

מדרשת הרובע

Midreshet HaRova

The André Veres Advanced Torah Academy for Women









COURSE CATALOG

2026-27

תשפ"ז



INTRODUCTION

Since its inception in 1990, Midreshet HaRova has provided a unique Israel study experience for thousands 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 when 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.



FACULTY

The Overseas Program is directed by our Rosh Midrasha, Rav David Milston and our Menahelet, 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 and studied Limmudei Kodesh at Michlalah, Jerusalem College for Women. Dr. Debow 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. Women coming to the Midrasha encounter warm and approachable role models to whom they can relate and whom they can strive to emulate.



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.



GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

Leaving home for a year and moving to a new country with a different culture can be quite challenging. Our Hadracha program is designed to support our student body as they navigate these challenges.

The Hadracha program at the Midrasha is staffed by six Mashgichot, six Rakazot, two Imahot Bayit and a team of Madrichot, all of whom are dedicated to ensuring that your year will not only be academically successful, but, most importantly, also be one of personal and spiritual achievement and growth.

MASHGICHOT

Midreshet HaRova is a large Midrasha which offers a wide variety of formal and informal educational activities to a diverse and inquisitive student body. In order to provide every student with the individual attention that she deserves, each student is assigned a Mashgicha. The Mashgicha is a mentor who meets individually with her students on a regular basis to help support them and ensure that each student is maximizing her time and experiences here at the Midrasha. The Mashgichot focus on the social-emotional aspects of each student's experience at Midrasha as well as her personal growth and development. In addition, each student is part of a Mashgicha group which serves as a

smaller community within the larger Midrasha community. Mashgicha groups are a safe space to process, learn, grow, share experiences and be known in a more significant way. Mashgicha groups meet once a week and are an integral component of life in Midreshet HaRova.

RAKAZOT

An additional layer of support is provided by our Rakazot. Rakazot are young women who help guide the process of creating communities in the apartments and in the dorm. They host regular apartment activities and meetings. As they get to know the students, they are available for individual chats, guidance and chevrutot. Our Rakazot provide an additional avenue through which students feel seen and cared for by young women closer to their age, women who themselves have experienced a year in Israel not so long ago and can share wisdom from their own journeys.

IMAHOT BAYIT

Our Imahot Bayit play a central role in supporting student welfare at the Midrasha. They are on campus around the clock – available to take care of small day-to-day needs as well as larger, unexpected surprises. They help deal with medical issues and apartment needs, and serve as a sympathetic ear to talk to and a supportive presence to celebrate with. They are always available to offer wisdom and support.

MADRICHOT

Our team of Madrichot have chosen to dedicate themselves to helping our overseas students. As Bnot Sherut or university students, they are close in age to our students and therefore can better understand their struggles as well as many of their interests. They are available 24/7 and they play a central role in many different areas of student life at the Midrasha.



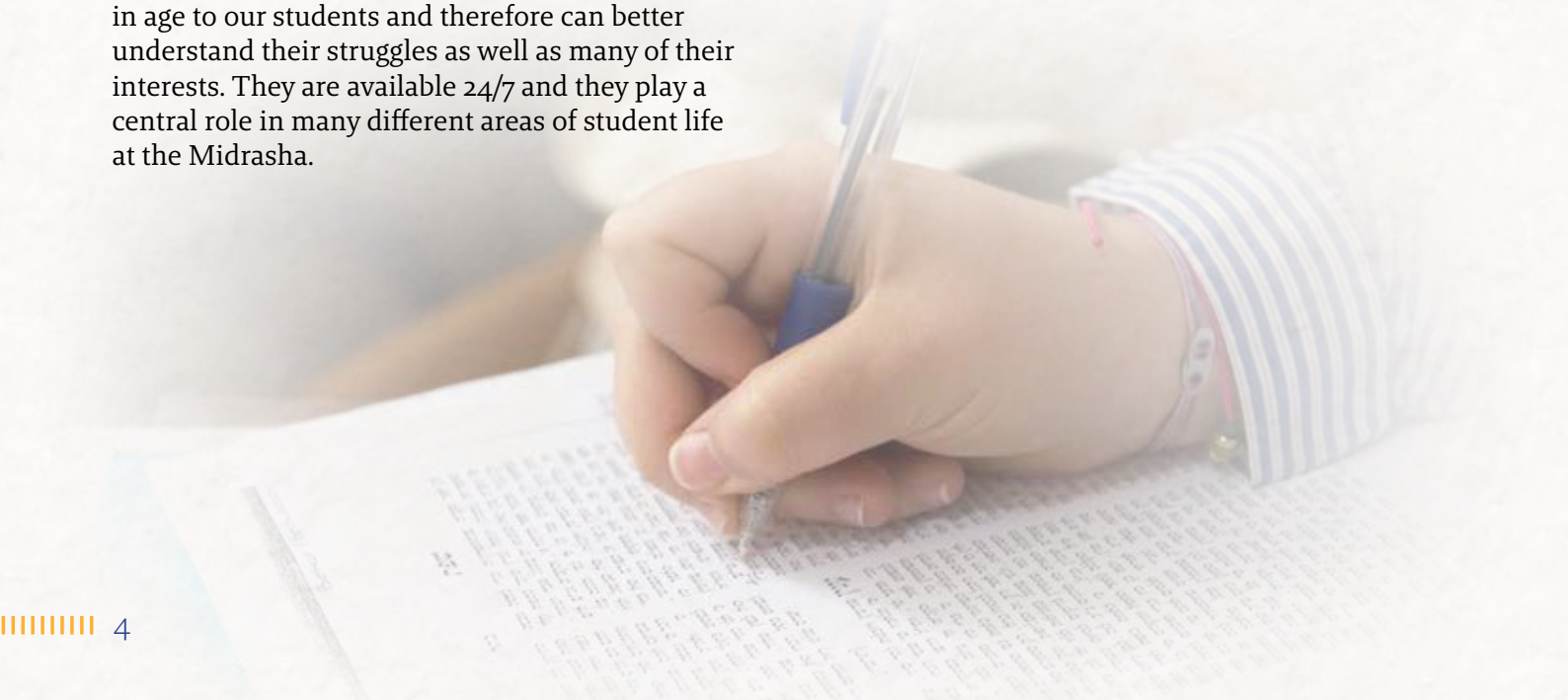
STUDENT LIFE

Students are housed in either the newly renovated Midrasha dormitory or in local apartments. The dormitory and apartments are each located a short walk from the main Midrasha building, and they offer a unique blend of modern amenities and Old City charm. With balconies, rooftops and airy public spaces, 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 Imahot Bayit.





MIDRESHET HAROVA TIMETBLE • 5787

Numbers indicate the page in the catalog where course can be found

[F] Fall Semester [S] Spring Semester [H] Hebrew [NH] Northern Hemisphere [SH] Southern Hemisphere

	SUNDAY				MONDAY			
	9:00 am – 9:50 am							
8:30 am –9:50 am	Halacha Bekiut (BEG/INT) Chaya Rayman 27	Halacha Bekiut (INT) Rav Aviad Tabory 27	Halacha Bekiut (ADV) Rav Bailey 27	Gemara Bekiut Rav Avigdor 31	Torah Bekiut (INT) Rav Yonny 9	Torah Bekiut (ADV-NH) Rav Milston 9	Torah Bekiut (ADV-SH) Rav Yonatan 9	Torah Bekiut Rav Susman 9
	Nevi'im Bekiut Rav Yonatan 10	Halacha Bekiut (INT) Rav Susman 27			Torah Bekiut Rav Eytan 9			
10:00 am – 12:30 pm	Talmud Trifecta Rav Ron 30	Ketubot (INT) Dr. Judith Fogel 30	Machshava Classical Jewish Thought Miriam Wolf 20	Beitza (INT) Rav Bailey 30	From Galut to Geula (INT) Rav Bailey 8	Sefer Shemot (INT) Rav Yonny 8	Sefer Bamidbar Rav Eytan 8	Philosophy Through Chumash (ADV) Rav Avigdor 8
	Taanit (INT) Chaya Rayman 30	Gemara Rav Aviad Tabory 31	Relationships in Navi Atara Starr 12	Bava Metzia (ADV-H) Rav Avigdor 31	Sefer Bereishit / Sefer Devarim (ADV) Rav Yonatan 8			
12:30 pm – 2:45 pm	LUNCH BREAK				LUNCH BREAK			
					2:45 pm – 3:45 pm			
2:45 pm – 3:50 pm	Siyurim Rav Yonatan Rav Susman 15	Writings of Rav Hirsch Atara Starr 22	Contemporary Halacha Rav Bailey 26	Practical Halacha Rav Yonny 27	Strive for Truth Rav Milston 19	Ayeka Rav Yosef 24	Shoftim [F] / Future Tense [S] Dara Unterberg 9 / 23	Women & Mitzvot: Sugyot Rav Aviad Tabory 32
	Relationships Through Kabbalah Franny Waisman 24	The Written Word: Journaling Leiba Smith 13	Beit Midrash		Sefat Emet Esther Grossman 12	Midrash Parshat HaShavua Rav Ron 11	Current Affairs Rav Eytan 14	Beit Midrash Rav Bailey
3:55 pm – 4:10 pm	MINCHA				MINCHA			
					4:05 pm – 5:05 pm			
4:15 pm – 5:20 pm	Chassidut on the Parsha Atara Starr 12	Meaning in Tefilla Rav Yonny 16	Understanding Eden [F] / 5 Megillot [S] Dr. Yocheved 10 / 11	Siyurim Rav Yonatan Rav Susman 15	Halachic Response to the State of Israel Rav Aviad Tabory 15	Sefer Iyov: Faith and Suffering Dara Unterberg 11	The Soul's Journey Through Life Rav Eytan 20	Aggada Rav Ron 32
	Bayit Sheini: The Real Story Miriam Wolf 16	Hilchot Shabbat Rav Berg 26	Beit Midrash Rav Susman Rav Bailey		Mitzvot: Why and How Rav Bailey 28	Pirkei Avot Rav Milston 21	Jewish Life Cycles Esther Grossman 29	Beit Midrash
5:30 pm – 6:40 pm	Kuzari Rav Yosef 19	Medical Ethics Rav Yonatan 29	Hilchot Shabbat Rav Berg 26	Shaul & David Rav Bailey 10	5:15 pm – 5:30 pm			
	Tzurbot M'Rabanan Rav Susman 32	The Jewish Self Rav Yonny 24			Announcements			
					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 25	Beit Midrash Supervisors: Rav Yonatan Rav Yosef						
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Beit Midrash Supervisors: Rav Yonatan Rav Yosef				Free Evening			

TUESDAY

8:30 am – 9:35 am

Living Rambam
Rav Eytan
16

Netivot Shalom
Franny Waisman
21

The Mussar Masters
Rav Yonny
23

Faith in Dark Times [S]
Rav Susman
15

Gemara Bekiut
Rav Avigdor
31

Pirkei Avot
Rav Bailey
21

Teachings of Rav Kook
Rav Yosef
18

Beit Midrash
Rav Susman
Rav Milston

9:45 am – 10:50 am

Tikkun HaMiddot
Rav Yonny
25

The Hidden God
Rav Eytan
21

Eternity
Rav Milston
12

Bava Metzia (ADV-H)
Rav Avigdor
31

A Better Me [F] / **Likutei Moharan** [S]
Franny Waisman
19 / 25

As Dawn Breaks
Rav Yosef
22

Beit Midrash
Rav Bailey

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Mashgichot Hour

12:00 PM CLEANING | 12:45 PM LUNCH BREAK

Kedma Chesed

MINCHA

Kedma Chesed

DINNER

More Than Stories
Rav Baruch Felberman
32

Beit Midrash Supervisor:
Dr. Judith Fogel

Guest Speakers

Beit Midrash Supervisors:
Dr. Judith Fogel
Rav Baruch Felberman

WEDNESDAY

Halacha Bekiut (BEG/INT)
Chaya Rayman
27

Halacha Bekiut (INT)
Rav Aviad Tabory
27

Halacha Bekiut (ADV)
Rav Bailey
27

Gemara Bekiut
Rav Avigdor
31

Nevi'im Bekiut
Rav Yonatan
10

Halacha Bekiut (INT)
Rav Susman
27

Talmud Trifecta
Rav Ron
30

Ketubot (INT)
Dr. Judith Fogel
30

Machshava Classical Jewish Thought
Miriam Wolf
20

Beitza (INT)
Rav Bailey
30

Taanit (INT)
Chaya Rayman
30

Gemara
Rav Aviad Tabory
31

Relationships in Navi
Atara Starr
12

Bava Metzia (ADV-H)
Rav Avigdor
31

LUNCH BREAK

Chassidut
Rav Yonny
24

Discovering Texts
Rav Bailey
28

Thought of Rav Kook
Rav Shvat
17

Daniel [F] / **Trei Asser** [S]
Rav Ron
11 / 9

The Written Word
Leiba Smith
13

Rambam's Hakdamot [F] / **Maharal and Machshava** [S]
Rav Yosef
29 / 19

Doon't Stop Believing
Rav Akiva
18

Fine Art
Chany Fleischhacker
13

Beit Midrash
Rav Susman

MINCHA

Da Mah L'Hashiv [F] / **Torat Ha'Isha** [S]
Miriam Wolf
29 / 23

Shemirat HaLashon [F] / **Big Questions** [S]
Rav Yonny
26 / 22

Torah, Am u'Medinat Yisrael [H]
Rav Shvat
17

The Problem is Choice
Rav Akiva
24

Contemporary Halacha
Rav Bailey
26

Mindful Art
Chany Fleischhacker
13

Derech Hashem
Rav Ron
21

Tikkun HaMiddot
Rav Yonny
25

Nashim B'Tanach
Miriam Wolf
10

Minhagim and Halacha
Rav Ron
29

Torah, Am u'Medinat Yisrael
Rav Shvat
17

Sefardi Halacha
Rav Eliav Saban
27

Functional Art
Chany Fleischhacker
13

Jewish Meditation & Mysticism
Rav Akiva
20

DINNER

Israeli Chevrutot

Beit Midrash Supervisor:
Rav Eytan

Beit Midrash Supervisor:
Rav Eytan

THURSDAY

Torah Bekiut (INT)
Rav Yonny
9

Torah Bekiut (ADV-NH)
Rav Milston
9

Torah Bekiut (ADV-SH)
Rav Yonatan
9

Torah Bekiut
Rav Susman
9

Torah Bekiut
Rav Eytan
9

From Galut to Geula (INT)
Rav Bailey
8

Sefer Shemot (INT)
Rav Yonny
8

Sefer Bamidbar
Rav Eytan
8

Philosophy Through Chumash (ADV)
Rav Avigdor
8

Sefer Bereishit / Sefer Devarim (ADV)
Rav Yonatan
8

LUNCH BREAK

Before There Was Gemara
Rav Bailey
32

Mesilat Yesharim
Rav Milston
19

Agadata
Rav Uriya
32

Halachic Woman
Dr. Judith Fogel
26

Orthodoxy in an Unorthodox World
Dr. Yocheved
28

Nefesh HaChayim
Rav Akiva
25

The Problem of Evil
Rav Eytan
22

Understanding the Siddur
Molly Yarbrough
27

Beit Midrash
Rav Susman

MINCHA

Holocaust to Redemption (PART 1)
Rav Milston
16

Kings and Prophets [F] / **Tehillim** [S]
Rav Yonatan
9 / 11

Sanctifying Time
Rav Eytan
21

Pnimiut HaLev
Molly Yarbrough
24

Hilchot Shabbat
Rav Uriya
26

Halachic Woman
Dr. Judith Fogel
26

Ahavat Yisrael BeNeshama
Rav Akiva
22

Beit Midrash
Rav Susman
Rav Bailey

Holocaust to Redemption (PART 2)
Rav Milston
16

Rebbe of Piaseczna
Rav Akiva
22

Inside Out
Rav Uriya
18

Confronting Modernity
Rav Yonatan
19

Halachic Woman [SH]
Dr. Judith Fogel
26

B'Yam Darkecha
Molly Yarbrough
27

Tefilla Workshop
Rav Yosef
16

Eim HaBanim Smeicha
Rav Eytan
21

DINNER

Chassidut in Halacha
Rav Albert Katz
28

Beit Midrash Supervisor:
Rav Eytan

8:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Understanding Israel
Rav Michael Unterberg
14

Beit Midrash Supervisor:
Rav Eytan

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 • Book of Numbers

Sefer BaMidbar takes us on a journey from dependence to responsibility, from travellers to a nation. In this class, we will explore the dramatic stories, complex characters, and spiritual challenges that shaped Am Yisrael in the desert. Through a close reading of the text and classical commentaries, we'll uncover the deeper messages behind the failures and the successes of the generation of the Midbar, and discover what their journey can teach us about leadership, growth, and our own Avodat Hashem today.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **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 • 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 107A–108A

Torah SheBichtav • Advanced Level • Philosophical Journey Through Chumash

In this course we explore Chumash, Judaism's fundamental foundational text, with a new set of eyes, challenging and encouraging you to rethink answers to basic questions about Judaism and life itself which we tend to take for granted. Some of the topics include: Emuna, Am Yisrael, Torah, Teshuva, Hashgacha, Reward and Punishment, Mashiach, Olam Habah, and more. In class we revisit the classic stories and texts of our people and, together with many sources, come to new understandings which directly impact our daily lives.

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

BIB 107–108

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 the text.

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

BIB 109–110

Bekiut 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 Eytan Kleinberg – Intermediate
Rav Michael Susman – Intermediate/Advanced
Rav David Milston – Advanced

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

BIB 117

Sefer Shoftim • The Leaders We're Not Sure How to Judge

The era of the Shoftim is one of the most turbulent and formative periods in Jewish history, bridging the gap between the conquest of Eretz Yisrael under Yehoshua and the establishment of monarchy under Shaul and David. This course offers a close study of major figures such as Devorah, Gideon, Yiftach, Shimshon, and others – leaders whose greatness and failure are often inseparably intertwined. We will explore the central tension of the period: how to build a national framework out of a loose federation of tribes, while sustaining loyalty to God and Torah in a decentralized and unstable society. Rather than presenting simple heroes or clear categories of success and failure, Sefer Shoftim challenges us to think deeply about leadership itself – how to understand human action, national responsibility, and Divine guidance when they do not always align. Together we will read the text as a profound exploration of what it means to lead, to follow, and to shape a nation in a world where "every man did what was right in his own eyes."

Dara Unterberg

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

BIB 118A

Kings and Prophets • The Book of Kings

An in-depth study of the forces at work in one of the most intense, intriguing periods of Jewish History. Our study will combine textual analysis with conceptual understanding of this book and its meaning for us today. Specific subjects that will be addressed include: the transition from the reign of Shlomo; the splitting of the kingdom; the diverse relationship of the two kingdoms with each other and with the surrounding nations; prophets and their struggle against idolatry.

Rav Yonatan Horovitz

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

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 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

BIB 123–124

Bekiut 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 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 Sara, Rivka, Rachel, Leah, Miriam, Tzippora, 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 134

Tehillim • The Book of Psalms

In this class we study select chapters in Tehillim. By focussing primarily on the text of the Psalms themselves, we analyze the structures of the pesukim, the author's purposeful choice of words, and their contextual usages within the chapter's overall theme and ideas. In this way, beyond building the invaluable skills of textual analysis, we glean a deeper understanding not only of the chapter itself but also the application of the Psalm under consideration.

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

BIB 135–136

Sefer Iyov: How Do We Believe When Suffering Doesn't Make Sense?

Sefer Iyov is one of Tanach's most profound explorations of suffering, Divine providence, and the boundaries of human understanding. We will examine its literary structure, key voices, and central themes alongside classical Jewish philosophical approaches to providence and faith. Through this encounter, students will wrestle with some of the deepest questions in Jewish thought, exploring the tension between justice, suffering, and belief, while developing a nuanced religious response to the mysteries that challenge faith.

Dara Unterberg
- **Monday 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

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 4:15 pm – 5:20 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 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 163–164

Sefat Emet on the Torah

The Sefat Emet, a compilation of Sichot by Rav Yehuda Aryeh Leb Alter zt"l, the second Gerrer Rebbe, is a groundbreaking text in its combination of Torah scholarship and Chassidic depth. Come learn the weekly Parsha and about the Moadim with this seminal work. Through the utilization of Peshat and Derash, discover one's purpose in the context of creation and how to approach the challenges of life from an optimistic and more connected perspective.

Esther Grossman

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

BIB 165–166

Chassidut on the Parsha

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 169–170

Interpersonal Relationships in the Prophets

Building and maintaining healthy relationships is both challenging and rewarding. In this class we examine selected texts in Sifrei Nevi'im in order to better understand and appreciate the complexity of interpersonal relationships. We explore the dynamics of relationships between parent and child, siblings, friends, leaders and followers, teachers and students, among others. We develop critical thinking skills as we view each encounter through the lens of our own understanding as well as classical and contemporary parshanut. Topics include David and Batsheva, Eliyahu and Elisha, David and Yonatan, Devorah and Barak, Chana/Penina and Elkanah etc. Each unit ends with a discussion of the practical application and relevance of the tools and lessons we are learning to our everyday lives.

Atara Starr

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

Department of Jewish Creative Arts
אומנות



JA 101–102

Functional Art

Functional art is art that serves more than just an aesthetic purpose. In this class the students will be learning to make handmade crafts and creating projects that connect to the Koach Hazman, the Patterns of the Jewish Calendar. No prior art experience is necessary.

Chany Fleischhacker
- **Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JA 103–104

Mindful Art

In this class students will learn to use the arts as a means to focus their minds and emotions. They will be doing a variety of projects inspired by their own growth experiences and by the verses of Tanach with a particular focus on Tehilim.

Chany Fleischhacker
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JA 105–106

Fine Art

In this class, students will explore and learn about the basic elements of art and how to use art as a means of connecting to the Tanach. They will be doing drawings and paintings that will help them learn about line, shape, form, colour, texture, perspective and proportion and how to integrate these concepts into a work of art. No prior art experience is necessary.

Chany Fleischhacker
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**

1.5 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
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JA 109–110

The Written Word • Journaling

Did you always want to keep a journal for self-exploration, but not know how? Do you keep a journal but find yourself going in circles, rehashing the same concerns? What better time to develop skills of self-exploration through the written word and in what better context than that of Midrasha? This course is a hands-on writing workshop in which we learn structured journaling exercises combined with Torah sources to help us consider what shapes our life, and how we might use what we have learned as

we move forward. In each class we learn a technique, write, and have time for sharing to allow us to go deeper in our exploratory work. Previous writing experience not required (nor is personal sharing). Even if you journal already, there is much to gain from this unique approach to writing out your life.

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

Department of Jewish Education
חינוך

JED 109–110

Discussing Current Affairs

This course offers a guided space to engage thoughtfully with current events shaping our world. Through open discussion and critical reflection, we will examine major issues in the news, consider multiple perspectives, and explore the values and questions they raise. The goal is not to reach simple answers, but to deepen understanding and develop a more responsible, reflective approach to the world we are living in.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**
  This class is not for credit

Department of Jewish History
היסטוריה

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:

1. The connection of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel
2. Understanding the Arab–Israeli conflict
3. The fundamentals of effective activism
4. 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 including: the period of the First and Second Beit HaMikdash, the Roman period, the early Muslim conquests, the Crusaders, the Ottoman Empire, the British Mandate and the Modern State of Israel. We will look at primary and secondary sources and tell stories and folklore of the various sites. Jerusalem is full of layers and during our travels we will uncover the layers of the city and ourselves.

Rav Yonatan Horovitz
Rav Michael Susman
- **Sunday 2:45 pm – 5:20 pm**
  3 credits per semester
  This is a one-semester course

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 both individuals and the nation to retain personal and communal dignity while trying to survive the genocidal goals of the Nazi killing machine.

Rav Michael Susman
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
  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 4:05 pm – 5:05 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**
  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

Department of Jewish Philosophy
מחשבה

JPH 101–102

Living Maimonides

Rambam's (Maimonides) Mishneh Torah is more than a code of Jewish law. It is a vision of what a Torah life can look like. In this course, we will journey through the Rambam's monumental work, exploring not only the Halachot themselves but also the ideas, values, and worldview that lie beneath them. Along the way, we will develop a broader understanding of the Rambam's unique approach to codifying Jewish law and discover how his teachings continue to speak to the challenges and opportunities of modern Jewish life.

Rav Eitan Kleinberg

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

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 life.



For many of us, we have great familiarity with the words but lack the understanding and meaning of what we're saying in order to connect to Tefilla on a deeper level. 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 as well as exploring practical methods to make 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 Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 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.

1. 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
2. The Redemption – with or without repentance / Mashiach Ben Yosef / signs of Geula
3. The Land of Israel – the center of Judaism / Torah and mitzvot / mitzvat Yishuv HaAretz / leaving Eretz Yisrael
4. 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 to know which hashkafa is correct; and more.

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

JPH 107A–108A

Lights of the Soul: Exploring the Vision of Rav Kook

Step into the luminous world of Rav Kook, one of the most profound and visionary Jewish thinkers of the modern era. Through close study of selected texts, this course will explore Rav Kook's unique teachings on topics such as spirituality, Torah, personal growth, the Jewish people, the Land of Israel, Teshuva, and the challenges of modernity. Rather than studying Rav Kook as a historical figure alone, we will seek to uncover the living relevance of his ideas for our own generation. His writings offer a powerful framework for understanding the soul, embracing complexity, finding holiness within everyday life, and cultivating hope in times of uncertainty. Rav Kook's texts are particularly challenging and this shiur offers an accessible foundation and exposure to the unique works of Rav Kook.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
  1.5 credits per semester

JPH 109–110

Inside Out

This course is split into three main parts built on a simple but powerful idea: real growth starts inside and moves outward. Over the year, we will develop a deep and grounded foundation of emunah, which will then naturally shape and elevate our character and actions as Ovdei Hashem. If you are looking for real, meaningful, steady growth throughout the year, this course is for you. We will begin with 10 derachim, ten practical ways of connecting to Hashem in everyday life. We will then move into Emunah and Bitachon, strengthening trust in Hashem and building a stable inner world. Finally, we will translate that inner clarity into Avodat HaMidot, actively working to refine our character and become the best version of ourselves.

By building from the inside out, you will develop not just inspiration, but a real and lasting framework for living with growth, purpose, and connection to Hashem.

Rav Uriya Durani
- **Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
  1.5 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 obser-



vant 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 Yesharim • 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 unique nature 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 Khazar. 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 revolutionary theology of Jewish sages of the early Middle Ages from the perspective of one of the most beloved Jewish Philosophical works.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

JPH 124

Maharal: The Philosophy of Rabbi Judah Loew of Prague

This class offers an engaging introduction to some of the key philosophical foundations in the writings of the Maharal of Prague, one of Judaism's most original and influential thinkers. Together, we will delve into the Maharal's unique approach to understanding the human being, Torah, and the world, focusing on several of his most fundamental discussions.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester • Spring 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 133–134

Jewish Meditation and Mysticism

Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan (1934–1983) was one of the previous century's most prolific and influential Jewish writers and authors, translating and publishing more than 50 books, including "The Living Torah", his own translation of the Chumash which quickly became one of the most widely read and used translations available. All of this, despite only living to the age of 48. A renowned physicist, Aryeh Kaplan broke through a barrier by translating and explaining vast Kabbalistic texts and literature and making them available to the public for the first time. In this course, in addition to exploring several of his other works, we will read and study his seminal masterpiece "Jewish Meditation" and "Meditation and the Bible" and learn about gaining access to the spiritual and how to put Jewish meditation into practice through study, hands-on meditative sessions, and guidance, as well as learning the practical applications of these skills to enhance one's tefillot and Avodat Hashem in all areas of life.

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

JPH 135–136

The Soul's Journey Through Life

Where does the soul come from, and where is it going? In this course, we'll learn about the path of the Jewish soul from its origins before birth, through the experiences of life in this world, and into the mysteries of the afterlife. Drawing from classic and chassidic sources, we'll explore topics such as the purpose of life, the nature of the soul, reincarnation, and more. This course offers a framework for understanding where we come from, why we're here, and what lies beyond.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **Monday 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester



JPH 139–140

Ethical Teachings in the Bible • Netivot Shalom

Netivot Shalom was authored by Rabbi Shalom Berezovsky, the previous Slonimer Rebbe of Jerusalem. It is a work that transcends denominations, and is extremely popular even outside of Chassidic circles. The Rebbe has a refreshingly clear way of explaining complex concepts in Chassidut. We will study from a wide range of his essays, including those dealing with the weekly Torah portion, those dealing with faith and Tefillah, and some fascinating ideas on the Jewish calendar. This is a course that will expose us to the basic fundamentals of Chassidut in a way that is relatable, comprehensible, and uplifting.

Franny Waisman
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
  1.5 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 David Milston
- **Monday 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**
  or Rav Jonathan Bailey
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:35 am**
  1.5 credits per semester

JPH 145–146

Change of Heart: The Vision of Eim HaBanim Smeicha

In this class, we will dive into the transformative and profound work "Eim HaBanim Smeicha", written by Rav Yissachar Shlomo Teichtal. A former anti-Zionist Chassid of the Munkatsher Rebbe, Rav Teichtal's perspective radically shifted after experiencing the horrors of the Holocaust. Through this book, he passionately argues for the centrality of Zionism, seeing it as the fulfillment of Jewish prophecy. Together, we will explore the journey of Rav Teichtal's ideological evolution, and how his personal experiences shaped his groundbreaking thoughts on the importance of the Jewish people returning to their homeland.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

JPH 147–148

The Hidden God

God is always present, but not always easy to see. In this class, we will be exploring the concept of Hashgacha Pratit, and how the Jewish tradition understands God's role in our lives and in the world. Through Tanach, Chazal, and the writings of major Jewish thinkers, we will examine different approaches to Hashgacha, moments of Hester Panim, and the spiritual challenges that come with feeling distant from God. Together, we will ask what it means to search for God in times of struggle, and how to strengthen our faith even in times of despair.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
  1.5 credits per semester

JPH 149–150

Sanctifying Time

The Jewish calendar transforms time into something sacred. In this course, we will explore the laws, themes, and rhythms that shape the Jewish year, from Shabbat and Yamim Tovim to fast days and special occasions. Through a study of practical Halacha and its underlying ideas, we will gain a deeper appreciation for how the cycle of the year guides Jewish life and spiritual growth.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg
- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

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 157–158

"We Found Love Right Where we Are" • Ahavat Yisrael BaNeshamah

Am Yisrael is a challenging people at times. How can we learn to love our fellow Jew and overlook the imperfections we may see? A semester-long course using source material, critical essays, new insights, and personal experiences from the war, on how to see the virtues in our People and adapt growth- and positivity-oriented mindsets to further our own spiritual and personal development.

Rav Akiva Weiss

- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester
  This is a one-semester course

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 Chorev 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 161–162

The Problem of Evil: Gan Eden to Auschwitz

What is evil, and why does it exist in a world created by a good and all-powerful God? In this class we will explore the nature, purpose, and origins of evil through the lens of Jewish thought. From the snake in Gan Eden to the suffering of the innocent in Auschwitz, we will study how Tanach, Chazal, and major Jewish philosophers understand evil. Through deep text learning and open discussion, we will work to understand what role evil plays in our physical and spiritual worlds, and how these ideas shape our response to the darkest parts of life.

Rav Eytan Kleinberg

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

JPH 163–164

As Dawn Breaks • Embracing the Process of Modern Geulah

In this shiur, we will explore the unfolding process of the Redemption of Am Yisrael through the teachings of Rav Chaim Drukman's Sefer



Kima Kima ("Step by Step"). Guided by the wisdom of prophecy, Chazal, and the timeless sources of Jewish tradition, we will examine the gradual emergence of redemption and how the events of our generation reflect the deeper spiritual journey of our nation. Like the first light of dawn, the Geulah does not arrive all at once - it unfolds gradually, revealing new layers of Hashem's plan for Am Yisrael. This course invites us to recognize the significance of our generation, strengthen our connection to the destiny of our people, and embrace the unfolding redemption with awareness, courage, and emunah.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**
  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 168

Future Tense – Rabbi Sacks' Vision for Jews and Judaism in the Global Culture

In this course, we will study Rabbi Jonathan Sacks' book, Future Tense: A Vision For Jews And Judaism In The Global Culture. "We are in danger," says Rabbi Sacks, "of forgetting what Judaism's place is within the global project of humankind. The Jewish people exist for a reason, and it is not for themselves alone. They must recommit themselves to their foundational purpose: to the task of creating a just world in which the Divine Presence can dwell among us all... That will mean engaging with the world, not disengaging from it...

There is work to do, work that begins with the Jewish soul. A people that can survive the Holocaust can face the future without fear. So can Israel, having survived every assault by its enemies and given back to the Jewish people a space within which it can defend itself and begin to create the kind of society Jews were commanded to create... Jews should remember that the word 'chosen' means that Jews are called on to be self-critical, never forgetting the tasks they have been set and not yet completed."

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.

Dara Unterberg
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester • Spring 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 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 175–176

Ayeka: Self Discovery and Fulfillment Through Torah

This class explores a remarkable book of Rav Reuven Sasson that reveals how true freedom is found through the Torah. We will delve into the profound idea that the Torah is not a set of restrictions, but a path to uncovering your deepest, most authentic self – a self that resonates perfectly with the light and guidance of Torah. Together, we'll examine how living in harmony with these timeless teachings leads to a life of genuine meaning and fulfillment. Join us for thoughtful discussion, personal reflection, and a journey toward understanding the unique liberty and purpose that Torah living offers.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 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 179–180

The Problem is Choice

An in-depth, practical and comprehensive understanding of the nature of free will and how it functions in our daily lives and living as Jews. Students will walk away from this course with a grounded, principled understanding of this issue and how to relate it to their own personal journeys and Avodat Hashem. Topics to be covered: Choice and Free Will, Fate and Destiny, Astrology and Mazal, Bashert, Prophecy, Gezar Din, and Hashgacha Pratit.

Rav Akiva Weiss
- **Wednesday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester
  This is a one-semester course

JPH 181–182

Pnimiut HaLev • The Inner Heart

God created each of us with a unique inner world – distinct personalities, tendencies, strengths, and struggles. In this course, we'll explore how getting to know ourselves more deeply isn't just personal growth, but a way of uncovering how Hashem specifically wants us to serve Him. Through sources in Chassidut, Jewish thought, and modern psychology, we'll work to develop a deeper understanding of the self and what it means to live an authentic, individualized relationship with Hashem.

Molly Yarbrough
- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 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
This is a one-semester course

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 Torot from this exceptional sefer.

Franny Waisman
- **Tuesday 9:45 am – 10:50 am**

1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

JPH 193–194

Nefesh HaChayim

Based on the sefer of Rav Chaim of Volozhin, this class is meant to inspire deep connection and purity in Avodat Hashem. We will delve into the tremendous depth that is latent within us, and learn how our thoughts, speech, and actions affect both the physical and spiritual realms, and the power of Tefilla and Torah learning can change ourselves, our lives, and the world. In this spiritually and kabbalistically oriented class, learn about the hidden depths of meaning lying right in front of you.



Rav Akiva Weiss
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 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

Shabbat is one of the most beautiful and meaningful parts of Jewish life, but it also comes with countless practical questions. Can you make ice cubes on Shabbat? Can you ask your Sephardi friend to place food on the blech for you? Where should guests light candles when staying with a host? These are just a few of the questions that arise regularly in Jewish homes around the world. In this course, we will explore some of the most frequently asked questions in Hilchot Shabbat, tracing each topic from its roots in the Gemara through the Rishonim and Poskim to contemporary halachic practice. More than just memorizing answers, you will gain an understanding of the principles behind the halacha, enabling you to confidently navigate similar situations in your own life. Through this process, you will deepen both your knowledge of and appreciation for Shabbat, enriching your weekly Shabbat experience.

Rav David Berg
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**
  or Rav Uriya Durani
- **Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**

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 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JUD 119

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**

1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

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

Halachic Woman • 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
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
- **or Thursday 4:15 pm – 5:20 pm**
- **or Thursday 5:30 pm – 6:40 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 halacha. 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.

Chaya Rayman (Basic/Intermediate)
Rav Michael Susman (Intermediate)
Rav Aviad Tabory (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 Mizrach (Oriental) communities, using the positions of Maran Rav Ovadiah Yosef and Rav Mordechai Eliyahu as a template.

Rav Eliav Saban

- **Wednesday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JUD 135–136

Understanding the Siddur

We're all familiar with the Siddur, but many people struggle to actually connect to the words within it. In this course, we'll delve into a deeper understanding of the specific words we say as well as the broader themes behind them, exploring how to use the Siddur as a guide to speaking more authentically with Hashem and building a more personal and heartfelt connection to prayer.

Molly Yarbrough

- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

JUD 137–138

B'Yam Darkecha • A Kabbalistic Guide to Life

B'Yam Darkecha is Rav Itche Meir Morgenstern's warm and practical guide to experiencing the sweetness of a life of Torah. Through this sefer, we'll explore topics like the essence of happiness, balancing



personal effort with trust in God, what to do when we're not feeling inspired, and so much more. This class will spark deep conversations and provide practical advice to deepen your connection with Hashem, in a way that's right for you.

Molly Yarbrough
- **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 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

JUD 141–142

Being Orthodox in a Remarkably Unorthodox World

Being educated in a Jewish School but raised with one foot in secular society can lead to us being pulled in two different directions. How do I connect to tzniut when the world tells me to uncover rather than cover? How do I observe the halachot of negiah when the world offers me such a different sexual ethic. Does Judaism have a sexual ethic and if so what is it? How do I support and respect my gay friends when Judaism has laws that are so strict in these areas? Or are they? How do I stay committed to Shabbat and kashrut on campuses that don't always make it easy for me? What are the six constant mitzvot that might help me stay strong? How do I figure out how to balance home and career – what comes first and what gives? Is there a place for feminism in Judaism? We will discuss some of the issues that challenge us as Orthodox Jewish women, look at halachot and hashkafot and look for anchors that can help guide us in these areas.

Dr. Yocheved Debow
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester
  This is a one-semester course

JUD 151–152

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

JUD 153–154

Chassidut in Halacha

Uncover the Neshama of Halacha! This class explores the depth and beauty of Halacha, focusing not only on the practical application but also on the meaning behind the Halachot, transforming everyday practice into a path to deeper meaning. We will get into the depth of sefarim such as the Shulchan Aruch, Mishna Brura, and Likutei Halachot.

Rav Albert Katz
- **Thursday 9:00 pm – 10:00 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

JUD 159–160

Jewish Life Cycles: From Womb to Tomb

In this course we will explore in depth the laws and customs of the Jewish life cycle from birth through death. Topics include blessings made when a baby is born, shalom zachar, brit milah, pidyon haben, bar and bat mitzvah, weddings, and more. We will examine these issues from both the Sefardi and the Ashkenazi perspective.

Esther Grossman
- **Monday 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester

JUD 161–162

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 167

Hakdamot HaRambam • Introductions to Maimonides' Works

This class offers an in-depth journey into the foundational introductions of the Rambam to his major works, including the Commentary on the Mishnah and the Mishneh Torah. We will examine how the Rambam's introductions lay out the chronology of the Oral Law, the basic principles of Jewish law, and his revolutionary vision for Jewish learning. Additionally, we will approach some of the big questions such as reward and punishment and the World to Come.

Rav Yosef Besso-Cowan
- **Wednesday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**
  1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

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

JUD 183–184

The Written Word

This course is identical to **JA 107–108**.



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

In this class we delve into the fascinating world of Nezikin to gain a greater appreciation of halakha through the study of the Tractate Bava Kamma. Students will become comfortable utilizing the resources of the classic daf as well as develop the skills to think critically about the formulations of the Gemara through the Rishonim and Acharonim and through a close-study of the text. This course requires the willingness to get into the details that go into translating the sugya precisely in order to unlock its underlying implications and track their subsequent halakhic

development. We will cover a wide variety of topics such as vigilante justice in the eyes of halakha, damages in the public domain, and paying for benefit when it does not harm others. Our discussions will reach beyond the daf as we consider the theoretical and practical import of our sugyot and how they help shape us both as individuals and community members.

Chaya Rayman
- **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 107A–108A

Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Advanced level

This course offers an in-depth study of the first perek of Masechet Bava Batra, combining preparation of the Gemara with an in-depth iyun shiur that develops both analytical skills and a love of Torah learning. Students will engage with the sugyot through the study of selected Rishonim and Acharonim, gaining familiarity with classical commentaries and the foundations of basic "lomdus". The course will explore major themes including hezek re'iyah (privacy and damages caused by visual intrusion), fundamental principles of kinyanim (modes of acquisition and ownership), and the laws and underlying values of the synagogue and charity. Through rigorous textual analysis and discussion, students will develop the tools necessary for independent Gemara learning while deepening their understanding of both halachic concepts and broader Torah values.

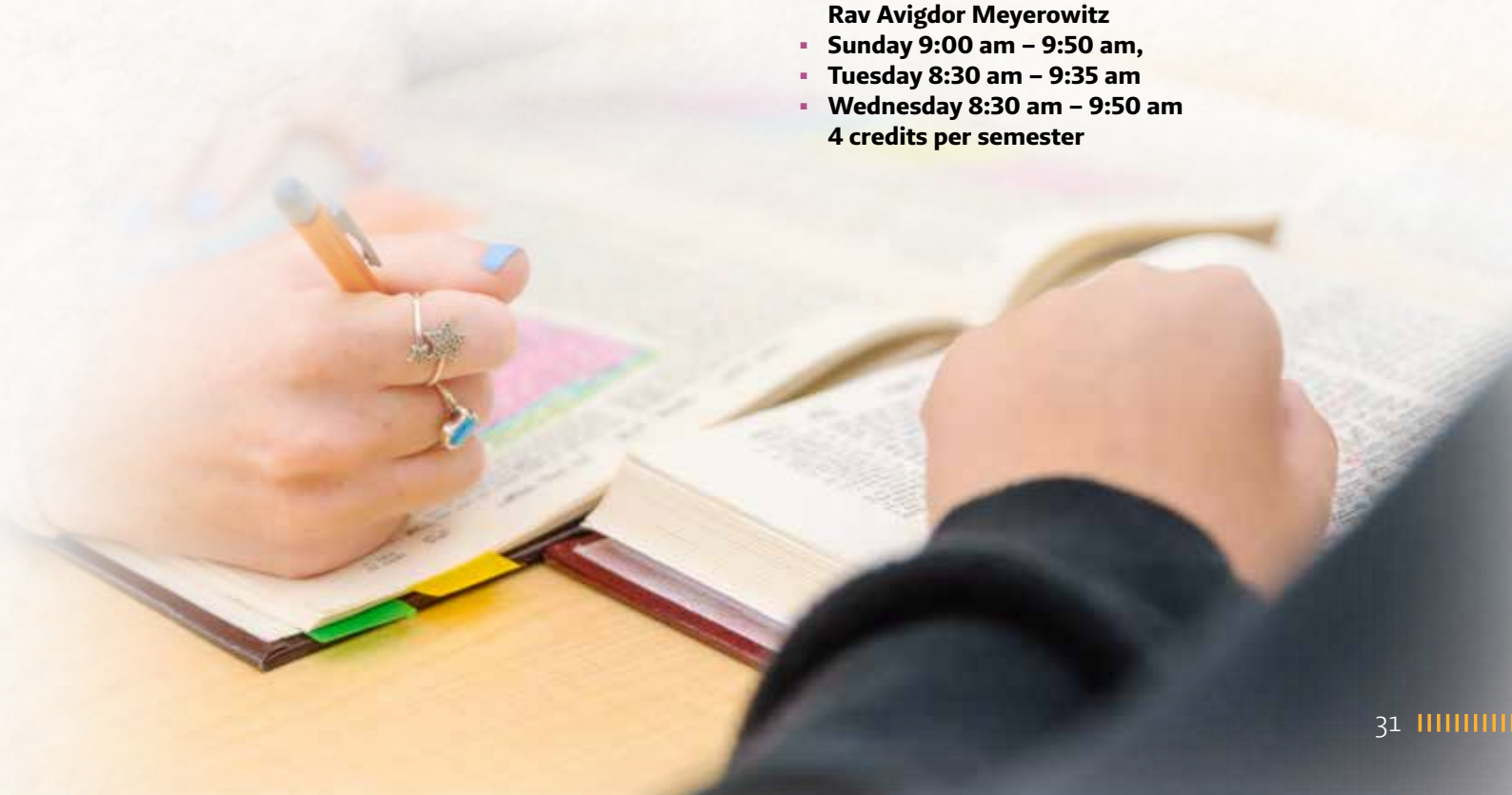
Rav Aviad Tabory
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**
  4 credits per semester

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 119–120

The Woman and Mitzvot • Halachic Sugyot in the Talmud

In this class we explore the halachic obligations and exemptions of women in mitzvot through a careful study of the classical sources, beginning with the Gemara and continuing through the Rishonim, Acharonim, and contemporary halachic rulings. Students will examine fundamental topics such as which mitzvot women are exempt from and why, the recitation of berachot on mitzvot, tzitzit, tefillin, and the obligation of prayer. The course will also cover women's obligations in the mitzvot and halachot of the Yamim Tovim and other practical areas of daily Jewish life. Emphasis will be placed on developing the skills to analyze the halachic process from its Talmudic foundations through practical pesak, while gaining a deeper understanding of the principles that shape women's halachic responsibilities.

Rav Aviad Tabory
- **Monday 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm**

1.5 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 4:05 pm – 5:05 pm**

or Rav Uriya Durani
- **Thursday 2:45 pm – 3:50 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

TAL 133A–134A

The Soul of Shas • "More Than Stories"

The Talmud's Aggadot – its narratives, parables, and non-halachic teachings – reveal the timeless ethical and spiritual vision of Chazal. In this course, we will explore selected Aggadot, uncovering their enduring wisdom and relevance for our lives. Through the insights of Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook and the Maharal of Prague, we will discover the deeper meaning behind these classic texts and develop a richer appreciation for the soul of Shas.

Rav Baruch Felberman
- **Tuesday 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

1.5 credits per semester

TAL 138–139

Tzurbot M'Rabanan

The term "Tzurba M'Rabanan" is used in the Talmud to refer to young scholars. In recent years, the term has been adopted by the Tzurba M'Rabanan Institute, which has developed a program of study of topics in Halacha, tracing their development from Biblical passages, through the Mishna and Talmud and Rishonim, Achronim and Poskim, allowing us to see how the Halacha came to be codified and applied to contemporary settings. In this class we utilize materials developed by the Tzurba M'Rabanan Institute to explore different topics in Halacha. In addition to the allotted class time students are required to devote a minimum of an extra hour for preparation of the materials.

Rav Michael Susman
- **Sunday 5:30 pm – 6:40 pm**

3 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.

"Café Nights" – Twice a year we sponsor café nights during which students are welcome to display their various artistic and creative talents. In previous years, students have prepared and performed short dramatic pieces, dance, spoken word, poetry and vocal and instrumental musical pieces. Students are encouraged to explore and develop the full range of their talents and interests.

"Haggadah" – Every year the Midrasha publishes a Haggadah highlighting incisive Divrei Torah and original art work produced by our students

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 Parshat 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.

Journey to Poland

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 hosting Shabbatot.

Living Arrangements

Students are housed in our dormitory or in area apartments, and 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 codes 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.



FACULTY



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



Dr. Yocheved Debow
Menahelet
Michlalah Yerushalayim; PhD, Bar-Ilan University; MA, BA, Psychology, Hebrew University; Teaching Certificate for the Diaspora, Michlalah Yerushalayim



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*



HaRav David Berg • *Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Beit El; Kolel Meretz; Teachers Certificate, Lifschitz Institute*



HaRav Yosef Besso-Cowan • *Yeshivat Hakotel; Semicha Candidate, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; B.Ed Candidate, Tanach and Torah SheBeal Peh, Michlelet Herzog*



HaRav Uriya Durani • *Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Har Etzion; Kollel Iyun, Yeshivat Har Etzion; B.Ed, Torah Shebe'al Peh and Tanach, Michlelet Herzog*



HaRav Baruch Felberman • *Semicha, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University; Yeshivat Shaalvim; BA, Biology and Information Science; MS, Jewish Education and Administration, Yeshiva University; Tour Guide License, Israel Ministry of Tourism*



Chany Fleischhacker • *Bnot Torah Institute; BA, Studio Art, Queens College*



Dr. Judith Fogel • *Yoetzet Halacha, Nishmat; MA, Jewish History, Hebrew University; Bruriah Scholar, Midreshet Lindenbaum; BA, Religion, Education, Columbia University, Barnard College*



Esther Grossman • *Michlalah Yerushalayim, Teachers Certificate; MS, Secondary Jewish Education, BA, Judaic Studies/Psychology, Yeshiva University*



HaRav Yonatan Horovitz • *Semicha; Yeshivat Har Etzion; BA, Jewish Studies, Jews' College*



Chaya Karnafogel Rayman • *Migdal Oz; BA Jewish Studies and Speech Pathology, MA Advanced Talmudic and Biblical Studies, Yeshiva University*



HaRav Albert Katz • *Semicha, Rav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg; Orayata: Yeshivat Otniel; MSW, Yeshiva University; B.Ed, Michlelet Herzog*



HaRav Eytan Kleinberg • *Semicha Candidate, World Mizrachi, Rabbinical Council of America; Yeshivat HaKotel; B.Ed Candidate, Tanach and History, Michlelet Herzog*



HaRav Avigdor Meyerowitz • *Yeshivat Beit El*



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*



Aviah Rosby • *Midreshet HaRova; BA Elementary Education, Yeshiva University; Teaching Certification, David Yellin Institute; MA TaNach, Michlelet Herzog*



HaRav Eliav Saban • *Yeshivat HaKotel, Yeshivat HaKotel Kollel Halacha*



HaRav Yonatan (Yonny) Sack • *Semicha, HaRav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg; Yeshivat HaMivtar; Yeshivat Har Etzion; Teaching Certificate, Michlelet Herzog; BA, Marketing, University of Technology, Sydney*



Sarah Saffran • *Darchei Bina; BA, Education/Jewish Studies, Yeshiva University*



HaRav Ari Shvat • *Semicha, Rabbanut HaRashit L'Yisrael; Yeshivat Or Etzion; MA equivalent, Michlelet Herzog*



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, Michlelet Herzog; 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 Elchanan Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University; BA Philosophy, Yeshiva University*



Franny Waisman • *Midreshet HaRova; B.Ed, Machshevet Yisrael and Tanach, Michlelet Herzog; Tour Guide Certification, Lander College*



Yakira Wald • *B.Ed, Orot Israel College for Women; BA Psychology, UNISA*



HaRav Akiva Weiss • *Semicha, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah; Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh; BA Psychology, Touro College; Certificate, M2 Institute for Experiential Jewish Education, Senior Educators Cohort I*



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



Molly Yarbrough • *Tiferet Center; BA, Biology, Yeshiva University*

ADMINISTRATION



Jeremy Kurnedz
Executive Director
Yeshivat Har Etzion; BSc, Economics, University of London



Rachel Prais
Director of Programming
Midreshet HaRova; MA, Jewish Education, Middlesex University and the London School of Jewish Studies, BA, History, University College of London



Rivi Frankel
Coordinator of Tiyulim and Israel Experiences
Midreshet Tehillah; BSc Marketing and Management, Touro University; MEd Philosophy of Jewish Education and Tanach, Hebrew University; Tour Guide License, Israel Ministry of Tourism



Leiba Smith
Office Manager
Midreshet Lindenbaum; BA, Comparative Religion/Anthropology, University of Manitoba

ANNUAL SCHEDULE 5787
תוכנית שנתית תשפ"ז

Ellul Zman

Arrival at the Midrasha	ה' אלול	Tue, August 18
Shabbat Midrasha	ט' אלול	Shabbat, August 22
Erev Rosh Hashanah/Rosh Hashanah	כ"ט אלול - ב' תשרי	Fri, September 11 – Sun, September 13
Tzom Gedaliah *Regular classes until 12:30 pm, no afternoon classes, regular night seder*	ג' תשרי	Mon, September 14
Yom Kippur in the Midrasha	י' תשרי	Sun, September 20 – Mon, September 21
Sukkot Break begins	י"א תשרי	Tue, September 22
SUKKOT BREAK • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – MONDAY, OCTOBER 5		

Choref Zman

Start of Choref Zman	כ"ד תשרי	Mon, October 5
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ט תשרי	Shabbat, October 10
Shabbat Midrasha	כ' חשוון	Shabbat, October 31
Shabbat Midrasha	י"א כסלו	Shabbat, November 21
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ה כסלו	Shabbat, December 5
Chanukah Break *Begins on the afternoon of December 9*	כ"ט כסלו - ב' טבת	Wed, December 9 – Sun, December 12
Classes resume	ג' טבת	Sun, December 13
Shabbat Midrasha	ט' טבת	Shabbat, December 19
Asarah B'Tevet *Trip to Yad Vashem*	י' טבת	Sunday, December 20
Shabbat Midrasha	א' שבט	Shabbat, January 9



Journey to Poland / Zeminar	כ"ג שבט - ב' אדר א'	Sun, January 31 – Tue, February 9
Shabbat Midrasha	י"ג אדר א'	Shabbat, February 20
Shabbat Midrasha – Parashat Zachor	י"א אדר ב'	Shabbat, March 20
Ta'anit Esther *Regular classes until 12:45 pm, no afternoon classes*	י"ג אדר ב'	Mon, March 22
Purim / Shushan Purim	י"ד-ט"ז אדר ב'	Tue, March 23 – Wed, March 24
Tiyul to Eilat	כ"ח אדר ב' - א' ניסן	Tue, April 6 – Thu, April 8
Last day of Choref Zman	א' ניסן	Thu, April 8
PESACH BREAK • FRIDAY, APRIL 9 – SUNDAY, MAY 2		

Kayitz Zman

Return to the Midrasha	כ"ו ניסן	Mon, May 3
Yom HaShoah	כ"ז ניסן	Tue, May 4
Shabbat Midrasha	א' אייר	Shabbat, May 8
Yom HaZikaron	ד' אייר	Tue, May 11
Yom HaAtzmaut	ה' אייר	Wed, May 12
Golan Tiyul / Shabbat Midrasha in Tzfat	כ' - כ"ד אייר	Thu, May 27 – Mon, May 31
Yom Yerushalayim	כ"ז-כ"ח אייר	Thu, June 4 – Fri, June 5
Erev Shavuot No classes	ה' סיוון	Thu, June 10
Shavuot / Shabbat Midrasha	ו'-ז' סיוון	Thu, June 10 – Shabbat, May 23
End of Northern Hemisphere year	ח' סיוון	Sun, June 13

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.




עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל
תּוֹרַת יִשְׂרָאֵל
אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל
בַּנְּשָׁמָה