



Midreshet HaRova

The André Veres Advanced Torah Academy for Women



Course Catalog 2023-24 • תשפ"ד





Introduction

Since its inception in 1990, Midreshet HaRova has provided a unique Israel study experience for hundreds of young women from all over the world.

With the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City as a backdrop, students at the Midrasha enjoy an unparalleled setting in which to develop spiritually and intellectually, thus preparing themselves to make an impact as educated Jewish women in both Israel and the Diaspora.



History

From a small program with a handful of students from the Southern Hemisphere, Midreshet HaRova has developed into one of Israel's leading seminaries, currently sponsoring more than half a dozen programs, serving over 400 women from Israel and around the globe.

From a single building, the Midrasha now comprises a multi-building campus in the Old City, as well as several off-site locations both within and outside of Jerusalem. The vibrant heart of the Midrasha is the Betty and Joseph Kopelowitz Study Hall, a modern Beit Midrash with seating for 150 students.

In 2009 the Midrasha was officially renamed Midreshet HaRova: The André Veres Advanced Torah Academy for Women in recognition of a major gift from the Veres family.

The student body at Midreshet HaRova is a mosaic of the Jewish world, with women hailing from Israel, North

America, the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, South Africa and Australia. United by their motivation to learn and their thirst for spiritual growth, they live and study together, learn from and about each other, and coalesce into a single unit. The singular nature of this group gives the Midrasha its unique, unmatched character.



Educational Philosophy

It is a basic tenet of the educational philosophy of the Midrasha that Torah study should not be viewed as merely an academic and intellectual pursuit but should, first and foremost, help shape one's personality.

With this in mind, each student at the Midrasha is encouraged to maximize her personal growth according to her individual needs and interests.

The educational program at the Midrasha emphasizes independence in learning through chavruta study, while at the same time offering an extraordinary array of courses designed to allow each student the opportunity to delve into areas of personal interest. While class size varies, the average class size is roughly 18 students per class, thus facilitating a high degree of student faculty interaction.

The educational philosophy that drives the Midrasha views the Overseas Program as a holistic experience, neither limited to the classroom nor bound by the traditional academic calendar.

The Midrasha never closes its doors, even during times that classes are not in session, so students are never at a loss for activities during vacation time.

During their time in Israel, Midrasha students tour extensively, participate in enriching seminar programs, and are introduced to a wide swath of Israeli society, all the while deepening their attachment to the people and the Land of Israel.



Overseas Program

The Overseas Program at Midreshet HaRova is an intensive program designed for the highly motivated student who wishes to accomplish the maximum during her time at the Midrasha. Classes begin at 8:30 am and continue until 10:00 pm, with many students staying in the Beit Midrash past that time.

Overseas students also benefit from the close relationship with the Midrasha’s programs for Israeli women. Overseas students have the option to maintain at least one weekly chavruta with their Israeli counterparts. Socially, participants on the two programs interact freely, spending Shabbatot together and enjoying joint seminars, tiyulim and educational and social activities.



Faculty

The Overseas Program is directed by our Rosh Midrasha, Rav David Milston and our Menahalet, Dr. Yocheved Debow.

Originally from London, Rav Milston was ordained by the Chief Rabbinate of Israel after many years of study at Yeshivat Har Etzion, where he studied under Rav Yehuda Amital, zt”l, and Rav Aharon Lichtenstein, zt”l. Prior to that, he earned his bachelor’s degree at Jews’ College in England, where he was a Talmid Muvhak of Rabbi Isaac Bernstein, zt”l.

Dr. Debow holds a BA in Psychology and Education, and an MA in Child Clinical and Educational Psychology. She received her doctorate in Education at Bar-Ilan University as a presidential fellow. Dr. Debow studied

Limmudei Kodesh at Michlalah, Jerusalem College for Women, is a world expert on sexuality education in the Orthodox Jewish world.

With an ideal blend of youth and experience, the faculty provides the intellectual spark which illuminates the Midrasha. Their varied educational backgrounds provide a broad canvas for students seeking direction and searching for answers. Through the warmth of their personalities, women coming to the Midrasha find a group of role models to whom they can relate and who they can strive to emulate.



Student Life

While students are generally housed in either the Midrasha dormitory or in local apartments, for the 5784 Academic year all students will be housed in apartments, while the dormitory undergoes extensive renovations aimed at providing students with a unique blend of modern amenities and Old City charm. The apartments, most of which are newly renovated, are located a short walk from the main building. With airy public spaces, and balconies, the Midrasha housing provides an ideal atmosphere for students to relax during their free time.

Shabbat becomes a singular experience when spent in the Old City. Whether singing and dancing at the Kotel on Friday night, or enjoying meals and programs in the company of friends and visiting faculty members, students infuse the spiritual setting of the Rova with the ruach of the Midrasha.

All students are strongly encouraged to participate in a weekly volunteer program, travelling to area hospitals, schools, clinics, and homes, lending a hand to individuals in need. The Midrasha views these, as well as other acts of chesed organized independently by the student body, as inseparable parts of the program.

The Midrasha provides three nutritious meals daily. Constant supervision is provided by experienced madrichot, who are overseen by our on-campus house mothers.

Midreshet HaRova Timetable • 5784

Numbers indicate the page in catalog where course can be found • [F] and [S] indicate Fall or Spring semester

	SUNDAY				MONDAY			
8:30 am – 9:50 am	9:00 am – 9:50 am				Torah Bekiut (INT) Rav Yonny 7	Torah Bekiut (ADV-NH) Rav Millston 7	Torah Bekiut (ADV-SH) Rav Yonatan 7	A Dvar Torah for Shabbat Rav Berg 7
	Halacha Bekiut (BEG/INT) Rav Shames 26	Halacha Bekiut (INT) Rav Susman 26	Halacha Bekiut (ADV) Rav Bailey 26					
10:00 am – 12:30 pm	Torah Shebe'al Peh Talmud Trifecta Rav Ron 28	Torah Shebe'al Peh Ketubot (INT) Dr. Judith Fogel 29	Torah Shebe'al Peh Beitza (INT) Rav Bailey 29	Torah Shebe'al Peh Rosh Hashana (INT) Rav Shames 29	People of the Book Atara Starr 6	From Galut to Geula (INT) Rav Bailey 6	Sefer Shemot (INT) Rav Yonny 6	G.O.A.P.: Greatest Of All Prophets Orit Reiter 6
	Torah Shebe'al Peh Makkot (ADV-H) Rav Avigdor 29	Machshava Classical Jewish Thought Miriam Wolf 20			Parshat Hashavua (ADV) Rav Avigdor 6	Bereishit/Bamidbar (ADV-H) Rav Yonatan 7		
12:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Lunch Break				Lunch Break			
2:45 pm – 3:50 pm	Sefer HaTanya Rav Shames 22	Relationships Through Kabbalah Fanny Waisman 23	Hilchot Kashrut Rav Berg 25	Tanach Chabura Rav Yonatan 11	2:45 pm – 3:45 pm			
	Contemporary Halacha Rav Bailey 26	Practical Halacha Rav Yonny 26	Writings of Rav Hirsch Atara Starr 21	Beit Midrash Rav Susman	Midrash Parshat Hashavua Rav Ron 10	Strive for Truth Rav Millston 19	Halacha and 1000 Years of History Rav Aviad Tabory 15	Morality (Rabbi Sacks) [F] / Making a Prophet [S] Dara Unterberg 22 / 13
3:55 pm – 4:10 pm	Mincha				3:45 pm – 4:00 pm: Mincha			
4:15 pm – 5:20 pm	Chassidut on the Parsha Atara Starr 11	Positively Shabbat Rav Shames 27	Writings of R' Soloveitchik [F] / R' Lichtenstein [S] Rav Yonatan 19 / 20	Meaning in Tefilla Rav Yonny 17	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm			
	Bayit Sheini: The Real Story Miriam Wolf 17	Hilchot Shabbat Rav Berg 25	Beit Midrash Rav Susman / Rav Bailey		Aggada Rav Ron 30	Tzaddik v'Ra Lo [F] / Shivat Tzion [S] Dara Unterberg 9 / 11	Living with the Times Orit Reiter 8	Mitzvot: Why and How Rav Bailey 27
5:30 pm – 6:40 pm	Understanding Eden [F] / Five Megillot [S] Dr. Yocheved 8 / 10	Medical Ethics Rav Yonatan 27	Israeli History Through Song Rav Berg 17	The Jewish Self Rav Yonny 23	5:15 pm – 5:30 pm: Announcements			
	Shaul and David Rav Bailey 9	The Jewish Ethicist [F] / Faith in the Darkness [S] Rav Susman 27 / 16			5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Shiur Klali			
6:40 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner				Dinner			
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Soulmates Rav Yonny 23		Beit Midrash Supervisor: Rav Yonatan		Free Evening			
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Beit Midrash Supervisor: Rav Yonatan							

TUESDAY				WEDNESDAY				THURSDAY					
8:30 am – 9:35 am													
Pirkei Avot Rav Bailey	Gemara Bekiut Rav Avigdor	Advanced Kashrut Dr. Judith Fogel	Personal Status in Jewish Law Rav Berg	Halacha Bekiut (BEG/INT) Rav Shames	Halacha Bekiut (INT) Rav Susman	Halacha Bekiut (ADV) Rav Bailey		Torah Bekiut (INT) Rav Yonny	Torah Bekiut (ADV-NH) Rav Milston	Torah Bekiut (ADV-SH) Rav Yonatan	A Dvar Torah for Shabbat Rav Berg		
20	29	25	25	26	26	26		7	7	7	7		
The Good, the Bad and the Ugly Rav Manning	My Roots in Tanach Franny Waisman	The Mussar Masters Rav Yonny	Beit Midrash Rav Susman	Gemara Bekiut Rav Avigdor	Nevi'im Bekiut Rav Yonatan								
12	13	22		29	9								
9:45 am – 10:50 am													
Tikkun HaMiddot Rav Yonny	Halachic Woman (SH) Dr. Judith Fogel	Torah Shebe'al Peh Makkot (ADV-H) Rav Avigdor	Eternity Rav Milston	Torah Shebe'al Peh Talmud Trifecta Rav Ron	Torah Shebe'al Peh Ketubot (INT) Dr. Judith Fogel	Torah Shebe'al Peh Beitzta (INT) Rav Bailey	Torah Shebe'al Peh Rosh Hashana (INT) Rav Shames	People of the Book Atara Starr	From Galut to Geula Rav Bailey	Sefer Shemot (INT) Rav Yonny	G.O.A.P.: Greatest Of All Prophets Orit Reiter		
24	26	29	11	28	29	29	29	6	6	6	6		
Midrashim of Your Childhood Rav Manning	Becoming Better [F] / Likutei Moharan [S] Franny Waisman	Advanced Hilchot Shabbat Rav Shames	Beit Midrash Rav Bailey	Torah Shebe'al Peh Makkot (ADV-H) Rav Avigdor	Machshava Classical Jewish Thought Miriam Wolf			Parshat Hashvua (ADV) Rav Avigdor	Bereishit/ Bamidbar (ADV-H) Rav Yonatan				
9	20 / 24	25		29	20			6	7				
11:00 am – 12:00 pm													
Mashgichot Hour													
12:00 pm Cleaning 12:45 pm Lunch Break				Lunch Break				Lunch Break					
2:00 pm – 6:00 pm		1:45 pm – 3:45 pm		Chassidut Rav Yonny	Sefer Daniel [F] / Trei Assar [S] Rav Ron	Thought of Rav Kook (ADV-H) Rav Shvat	Discovering Texts Rav Bailey	Before There was Gemara Rav Bailey	Halachic Woman Dr. Judith Fogel	Mesilat Yesharim Rav Milston	Tefilla Workshop Rav Shames		
The Kedma Volunteering Program (LONG SLOT) 32		Art Option 1 Rachel Himmelstein 14		23	11 / 8	18	27	30	26	19	17		
				Doon't Stop Believing: 13 Ikkarei Eemunah Rav Akiva	The Written Word: Journaling Leiba Smith	Beit Midrash Rav Susman		The Written Word Leiba Smith	Relationships in Tanach Dr. Yocheved	Characters & Complexities: The 12 Tribes Miriam White	Beit Midrash Rav Susman		
				19	14			14	12	13			
Mincha				Mincha				Mincha					
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm		4:00 pm – 6:00 pm		Torat, Am u'Medinat Yisrael (H) Rav Shvat	Derech Hashem Rav Ron	Shemirat HaLashon [F] / Big Questions [S] Rav Yonny	Contemporary Halacha Rav Bailey	Hilchot Kashrut Rav Berg	Eliyahu and Elisha [F] / Yirmiyahu and Yechezkel [S] Rav Yonatan	From Holocaust to Redemption (PART 1) Rav Milston	Halachic Woman Dr. Judith Fogel		
The Kedma Volunteering Program (SHORT SLOT) 32		Art Option 2 Rachel Himmelstein 14		18	20	25 / 21	26	25	10 / 10	17	26		
				Da Mah L'Hashiv [F] / Torat Ha'isha: Special Edition [S] Miriam Wolf	The G.O.A.T. Sugyot: 23 Greatest Sugyot in Shas Rav Akiva	Beit Midrash Rav Susman		Pachad Yitzchak Rav Akiva	Tefilla in Tanach Miriam White	Beit Midrash Rav Susman / Rav Bailey			
				28 / 21	30			21	13				
				Torat, Am u'Medinat Yisrael Rav Shvat	The Case for Judaism: Sefer HaKuzari Rav Akiva	Minhagim and Halacha Rav Ron	Sefardi Halacha Rav Susman	Modern Chassidic Thought: The Rebbe of Piaseczna Rav Akiva	Hilchot Shabbat Rav Berg	Confronting Modernity Rav Yonatan	Bein Isha LaMakom Dr. Judith Fogel		
				18	19	28	26	21	25	19	27		
				Tikkun HaMiddot Rav Yonny	Nashim B'Tanach Miriam Wolf			From Holocaust to Redemption (PART 2) Rav Milston	Controversies that Changed Jewish Life Miriam White				
				24	9			17	17				
Dinner				Dinner				Dinner					
Guest Speaker 32		Beit Midrash Supervisors: Dr. Judith Fogel / Rav Milston		Israeli Chevrutot 31		Beit Midrash Supervisors: Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg		8:00 pm – 10:00 pm Beit Midrash Supervisors: Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg					
								8:30 pm – 10:00 pm Song of the Soul Journey Franny Waisman		8:30 pm – 10:00 pm Understanding Contemporary Israel Rabbi Michael Unterberg			
								18		15			

DEPARTMENT OF BIBLE

תורה שבכתב

Important Note: Students register for courses **101–108** based on skill level. The topics covered may vary from year to year; second year students may therefore register for the same course they have taken previously.

BIB 101–102

Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • People of the Book

The people that fill the pages of our Tanach are not simply characters that we read about in a book, rather they are complex personalities and living examples of the character traits we are aiming to either emulate or to avoid. In this class we will examine and analyze selected texts in Torah as well as Neviim in order to better understand and appreciate the complexity of the personalities of our past and their eternal impression.

We will develop critical thinking skills as we view each encounter through the lens of our own understanding as well as classical and contemporary parshanut. Some of the personalities we will study include Yonah, Noach, Moshe, Aharon, Miriam, Pinchas, Eliyahu, Bilam, Bnot Tzafchad, Yehoshua. Each unit will end with a discussion of the practical application and relevance of the tools and lessons we are learning to our everyday lives.

- **Atara Starr**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 103–104

Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • From Exile to Redemption

Understanding that the Torah is our manual for life, it is incumbent upon us to understand its moral and ethical value system even through its characters and their stories. In this class we study the final chapters of Sefer Bereishit and the first half of Sefer Shemot. Through the focused utilization of textual analysis along with a complement of classical commentaries,

we not only learn the skills with which to properly dissect the Torah's text, but walk away with a greater and deeper understanding of Hashem's intended messages as conveyed through the biblical narrative and enumerated mitzvot.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 105–106

Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • Book of Exodus

This course takes an in-depth look at Sefer Shemot, with the goal of drawing relevant and practical guidance for spiritual growth from the deeper messages contained within. Emphasis is placed on developing textual skills and delving deeply into classical commentaries such as Rashi, Malbim, Maharal, Or HaChaim, and many others, as well as later meforshim, Mussar texts, Chassidic thought, and Gemara.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 107–108

Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • Greatest of All Prophets

From a small hidden light in the darkest of times, to the greatest luminary of all generations, the life of Moshe Rabbeinu is a treasure trove of wisdom. A foundational feature of our faith is the belief in Moshe as the greatest of all prophets. 'GOAP' is the exploration of the life and legacy of Moshe Rabbeinu, enhancing our Emunah in Hashem, Torat Moshe and ourselves.

- **Orit Reiter**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 107A–108A

Torah SheBichtav • Advanced Level • The Weekly Torah Portion in Depth

The central aim of this course is to develop the ability to study and formulate a comprehensive understanding of an issue in the Parashat Shavua as learned by the mefarshim, as well as to develop ideas independently. After a brief overview of the Parasha we analyze a cho-

sen topic from the Parasha through the prism of both early and later commentators. As the year progresses and our learning skills develop, students are encouraged to present their ideas either in writing or verbally to the students in the class.

- **Rav Avigdor Meyerowitz**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 107B–108B

Torah SheBichtav • Advanced Level • Genesis/Numbers

Genesis – We will explore the various relationships described in Sefer Bereishit. By means of textual analysis, and a wide range of classical and modern commentaries, we will delve deeply into the well-known stories and events and endeavor to understand their significance as part of the Torah.

Numbers – We will study the sections of the Torah which deal with the journey of Bnei Yisrael as described in the Book of Numbers. Our study combines close textual analysis with a plethora of classical and modern commentaries. Emphasis is placed on understanding how the various exegetes relate to text.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz (Hebrew)**
- **Monday and Thursday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

BIB 109–110

Bekiyut Torah • Survey of the Pentateuch

This is a survey course designed to familiarize students with large sections of the Torah and select passages with the commentary of Rashi.

- **Rav Yonny Sack – Intermediate**
- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz – Intermediate**
- **Rav David Milston – Advanced**
- **Monday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9:50 am**
- **3 credits per semester**

BIB 109A–109B

A D’var Torah for Shabbat

The main goal of the course is to prepare a meaningful “Dvar Torah” to be able to share on Shabbat. The first part of the class is spent reviewing the parsha with the guidance of parsha sheets. Ideas are then taken from the classical commentators such as Rashi, Ramban, Ohr Hachaim, Kli Yakar as well as Chassidic sources such as the Sfat Emet, Netivot Shalom. Pages of divrei Torah from contemporary Torah personalities are also given each session. Students are encouraged to compile a notebook of divrei Torah which covers the entire year.

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Monday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9:50 am**
- **3 credits per semester**



BIB 113–114***Living with the Times***

The Lubavitcher Rebbe instructed his followers to live with the times. The “times” the Rebbe was referring to are the themes and messages of the weekly Parsha. ‘Living with the Times’ is an invitation to learn and live the Parsha, sewing its timeless wisdom into the fabric of our everyday lives.

- **Orit Reiter**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 120
Trei Assar • Selections From The Twelve Minor Prophets • Focusing on Haggai, Zecharia and Malachi, Yona and Habakkuk

The last three prophets ever in the history of prophecy! Learn the final words of God as transmitted through the final prophets, from the encouragement of Haggai, the mysterious visions of Zecharia and the admonition of Malachi. We will also learn the classic story of Yona on a deep textual level and Habakkuk, one of the least known prophets, who struggled with the fundamental philosophical questions facing Jews even today.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

BIB 121***Understanding Eden***

Why are there two creation stories? Why was man created before woman? Or was he? What actually happened in Gan Eden? What can we learn about the nature of male and the nature of female from those first chapters of creation? How does sin affect man and woman’s relationship with each other and with God? What can we learn about the nature of our relationship with God from these chapters, both as individuals and as a community? We will explore the text of the first chapters in Bereishit in order to understand the essence of man and woman, their differences and their similarities. We will then explore the nature of sin – religious sin and moral sin in the context of Gan Eden and Cain and Hevel. What do these chapters teach us about human nature? How much have we changed and what lessons can we learn for the way we live our own lives? This class will use both text and discussion to explore these issues which are an essential part of ourselves.

- **Dr. Yocheved Debow**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**



BIB 123-124***Bekiyut Tanach • Survey of the Prophets***

In this survey course, students are required to prepare five or more chapters of Tanach a week. The weekly lecture summarizes the general themes of the chapters covered together with the highlights of the stories. The aim of this course is to provide a general overview of the books of Nevi'im Rishonim.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Sunday 9:00 am – 9:50 am**
- **Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:50 am**
- **3 credits per semester**

BIB 125-126***Unpacking the Midrashim of Your Childhood • A Deep Dive Into The Hidden Truths Of The Midrash***

Have you ever heard the phrase: “Oh, that’s just a Midrash”? Have you ever wondered: What does that even mean? Are Midrashim true in the full sense of the word? Did they actually happen? Did Avraham break the idols? Was Rivka 3 years old at the well? Was Dina put in a box? Did Rivka actually give the codes to her sister? Did Nachshon Ben Aminadav dive into Yam Suf first? Did Lot keep Pesach? Was Eisav really bad? Is his head buried in Chevron? Did Queen Vashti have a tail?

Why have I been taught all of these stories that way? Why are they not in my Chumash? Is the whole Torah just a ‘story’? Did any of it even happen?

If you are puzzled or troubled by these questions – this course is for you! In this course we will re-examine the Parsha stories of our childhood and find out what the Torah actually says! But we will also go further, delving deep into the Midrashic story and extracting from it the core ideas that form our Jewish conscience and identity. Join us as we explore the relationship between Peshat and Derash and rediscover the important role that Midrashim play in our day to day lives.

- **Rav Asher Manning**
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 127-128***Nashim BeTanach • Women in the Bible***

This course covers portraits of the women who appear in Tanach through the eyes of Chazal. Individuals

studied will include Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, Leah, Miriam, Tziphora, Devora, Esther and Ruth.

- **Miriam Wolf**
- **Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 131A-132A***Saul and David • The Book of Samuel I***

This course covers the entire first book of Shmuel. We begin each new chapter with a quick, independent reading of the text and answering of accompanying ‘directive’ questions (provided on separate sheets); this process helps us familiarize ourselves with the chapter’s general contents. We then analyze more deeply, using only selected excerpts, specific pesukim of that chapter and cross-referenced sections throughout the rest of Tanach, the chapter’s specific themes and ideas, while also appreciating its overall place in the entire work. Along the way, we also build the invaluable skills of textual analysis. Some of the themes which we discuss are: the rise of Shmuel as Shofet and King’s navi; the rise and fall of Shaul, the first King of Israel; the rise of David, from shepherd to ‘next-in-line’; Shaul’s tragic obsession for eradicating the usurper to his throne.

Required text: Tanach

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 135A***Tzaddik V’Ra Lo • Why the Righteous Suffer***

This course focuses on the question of why the righteous suffer as represented in the book of Iyov. Within this process we attempt to understand the human motivation to do good, as understood by the Satan and by the author of Iyov. Furthermore, we try to put ourselves in the place of Iyov’s friends, and attempt to answer Iyov’s questions. Finally, we touch upon the connection between Iyov’s questions and our questions concerning the Holocaust.

- **Dara Unterberg**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

BIB 138**Five Megillot**

Why didn't Mordechai bow down to Haman? How can we take the messages of Shir Hashirim and apply them to our own relationships with others, and with Hashem? Did Naomi go out of her way to take care of Ruth, or was she simply looking out for herself? How can we possibly relate to the destruction of the Temple and what does the book of Eichah have to teach us about human suffering and mourning?

We will search for answers to these questions, and various others, with the intent of understanding the peshat, or the simple intended meaning of the author as well as messages beyond. In our quest, we will use Tanach, Midrashim, Mefarshim, and other commentators. Special emphasis will be placed on hashkafic issues that arise while reading these texts, and how sages throughout the ages have grappled with these issues.

- **Dr. Yocheved Debow**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

BIB 140**Survey of the Later Prophets •
Yirmiyahu and Yechezkel**

This course will cover the main themes and prophecies in the books of Yirmiyahu and Yechezkel. Following the chronological order as found in the Book of Kings we will study the prophecies related to the time period

from the days of Uziya until the exile in Bavel. The sessions will comprise self-study followed by a discussion and summary.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

BIB 143–144**Midrash from the Weekly Portion**

Each week we will study the classic and not yet classic midrashim related to the weekly Torah reading (parsha). The source material for all Torah commentaries and divrei Torah is right here. We will study the midrashim together and extract the insights and lessons encoded within.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 145**Eliyahu and Elisha**

In this course we study, in depth, the chapters of Sefer Melachim which encompass the stories of these two Nevi'im. Issues discussed include the role of the prophet, miracles, and their place in Tanach.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**



BIB 149A***Shivat Tzion • The Return to Zion in the Book of Ezra and Nechemia***

This course follows the books of Ezra, Nechemia, Chagai, Zecharia, and Malachi. Topics discussed include: the First Aliya – Zerubavel and Yehoshua; the prophecies of Chagai and Zecharia – the religious standing of the First Aliya; the Second Aliya – Ezra and Nechemia, external and internal problems; the meaning of the prophecy of Malachi; discussion of the role of Shivat Tzion and the Second Beit HaMikdash in the history of Am Yisrael.

- **Dara Unterberg**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

BIB 153***The Book of Daniel***

Daniel is possibly the most mysterious book in the Tanach. Can we unravel the mysteries of Daniel's visions? Were these visions purely Messianic, or were they relevant to Daniel's own historical period? Was Daniel a prophet? We approach the Book of Daniel as an important window into the life of the Jews in Babylonian exile, and as the historical link between the First and Second Temple periods.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

BIB 155–156***Tanach Chabura***

This course attempts to discover more about some of the less-discussed characters in Tanach. Examples include: Calev, Rachav, Reuven, Pinchas, Elkana, Yonatan. We draw on textual analysis and comparison, Midrashic comment and metaphor and a range of commentaries in order to determine how each character affected his or her time period and Biblical history in general.

This course was formerly titled "Off the Beaten Track".

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 165–166***Chassidut on the Parasha***

Our great chassidic masters were (and continue to be) devoted to a Jewish life that infuses even the mundane with spirituality. When it comes to Torah study it is not enough to look at what is revealed to us, rather Chassidut begs us to look further into the depths of the Torah and bring meaning to every word that we read and every mitzvah that we keep. In this class we explore the relevant lessons of each week's Torah portion based on the writings of many of our great Chassidic masters. We develop the ideas of the parsha while opening our eyes to the vast world of Chassidic Torah and interpretation and the direct impact it has on our personal Avodat Hashem. Texts studied include Netivot Shalom, Sfas Emes, Likutei Torah, Kedushas Levi, Baal Shem Tov al HaTorah.

- **Atara Starr**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 167–168***Eternity • Early Prophets: Eternal Messages***

At a first glance, much of Nevi'im Rishonim appears to be a collection of stories in Jewish History beginning with the people entering the land of Israel with Yehoshua, and concluding with the destruction of the first Beit HaMikdash at the end of Melachim Bet. Yet above and beyond the story of the development, progression, and ultimate demise (albeit temporarily), of Am Yisrael in Eretz Yisrael, each episode in Tanach has an eternal message. As we study each and every chapter of Nevi'im Rishonim together, we are able to reap lessons that are of fundamental importance to us as individuals, and to the people of Israel as a nation. We firstly learn the relevant chapter in the Beit Midrash, then aim to fully understand the lessons therein. Our objective is to reveal the eternal lessons of the Nevi'im.

- **Rav David Milston**
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 169A–170A***Relationships in Tanach***

The greatest of our teachers and leaders are presented to us from within the text of the Torah, Neviim and Ketuvim. The stories are sometimes dramatic, often tragic but always meaningful; it is this meaning, this true intended message that we will discover while studying the stories that present these essential characters to our national identity. Who were they?

Far less attention is given to women across Tanach than to men. Therefore those women who are mentioned and highlighted provide an important opportunity for us to explore the Tanach's perception of these female characters. We may ask: What makes this woman unique? What can we learn about her and about the Tanach's expectations of, as well as understanding of the nature of women in general? How about her relationships with others?

In this class we will explore characters in Tanach in relationship with others. We will focus on some of the men and some of the women and the interactions between them and explore their timeless lessons.

■ **Dr. Yocheved Debow**

■ **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**

■ **1.5 credits per semester**

BIB 173–174***The Good the Bad and the Ugly •******Meet the Unsung Heroes and Villains of the Torah***

We've all learnt Chumash at one stage or another in our lives. Each year we re-read the same stories in the Parsha that we've heard so many times before. One might think there is nothing new to learn from the 5 books of the Chumash. Wrong they would be! Join us on our exploratory adventure, as we look behind the scenes of the stories in the Torah and discover Biblical personalities anew! Why did Lot's daughters seduce their father!? Was Potiphar's wife onto something? Is the tribe of Yehuda descended from a prostitute!? A midwife running an underground rebellion!? Did Yosef marry his cousin!?

Hop aboard as we uncover a myriad of colorful characters hiding in plain sight in the Parsha – right under your nose!

■ **Rav Asher Manning**

■ **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**

■ **1.5 credits per semester**



BIB 175–176**My Roots in Tanach**

Torah (first semester): The Torah is the ultimate guidebook. From a very young age we are taught the profoundly interesting stories of its chapters, yet how often do we dive into our own personal lives through the lens of these stories? In this course, we will revisit some select very well-known stories (and some lesser-known stories) of Torah with fresh eyes set on spiritual development. The main goal of the course is to use the Torah as a backdrop for deep character building (middot) work. We will use (mostly) the pshat of the text and blend it with poetry, song, meditation, and many creative writing practices in order to deepen our understanding of our own nefesh and work together to grow with the text.

Neviim (second semester): The Neviim are filled with deep insights and incredible stories of our nation and its beginning in the land of Israel. From Yehoshua and Shoftim to Shmuel and Melachim, there is so much for us to learn as a nation and as individuals. In this course, we will dive into select stories from Yehoshua, Shoftim and some of Shmuel with a focus on understanding what the pshat tells us about our nation, understanding ourselves and practicing personal, spiritual work.

- Franny Waisman
- Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am
- 1.5 credits per semester

BIB 184**Nevuah Ledorot • Making a Prophet**

How do the messages of the later prophets guide us today? We uncover the relevance and urgency of their messages on an individual, national, and universal level.

Sample discussion topics:

Which prophecies have been fulfilled? Which have not?

How to know who is a false or true prophet? Who are the modern “prophets”?

How will Israel realistically become a “Light to the Nations”?

What do the Nevi'im have to say about modern Aliya, poverty, governmental power, religious tolerance.

- Dara Unterberg
- Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

**BIB 189–190****Characters and Complexities • The Twelve Tribes**

In this class, we will explore the individual and national lives of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Through textual analysis, commentaries, and Midrash, we will develop our understanding of the twelve tribes as the fabric of Am Yisrael. In addition, we will also explore the fascinating connections between each shevet and its nachala in Eretz Yisrael. Our studies will also touch upon modern-day claims of lost tribes and our hope to reunite the twelve tribes once again.

- Miriam C. White
- Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

BIB 191–192**Tefilla in Tanach**

This class is a textual exploration of the many stories in Tanach that contribute to our practice and commitment to prayer. We will study these stories to give us better tools to work on our Tefilla and gain an appreciation for the varying ways to pray and connect. Our studies will take us from the Tanach, to the Torah SheBe'al Peh, Jewish Philosophy, and modern day works on Tefilla.

- Miriam C. White
- Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH CREATIVE ARTS אומנות

JA 101–102

Artistic Expression

This course is designed both to give students guidance in a variety of art forms and techniques and to teach students a form of self-expression that can be used to enhance their learning and living as Jewish women. The program allows students to experiment with materials, styles and mediums including painting, sculpture and drawing, and to work on individual art pieces of each student's choice. Students may choose a common theme which they research in traditional sources in order to express the theme through a variety of artistic mediums. A further description of the Jewish Art program and its aims can be found elsewhere in this catalog.

- Rachel Himmelstein
- Tuesday 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm
- and/or Tuesday 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Each session: 2 credits per semester

JA 107–108

The Written Word

Creative writing is a means to explore both the world within us and that which surrounds us through the written word. This course is a hands-on writing workshop where we practice techniques for inner exploration and greater creative written expression while exploring the relationship of the written word to our inner spiritual life. Writing topics include those related to the Jewish yearly cycle, specific writing techniques and topics that arise from our learning. Together we write, share and come to a greater understanding of how using the written word can enhance our learning and life experience. Previous writing background not required. Be sure to come with a willingness to explore and work together in a group setting.

This course is also numbered JUD 183–184.

- Leiba Smith
- Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester



JA 109–110

The Written Word • Journaling

Journaling is a means to explore both the world within us and that which surrounds us using the written word. This course is a hands-on writing workshop, designed to integrate our Jewish knowledge with techniques of self-exploration. Course sessions focus on the use of structured journaling techniques to study, understand and consider what shapes our life, and how we might use what we have learned as we move forward. Each class involves learning a specific technique, writing, and time for sharing to allow all participants to go deeper in our exploratory work. Previous writing experience not required. Be sure to come with a willingness to explore and work in a group setting.

- Leiba Smith
- Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- This course is not for credit

DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH HISTORY

היסטוריה

JHI 107–108

Halachic Responses to One Thousand Years of History

The Jewish people have been impacted by many of the major events that have shaped world history. In some of these events the Jewish community was a major player, in others a more passive bystander. Regardless, Jewish law (Halacha), responded to multiple new challenges that the community now confronted. This class will examine many of these issues, beginning with challenges caused by the upheavals of the Crusades, and continuing until the establishment of the State of Israel.

- **Rav Aviad Tabory**
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JHI 109–110

Understanding Contemporary Israel

Recent years have seen a sharp increase in negative sentiments toward Israel on North American college campuses. This course is intended to help students confront this challenge by instilling them with a deeper understanding of the complexities and nuances of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The students also gain leadership and activism skills to effectively make the case for Israel. The course is divided into four segments:

The connection of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel

Understanding the Arab–Israeli conflict

The fundamentals of effective activism

Leadership development and personal growth

The goal of this course is not simply to leave students with a greater knowledge and understanding of Israel and the conflict, but also to provide them with the skills necessary to step up for Israel on their campuses and within their communities. To that end, significant emphasis is placed on developing students' leadership potential and on empowering students to view themselves as actors in Jewish history with the ability to make a meaningful impact in the world. Using the latest multimedia educational resources, including film and video, this course features interactive workshops, guest speakers, and uses current events as the backdrop for class discussion.

- **Rav Michael Unterberg**
- **Thursday 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm**
- **2 credits per semester**



JHI 111–112***Jerusalem Through Time • Siyurim***

This course consists of walking tours which explore different historical periods of the city of Jerusalem: the period of the First Beit HaMikdash, the Second Beit HaMikdash, the Middle Ages, the Modern Era, the expansion of Jerusalem outside of the Old City, and the battles in 1948 and 1967. In addition, we study secondary sources and tell stories and folklore of the various sites. We use the tours as a springboard, not only for the study of Jerusalem, but to learn about famous personalities and events.

- **Rav Michael Susman, Rav Ari Shames**
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **3 credits per semester**

JHI 116***Faith in Times of Darkness***

Since the time that the Talmud was completed, Jews have applied the precepts of Halacha to the changing social, legal and economic aspects of both their personal and communal lives. One of the most common tools to accomplish this goal has been the use of Responsa, answers given to specific issues raised by

individual questioners. Remarkably but unsurprisingly, even during the darkest chapter of Jewish History, the Holocaust, believing Jews continued to seek halachic guidance to help them confront the daily horrors forced upon them by the Nazi regime. In this class we study selected responsa which help us to appreciate the personal heroism which enabled individuals, and a nation to retain personal and communal dignity while trying to survive the genocidal goals of the Nazi killing machine.

- **Rav Michael Susman**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

JHI 121–122***The State and Jewish Law • Halachic Response to the State of Israel***

We investigate crucial points in the history of Medinat Yisrael and examine them from a Halachic perspective. Subjects discussed include the decision to declare the State, the Right of Return, the Dakar tragedy and the wave of Aliyah from the former Soviet Union.

- **Rav Aviad Tabory**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**



JHI 125–126***From Holocaust to Redemption***

The aim of this course is to follow, chronologically, the rise of Hitlerism until its eventual downfall, showing the plight of the Jewish people at each stage of these developments. We also explore the birth of the Jewish State in the aftermath of the Holocaust. We use audio-visual sources with much original footage as a starting point for each subject matter. The course aims to emphasize the factual side of the Holocaust. On occasion, as time permits, we deal with certain moral or ethical issues that arise directly from our studies.

- **Rav David Milston**
- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **(This is a two-period course)**
- **3 credits per semester**

JHI 135–136***The Second Temple Era***

The time of the Second Temple was one of the most turbulent periods in Jewish history. It was led by some of the most extraordinary and legendary personalities in Jewish history. Through classical Jewish sources we will meet these people and understand the era and its contribution to Jewish history.

- **Miriam Wolf**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JHI 141–142***Israeli History Through the Prism of Contemporary Music***

In this course we will walk the path of the creation of the State of Israel and the challenges that the new Jewish State faced from its founding until today. Studying this often heroic and sometimes miraculous story will change your understanding and perspective of Israel today. Each step of this journey is told and reflected in songs by contemporary Israeli songwriters. As we study the history, we will learn to understand and love these songs, and to sing them.

- **David Berg**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JHI 143–144***Scandals and Controversies That Changed Jewish Life***

In this course we will explore crucial points in Jewish history where events developed and expanded the way we think/practice Judaism. Topics include: Shabtai Tzvi – Messianism, Yaakov Emden and Yonatan Eibeschitz Machloket, Is Coffee Kosher? Allowed? A change in Jewish Practice, The Golem of Prague – Legend or truth? Did A.I. exist before the Modern Era? Unique Women Leaders: Dona Gracia, Maiden of Ludmir, Osnat Barazani, Sarah Schnerier, Techinot: Women and Prayer, Printing a Jewish Revolution, Henry The 8th's Talmud, Devorah Romm, Was Columbus Jewish? Jews and the founding of America, 10 Lost Tribes, Ethiopians Jews, Herzl, The Kastner Trains, The 1947 UN vote, The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin

- **Miriam C. White**
- **Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

**DEPARTMENT OF
JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
מחשבה**

JPH 103–104***Finding Meaning in Prayer • Tefilla Workshop***

Connecting to prayer is a challenge that many face, despite prayer being an integral pillar of Jewish living. Learning to unlock the true power of one's Tefilla is something that takes deep understanding of the spiritual mechanics of Tefilla, both philosophical and practical. In this class we learn sources to help us build our personal world of Tefilla, our understanding of what Tefilla is, what we are saying, how to use Tefilla properly and explore practical methods of making Tefilla more meaningful, harnessing its tremendous power in our avodat Hashem and lives in general.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **or Rav Ari Shames**
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 105–106

Torat Eretz Yisrael •

The Philosophy of Religious Zionism

This is a foundation course on the philosophy of Religious Zionism. It covers four main units.

The Role of Am Yisrael – the State of Israel / the “three vows” / fixing new festivals / the Israeli Army / the Hebrew language / relations between religious and non-religious

The Redemption – with or without repentance / Mashiach Ben Yosef / signs of Geula

The Land of Israel – the center of Judaism / Torah and mitzvot / mitzvot Yishuv HaAretz / leaving Eretz Yisrael

Torah VeAvoda, Yerushalayim – Temple and Kingship, seat of Hashem, of justice, and the House of David / king, prophet, sage and priest / balance and separation of power.

- **Rav Ari Shvat**
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm (Hebrew)**
- **or Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm (English)**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 107–108

The Thought of Rav Kook

In addition to being the “Father of Religious-Zionism”, Rav Kook, the first Chief Rabbi of Israel, is considered among Jews and non-Jews alike to be one of the most original thinkers of the century. His harmonic, holistic and optimistic approach deals with just about every question and topic facing the modern Jew, and has

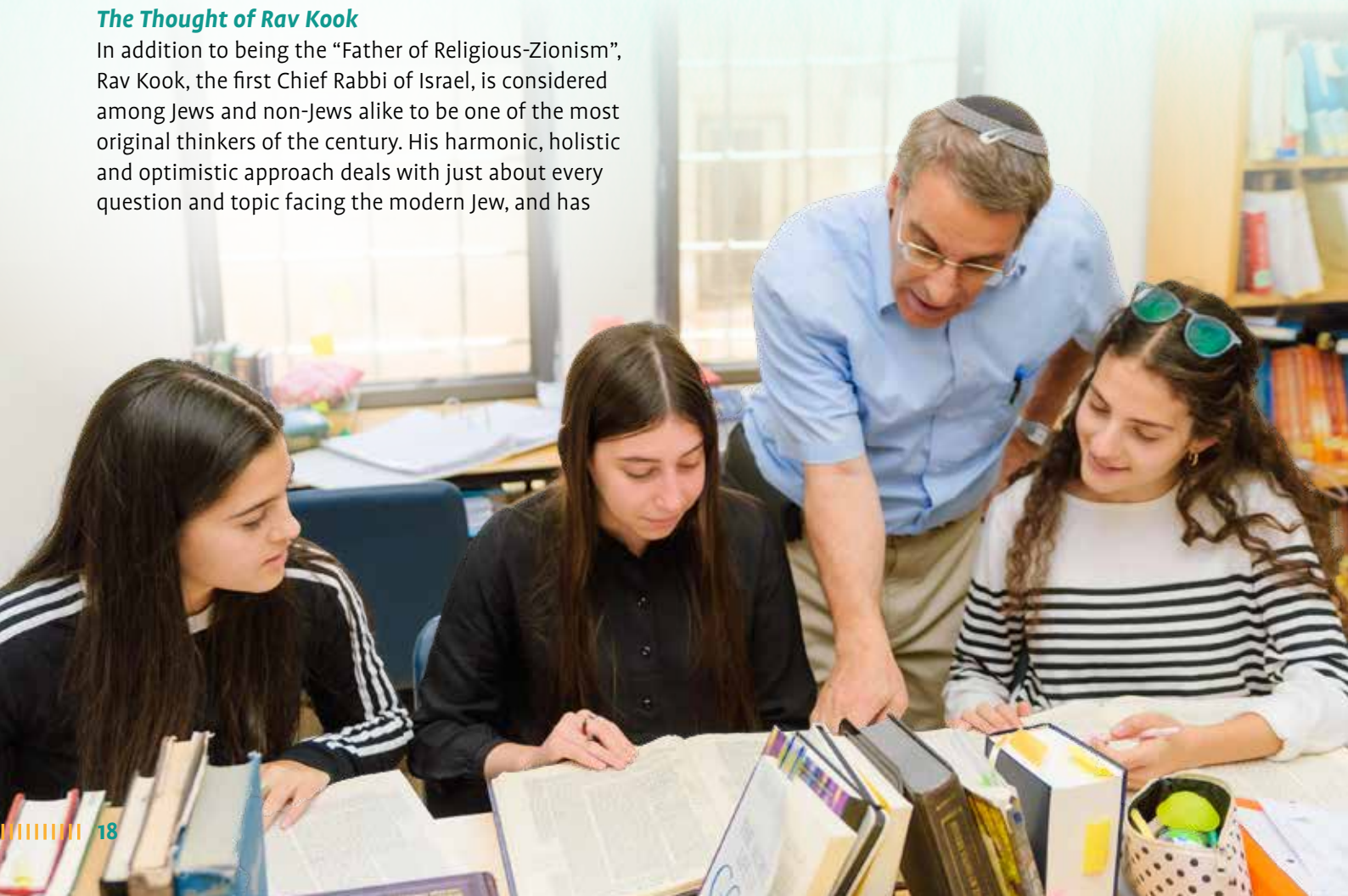
proven to be extremely popular, relevant, and inspiring to our generation. Topics are selected by Rav Shvat (one of the editors of Rav Kook’s writings!) from the most famous and classic chapters of Rav Kook’s 40 books, as well as unpublished manuscripts, including Emunah; free will; good-evil in the world; the pleasant way to Tshuva; understanding “The Generation”; parent-child relationships; vegetarianism; improving motivation to learn; understanding/identifying with the mitzvot; the beauty of history; intellect and emotion; “understanding”, love and awe of G-d; the goal of life; evolution; secular morality; why youth are so idealistic, how do you know which “hashkafa” is correct, and more.

- **Rav Ari Shvat**
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 111–112

Song of the Soul Journey

During this night seder course we will go deep into the essence of months of the year. We will be guided by one of the oldest kabbalistic books said to have been composed by Avraham Avinu, Sefer Hayetzira. Each month has a special quality and a unique energy that we can tap into. According to Sefer Hayetzirah, each month has a mazal (an astrological sign), a body part



that correlates, a middah, a tribe, a letter, etc. At the conclusion of each class, we will learn a new song that is connected to the topic and time in order to deepen our experience and to learn new Hebrew songs.

- Franny Waisman
- Thursday 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm
- 2 credits per semester

JPH 113–114

Rambam’s Thirteen Principles of Jewish Faith • “Doon’t Stop Believing”: A Journey Through the Rambam’s 13 Ikkarei Emunah

Is faith a prerequisite for Avodat Hashem? Can a Jew be an atheist and yet still be considered an observant Jew? What constitutes heresy and are there any practical issues of it nowadays? In this course we will explore the Rambam’s 13 Principles of Faith – Yud Gimmel Ikkarim (known often as “The 13 Ani Ma’amins”) and discuss the practical ramifications of each of these beliefs, where they stem from, and how they apply to our daily living as committed Jews. We will also debate and discuss whether Chazal or the Torah requires that we believe anything at all in order to be considered a religiously observant or “Torah-observant” Jew.

- Rav Akiva Weiss
- Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 115–116

Strive For Truth

This course deals with the mussar of Rav Eliyahu Dessler through his sefer, Michtav Me’Eliyahu. The following topics are discussed: truth, choice, nature, faith, and kindness.

- Rav David Milston
- Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 117–118

Messilat Yescharim • Path of the Just

We study this sefer from the very beginning, with an aim to complete an initial study by year-end. The work comprises 27 chapters including the introduction. However, our real objective is more emphatically in the qualitative area. The work is a compendium of wisdom

and real understanding of life. By intense study, and introspection, we hope to discover the pathway to Hashem.

- Rav David Milston
- Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 119–120

The Case for Judaism • Sefer HaKuzari

Sefer HaKuzari explores the greatness of the Jewish people, our connection to Eretz Yisrael and the Torah through the eyes of Rabbi Yehudah Halevi as brought to life in the record of the disputation between the Sage and the King of Kahzar. The classic text comes to life when examining themes and approaches of R. Yehuda Halevi, which often differ from the common perspective. This enables the opening of a window into the theology of Jewish sages of the early middle ages.

- Rav Akiva Weiss
- Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 125

Introduction to the Philosophy of Rav Soloveitchik

Rav Soloveitchik was one of the foremost Jewish thinkers in the 20th Century. In this course we examine some basic and recurring themes in the Rav’s philosophy, using a number of his essays, culminating with a detailed examination of his seminal work, The Lonely Man of Faith.

- Rav Yonatan Horovitz
- Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

JPH 127–128

Confronting Modernity

This is an informal course focusing on discussion of how traditional Judaism confronts modern problems. Source material is taken from classical and modern Jewish philosophers as well as articles reflecting contemporary issues of interest.

- Rav Yonatan Horovitz
- Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 129***Becoming A Better Me***

Rambam was one of the most prolific and influential Jewish scholars of the Middle Ages. He is well known for writing Mishneh Torah, Sefer Hamitzvot, Guide to the Perplexed, and so much more. During this course we will study one of his most interesting works – Hakdamah L'Shemoneh Prakim (Eight Chapters) which is his introduction to Pirkei Avot. In this work, Rambam teaches us the inner workings of what makes up the Nefesh and how to fix imbalances. Is it possible to change a character trait? Can I control my thoughts? Do I have the power to control my imagination? Can I get rid of a bad habit? Questions such as these will be answered in the first half of the course. The second half of the course will focus on important philosophical questions, such as: Why do bad things happen to good people? Do I really have free choice? How can I become a prophet?

This class is an in depth study of the text, but will also give you practical tools to work on changing negative behaviors.

- **Franny Waisman**
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

JPH 131–132***Machshava • Jewish Thought***

This foundation course discusses some of the key components of Jewish philosophy throughout the ages. Study is done through primary sources. Topics covered include Torah and Mitzvot, the place of the individual in Klal Yisrael, Torah SheBe'al Peh, and others.

- **Miriam Wolf**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

JPH 141–142***Derech Hashem • The Path of God***

This course is an in-depth analysis of Derech Hashem, a presentation of the mystical approach to understanding the way God runs the world and the purpose of our existence. We will compare Derech Hashem to other works of Ramchal, and to differing approaches within the world of Jewish thought.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 143–144***Ethics of Our Fathers***

In this course we analytically study the text of the mishnayot from the tractate Avot. Using the symbolic, structured and metaphoric nature of the chosen texts, we are able to glean the integral lessons of our ancestors as they apply to our lives as Jews.

This course is also numbered **TAL 123–124**.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 152***By His Light • The Thought of Rav Aharon Lichtenstein***

Rav Aharon Lichtenstein was one of the most eloquent and refined Jewish thinkers of recent times. In this course, we gain insight into his philosophy and ideas. We study several of his English essays which will also allow us to explore the analytical method Rav Lichtenstein employs when discussing complex concepts.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

JPH 153-154

Chassidic Thought in a Modern Age • Writings of the Rebbe of Piaseczna

This course focuses on an array of topics that are discussed in the many writings of the Rebbe of Piaseczna HY"D. The Rebbe had a major following before the war, ran an underground Shul in the Warsaw Ghetto (where his sermons were later published), and was then murdered in a concentration camp. Topics covered include Jewish education in the modern era, dealing with difficulty, building faith, meditation, and many more.

- Rav Akiva Weiss
- Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 156

Issues of Faith • Big Questions People Ask

Using a variety of sources, this course examines basic issues of faith. Both text and discussion are utilized. Topics discussed include: proving the existence of God, the Chosenness of Israel, the truth of the Torah, defining emunah, man and his destiny, free choice, evil in the world, repentance, understanding mitzvot, life after death, and other topics of interest raised by the students.

- Rav Yonny Sack
- Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

JPH 159-160

Writings of Rav Samson Raphael Hirsch

In this course we will deal with the historical background of the Jewish community in 19th century Europe during the period of Enlightenment, as well as the Hirschian concept of "Torah im Derech Eretz". We will be focusing primarily on Rav Hirsch's seminal first work The Nineteen Letters as well as selected essays

and excerpts of Chovev and his Commentary on the Torah. We will discuss the spirit of Judaism and the role of mitzvot as well as the significance of justice and love as primary goals in our Avodat Hashem.

- Atara Starr
- Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 163-164

The Philosophy of Rabbi Yitzhak Hutner • Pachad Yitzchak

Our course will examine the fascinating insights of Rav Yitzchak Hutner through his writings in the Pachad Yitzchak. This work is a unique distillation of philosophically oriented drashot organized around the holidays. We will explore his profound ideas as they relate to each of the holidays in its proper time. We will also take time to understand Rav Hutner's personal haskafa by examining his correspondence, and other writings and delving into the historical influences on his writing and life.

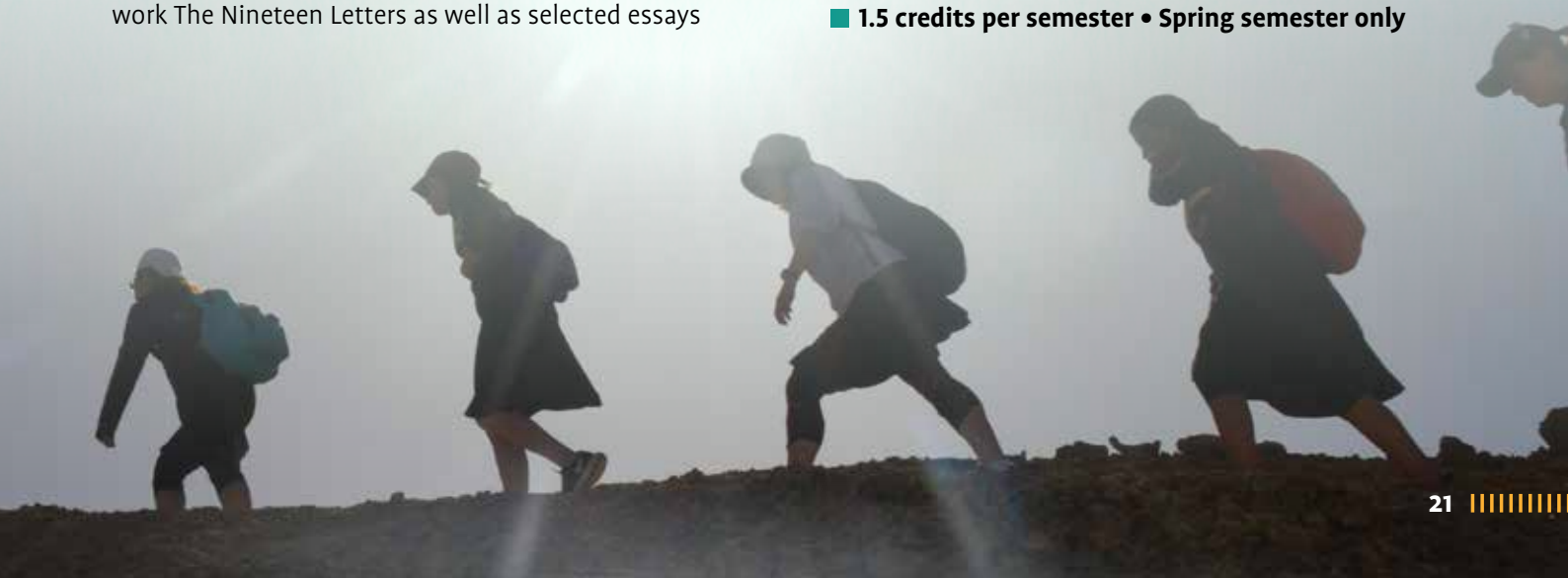
- Rav Akiva Weiss
- Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JPH 166

Torat Ha'Isha Special Edition • Women in Modern Society

It is common for students to take courses in high school focussing on Women and Judaism. In this course we revisit some of these topics, and study them in depth from new perspectives. Sources such as Tanach, the Maharal, Sefat Emet, Rav Kook and others, shed light on these issues. Topics discussed include, Tzniut, Beauty, Relationships and many others.

- Miriam Wolf
- Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only



JPH 167**Morality**

In this course, we will study “Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times” by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

“A free society is a moral achievement. Over the past fifty years in the West this truth has been forgotten, ignored, or denied.”

With liberal democracy embattled, public discourse grown toxic, family life breaking down, and drug abuse and depression on the rise, many fear what the future holds.

In *Morality*, Rabbi Sacks traces today’s crisis to our loss of a strong, shared moral code and our elevation of self-interest over the common good... Rabbi Sacks shows that there is no liberty without morality and no freedom without responsibility, arguing that we must all play our part in rebuilding a common moral foundation. It is about ‘Us,’ not ‘Me’; about ‘We,’ not ‘I.’

The class will be in a book club format. Participants will be required to read a chapter a week before the scheduled class. Our class time will be spent unpacking the chapter, and discussing the big ideas that are presented in the text. In addition, we will construct plans of action to “walk the walk”, and partner in Rabbi Sacks’ inspiring vision of a world in which we can all find our place and face the future without fear.

- **Dara Unterberg**
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

JPH 169–170**The Masters of Mussar (Ethics)**

This class delves into the awe-inspiring lives, Torah teachings, and guidance of the angels amongst men known as the Baalei HaMussar (Masters of Mussar). These men set out to revive, restore and inspire the Jewish heart and soul through a spiritual revolution focused on sincere spiritual growth known as the Mussar Movement. From the Torah and lives of such spiritual giants as Rav Yisrael Salanter, the Alter of Kelm, the Alter of Slobodka and many others we will discover the unique sincerity, passion, soul and integrity that exemplify Mussar teachings, with the goal of awakening our own authentic inner soul connection to Hashem and His Torah.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 171–172**The Book of Tanya**

The Book of Tanya, written by Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, the founder of the Chabad Lubavitch Chassidic dynasty, is recognized as one of the basic guides to the philosophy of Chassidut in general and to the philosophy of Chassidut Lubavitch in particular. In this course we attempt to understand the “Torah of the Soul” of Lubavitch, as well as examine the path of a loyal Jew and his inner conflicts as seen by this sect of Chassidim.

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**



JPH 173-174***Relationships Through Kabbalah***

The drive for love is something embedded deep within the fibers of our soul. But what is it? How do I find it? And when I find it, how do I keep it? What is the secret to building a strong relationship of love that will last? In this course we will study the deeply powerful book “Ahava” by Rav Yitzchak Ginsburg. We will learn the different stages of building a strong relationship before and after marriage based on the eleven sefirot of Kabbalah. Each stage has special qualities and lessons that will change the way we view the concept of “love” and help us understand the internal work necessary in creating and sustaining a healthy marital relationship.

- **Franny Waisman**
- **Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 177-178***The Jewish Self***

This class builds a deeply spiritual yet practical guide to genuine connection in Avodat Hashem through delving into a wide range of sources from the Mussar classics to Chassidut. Through the course we learn to understand the deeper psychological and spiritual mechanics of the Jewish Self and how to use this self-knowledge to attain and reveal holiness, purity and sincerity in all aspects of life.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 181-182***Mixed Messages***

A balanced perspective often emerges from a mental tug of war between (seemingly) opposing values or ideas. ‘Mixed Messages’ is a deep dive into the analysis of various dialectics in Jewish thought. Featuring sources from Tanach to today, we’ll try on all sides for size to find the balance that fits right!

- **Orit Reiter**
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 183-184***Introduction to Chassidic Thought***

Chassidic Torah is known to inspire, revive and inflame Jewish souls with passion, joy and deep devotion. As the modern Jew searches for meaningful connection to Torah, Chassidut provides a profoundly deep, practical, authentic spiritual system of Torah thought. This course enables students to taste of the warmth, joy, passion, and intellectual and spiritual depth of Chassidic Torah thought, opening the door to new dimensions of understanding and connection.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 185-186***Soul Mates: A Deeper Look at Men and Women***

This class builds a clear and profound understanding of the spiritual root of gender and works to apply this knowledge to the practical Jewish pathway to relationships and marriage. Topics such as what is love, platonic relationships, dating, soul mates, and marriage are all examined in depth as a means of gaining greater insight into this critical subject.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Sunday 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm**
- **This class is not for credit**





JPH 190

Likutei Moharan

Likutei Moharan is the collected teachings and arguably the most important work of Rebbe Nachman of Breslev. It is the fundamental text of Breslever Chassidim, and one of the most influential works in the Chassidic world in general. The book is a collection of lessons, each of which is referred to as a “Torah” by Rebbe Nachman, and compiled by his foremost disciple, Rebbe Natan. The first part of the book was printed in 1808, during the lifetime of Rebbe Nachman, while the second part was printed separately, only after his passing in 1810. Likutei Moharan is neither a textbook nor a commentary; the lessons therein contain Rebbe Nachman’s perceptions of the essence of reality, garbed in wisdom and packaged in a way that will enable us to gain access to these perceptions in a manner appropriate to the student’s capacity and spiritual level. Thus, each discourse is a complete path, tailor-made to every student in every moment. We will be learning a chosen selection of Torah from this exceptional sefer.

■ **Franny Waisman**

■ **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**

■ **1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

JPH 191–192

The Thought of Rav Nachman of Breslav

Towards the end of his life Rebbe Nachman said to his followers, “All these years, I have been teaching you

Torah, but many things you have just been unable to grasp – so now, I will tell you stories...” In this course we explore the teachings of Rebbe Nachman of Breslev through the exploration of his ‘Sippurey Maasiyot’, a collection of stories he told over to his students, compiled by his primary disciple Rav Natan of Breslev. Wildly imaginative, often funny and more often perplexing, these stories – while entertaining – are laden with mysterious parables communicating deep teachings and life lessons in Avodat Hashem.

■ **Rav David Milston**

■ **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

■ **1.5 credits per semester**

JPH 197–198

Tikkun HaMiddot

In this class students discover an organized practical approach and guide to working on one’s inner self. The course systematically works through a wide range of the fundamental Middot (character traits) which guide our thoughts, actions, speech and avodat Hashem in every aspect of our lives. A wide range of classical Torah, Mussar and Chassidic sources are studied in depth with emphasis placed on drawing out a relevant and very practical working guide to personal spiritual growth.

■ **Rav Yonny Sack**

■ **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**

■ **or Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**

■ **1.5 credits per semester**

DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH STUDIES

הלכה ויהדות

JUD 101-102

Hilchot Shabbat • Laws of the Sabbath

This is a thorough and intensive course in which all aspects of Shabbat are studied in depth. Together with texts, we explore all the positive and negative mitzvot of Shabbat. Our aim is to cover all Halachic aspects of Shabbat in a complete manner as well as delving into Chassidic insights to the holiness of Shabbat.

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **or Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 103-104

Hilchot Shabbat • Laws of the Sabbath • Advanced Level

This course offers an in-depth study of hilchot Shabbat, firmly based in the primary sources, and their application to present day issues. The course requires an ability to read the Shulchan Aruch with the Mishna Brura.

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 107-108

Hilchot Kashrut • Dietary Laws

This is a thorough course covering all aspects of kashrut. We explore important issues such as hechsherim, halachic problems with milk and meat in the kitchen, food prepared by non-Jews, bugs in food, and general kashrut issues. Upon completing the course one should know how to keep kosher in the best possible way.

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **or Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 109-110

Hilchot Kashrut • Dietary Laws • Advanced Level

This course offers an in-depth study of hilchot Kashrut. We learn the major topics in Kashrut from the Gemara through the rishonim and Shulchan Aruch focusing on halacha lemaaseh.

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 115-116

Personal Status in Jewish Law

This course deals with areas that affect the personal status of a Jew. The aim is to develop a deep halachic understanding of the issues of marriage, conversion, adoption and many other interpersonal issues.

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 119-120

Shemirat HaLashon • Laws of Slander

This course delves into the Halachot and the deeper spiritual mechanics of the words we speak. We learn the halachic work, Chafetz Chayim, and its Mussar accompaniment, Sefer Shemirat HaLashon, both by Rav Yisrael Meir Ha Kohen Kagan, in depth as well as other Torah sources on this topic. The course gives students the halachic know-how and inspiration to work toward completely refining their speech, focusing also on the motivations behind how we communicate and the true power of words.

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm • Fall semester only**
- **1.5 credits per semester**





JUD 125–126

Contemporary Issues in Jewish Law

In this class we follow the path of the modern-day posek and discover, through the texts that he would have used, the modern application of our previously established halachic rulings. Averaging a new question every two classes, we learn through the relevant texts, understanding the principle to be gleaned from each of them and then applying them, step-by-step, to our halachic query. Issues addressed include: Can a kohen who caused a fatal driving accident join in blessing the congregation? Are dolls idolatrous? Can one join a minyan over the internet? Is an electric blanket prohibited on Shabbat?

- Rav Jonathan Bailey
- Sunday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- or Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JUD 127–128

Torat Ha'Isha • Women in Modern Society

In this course we discuss issues pertinent to women in modern society. Special attention is paid to the interaction between religious and modern values, as well as possible conflicts between them.

- Dr. Judith Fogel
- Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am
- or Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm
- or Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JUD 129–130

Bekiut Halacha • Survey of Basic Concepts in Jewish Law

This class, which focuses on independent Beit Midrash study, is designed to give participants a wide breadth of knowledge of Jewish Law, as well as to teach skills required for independent study of the Mishna Berura. The Basic/Intermediate section uses the Peninai Halacha as a primary text. The Intermediate section uses the Mishna Berura as a primary text while the advanced section uses the Aruch HaShulchan as its primary text.

- Rav Ari Shames (Basic/Intermediate)
- Rav Michael Susman (Intermediate)
- Rav Jonathan Bailey (Advanced)
- Sunday 9:00 am – 9:50 am,
- Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:50 am
- 3 credits per semester

JUD 129A–130A

Practical Halacha • Survey of Basic Concepts in Jewish Law

This course works through a wide range of relevant, practical halachic topics, learning from the primary sources down to the practical halachic conclusions with an emphasis on clarity and understanding in daily observance. Students also learn sources that reveal some of the depth behind the halachic practice learned, building a meaningful connection to observance.

- Rav Yonny Sack
- Sunday 2:45 PM – 3:50 pm
- 1.5 credits per semester

JUD 129B–130B

Practical Halacha • Survey of Basic Concepts in Jewish Law/Oriental Communities

This course is similar to JUD 129A–130A but emphasis is placed on the practice of Edot Mizrah (Oriental) communities, using the positions of Maran Rav Ovadiah Yosef and Rav Mordechai Eliyahu as a template.

- Rav Michael Susman
- Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm
- 1.5 credit per semester

JUD 137-138***Bein Isha LaMakom • Defining The Changeless Relationship Between Woman and God in Changing Times***

In this class we will cover the role of women in ritual observance – specifically those that take place in the community, the Beit Knesset, and the private home – through an examination of Talmudic sources, responsa, and articles.

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 139-140***Mitzvot: Why and How?***

As a special amalgamation of practical halacha and meaningful symbolism, this class explores the mitzvot of our chagim along with a collection of the mitzvot we commonly observe. The learning of each mitzvah includes the practical, relevant step-by-step process of how to perform these mitzvot correctly, along with an elucidation of the mitzvah's symbolic significance based on the Torah's descriptions. Note: Halachic practices to be discussed will generally reflect Ashkenazi tradition.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 147-148***Positively Shabbat***

In this class we will explore the positive aspects of our observance of shabbat. From the weekday preparations to the actual kiddush, meals and special tefillot, we will look for the varied levels of meaning in everything that we do in order to enhance our connection and commitment to this precious gift of Shabbat.

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday 4:15 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 149***The Jewish Ethicist***

Over the course of our lifetimes, we are confronted with innumerable ethical challenges. How do we respond to them? How much guidance can we in fact

draw from traditional sources? How do we react if those sources seem to send us in different directions than the ethical compass of contemporary society might suggest? In this class we will employ a source based approach to the Torah view of various moral and ethical issues and, where relevant, contrast our conclusions with the conclusions of contemporary ethicists.

- **Rav Michael Susman**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

JUD 151***Discovering Texts***

In this course we have a unique opportunity to explore and elucidate some of Judaism's fundamental concepts through Torah texts and World Literature. Employing poems from poets such as Wordsworth, Donne and Blake, excerpts from Shakespeare's plays, a variety of short stories along with many other samplings of great literature, the precepts of our faith, religion, philosophy and thought are more deeply understood and appreciated. This class involves a heavy focus on textual analysis of all the texts we will study.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**
- **This is a one-semester course**

JUD 162***Medical Ethics***

When does life begin? When and how does it end? Can one donate a kidney while still alive? What about terminating a pregnancy? In this course we study the classic and modern sources that answer these and many more questions in the fascinating and relevant area of medicine and halachah and discover an exciting interface between ancient texts and the most modern medical treatments.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 165–166

Minhagim and their Origins

This class is an exploration of various minhagim, concentrating on tracing the evolution of each particular minhag and the reasons behind it. The focus will be on minhagim associated with the holidays – connecting the study of particular minhagim with chagim as they occur. We will also explore minhagim of the Jewish life-cycle. Over the course of the year we will gain a deeper understanding of the unique role minhagim have in Jewish life.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

JUD 181

Know What to Answer • Da Mah L'Hashiv

This course tackles some of the questions that really bother people about traditional Judaism. The problems can be intellectual, moral, or emotional. We examine a range of answers from classic and contemporary sources. “Da Ma L'Hashiv” means “Know what to answer” to challenges to the Torah and Judaism – whether the challenger is your college roommate or the person in the mirror

- **Miriam Wolf**
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only**

DEPARTMENT OF TALMUD תורה שבעל פה

Important Note: Students register for courses **101–109** based on skill level. The topics covered may vary from year to year; second year students may therefore register for the same course they have taken previously.

TAL 101–102

Talmud Trifecta

You can have it all! We will divide our morning between three areas of study. Get your engine started with mishnayot, then learn selected parts of the Gemara that deal with hashkafic matters (topics in Jewish thought) and end with the writings of the Rambam. The focus will be on acquiring textual skills as well as a wide base of knowledge. Suitable for beginners and people who aren't into Gemara.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

TAL 102A

Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Beginner Level

This course introduces the uninitiated into the world of Gemara. Gemara is primarily a sophisticated study of Mishna by Amoraim. Gemara analyzes Mishna and its relationship with Braita. It then engages in halachic analytic discussion based upon the earlier sources. Therefore, the course begins with the in-depth study of Mishna, focusing on certain basic skills: understanding mishnayot, identifying the structure of a mishna and its central arguments, tracing wider trans-perek and masechet themes. Our Gemara study aims to familiarize students with the page of the Gemara, its language, and style. Emphasis is placed on both understanding the text and the halachic process.

- **Rav Michael Susman**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester • Spring semester only**

TAL 103-104***Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Intermediate Level***

This course is designed for students who have had some exposure to the study of Gemara but do not feel that they are yet prepared for a higher level class. Emphasis is placed upon acquiring reading skills as well as following the Gemara's development of an issue and then tracing that issue's resolution in Halacha.

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

TAL 105-106***Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Intermediate Level***

This class has two basic goals: the development of the student's ability to independently read Gemara (every word, start to finish) and the intensive and careful learning of the text of the Gemara itself. The former is achieved through a system that focuses on the repeated structures, words and phrases of all Gemara, therein giving the student the ability to recognize and punctuate any Gemara she may see in the course of her study; the latter trains the student in her ability to truly recognize the motivation, meaning and direction of the Gemara's complex arguments. While Rishonim are used throughout the course of the year, the main focus is the intense study of the Gemara text, with a complement of Rashi and Tosfot. Some of the themes to be addressed include: The origin, concept, approaches and halachot regarding muktzah; the history behind one vs. two days of Yom Tov and why we can't 'fix it' today; application of several melachot of Shabbat, including squeezing and picking fruit; the intricate concepts of nullification of prohibited objects ('issur ve'heter'); why we have two days of Rosh Hashanah even in Israel.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

TAL 105A-106A***Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Upper Intermediate Level***

This class focuses on the development of skills in the study of Gemara and analysis of Talmudic language.

The thrust of the course is based on self-study with lectures devoted to reinforcing independently prepared material while more thoroughly developing the topics encountered. The year's plan is to study, in-depth, the tractate of Rosh Hashanah. Students are expected to devote time independent of official class hours in order to cover all assigned material.

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **4 credits per semester**

TAL 107-108***Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Advanced level***

This course is designed for students who are interested in devoting a substantial part of their year to developing their Talmudic skills far beyond their present state. The aim is to reach a high level of learning independence through the mastery of Talmudic texts. The bulk of time will be devoted to self-(chavruta) study of the Gemara text with Rashi and Tosafot. Class time supplements self-study by assuring a thorough understanding of what was learned, while also introducing additional material. Emphasis is placed on constant revision (chazara) as a tool for retaining material and developing independent study skills.

- **Rav Avigdor Meyerowitz (Hebrew)**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
- **5 credits per semester**

TAL 111-112***Bekiut Gemara • Talmud Survey***

Students study selected chapters of the Talmud covering a variety of subject matter in order to acquire a wider perspective of Talmudic concepts and methodology. We start with Masechet Megillah, with the goal of completing two masechtot by the end of the year.

- **Rav Avigdor Meyerowitz**
- **Sunday 9:00 am – 9:50 am,**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
- **Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:50 am**
- **4 credits per semester**

TAL 123–124***Ethics of Our Fathers***

This course is identical to **JPH 143–144**.

TAL 129–130***Before There Was Talmud •
Recreating Talmudic Methodology***

We strive to create our 'own' Gemara, thinking like the Amoraim thought as they elucidated the Mishnayot. This is not an exercise in recreating a Gemara, but rather, by employing similar thought-processes, allows for a deeper understanding of the truncated language of the Mishnayot.

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

TAL 133–134***Aggadata • Talmudic Legends***

Study the strange and exciting legends, stories and teachings that make up the non-halachic portions of the Talmud. Each week we will study and analyze together classic and less well known legend (aggadic) portions from the Talmud, and see what they come to

teach and how they were understood throughout the ages.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Monday 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**

TAL 137–138***Aggadic and Halachic Literature
within the Talmud • The GOAT Sugyot:
23 of the Greatest Sugyot in Shas***

In this course we will explore a significant number of "core", well-known sugyot in Sha"s which each reflect deeper philosophical or theological ideas and principles with riveting practical consequence. Each week will consist of a new sugya and topic to be explored. Sugyot, which may be familiar, will be shown to have deeper ideas, dilemmas, and challenges that Chaza"l were trying to teach. You will learn these sugyot inside the gemara and master them by exploring the issues associated with each and get to the bottom of what was really being discussed. We will cover a minimum of 8 pivotal sugyot that address real-life issues and dilemmas that all human beings will necessarily encounter at some point in their lives.

- **Rav Akiva Weiss**
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **1.5 credits per semester**



Academic Opportunities

Bekiut Program

As a cornerstone of the study program at the Midrasha, a strong emphasis is placed on developing a wide breadth of knowledge and skills in basic areas of Jewish Studies. All students are required to register for a section of Bekiut Halacha (**JUD 129–130**), Bekiut Gemara (**TAL 111–112**) or Bekiut Nach (**BIB 123–124**) every Sunday and Wednesday, and Bekiut Torah (**BIB 110–111**) every Monday and Thursday. In addition, students may take an optional course in Bekiut Mishna (**TAL 113–114**). These survey courses all emphasize mastery of a wide range of material in each of these topics, as well as the development of skills for independent study of basic texts in each area.

Seder Erev

Seder Erev offers a range of study options designed to appeal to the varied interests of our students. Consult the course listings for further information. Seder Erev runs from 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Sunday and Tuesday through Thursday evenings. Faculty members – Dr. Judith Fogel, Rav Yonatan Horovitz and Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg – supervise the Seder Erev program. Attendance is mandatory.

Israeli Chavrutot

Students in the Overseas Program study a topic of their choice with a chavruta from the Israeli program. Students register for this Chavruta as part of the overall course registration process.

Judaism Through the Creative Arts

For students who are creative, having opportunities to explore and express their Torah values and insights, as well as their developing spirituality creatively is profoundly valuable. In response to the growing number of creative young women who join the Midrasha every year, we have developed courses allowing students to explore and expand their artistic and writing skills within their studies at the Midrasha. All courses in the Creative Arts program are designed to help students develop their skills in the specific

art form and learn techniques that they can use to enhance their experience of learning and living as Jewish women. Where it is appropriate, we explore the halachik issues that might arise for religious creatives.

In “Artistic Expression” students learn a variety of artistically expressive techniques and experiment with materials, styles and mediums including painting, sculpture and drawing as well as paper cutting and calligraphy. Students produce their own art pieces and sometimes create an exhibit or production together on a shared theme. Students are encouraged to create personal projects and develop their own private portfolios, engaging in research in preparation for each work of art. Attention is paid to the Jewish calendar year, with related art projects that will reflect the nature of the Chagim, as well as to themes in Jewish art.

“The Written Word” is a hands-on writing workshop where students learn techniques for greater creative written expression while exploring the relationship of the written word to their inner spiritual life. Writing topics include those related to the Jewish yearly cycle and those that arise from the learning. “The Written Word - Journaling” teaches structured journaling techniques, integrating our Jewish knowledge, which helps us study, understand and consider what shapes our life, and how we might use what we have learned as we move forward. All Written Word classes involve an opening exercise, time for writing, and time for sharing in order to deepen our exploratory work.

In addition we will be offering Music as one of our creative options. Musical students will be invited to join a choir. For those who are interested in continuing to learn a musical instrument - the Midrasha will help facilitate lessons and provide a space for those lessons. The expense for individual lessons are not included in tuition and will be the responsibility of the student. If there is a group of interested students we will offer a master class and opportunities to play, explore and perform music together.

The inspiring location of the Midrasha allows our work to be influenced on a spiritual level that only the Old City of Jerusalem can provide. We are privileged to be studying and participating in creative endeavors at

this historic time and the Creative Arts program aims to reflect this.

Guest Speakers

Throughout the year, guest speakers are regularly invited to address the student body. The speakers include rabbanim, educators, as well as leaders and scholars from a wide variety of areas. This part of the schedule provides the students with an excellent opportunity to meet, talk to and interact with prominent personalities from Israel and the Diaspora, as well as to be exposed to topics and ideas not included in the weekly timetable.

Shiur Klali

Shiur Klali takes place on Mondays from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. The shiur, generally given by Rav Milston, focuses on Parashat HaShavua. Attendance is mandatory for all students.

Hitnadvut – Voluntary Work

An integral part of the educational program at the Midrasha consists of volunteer work. Hitnadvut opportunities include but are not limited to assisting the aged, the sick or handicapped children and their parents, and tutoring in English. The Midrasha is proud to partner with the Kedma Volunteer Program in order to ensure that all of our students are placed in fulfilling volunteer work positions.

Tiyulim

The educational philosophy of Midreshet HaRova stresses the link between Eretz Yisrael and Torat Yisrael. In order to strengthen this link, there are a number of one, two and three-day tiyulim over the course of the year. Tiyulim span the length and breadth of the

country and are designed to enable our students to connect to the land in a hands on way. Participation in all tiyulim is mandatory.

Poland Trip

The Midrasha conducts two yearly trips to Poland, one in the winter or spring for Northern Hemisphere students and the second during the summer, in conjunction with the MTA program, for Southern Hemisphere students. The trips focus on both the beauty and legacy of the Jewish community of Eastern Europe, as well as on the destruction of that community at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators. Trip participants are required to dedicate several hours to special preparatory lectures prior to their departure, as well as prepare ceremonies and presentations which are given in Poland. The cost of the trip is not included in tuition. (There is no additional charge for MTA participants.)



Zionism Seminar

The Zionism Seminar (Zeminar) program offers an enriching in-depth seminar experience focusing on the development of Zionism and the Modern State of Israel for Northern Hemisphere students who choose not to participate in the Poland Trip. The Zeminar takes students through an historical and visual tour of the events, places and people which made the modern State of Israel possible – from visits to the museums connected to the founders and movements at the start of the State, to places as far as the Golan and Acco and as close as Har Herzl and the Knesset. Students learn about the challenging circumstances that were overcome while building the State, and the astonishing transformation to the Israel that is today, while enriching their understanding of and identification with the Land and its people. There is no additional charge for participation in the Zionism Seminar.

Special Study Options

Students in the Overseas Program can take advantage of additional study options beyond the standard timetable. Participation on these tracks is contingent upon approval of the program director.

Beit Midrash Option – Independent Study

Students may choose this option for any time other than Sunday, Monday, Wednesday or Thursday mornings from 10:05 pm – 12:45 pm and from 5:30 pm - 6:40 pm. Participation in this option involves mentored independent study. Participating students may be required to submit a project or paper on the topic studied. Credits will be granted either in parallel to existing courses or, in the case of students who are taking that course, as increased credit for the course. It is therefore possible for a student to earn an extra credit and a half beyond the stated credit value of a given course if she submits additional work done independent of the required course work.

Second Year Program

The second year program is designed to allow students who wish to dedicate another year to learning, the opportunity to develop to the utmost. Each second year student personally designs a program of study

with the program director in order to ensure that she meets her personal goals. Second year students may take advantage of a series of courses designed especially for them, or enter any first year class of their choice. Second year classes are numbered **200** and above, and registration in these classes is limited to second year students only.

Seminars

In addition to the regular schedule of shiurim, Midreshet HaRova sponsors a number of annual seminars.

Past seminar topics have included: Zionism, the Holocaust, Yerushalayim, the Evolving Role of Women in Judaism, Jewish Business Ethics, and the Jew in the Modern World.

All seminars involve Midrasha staff, experts in relevant fields and renowned Torah personalities. Participation in these seminars is mandatory, unless otherwise noted.



General Information

Shabbatot

Shabbat at the Midrasha is an unforgettable experience. The seudot, combined with tefilla at the Kotel, create a truly spiritual atmosphere, unique to the Midrasha. Shabbat is shared with faculty members and their families who spend Shabbat with the students, giving shiurim and leading discussions and activities.

Shabbatot spent outside the Old City provide our students with the opportunity to encounter different segments of Israeli society and experience Israel in an exciting, yet very real fashion. The Hadracha team supplements these Shabbatot with varied educational activities.

There is generally a Midrasha shabbat once every three weeks. Students are expected to attend all of these Shabbatot. In the case of a conflict with a family simcha, or other event, permission may be received to miss a maximum of three shabbatot. The dates of Midrasha Shabbatot can be found in the annual schedule printed in this catalog.

Guests on Shabbat

The Midrasha is always happy to enable its students to invite guests for Shabbat. However, space limitations require that this be coordinated with the Eim Bayit. Guests may only be invited for scheduled in-Shabbatot.

Living Arrangements

For the 5784 Academic Year all students will be housed in area apartments. Students are provided with three daily tasty and nutritionally balanced meals. Meals are served only at the times indicated on the schedule. Students are required to participate in various toranuyot.

Please remember that the Midrasha is your home. Students are expected to keep both their rooms and all public areas neat and clean.

Security

For security reasons the doors of all Midrasha buildings are locked at all times. Students will be given the code necessary to enter the buildings. **Under no circumstances should these codes be given to anyone outside the Midrasha.**

There is a daily curfew of **12:15 am** which is strictly enforced. Students must be in any one of the Midrasha buildings by the designated time. At the time of curfew, the Madrichot check that all students are in. It is each student's responsibility to ensure that she has been checked in. In case of breach of this critical security regulation, the program director will, in the company of the offending student, contact that student's parents and inform them that if the situation recurs, the Midrasha will have no option other than to ask the student to leave.

Students who are travelling for Shabbat, must note this on the 'Shabbat list' no later than 12:45 pm on Wednesday afternoon. Students must leave an additional phone number at which they can be reached before they leave for Shabbat. Please note that these rules are purely a security matter and are for your own safety.

Men are not allowed either inside or in front of the Midrasha, or in Midrasha housing, at any time.

Security regulations are continually reviewed and updated in light of the security situation in Israel. Any changes to the regulations will be communicated to both students and their parents in a clear and timely fashion. Students who fail to adhere to posted regulations are subject to action, up to and including suspension from the program.

Dress and Behavior

The Midrasha believes that Tzniyut is a central value in Judaism, for both men and women. The educational philosophy of the Midrasha views modesty in dress and behavior as a reflection of internalized values and not of an imposed code. Nonetheless, students often find general guidelines helpful. Students at the Midrasha are required to wear skirts that cover the knee, even when seated. Tight skirts, or skirts with excessive slits (ie. slits above the knee) are unacceptable. All shirts must have sleeves covering the elbow, and appropriate necklines. Shirts should

not rise above the top of the skirt at any time. Tight shirts of any kind are inappropriate, and necklines should minimally come near the collarbone. If clothing is layered, please be certain that there are no gaps between the layers of clothing. Ear piercings are permitted; all other body piercings are considered inappropriate for Midrasha students. Visiting pubs, smoking, drinking, and use of any controlled substance are strictly forbidden and are grounds for immediate dismissal from the program. It goes without saying that students are expected to adhere to these norms at all times, whether the Midrasha is in session or not.



Midreshet HaRova Faculty



HaRav David Milston Rosh HaMidrasha

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Har Etzion; BA, Jewish Studies, Jews College; Teachers Certificate, Machon Herzog



HaRav Asher Manning

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Kollel Halacha, Yeshivat Har Etzion; Yeshivat Har Etzion; Yeshivat Maalot; B.ED, Teacher's Certificate, Herzog College



Dr. Yocheved Debow Menahalet

Michlalah; PhD, Bar Ilan University; MA, BA, Psychology, Hebrew University; Teaching Certificate for the Diaspora, Michlalah



HaRav Avigdor Meyerowitz

Yeshivat Beit El



HaRav Jonathan Bailey

Semicha, HaRav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg and The Joseph Straus Rabbinical Seminary; Yeshivat Hamivtar-Orot Lev; Yeshivat Shaarei Mevasseret Zion; BA, English Literature, Yeshiva University



Orit Reiter

Michlelet Mevasseret Yerushalayim; MSW, MS, Jewish Education, BA, Judaic Studies, Yeshiva University; Certifications: Mental Health First Aid Responder, Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse, School Violence Prevention and Intervention, Trauma Informed Practice



HaRav David Berg

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Beit El; Kolel Meretz; Teachers Certificate, Lifschitz Institute



HaRav Zvi Ron

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Shaalvim; Sha'al Rabbinic and Educational Leadership Institute; Doctorate, Jewish Theology, Spertus University; BA, Counseling Psychology, Empire State College



Dr. Judith Fogel

Yoetzet Halacha, Nishmat; MA, Jewish History, Hebrew University; Bruria Scholar, Midreshet Lindenbaum; BA, Religion, Education, Columbia University, Barnard College



HaRav Yonatan (Yonny) Sack

Semicha, HaRav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg; Yeshivat HaMivtar; Yeshivat Har Etzion; Teaching Certificate, Machon Herzog; BA, Marketing, University of Technology, Sydney



Rachel Himelstein

Michlalah Yerushalayim; University of Middlesex; Teacher's Certificate, Special Education, English and Toshba, Michlalah Yerushalayim; BEd, Bible and Education, Michlelet Herzog



HaRav Ari Shames

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Har Etzion; BA, Psychology, Bar-Ilan University



HaRav Yonatan Horovitz

Semicha, Yeshivat Har Etzion; BA, Jewish Studies, Jews' College



HaRav Ari Shvat

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Ohr Etzion; MA equivalent, Herzog Institute



Atara Starr

Michlalah Yerushalayim; MA, Jewish Education, BA Jewish Studies, Yeshiva University



HaRav Michael Susman

Semicha, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary; Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh; MS, Secondary Jewish Education, BA, Political Science, Yeshiva University



HaRav Aviad Tabory

Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Teacher's Degree, Herzog College; Amiel Rabbinic Training, Ohr Torah; Yeshivat Or Etzion; Yeshivat Har Etzion



Dara Unterberg

Drisha Institute, Bruriah Scholar, Midreshet Lindenbaum, Michlalah Yerushalayim; BA, Judaic Studies, BS, Psychology, Yeshiva University



HaRav Michael Unterberg

Semicha, Rabbi Isaac Elchanon Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University; BA Philosophy, Yeshiva University



Franny Waisman

Midreshet HaRova; BEd, Machshevet Yisrael and Tanach, Herzog College; Tour Guide Certification, Lander College



Yakira Wald

BEd, Orot Israel College for Women; BA Psychology, UNISA



HaRav Akiva Weiss

Semicha, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah; Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavne; BA Psychology, Touro College; Certificate, M2 Institute for Experiential Jewish Education, Senior Educators Cohort I



Miriam C. White

Michlelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim; MA, Jewish Education, BA, Judaic Studies, Yeshiva University



Miriam Wolf

MA, Jewish Studies, Touro College, Jerusalem; BA, Psychology, Northeastern Illinois University; Teachers Certificate, Orot Israel College

ADMINISTRATION



Jeremy Kurnedz
Executive Director

Yeshivat Har Etzion; BSc, Economics, University of London



Leille Lapp
Assistant Eim Bayit

Midreshet Danielli; BA Psychology, Bar Ilan University



Rachel Prais
Eim Bayit

Midreshet HaRova; BA in History, UCL; MA candidate, Jewish Education



Leiba Smith
Office Manager

Midreshet Lindenbaum; BA, Comparative Religion/Anthropology, University of Manitoba

Annual Schedule 5784

תוכנית שנתית תשפ"ד

Ellul Zman

Arrival at the Midrasha	ה' אלול	Tuesday, August 22
Shabbat Midrasha	ט' אלול	Shabbat, August 26
Rosh Hashanah	א'-ב' תשרי	Shabbat, September 16 – Sunday, September 17
Tzom Gedaliah Regular classes until 12:45 pm, no afternoon classes	ג' תשרי	Monday, September 18
Shabbat Midrasha	ח' תשרי	Shabbat, September 23
Erev Yom Kippur No classes	ט' תשרי	Sunday, September 24
Yom Kippur in the Midrasha	י' תשרי	Monday, September 25
End of Ellul Zman No classes	יא' תשרי	Tuesday, September 26
Sukkot Break • Tuesday, September 26 – Wednesday, October 11		

Choref Zman

Start of Choref Zman	כ"ו תשרי	Wednesday, October 11
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ט תשרי	Shabbat, October 14
Shabbat Midrasha	כ' חשוון	Shabbat, November 4
Shabbat Midrasha	י"ט כסלו	Shabbat, December 2
Chanukah Break	כ"ז-כ"ט כסלו	Sunday, December 10 – Tuesday, December 12
Shabbat Midrasha	ד' טבת	Shabbat, December 16
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ה טבת	Shabbat, January 6
Journey to Poland / Zeminar	י"ח - כ"ז שבט	Sunday, January 28 – Tuesday, February 6
Shabbat Midrasha	א' אדר א'	Shabbat, February 10

Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ב אדר א'	Shabbat, March 2
Ta'anit Esther Regular classes until 12:45 pm	י"א אדר ב'	Thursday, March 21
Shabbat Midrasha	י"ג אדר ב'	Shabbat, March 23
Purim / Purim in Yerushalayim	י"ד-ט"ו אדר ב'	Sunday, March 24 – Monday, March 25
Tiyul to Eilat	כ"ח אדר – א' ניסן	Sunday, April 7 – Tuesday, April 9
Last day of Choref Zman	א' ניסן	Tuesday, April 9

Pesach Break • Wednesday, April 10 – Sunday, May 5

Kayitz Zman

Final Shabbat of Vacation – Midrasha Open	כ"ו ניסן	Shabbat, May 4
Return to the Midrasha	כ"ז ניסן	Sunday, May 5
Yom HaShoah	כ"ח ניסן	Monday, May 6
Shabbat Midrasha	ג' אייר	Shabbat, May 11
Yom HaZikaron	ה' אייר	Monday, May 13
Yom HaAtzmaut	ו' אייר	Tuesday, May 14
Shabbat Tzfat	כ"ד אייר	Shabbat, June 1
Yom Yerushalayim	כ"ח אייר	Wednesday, June 5
Erev Shavuot No classes	ה' סיוון	Tuesday, June 11
Shavuot Midrasha	ו' סיוון	Wednesday, June 12
Shabbat Siyum Northern Hemisphere	ט' סיוון	Shabbat, June 15
Mesibat Siyum and End of Northern Hemisphere year	י' סיוון	Sunday, June 16

There will be tiyulim approximately once every three weeks. • Exact dates will be posted throughout the year. This schedule is tentative and may be subject to change.

During breaks, the Midrasha will be open to students every day with the exception of Chag and Shabbatot

Academic Policy

Courses are yearlong, unless otherwise noted. For credit purposes titles are split into two, i.e. **BIB 110–111**.

Courses are in English unless otherwise noted.

Transcripts issued by the Midrasha come in two formats: P/F or with letter grades. The standard transcript is P/F, based upon the evaluation of the teacher. Students wishing to earn letter grades are required to submit written exams or projects.

Credits are based on one classroom hour per week per semester.

Semester length = 15 weeks

The grading scale is as follows:

A	=	94–100
A-	=	90–93
B+	=	87–89
B	=	84–86
B-	=	80–83
C+	=	77–79
C	=	74–76
C-	=	70–73
D	=	65–70

W = Withdrew from course with permission

INC = Incomplete

For courses graded Pass (P) or Fail (F): P is equivalent to C+ and above

Students should note that universities in their home country might only grant transfer credit for graded, as opposed to Pass/Fail, courses. In general, the Midrasha cannot guarantee that a student will receive transfer credit at universities in Israel or abroad. It is the individual student's responsibility to check the transfer credit policy of whichever university she plans on attending. Midreshet HaRova is a participant in the Yeshiva University Israel Program, Touro College Israel Option, and the Hebrew Theological College/ Blitstein Teachers Institute Israel Experience Program (IEP). IEP students do not fulfill their requirements with a P/F transcript, and must earn letter grades. Students participating in an American University Israel Option are strongly advised to opt for graded transcripts in order to receive full credit.

