested than in the mikdash m'at—the “miniature temple” of the minyan and synagogue. We will dive into six maelstroms of musical innovation across Jewish history, revealing the theological, political, and cultural questions which murmur in the melodic choices of both the ancient and contemporary Jewish soul.

THE LIFE AND POETRY OF YEHUDA AMICHAÏ

Instructor: Rabbi Daniel Berman `10

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., March 4, 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (8 sessions)

\$216

We will examine the life and poetry of Yehuda Amichai, widely considered Israel's greatest modern poet. We will read translations of his poetry from the Hebrew, though we will have the Hebrew at hand for context and discussion. Reflecting upon his work and life, Amichai noted: “A poet’s state of mind is seeing the world with a kind of double exposure, seeing undertones

and overtones, seeing the world as it is.” We will try to see our own world through the many tones and textures of Amichai’s emotional, beautiful, rich, and complex poetry.

HAVURAT YETZIRAH—JEWISH COMPOSITION AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Instructor: Jackson Mercer

Tuesdays, 8-9:30 p.m., April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18 (7 sessions)

Fee: \$189

Utilizing traditional Jewish texts (Psalms) and Jewish approaches to study, alongside the traditional meaning-making and storytelling process of songwriting, Havurat Yetzirah aims to steward and cultivate creative, authentic, and intimate relationships with Judaism. The Havurah will be open to serious Jewish musicians, who will take part in an hour-and-a-half weekly virtual Beit Midrash with time to compose Jewish music inspired by Jewish texts found in liturgical settings.

RITUAL HEBREW CALLIGRAPHY

Instructors: Rachel Jackson (and Leana Tapnack, ASL Interpreter)

Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., March 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20, 17 (6 sessions)

\$162

When you imagine a sofer, a scribe, what do you think of? Is it someone from your community? Often, it is not. This class will have three components: a practical introduction to sofrut (ritual Hebrew calligraphy); text learning surrounding the traditional laws of sofrut; and discussion about how as individuals and communities, we can make choices that align with our values. This information is often inaccessible, and this class aims to shift the realities of who writes and repairs Torahs by training students to pursue the skills, and understand the issues needed to do our holiest work. This course requires materials, which can be bought here: www.binahdesign.com/opencircle. To ensure that you receive the materials before the course begins, please register and purchase your kit by March 1 (February 15 if you are located outside the United States).

WATCH AND LEARN

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., February 9, 23; March 2, 16; April 13, 27; May 11, 25 (8 sessions)
\$216

This series will include a film or TV show watched individually, followed by a conversation and text study. Selections will include Jewish themes, history, and values. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Texts and Traditions.

WATCH AND LEARN: THE EXPLORATION OF LIFE THROUGH ISRAELI FILMS

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Tuesdays, 1-2:30 p.m., February 9, 16; March 2, 16; April 13, 27; May 11, 25 (8 sessions)
\$216

Join us as we explore Jewish narratives and values through a modern lens. Come prepared to discuss a pre-assigned Israeli movie or tv show and how the themes relate to our everyday lives. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Texts and Traditions.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: MINDFULNESS

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Linna Ettinger | lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

ADVANCED MUSSAR STUDY: SPRING 2021

Instructor: Rabbi Marcia Plumb

Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 9, 23; April 13, 27; May 11, 25; June 8, 15 (8 sessions)

\$216

Hosted by: Temple Shir Tikvah Winchester

The study group members will use Mussar texts and practices combined with personal interactions to more closely align their daily behavior with their spiritual values.

BEYOND BOWING: A DEEP DIVE INTO EMBODIED JEWISH PRAYER

Instructor: Joshua Shalem

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7 (6 sessions)

\$162

We are commanded to love God bechol me'odecha—with all our being. What could that mean other than a call to be present in our bodies as we pray? Singing, mumbling, “shuckling,” bending the knees and bowing . . . traditional Jewish prayer is full of movement. This course will draw on the unique process of Feldenkrais® Awareness Through Movement® to develop in the participants a deep sense of mind-body-heart connection, put in context by close reading of select passages from psalms, the siddur, and rabbinic and Hassidic teachings. Each class will include text study, an embodied practice, and a short ma'ariv (evening) prayer service. All are welcome, regardless of experience with movement, text, or Jewish prayer (though some familiarity with the prayerbook is a plus). This course is for anyone who wants to elevate their experience of prayer or explore the integration of movement and spirituality.

BEYOND THE BASICS: MUSSAR AND MIDDOT FOR OUR TIME

Instructor: Rabbi Eric Gurvis

Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 2, 16, 30; April 13, 27; May 11, 25; June 8 (8 sessions)

\$216

For many in our time, Mussar has become an important part of their lives, spiritual practice and has grounded their lives in meaning. The ongoing health crisis of COVID-19, as well as other challenges of our time, have led many to look for spiritual guidance and meaning in the new realities of life in 2021. In these sessions, we will explore some off-the-beaten-path teachings from the world of Mussar, which involves study and practice so we can be “the best version of the people we are capable of being.” Through exploring middot (soul-traits) such as resilience, despair, anger, and others to be chosen by the group, we will seek to enhance our understanding of and deepen our practice of Mussar as we navigate uncertain times.

BIBLICAL MUSSAR MADE MODERN (SEMESTER 2)

Instructor: Rabbi Carol Glass

Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m., March 2, 16, 30; April 13, 27; May 11, 25; June 8 (8 sessions)
\$216

When practiced with intent and commitment, Mussar can support us to lead lives of greater connection and more profound ethical and spiritual depth. While studying excerpts from the weekly Torah portion, we will learn how our biblical forebears' speech and actions exemplified personal attributes known today as middot associated with the practice of Mussar. These middot will create the group's curriculum for practice. Sessions to include group discussion, hevruta (partner) study, personal sharing, and review of brief practices to be undertaken between sessions. Prospective new students are asked to speak to the instructor before registering. (Please contact Open Circle Jewish Learning Director Linna Ettinger at lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu.)

CYCLES AND SEASONS OF THE JEWISH YEAR

Instructor: Rabbi Sarah Tasman `12

Tuesdays, 1-2:30 p.m., March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6 (6 sessions)
\$162

How do we find the time to pause and take stock when life moves so fast around us? How do we make time for our own spiritual and creative practice when there are so many other responsibilities competing for our time and energy? Rabbi Sarah Tasman will teach how to integrate intention and meaning into our lives through our awareness of the seasons and cycles of the calendar, including Rosh Chodesh, the Jewish ritual of blessing the new month. This is a course in experiential spirituality and will include mindfulness practices and spiritual exercises that participants will be able to use in their own lives. Class sessions will incorporate guided meditation, partner and group discussions, spiritual writing, art, and creative rituals utilizing materials from nature or that you have at home. This course is open to participants of all genders and all faith backgrounds, as well as to those new to exploring Judaism. No prior experience or skills are required.

EMBODIED JEWISH PRACTICE IN DAILY LIFE

Instructor: Ketriellah Goldfeder

Sundays, 7:30-9 p.m.; March 7, 21; April 11, 25; May 9, 23; June 6, 20 (8 sessions)
\$216

In this course we will explore a variety of Jewish practices that one might encounter throughout a normal day such as prayers accompanying the processes of waking up and going to sleep, as well as taking care of our bodies, getting dressed, eating, working at home, and going out into the world. We will engage with traditional Jewish sources (with Hebrew and translations), as well as modern day wisdom drawn from Somatic and Mindfulness Coaching, Cognitive Behavioral Coaching, and the neuroscience of change. Copies of all readings will be shared prior to class for in-depth study.

THE HEALING WISDOM OF THE HEBREW LETTERS: MYSTICAL MESSENGERS FOR OUR TIME

Instructor: Rabbi Matthew Ponak `20

Thursdays, 7:30-9; March 4, 11, 18, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (8 sessions)

\$216

The Kabbalists say the 22-letter symbolic pathway of the Aleph Bet holds the blueprints for the foundational energies that make up our cosmos. Each of our sessions will cover one letter and incorporate text study, meditation, and movement. Through an exploration of "Reish Milin," a profound commentary on the Hebrew letters by Rav Abraham Isaac Kook, we will explore the hidden teachings that each one holds. Through visualizing their forms in meditation, we will open ourselves to experience them directly. Through movements and breathing from Otyot Chayot, a Tai-Chi based form of embodying the Hebrew Letters, we will work to integrate the power of each symbol into our being. We will have time for group discussion as well as one-on-one partner learning (hevruta) with an invitation to journal or do creative projects after each class. No prior knowledge of Hebrew is required. The class is open to those of all backgrounds who wish to engage with this most revered and transformative study.

IMAGINING GOD

Instructor: Genevieve Greinetz

Tuesdays 7:30-9 p.m., March 23; April 6, 20; May 4, 18; June 1 (6 sessions)

\$162

We will probe into texts throughout Jewish history that portray God according to certain characteristics. Texts will include pieces from the Tanakh, Jewish mysticism, the Talmud, and modern/contemporary Jewish thought. We will problematize each text we read together and think through it both critically and contemplatively. As we study, we will sort through descriptions of the divine that resonate, and aspects that do not. We will also question how the text and its imagination of God has been helpful up until this point and each participant will decide for themselves if they want to include any part of the imagining in their own reckoning of God.

JEWISH MINDFULNESS MEDITATION FOR CARE GIVERS: LOVING YOURSELF TOO

Instructor: Shoshana Cetlin

Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8 (6 sessions)

\$162

Giving to others in our many roles as parents, adult children of elderly parents, health providers, clergy, teachers, and volunteers can be rewarding and draining. To be there for others, we also need to learn to love ourselves fully as a friend, an aspect of the central teaching of the Torah expounded on one foot by Hillel the Elder, "Love your friend as yourself." As we enter the new month of Nissan and prepare for Pesach, what better time is there to focus on our own personal liberation and renewal. In this series, you will learn and practice the art of Jewish Mindfulness Meditation, a comforting, loving, and strength-building practice to help restore a sense of balance and inner peace and refresh the soul. Each class will include text study related to the Jewish calendar and weekly parasha, meditation instruction, meditation practice and sharing within a supportive hevruta/friendship circle. All levels of experience are welcome. There will be three optional 10-minute one-on-one private check-ins between classes with the instructor.

THE JEWISH ROAD TO CHARACTER—A FIRST TRIP DOWN THE MUSSAR PATH

Instructor: Rabbi Eric Gurvis

Thursdays, 7:45-9:15 p.m., March 4, 18; April 1, 15, 29; May 13, 27; June 10 (8 sessions)
\$216

Hosted by: Temple Emanuel, Newton

This is a continuation of the Mussar group that met in the fall. The description for the class is the same as the description for “The Jewish Road to Character—Stepping onto the Mussar Path” with Eric Gurvis, listed below.

THE JEWISH ROAD TO CHARACTER—STEPPING ONTO THE MUSSAR PATH

Instructor: Rabbi Eric Gurvis

Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., March 3, 17, 31; April 14, 28; May 12, 26; June 9 (8 sessions)
\$216

Hosted by: MetroWest and Sha'arei Shalom of Ashland

In our confusing and contentious time, many are seeking to find a greater sense of grounding in core virtues that can guide us, uplift us, and inspire us to become the best persons we can be. For the Jewish world, asking such a focus is hardly new. Yet, in our time, we have the uncovering of a rich part of our Jewish heritage which was nearly lost to our people—the study and practice of Mussar. In large part inspired by the work of The Mussar Institute and other contemporary efforts at reclaiming mussar for our day, an ever-expanding number of communities and individuals are bringing the study of Mussar teachings and their accompanying practice into their lives. In this bi-weekly series, we will delve into the study and practice of some of the Mussar traditions and wisdom for our lives in our times. Come travel the “Jewish Road to Character” along this journey into what be a profoundly meaningful and nourishing spiritual practice for our Jewish souls, hearts, and minds.

MUSSAR FOR EVERYONE

Instructor: Merry Arnold

Thursdays 7:15-8:45 p.m.; March 4, 18; April 1, 15, 29; May 13, 27 (7 sessions)
\$189

We will use the class to look at, and practice, middot (traits) that could help us cope in different ways with the demands that life places on us. Each class will have a settling in period, reflections on the week past, introduction of a new middah, and text study. A daily, very brief, practice of the new middah will be strongly encouraged.

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING: TEXTS AND TRADITIONS

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/OCJL

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Linna Ettinger | lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

THE 50TH GATE—COUNTING THE OMER

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Goldfeder

Mondays or Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m., March 23, 30; April 6, 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10 (8 sessions)
\$216

The traditional mystical vocabulary that is used during the Counting of the Omer (a practice of counting the days between Passover and Shavuot) provides a detailed map of the different ways in which we express relationships. Each day of the Omer offers a lens through which to observe and work on a specific aspect of how we function in our relationships. Jewish tradition assumes that all such aspects can be learned about, discussed, worked-on and improved, and doing so in the context of a supportive and friendly group of fellow searchers can yield many “Aha!” moments and lasting results. The class will use Rabbi Goldfeder’s book, The 50th Gate: Tracking our Growth Through Counting the Omer (available at tinyurl.com/yymwk4g5 or Amazon.com), as reading material (which also provides space for journaling) and participants are invited to use the book as a source of common vocabulary through which to openly discuss successes, failures, and challenges that they experience concerning that week’s trait. Each class ends with people breaking off into small groups to articulate what they have learned and to set goals for the next week.

ALL WHO WANDER ARE NOT LOST

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Wednesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 7, 14 (6 sessions)
\$162

Text study in the Book of Numbers, focusing on becoming the person you were meant to be.

BIBLICAL BOOKS YOU HAVEN’T READ (YET)

Instructor: Marc Stober

Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., March 9, 16, 30; April 6 (4 sessions)
\$108

Everyone knows certain parts of the Bible: Creation, Adam and Eve, Noah. You recite the story of the Exodus from Egypt every year at the Seder. But when was the last time you spent quality time with the Minor Prophets, the Wisdom Literature, or the Histories? And yet, these books are part of our sacred canon, too! In this course, we will read from a different Biblical book each week, including Chronicles, Daniel, Ezra/Nehemiah, and Proverbs. By asking a series of questions, we will uncover meaning in a way that corresponds to the traditional “PaRDeS” model of text study: We start with the plain meaning of the text, learn about classical and academic views of the text, and eventually find a way that these ancient texts actually speak to problems we still experience today.

The program is based in part on the “People of the Book Book Club” conceived by Rabbi Daniel Lehmann, past president of Hebrew College. No Hebrew or other prior knowledge is necessary; texts will be available both in Hebrew and in translation.

BLESSING HARD TIMES: JEWISH WISDOM ABOUT PATIENCE, ENDURANCE, AND GRATITUDE

Instructor: Naomi Gurt Lind

Sundays, 11-12:30 a.m., March 7, 14, 21; April 4, 11 (5 sessions)
\$135

Talmudic tradition teaches us to bless the bad as we bless the good. Blessing Hard Times will explore why and how we can fulfill this teaching, and what is to be gained. Each session will include careful reading of a Jewish/Talmudic text and discussion of provocative questions meant to spark deep consideration of our own lives and the relevance of these texts to our particular situations. We will ask ourselves what it means to bless the bad as we bless the good; how to reconcile our unrealistic hopes alongside the prohibition against making a vain prayer; and similar questions. Each week we will look at a handful of texts (in English, with Hebrew available for deeper study) that deal with challenges and discuss how the wisdom they contain might also apply to our present situation—both personal and communal.

BODIES OF WATER: EXPLORING RITUAL IMMERSION

Instructor: Naomi Malka

Tuesdays 7-8:30 p.m.; March 2, 9, 16 (3 sessions)
\$81

This course explores the ancient ritual of immersion in water and empowers participants to make it meaningful for themselves. Through storytelling, Torah study, and ritual creation tools, this class takes the misunderstood and often taboo subject of Mikvah and reframes it as a way to mindfully mark life's many cycles and changes. Students will virtually visit Mikva'ot (pl) around the country whose core values are choice, respect, and body positivity. This three-part series journeys through the history, modern reinvention, and spiritual relevance of Mikvah, mines a diversity of educational and ritual resources, and offers inspiring examples of individuals and communities using this simple tool for healing, transition, and renewal.

EXPLORING TALMUD THROUGH THE DAILY DAF YOMI: WINTER 2021

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Mondays and Thursdays, 9-9:45 a.m., January 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28; February 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25 (16 sessions)
\$216

This is your opportunity to join Jews around the world in the daily study of Talmud. Layah Lipsker will lead a 45-minute study two times each week to discuss themes in the daily Daf (page or folio) and its relevance for the modern Jew. This is a beginners Talmud class and is entirely in English.

EXPLORING TALMUD THROUGH THE DAILY DAF YOMI: SPRING 2021

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Mondays and Thursdays, 9-9:45 a.m., March 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18; April 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29; May 3, 6 (16 sessions)

\$216

See course description for Exploring Talmud Through the Daily Daf Yomi: Winter 2021, above.

HEARTFELT POEMS TO START THE DAY: A DISCOVERY OF THE DAILY PSALMS

Instructor: Jamie Stolper

Mondays 7:30-9 p.m., March 1, 8, 15, 22; April 5, 12 (6 sessions)

\$162

Did you know that when the traditional morning liturgy was first established, one psalm from the Hebrew Bible was selected to be recited each morning at the end of morning prayers? In this course, we will study these psalms of praise and pathos, of the connection between faith and ethical conduct, of the overriding importance of justice. We will examine their connection to the theme of creation and probe their implications for social justice and an ideal, ethical society, then and now. Texts will be offered in both Hebrew and English, and the course will be designed to engage all students of all backgrounds, from those with no Hebrew to those with advanced Hebrew skills.

IN SEARCH OF RENEWAL: THE SPIRITUAL LEGACY OF RABBI ZALMAN SCHACHTER-SHALOMI

Instructor: Rabbi Or Rose

Wednesdays, 9:30-11 a.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 2021 (6 sessions)

\$162

*Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi (1924-2014) was one of the most influential and creative Jewish figures of the last decades. Trained as a Hasidic rabbi in the HaBaD-Lubavitch community, he became a leading figure in the translation and teaching of the Jewish mystical tradition across the Jewish community and far beyond. Weaving together teachings from Kabbalah and Hasidism with insights from several other religious and wisdom traditions, he created the Jewish Renewal Movement. He played a vital role in inter-religious and cross-cultural understanding through his teaching, dialogue, and ritual innovations. Join us as we explore Reb Zalman's (a less formal title he preferred) legacy in the year 2021, including the health and social crises we find ourselves facing today. Our instructor, Rabbi Or Rose, is the co-editor of the new volume, *Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi: Essential Teachings* (Orbis Books), and a long-time student of Reb Zalman.*

INTRODUCTION TO HALACHA: BETWEEN LAW AND LANGUAGE FOR LIVING

Instructor: Shoshana (Shani) Rosenbaum

Mondays, 7:15-8:45 p.m., March 8, 22; April 5, 19; May 3, 10, 24; June 7 (8 sessions)

\$216

This course will introduce learners to the Jewish normative material known as halachic literature. We will focus on two questions: (1) how does our literature move from the meandering, often contradictory conversations in the Talmud, toward a set of feasible norms for Jewish life? (2) How might the language and process through which the Rabbis decide Jewish law shape us, our culture, and how we see the world? The course is specifically designed with non-traditionally observant Jewish learners in mind, with the goal of continually returning to the question: how might this material speak to

our contemporary lives as 21st-century Jews, living outside a framework of assumed religious norms?

INTRODUCTION TO HASIDIC STORIES

Instructor: Rabbi Lev Friedman `18

Tuesdays 2-3:30 p.m., March 2, 9, 16, 23; April 6, 13 (6 sessions)

\$162

This class will introduce participants to the complexity, depth, imagery, and values of Hasidic stories. We will look at Hasidic stories of many genres including at least one Rebbe Nachman story. These stories have many different genres; the nature of the soul, faith, prayer, love of God and humanity, and wisdom as well as the entrapments of modernity to name a few. The learning will be experiential, employing hevruta (study partner) learning and group discussion as well as some frontal learning.

IS DIASPORA GOOD FOR THE JEWS? THE POLITICS AND POSSIBILITIES OF GALUT

Instructor: Aron Wander

Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m.; February 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (6 sessions)

\$162

What is galut (exile), and is it good for the Jews? In this course, we will explore Jewish texts about exile, diaspora, state oppression, Zionism, and antisemitism, and consider their meaning for Jews in America today. Do we still consider ourselves to be living in exile? Should we? What are the risks and benefits of seeing ourselves in such terms? Through the lens of rabbinic narratives about Purim, supplemented by contemporary religious and scholarly sources, we will discuss the political, spiritual, and psychological dynamics of galut (exile) and diaspora. At stake in these discussions will be the question of our own freedom: Are Jews in America oppressed and if so, what would it take to be liberated? How does and should our own experience of galut affect our relationship with other marginalized groups? And perhaps most importantly, how do we keep ourselves safe without endangering others? Although the class will focus on the situation of American Jews, we will also address the consequences of Zionism for American Jewish identity and politics, as well as whether Zionism solves, complicates, or compounds galut.

THE KABALLAH OF FAMILY

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., February 8, 22; March 1, 15; April 12, 26; and May 10, 24 (8 sessions)

\$216

This series will explore family dynamics through biblical and Talmudic texts with a Kabbalistic lens.

KING, WARRIOR, MAGICIAN, LOVER: BIBLICAL CHARACTERS AND MASCULINE ARCHETYPES

Instructor: Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire

Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., April 5, 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10 (6 sessions)

\$162

The bible is replete with fascinating masculine archetypes including some women! We will explore some of the lesser-known biblical figures and how their masculinity plays into their story. We will explore the question; does the Bible have something to teach us about masculinity today? What emerges as the Jewish masculine archetype? This course is open, of

course, to people of all genders or none as we explore the very nature of gender in our biblical tradition. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Gender Studies.

THE LIFE AND POETRY OF YEHUDA AMICHAH

Instructor: Rabbi Daniel Berman ם10

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., March 4, 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (8 sessions)

\$216

This course will examine the life and poetry of Yehuda Amichai, widely considered Israel's greatest modern poet. We will read translations of his poetry from the Hebrew, though we will have the Hebrew at hand for context and discussion. Reflecting upon his work and life, Amichai noted: "A poet's state of mind is seeing the world with a kind of double exposure, seeing undertones and overtones, seeing the world as it is." We will try to see our own world through the many tones and textures of Amichai's emotional, beautiful, rich and complex poetry. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Arts and Culture.

REVOLUTIONARY RABBIS: TALMUD STUDY AS A TOOL FOR RADICAL CHANGE

Instructor: Frankie Sandmel

Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m., April 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27 (8 sessions)

\$216

In Jewish tradition, what is more powerful: your gut feeling or the words of the Torah? How many Aramaic words, when you look into it, mean "glitter"? Were the rabbis in the Talmud queer? Inspired by SVARA's Talmud study methodology, this course will probe Talmudic texts to expose their radical and revolutionary roots. Using empathic listening with a hevruta (study partner), we will read the Talmud with an eye towards its focus on subtle but radical systems change. Whether you have just learned your alef-bet or you are a seasoned Talmud student, we will give you the tools to read, translate, and access our tradition's most radical text. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Gender Studies.

WATCH AND LEARN

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., February 9, 23; March 2, 16; April 13, 27; May 11, 25 (8 sessions)

Fee: \$216

This series will include a film or TV show watched individually and followed by a conversation and text study. Selections will include Jewish themes, history, and values. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Arts and Culture.

WATCH AND LEARN: THE EXPLORATION OF LIFE THROUGH ISRAELI FILMS

Instructor: Layah Lipsker

Tuesdays, 1-2:30 p.m., February 9, 16; March 2, 16; April 13, 27; May 11, 25 (8 sessions)

\$216

Join us as we explore Jewish narratives and values through a modern lens. Come prepared to discuss a pre-assigned Israeli movie or TV show and how the themes relate to our everyday lives. This class is cross listed in Open Circle Jewish Learning: Arts and Culture.

TEEN LEARNING

PROZDOR: WHERE JEWISH TEENS THRIVE

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/prozdor

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Laura Bellows | lbellow@hebrewcollege.edu



Jewish teens in eighth through twelfth grades have been studying Judaic and Hebrew studies together at Prozdor since the 1920s, graduating more than 5,000 students. This year, we are moving our vibrant learning community online and invite teens from near and far to join us. Prozdor remains a central hub for teen Jewish learning, Modern Hebrew, and lasting community.

Prozdor meets from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. most Sundays. A Hebrew-only option meets from 10:40 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuition for Spring 2021 semester is \$1,400 (three classes or one class plus Hebrew); \$1,000 (two classes or Hebrew only); \$500 (one class). Financial aid and discounts are available. Classes start February 7. Students can choose from the courses below.

FIRST PERIOD PROZDOR COURSES

DEEP DIVE INTO JEWISH TIME: WHAT STORIES AND HISTORIES ANIMATE OUR CALENDAR?

Instructor: Frankie Sandmel

Sundays, 9:45-10:30 a.m., February-May

From the smallest scale—hour-by-hour—to the time span of our lives, Judaism is all about time. In this class, we'll travel through time—diving deep into the rhythm, ritual, and stories of the Jewish calendar. We will look beyond the common understandings of the holidays to explore the origins and history of these epic days, how they connect to one another, how the calendar was influenced by neighboring cultures, and some of the many ways to understand and travel through Jewish time.

WOMEN PROPHETS: THEIR UNIQUE POWER, INSIGHT AND LEADERSHIP

Instructor: Rabbi David Ehrenkranz

Sundays 9:45-10:30 a.m., February-May

In this course we will examine the uniqueness of the female prophet and see how her insights are full of truth, integrity, and foresight. We will also see how men, both in the ancient world and now, underestimated these women to the detriment of themselves as well as the society in general. Some of the prophetesses that we will study will be: Sarah, Rivka, Devorah, Chuldah, Esther, as well as some others you may not be familiar with.

AMERICAN PRESIDENTS AND THE JEWS: YOU WON'T BELIEVE THE CONNECTIONS

Instructor: Norm Finkelstein

Sundays, 9:45-10:30 a.m., February-May

In every election year, American Jews reflect on the relationship between them and the person occupying the White House. Historically, nearly every president from George Washington to Donald Trump has had a Jewish connection. Together in this class, we will explore what those connections were and what they meant in their time to Jews, a minority group making its way in America. While some connections will not surprise you, such as Washington's famous letter, other situations, positive and negative, surely will. Let's take an unusual but interesting journey together through American presidential history. We will use documents, letters, and video excerpts to piece this story together. Your understanding of the American Presidency will never be the same. This is a one-year course, but new students are most welcome this semester as we continue our journey beginning with Abraham Lincoln and moving on to Joe Biden.

SECOND PERIOD PROZDOR COURSES

MODERN CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FOR TEENS

Instructors: Mor-Li Hartman, Dikla Giladi, Adva Alpert, and Shilo Geva
Sundays, 10:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m., February-May

Hebrew language at Prozdor is a longstanding tradition dating back to the 1920s. The Hebrew curriculum at Prozdor uses the proficiency approach to language instruction with a unique, teen-orientated curriculum and relevant, real-life topical units that maximize learning in the classroom and help students take the next step in their mastery of Hebrew conversation, writing, and comprehension. We offer Hebrew language classes across different levels, from novice learners to advanced speakers and all our Hebrew classes feature the use of literature, poetry, music, pop culture, and other Israeli cultural resources. Students have the option to receive a transcript, which many students include in their college applications.

WHY DOES GOD FEEL THE NEED TO TEST US?

Instructor: Rabbi David Ehrenkranz
Sundays, 10:40 a.m.-11:25 p.m., February-May

In this course we will try to understand why anyone in this world needs to be tested by God. Since God clearly knows what our capabilities are, why the need for tests at all? Whom do these tests benefit? Do we, in fact, have to take them? What happens if we fail? And can we test God? These are some of the topics we will discuss during the semester.

LET'S READ OTHER PEOPLE'S MAIL: PERSONAL GLIMPSES INTO THE AMERICAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Instructor: Norm Finkelstein
Sundays, 10:40 a.m.-11:25 p.m., February-May

Of course, it's not polite to read other people's mail. But don't worry. The writers of the letters we will read and discuss will not mind. Through their words we will relive important moments in the over 350-year history of Jews in America. You will recognize the names of some of the writers: others will not be familiar. Each week we will examine a different letter to give us a personal contemporary look into an event or timeframe which affected the American Jewish community.

ARTIST BEIT MIDRASH: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Instructor: Rabbi Laura Bellows `18

Sundays, 10:40 a.m.-11:25 p.m., February-May

From disgruntled ravens to backwards rivers to ancient escapes, Jewish textual tradition is full of magical realist and all-too-real stories of miracles, wonders, and strange curiosities. In this class we will study tales from classical Midrash and Talmud (in English and/or Hebrew, as students prefer) and then take our learning and writing to the next level with creative prompts to help us respond to the text and craft our own modern midrashim.

THIRD PERIOD PROZDOR COURSES

SAFE AND AFRAID: AMERICAN JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST ERA

Instructor: Norm Finkelstein

Sundays 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., February-May

When the Nazis came to power in Germany, Jews in the United States reacted with horror. But what could they do? Themselves targets of a vocal anti-Semitism in the 1920s and 1930s, they faced a dilemma: actively and publicly protest Nazi plans as Peter Bergson and his group did or engage in quiet diplomacy as advocated by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. Some say American Jews could have done more to save the Jews of Europe. Others say that they did what they could, given the times. In this class we will look back at news accounts, film excerpts and primary documents to analyze their choices. Some questions we will explore include: (1) How did the Holocaust affect American Jews during and after the era? (2) Could American Jews have done more to influence the American government to do more to save Europe's Jews? (3) What were the political, economic, and social conditions of American Jews in the 1930s and 1940s?

DREAMS, ACCORDING TO JUDAISM, PSYCHOLOGY, AND BIOLOGY

Instructor: Rabbi David Ehrenkranz

Sundays 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., February-May

In this course we will explore the nature of dreams from a variety of perspectives and will try to see if we can unify the different theories of the purpose and function of dreams. We will see how the Rabbis debated the significance of dreams (in some cases to the point of asking if dreams can affect Jewish Law). We will examine a variety of psychological approaches from early psychoanalysis to modern day therapy. We will also look at how our unique biological makeup can have our dreams affect us differently.

GESHER ISRAEL SEMINAR

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/teens

Register by January 20: hebrewcollege.edu/gesher-israel-registration

Contact: Rabbi Laura Bellows | lbellows@hebrewcollege.edu

A discussion-driven, Israel studies seminar for motivated 10th-12th graders, in partnership with The Tent at Temple Israel. Led by expert Israel educator-facilitator, Jonathan Golden, we will gather once a month to explore Israeli culture, history, identity, social issues, and current events and to develop the skills and knowledge to engage in nuanced discussion about Israel. All ideas, opinions, and perspectives welcome. Financial aid is available.

Instructors: *Jonathan Golden, Fallon Rubin, and Rabbi Laura Bellows*

Sundays, 12:30-2 p.m., January 24, February 28, March 21, April 11, May 16

\$175

TEEN BEIT MIDRASH

Program information: hebrewcollege.edu/programs/teen-beit-midrash/

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Rabba Claudia Marbach | cmarbach@hebrewcollege.edu

Hebrew College Teen Beit Midrash (TBM) is an intimate and challenging program for teens in eighth through twelfth grades of all denominations who are looking for a pluralistic and inclusive place to explore their identity as a Jew and deepen their knowledge. Founded by Hebrew College alumna Rabbi Shahar Colt, the program brings together a dedicated and diverse group of Jewish teens who are excited to delve into traditional Talmudic text and find contemporary meaning relevant to our lives. We open the library of our Jewish heritage to help teens understand our multi-voiced, nuanced tradition and gain the skills to reach their own conclusions. Talmud study enables us to hone our reasoning and persuasive argument skills that are applicable to all aspects of our lives. Together, we study, share dinner together, build community and learn and have fun. Together, we study, share dinner (when in person), build community, learn seriously, and have fun. Financial aid is available.

Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., February-May

\$1,200

JEWISH TEEN FOUNDATION OF GREATER BOSTON (JTfGB)

Program information: hebrewcollege.edu/jtfgb

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Leah Goldstein | lgoldstein@hebrewcollege.edu

JTfGB is a year-long program for Jewish ninth through twelfth-grade students from across the Greater Boston Area to develop strong leadership and communication skills, dive deep into Jewish values-driven decision making, learn the ins and outs of professional philanthropy and grant-making through a Jewish lens, and allocate grants to effect real change in the issue areas they care about most. During the first five years of the program, teens raised almost \$270,000 and awarded 40 grants to organizations that fight issues such as child abuse and sexual assault, support refugees, education inequity, environmental justice, mental health, and poverty, among several other causes.

Sundays, every 3-4 weeks, October-June

Applications for 2021-22 will open in April

\$400

PROZDOR IMMERSIVES: DAYS OF DEEP-DIVE LEARNING

Join 7th-12th graders and parents from near and far for a dive deep into one of six immersive workshops, from cooking to ethical debates, arts to social justice, tech to innovation. Prozdor Immersives offer pop-up learning only three times during the year (November 22, January 17, and April 25) and participants may join us for one, two, or all three days, and for as many workshops as they wish. April workshop topics, descriptions, and registration will be available online in March.

Program information: hebrewcollege.edu/prozdor-immersives

Contact: Rabbi Laura Bellows | lbellows@hebrewcollege.edu

Next Immersive Days of Learning: January 27 and April 25

\$36 for a household, \$25 for an individual

GRADUATE LEADERSHIP CLASSES

Community members may register for non-credit rabbinical, cantorial, and graduate education classes. For questions and registration, please contact registrar@hebrewcollege.edu.

RABBINICAL AND CANTORIAL COURSES

Program information: hebrewcollege.edu/graduate-leadership-programs/

Program Contact: Laurena Rosenberg | lrosenberg@hebrewcollege.edu

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH THOUGHT

Instructor: Rabbi Dan Judson

Wednesdays, 9:30-11 a.m.

\$740, plus \$60 registration

This course has two components. In the first half of the semester, we will explore American Jewish history, focusing on themes of particular importance to rabbinical students like the emergence of denominations and the evolution of the American synagogue. The second half of the course is a survey of the seminal Jewish thinkers who wrote in an American context such as Mordecai Kaplan, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Joseph Soloveitchik, Judith Plaskow and others. We will ultimately be aiming to place our own historical moment and our own theologies within broader historical/theological frameworks. Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email djudson@hebrewcollege.edu.

CORE TEXT—RABBINICS 2: MO'ED 2

Instructor: Rabbi Jane Kanarek (Section 1)

Mondays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Mondays, 9-11 a.m., and Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

\$1,110 plus, \$60 registration

Instructor: Shayna Rhodes (Section 2)

Mondays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Mondays, 9-11 a.m., and Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

\$1,110 plus, \$60 registration

This course focuses on the intensive study of selected sugyot from the third chapter of Moed Katan that focus on the intersection of festivals and mourning. We will examine questions such as: How does the Bavli understand what happens when festivals and mourning overlap with one another? How does the Bavli understand the year calendar and the life-cycle calendar? How does the Bavli's perspective intersect with our own experiences of the year calendar and the life-cycle calendar? By examining these questions through close readings of the Bavli, we will continue to build our skills in analyzing a talmudic argument. Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email jkanarek@hebrewcollege.edu or srhodes@hebrewcollege.edu.

CORE TEXT—TORAH 1: BERESHIT 2

Instructor: Dr. Rachel Adelman

Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m., and Fridays, 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., and Fridays, 9-11 a.m.)

\$1,110, plus \$60 registration

In this course, we will consider the second half of Sefer Bereshit. In addition to developing a stronger sense of the poetry, rhetoric, and narrative structuring of the book, we will familiarize ourselves with various 20th and 21st century modes of biblical hermeneutics (Buber-Rosenzweig's redactor-critical lens, Julia Krysteva's French feminist lens, Eliade and Bachelard's topoanalytic lens, CG Jung's psychoanalytic lens). To supplement our reading of Bereshit, we will also be turning to medieval commentary, rabbinic midrash, and a smattering of Hasidic sources. Non-Hebrew College students may take this class only with permission from the instructor. Please email radelman@hebrewcollege.edu.

CORE TEXT—TORAH 2: SHEMOT 2

Instructor: Dr. Devora Steinmetz

Tuesdays, 2:30-4 p.m., and Fridays, 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation:

Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m., and Fridays, 9-11 a.m.)

\$1,110 plus, \$60 registration

From Sinai to the consecration of the Mishkan (Tabernacle), this course engages in a deep reading of the narrative and legal sections in the book of Shemot following the redemption of Israel from slavery. We will focus on the main events in the wilderness: the theophany at Sinai, the Sin of the Golden calf, and the building of the Tabernacle. We will draw upon interpretations primarily from classic rabbinic midrash and Medieval commentaries: the Mekhilta, Rashi, Ramban, and Ibn Ezra. We will also engage in a reading of the Revelation at Sinai and other selected passages through the lens of modern biblical criticism (the documentary hypothesis). Non-Hebrew College students may take this class only with permission from the instructor. Please email dsteinmetz@hebrewcollege.edu.

CORE TEXT—TORAH 4: BEMIDBAR—THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

Instructor: Dr. Rachel Adelman

Section 1: Fridays 9:30-11 a.m.; Section 2: Tuesdays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m.)

\$740 plus, \$60 registration

This course on the Book of Numbers (BeMidbar) will focus on crises of leadership in the Wilderness. This period tracks the transition of the Israelites from being slaves in Egypt to their formation as a self-determining nation, prepared to settle the land. We will grapple with the complaint narratives, challenges to Moses' prophecy, the spies report, Korah's rebellion, and the social and legal innovations in settling the Promised Land. We will engage in a wide-range of sources—from Tannaitic Midrash (Sifre) and classic Medieval exegesis to source criticism—with an eye to broadening our reading strategies. Students will also be invited to extend and personalize issues of leadership, in anticipation of their own transition to "Rabbanut." Non-Hebrew College students may take this class with permission from the instructor. Please email radelman@hebrewcollege.edu.

FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLICAL HEBREW

Instructor: Harvey Bock

Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m., and Thursdays, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

\$1,480, plus \$60 registration

Prerequisite: Foundations of Biblical Hebrew 1 or permission of instructor. Please email hbock@hebrewcollege.edu.

FROM DIVERSITY TO PLURALISM: JEWISH IDENTITY IN JEWISH RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Instructor: Rabbi Or Rose

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9-11 a.m. and 12-2 p.m., and Friday, 9-11 a.m., January 19-22 (7 sessions)

\$180, plus \$60 registration

Hebrew College is an intentionally pluralistic educational institution, welcoming students and teachers who hold diverse visions of Jewish life and the role of Jews and Judaism in the broader world. Furthermore, we live in one of the most religiously diverse societies in the history of humankind. How do we create an ethos of dignified engagement—both within our school community and beyond—acknowledging our similarities and differences, working for the common good when possible? What are the values and human qualities (middot) that support such an effort? What are some practical ways to actualize our best intentions? Which Jewish resources—classical or contemporary—might be particularly helpful in developing and sustaining this dialogical and inclusive spirit? In this intensive course we will explore these and other related issues through text study; small and large group discussion; journaling; and song and meditation. We will also welcome guest teachers and practitioners working in related fields of endeavor. This course is open to all Hebrew College degree students and non-students working in the fields of Jewish Education or Jewish Communal Service Tuition for non-ordination students.

Hilkhhot Tefillah

Instructor: Rabbi Allan Lehmann

Tuesdays, 2:30-4 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Tuesdays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.)

\$740 plus, \$60 registration

This course will introduce students to primary halachic texts relating to tefillah in terms of personal practice and prayer leadership. We will study both Ashkenazi and Sephardic sources that explore the traditional obligations one has as a Jew and as a leader with regard to tefillah. What are the daily obligations? What are the required characteristics of a shaliach tzibbur? What are the rules surrounding the reading of Torah to the community? We will begin to think about all of these questions as we experiment with practice and look around our school and our local communities to see how tefillah is lived in our surrounding environment. Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email alehmann@hebrewcollege.edu.

Hilkhhot Yom Tov (Section 1)

Instructor: Rabbi Allan Lehmann

Thursdays, 11:30-1 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Tuesdays 9-11 a.m.)

\$740, plus \$60 registration

This course will cover textual sources and issues relating to specific areas of spring and autumn festival practice. Its goals are both to help students become familiar with these materials and to develop their understanding of the halachic process and their capacity to engage in it. The course involves analysis of halachic material, much of which is not available in translation, and is thus appropriate for students with advanced text skills. Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email alehmann@hebrewcollege.edu.

Hilkhot Yom Tov (Section 2)

Instructor: Dr. Devora Steinmetz

Thursdays, 11:30-1 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Tuesdays 9-11 a.m.)

\$740, plus \$60 registration

This course will cover textual sources and issues relating to specific areas of spring and autumn festival practice. Its goals are both to help students become familiar with these materials and to develop their understanding of the halachic process and their capacity to engage in it. The course involves analysis of halachic material, much of which is not available in translation, and is thus appropriate for students with advanced text skills. *Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email dsteinmetz@hebrewcollege.edu.*

THE HISTORY OF ZIONISM AND ISRAELI SOCIETY

Instructor: Rabbi David Starr

Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$740, plus \$60 registration

In the first part of the seminar, we will explore the history of Zionism both by studying the social development of the movement in Palestine up until 1948 and via close reading of the various streams of Zionist thought. The course will focus on the seminal political events of early Zionism: the Zionist congresses, the Balfour Declaration, the successive waves of aliyot, etc. The latter part of the course will focus on the development of Israeli society, looking at questions of Jewish identity, the democratic nature of Israel, Ashkenazi-Sephardi tension, and the contentious relationship with the Palestinians. We will end the course by looking at contemporary critiques of Zionism, raising the charged questions of whether Zionism is at its end. Requires permission of the instructor. Please email thedavidstarr@gmail.com.

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY

Instructor: Rev. Soren Hessler

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m.-noon, January 19-22 (7 sessions)

\$180, plus \$60 registration

Introduction to Christianity will focus on the histories, beliefs, and practices of contemporary Christian communities. The online intensive course will engage churches and Christian organizations in greater Boston, providing students the opportunity to network with other important actors in the religious landscape and exposure to the various expressions of Christianity in Boston. The course will be facilitated by Rev. Soren Hessler, former Associate Director of the Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership, and will include guest lecturers and workshops led by area clergy and religious professionals. This course is open to all degree students and non-degree students. While the course is primarily designed to orient emerging Jewish religious leaders to the traditions of Christianity, non-Jewish students are welcome to enroll.

Introduction to Talmud

Instructor: Rabbi Shayna Rhodes

Tuesdays, 2:30-4 p.m., and Fridays 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and Fridays, 9-11 a.m.)

\$1,110, plus \$60 registration

Students in this course will learn the skills of analyzing a variety of Talmudic texts, aggadic and halakhic. How are Talmudic sugyot (thematic units of a Talmudic tractate) constructed? What are the recurring technical terms of a Talmudic "discussion"? What are the conceptual assumptions of Talmudic discourse? What are the social and cultural contexts of the sugyot? Students will learn basic Talmudic terminology, including a glossary of Hebrew and Aramaic terms and concepts, and how to use dictionaries, concordances, and other reference tools to decipher and understand a Talmudic sugya. This course also includes selections from the commentaries of Rashi and the Tosaphot with an examination of their interpretive concerns and methods. Students will be required to record selections from the Talmudic texts in order to improve skills in reading Rabbinic Hebrew. Some previous exposure to rabbinic literature is desirable. Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email srhodes@hebrewcollege.edu.

MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT

Instructor: Barry Mesch

Thursdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

\$740 plus \$60 registration

In this course we are going to focus on the writings of four of the most influential thinkers and writers of the Middle Ages. They are Saadya Gaon, Yehuda Halevi and Moses Maimonides (Rambam), and Moses ben Nachman (Ramban-Nachmanides). Saadya and Rambam were rationalists who believed in the ultimate importance of reason and its relevance to religion and to Judaism. Halevi, the poet and thinker, taught something different. While reason is important and useful it is not essential for achieving the ultimate goal and purpose of religion. Ramban was critical of the rationalist position but was the first Jewish theologian who advocated for a pluralist position and urged the opposing sides in the controversy to respect each other and each other's positions. We will conclude with a brief look at Spinoza's Theological Political Treatise. Spinoza represents at the same time the end of Medieval Jewish philosophy and the beginning of modern Jewish thought. The use of Biblical interpretation as a primary vehicle to reconcile the challenge of scientific naturalism and Biblical supernaturalism will be an ongoing theme in the course. Non-Hebrew College students may take this class only with permission from the instructor. Please email bmesch@hebrewcollege.edu.

MISHNAH 1—TANNAIC TEXTS

Instructor: David Maayan

Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (Beit Midrash preparation: Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

\$740, plus \$60 registration

Non-Hebrew College ordination students require permission of the instructor. Please email dmaayan@hebrewcollege.edu.

ORGANIZING JEWISH COMMUNITIES FOR JUSTICE AND TRANSFORMATION

Instructor: Meir Lakein
Mondays, 4:30-6 p.m.
\$740, plus \$60 registration

Students will learn the fundamentals and principles of community organizing that will help them bring people together as a real community united around a common purpose and ready to act collectively both to live out their values in the public square and to build the communities they dream of having. When the country is beset by both tragedy and the inspiration of communities standing up for themselves, Jewish communities will need their leaders, particularly rabbis, to organize them to do their part. The course will cover the building blocks of community organizing, tools such as one on one relational meetings, house meetings, power analysis, leadership development, and strategy, Jewish learning, case studies, and ample opportunities for students to learn from their own experiences.

SHABBAT NUSACH

Instructor: Cantor Brian Mayer
Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
\$740 plus \$60 registration

In this course, students master the traditional liturgical chants for the entire Shabbat liturgy. Students learn scales/modes, musical motifs and nusachically germane congregational melodies for all Shabbat Services. The material is approached by study of music theory, and practical application through hevruta learning, as well as required recordings. Prerequisites: Introduction to Basic Nusach, Hebrew level 4 or above, and basic knowledge of music theory.

THEOLOGY OF JEWISH PRAYER

Instructor: Rabbi Nehemia Polen
Mondays, 9-10:30 a.m.
\$740, plus \$60 registration

Prayer is the very core of religious life, yet our understanding of how and why to pray has varied throughout Jewish history. This course will survey ideals of tefillah in all periods beginning with Tanakh, but our main focus will be the teachings and practices associated with Hasidism, emphasizing interiority, fervor, and embodied expression. We will explore davening modalities and postures such as contemplative, petitionary, thanksgiving, ecstatic; the role of niggun, dance, and silence. We will study texts and tales of the Hasidic masters, and will develop the idea of prayer as sonic offering. Based on a Baal Shem Tov tradition, we will develop a schema based on the rubric P.R.A.Y.=Presence/Resonance/Alignment/Yes! Requires Hebrew 7 or above.

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP COURSES

Program information: hebrewcollege.edu/graduate-leadership-programs/

Program Contact: Debrah Ron | dron@hebrewcollege.edu

FAMILIES, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Instructors: Ilene and Ahava Vogelstein

Asynchronous

\$1,110, plus \$60 registration

This course is designed to acquaint teachers with the theories, knowledge, skills, and practices of relationship building among families, schools, and communities. In this course, we will consider conceptual frameworks in which the unique relationships between families, communities, and schools can be understood. These frameworks will help us to define the multitude of factors that impact the partnerships between families, schools, and communities, including cultural backgrounds and values, societal forces, and differing role expectations of parents and teachers. These understandings, as well as our own reflections and experiences, will serve as a basis from which our own practice concerning families, schools, and communities will develop.

CONFRONTING MODERNITY, CONFRONTING THE PAST: FORMATIVE JUDAISMS OF THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY

Instructor: Eddy Breuer

Asynchronous

\$1,110, plus \$60 registration

This course seeks to examine the intellectual, religious, and cultural dimensions of the Jewish confrontation with modernity. Through a careful reading of primary texts, students will encounter various movements and thinkers, and attempts to navigate the continuities and discontinuities of Judaism in the modern era. Examining the years between 1780 and the middle of the 19th century, the course will focus on the ways in which Jews read, interpreted, and reinterpreted their biblical and rabbinic heritage. The course will also consider new ways that Jews viewed their past, including the emergence of a new historical consciousness and its impact on the re-formation of contemporary Jewish society.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONGREGATIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

The Congregational Education Initiative (CEI) is a teacher professional development program, offered jointly by Hebrew College and CJP's Jewish Learning Connections. The ultimate goal of the intensive nature of the CEI professional development model is to create a long-term effect on teaching and learning within the school, and to transform the school culture regarding student learning, teacher cooperation, and professional growth.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/community-learning/professional-development/for-educational-leaders/

Contact: Marion Gribetz | mgribetz@hebrewcollege.edu

FOR OUR TEACHERS AND THEIR LEARNERS: A SERIES OF VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL SESSIONS IN THE TIME OF ISOLATION

Topics and Instructors TBD

Mondays, 10-11 a.m., January 25; March 1; April 12; May 13

Free

For Our Teachers and Their Learners is a series of sessions that serve as a resource and a venue for Jewish educators to be in a community. During our sessions we explore and 'practice' various virtual educational modalities, share in Jewish textual learning and bridge between theory and practice as we share content and practices to support you and your learners. Join in our professional learning community as we come together in conversation and learning during this time of physical isolation. For more information or to register, please Marion Gribetz at mgribetz@hebrewcollege.edu.

HEBREW AT THE CENTER

An online course, consisting of eight 75-minute synchronous webinars. Offered in partnership with Hebrew at the Center (HATC), a non-profit organization dedicated to revolutionizing Hebrew teaching and learning. Providing cutting-edge pedagogic and assessment tools, HATC works to educate school leadership, develop Hebrew language leadership and empower teachers with the tools and expertise to maximize each student's success.

Program Information: hebrewcollege.edu/programs/teaching-hebrew-from-anywhere/

Register: hebrewcollege.edu/learn

Contact: Anna Katsevman | akatsevman@hebrewcollege.edu

LEARNING HEBREW FROM ANYWHERE

Instructor: Orit Shakarghi

Mondays, 8-9:15 p.m., February 1-March 22

\$445 (\$400 for *Prizmah* members)

As we move into the second half of this academic year, our Hebrew classes continue to look and feel very different. This course will provide you with updated conceptual and practical tools to equip you in using digital pedagogy in virtual, hybrid or modified in-person modalities. Through the integration of technology in second language instruction, using the Proficiency Approach, you will be able to maximize Hebrew learning and enhance your learners' communicative performance. By the end of the course, participants will be able to: (1) Identify the basic principles of the Proficiency Approach for teaching Hebrew; (2) Adapt a variety of online tools to different learning objectives; (3) Advance your learners to a higher level of proficiency; (4) Create meaningful online content for your classes

HEBREW COLLEGE OFFERS JEWISH LEARNING FOR EVERY AGE AND STAGE

Our community programs for teens and adults include:

PROZDOR (middle and high school)

PROZDOR IMMERSIVES (middle and high school)

JEWISH TEEN FOUNDATION OF GREATER BOSTON (high school)

GESHER ISRAEL (high school)

TEEN BEIT MIDRASH (middle and high school)

YOUNG ADULT LEARNING: OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING (20s and 30s)

PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS (For parents of young children, tweens, teens, and grandparents)

OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING (Discussion-based learning and social action programs)

ME'AH CLASSIC (100 hours of Jewish learning at the college level)

ME'AH SELECT (Semester-long learning at the college level)

RABBINICAL, CANTORIAL, AND GRADUATE EDUCATION COURSES (Select courses are open to the community on a non-credit basis)

HEBREW LANGUAGE ULPAN (Intensive Hebrew language courses)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Congregational Education Initiative, Hebrew at the Center, and more)



Hebrew College is an innovative national institute for Jewish learning and leadership based in Newton, Massachusetts. We are dedicated to Jewish literacy, creativity, and community, and a world of dignity and compassion for all. Our students are future rabbis, cantors, and educators, and people at every stage of life who love to learn. Together, we are infusing Jewish life with substance, spirit, beauty, imagination, and a sense of purpose. Please support our work by making a tax-deductible gift at hebrewcollege.edu/give-now.