



# Midreshet HaRova

The André Veres Advanced Torah Academy for Women

## Course Catalog

תשפ"ג • 2022-23





## Introduction

Since its inception in 1990, Midreshet HaRova has provided a unique Israel study experience for hundreds of young women from all over the world. With the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City as a backdrop, students at the Midrasha enjoy an unparalleled setting in which to develop spiritually and intellectually, thus preparing themselves to make an impact as educated Jewish women in both Israel and the Diaspora.



## History

From a small program with a handful of students from the Southern Hemisphere, Midreshet HaRova has developed into one of Israel's leading seminaries, currently sponsoring more than half a dozen programs, serving over 400 women from Israel and around the globe. From a single building, the Midrasha now comprises a multi-building campus in the Old City, as well as several off-site locations both within and outside of Jerusalem. With the addition of the Betty and Joseph Kopelowitz Study Hall, the Midrasha now boasts a modern Beit Midrash with seating for 150 students.

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

The student body at Midreshet HaRova is a mosaic of the Jewish world, with women hailing from Israel, North America, the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, South Africa and Australia. United by their motivation to learn and their thirst for spiritual growth, they live and study together, learn from and about each other, and coalesce into a single unit. The singular nature of this group gives the Midrasha its unique, unmatched character.



## Educational Philosophy

It is a basic tenet of the educational philosophy of the Midrasha that Torah study should not be viewed as merely an academic and intellectual pursuit but should, first and foremost, help shape one's personality. With this in mind, each student at the Midrasha is encouraged to maximize her personal growth according to her individual needs and interests. The educational program at the Midrasha emphasizes independence in learning through chavruta study, while at the same time offering an extraordinary array of courses designed to allow each student the opportunity to delve into areas of personal interest. While class size varies, the average class size is roughly 18 students per class, thus facilitating a high degree of student faculty interaction.

The educational philosophy that drives the Midrasha views the Overseas Program as a holistic experience, neither limited to the classroom nor bound by the traditional academic calendar. The Midrasha never closes its doors, even during times that classes are not in session, so students are never at a loss for activities during vacation time. During their time in Israel, Midrasha students tour extensively, participate in enriching seminar programs, and are introduced to a wide swath of Israeli society, all the while deepening their attachment to the people and the Land of Israel.





## Overseas Program

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

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



## Faculty

The Overseas Program is directed by the Rosh Midrasha, Rav David Milston. 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.

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



## Student Life

Students are housed in either the Midrasha dormitory or in local apartments, all located a short walk from the main building. With airy public spaces, balconies and landscaped courtyards, the Midrasha housing provides an ideal atmosphere for students to relax during their free time.

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

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

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



# Midreshet HaRova Timetable • 5783

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

Time	Sunday	Monday
8:30 am – 9:55 am	<b>Halacha Bekiut (9:00 am – 9:55 am)</b>	<b>Torah Bekiut</b>
	Rav Shames [Beg/Int] (26)	Rav Yonny Sack [Int] (7)
	Rav Susman [Int] (26)	Rav Milston [Adv-NH] (7)
	Rav Bailey [Adv] (26)	Rav Yonatan [Adv-SH] (7)
	Gemara Bekiut – Rav Avigdor (29)	A Dvar Torah for Shabbat – Rav Berg (8)
	Nevi'im Bekiut – Rav Yonatan (9)	
10:05 am – 12:45 pm	<b>Torah Shebe'al Peh</b>	<b>Chumash Be'lyun</b>
	Rav Susman [Beg] – Brachot (28)	Walking with the Commentators – Rav Berg (6)
	Dr. Judith Fogel [Int] – Ketubot (28)	From Galut to Geula – Rav Bailey [Int] (6)
	Rav Bailey [Int] – 1st/3rd chapters Beitzah (28)	Sefer Shemot – Rav Yonny Sack [Int] (6)
	Rav Shames [Int] – Rosh Hashanah (28)	Sefer Vayikra – Esther Grossman [Int] (7)
	Rav Avigdor [Adv-H] – Makkot (29)	Parshat Hashavua – Rav Avigdor [Adv] (7)
		Bereishit/Bamidbar – Rav Yonatan [Adv-H] (7)
	<b>Machshava</b>	
	Interpersonal Relationships in Navi – Atara Starr/Rav Ron (12)	
	Classical Jewish Thought – Miriam Wolf (19)	
12:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Lunch/Afternoon Break	Lunch/Afternoon Break
3:00 pm – 4:15 pm	<b>Electives</b>	<b>Electives (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm)</b>
	Ha'Isha v'HaMitzvot – Esther Grossman (27)	Massechet Derech Eretz – Rav Ron (29)
	Sefer HaTanya – Rav Shames (21)	Strive for Truth – Rav Milston (18)
	Drama and Tanach – Devorah Starr (13)	Halachic Responses to 1000 Years of History – Rav Aviad Tabory (14)
	Hilchot Kashrut – Rav Berg (25)	Morality – Dara Unterberg (20)
	Medical Ethics (fall) – Rav Yonatan (27)	Midrash and Aggada (fall) – Rachel Himelstein (22)
	Modern Orthodoxy (spring) – Rav Yonatan (24)	Family Redeemed (spring) – Rachel Himelstein (22)
	Contemporary Halachah – Rav Bailey (25)	Beit Midrash
	Beit Midrash – Rav Milston	Siyurim – Rav Shames / Rav Susman (15)
4:25 pm – 5:40 pm		<b>4:15 pm – 5:15 pm</b>
	Postively Shabbat – Rav Shames (26)	Trei Asar – Rav Ron (8)
	Writings of Rav Soloveitchik (fall) – Rav Yonatan (19)	Tzaddik v'Ra Lo (fall) – Dara Unterberg (9)
	Writings of Rav Lichtenstein (spring) – Rav Yonatan (20)	Shivat Tzion (spring) – Dara Unterberg (11)
	Meaning in Tefilla – Rav Yonny Sack (17)	Current Affairs – Rachel Himelstein (14)
	Bayit Sheini: The Real Story – Miriam Wolf (16)	Mitzvot: Why and How – Rav Bailey (26)
	From Womb to Tomb(stone) – Esther Grossman (27)	Netivot Shalom – Rav Milston (19)
	Hilchot Shabbat – Rav Berg (24)	Beit Midrash
	Beit Midrash – Rav Susman/Rav Bailey	Siyurim – Rav Shames / Rav Susman (cont'd) (15)
		Halachic Response to the State of Israel – Rav Aviad Tabory (16)
5:50 pm – 7:00 pm	Shoalim v'Dorshim – Esther Grossman (18)	<b>5:30 pm – 7:00 pm</b>
	Off the Beaten Track in Tanach – Rav Yonatan (11)	Announcements
	Leadership Workshop – Rav Berg (14)	Shiur Klali – Rav Milston
	The Jewish Self – Rav Yonny Sack (22)	
	Shaul and David – Rav Bailey (9)	
	The Jewish Ethicist (fall) – Rav Susman (26)	
	Faith in Times of Darkness (spring) – Rav Susman (15)	
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	<b>Seder Erev (8:00 pm – 9:00 pm)</b>	
	Soulmates – Rav Yonny Sack (23)	
	Beit Midrash Supervisor – Rav Yonatan	
	<b>9:00 pm – 10:00 pm</b>	
	Shemirat Halashon – Aviah Rosby (25)	
	Beit Midrash Supervisor – Rav Yonatan	

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Electives 8:30 am – 9:40 am</b>	<b>Halacha Bekiut</b>	<b>Torah Bekiut</b>
Pirkei Avot – Rav Bailey (19)	Rav Shames [Beg/Int] (26)	Rav Yonny Sack [Int] (7)
Midrash Parshat Hashavua – Rav Ron (10)	Rav Susman [Int] (26)	Rav Milston [Adv-NH] (7)
Hilchot Shabbat – Rav Berg (24)	Rav Bailey [Adv] (26)	Rav Yonatan [Adv-SH] (7)
Advanced Kashrut – Dr. Judith Fogel (25)	Gemara Bekiut – Rav Avigdor (29)	A Dvar Torah for Shabbat – Rav Berg (8)
Gemara Bekiut – Rav Avigdor (29)	Nevi'im Bekiut – Rav Yonatan (9)	
The Mussar Masters – Rav Yonny Sack (21)		
<b>9:50 am – 10:50 am</b>	<b>Torah SheBe'al Peh</b>	<b>Chumash Be'lyun</b>
Beit Midrash – Rav Bailey/Dr. Judith Fogel	Rav Susman [Beg] – Brachot (28)	Walking with the Commentators – Rav Berg (6)
Tikkun HaMiddot – Rav Yonny Sack (24)	Dr. Judith Fogel [Int] – Ketubot (28)	From Galut to Geula – Rav Bailey [Int] (6)
Five Megillot – Deborah Starr (fall only) (10)	Rav Bailey [Int] – 1st/3rd chapters Beitzah (28)	Sefer Shemot – Rav Yonny Sack [Int] (6)
Torah SheBe'al Peh – Rav Avigdor [Adv-H] – Makkot (29)	Rav Shames [Int] – Rosh Hashanah (28)	Sefer Vayikra – Esther Grossman [Int] (7)
Eternity – Rav David Milston (11)	Rav Avigdor [Adv-H] – Makkot (29)	Parshat Hashavua – Rav Avigdor [Adv] (7)
Avot D'Rabbi Natan – Rav Ron (29)		Bereishit/Bamidbar – Rav Yonatan [Adv-H] (7)
<b>11:00 am – 12:00 pm</b>	<b>Machshava</b>	
Likutei Moharan – Rav Milston (23)	Interpersonal Relationships in Navi – Atara Starr/Rav Ron (12)	
Aggadeta – Rav Ron (29)	Classical Jewish Thought – Miriam Wolf (19)	
Advanced Hilchot Shabbat – Rav Shames (24)		
Everyday Inspiration – Deborah Starr (27)		
Practical Halacha – Rav Yonny Sack (26)		
Torah SheBe'al Peh – Rav Avigdor [Adv-H] (cont'd) (29)		
Halachic Woman – Dr. Judith Fogel (SH) (20)		
<b>12:00 pm – 12:45 pm Lunch   12:45 pm – 1:35 pm Cleaning</b>	Lunch/Afternoon Break	Lunch/Afternoon Break
<b>Electives (1:35 pm – 3:45 pm)</b>	<b>Electives</b>	<b>Electives</b>
The Kedma Volunteering Program (2:00 pm – 6:00 pm)	Chassidut – Rav Yonny Sack (22)	Before There was Gemara – Rav Bailey (29)
Art Option 1 – Rachel Himelstein (1:45 pm – 3:45 pm) (13)	Sefer Daniel (fall) – Rav Ron (11)	Halachic Woman – Dr. Judith Fogel (20)
	Post Talmudic History (spring) – Rav Ron (16)	Mesilat Yesarim – Rav Milston (18)
	Thought of Rav Kook – Rav Shvat (27)	Tefillah Workshop – Rav Shames (17)
	Discovering Texts – Rav Bailey (27)	The Written Word – Journaling – Leiba Smith (14)
	Nefesh HaChaim – Rav Denitz (23)	Beit Midrash – Rav Susman
	The Written Word – Leiba Smith (13)	
	Beit Midrash – Rav Susman	
	Torat, Am v'Medinat Yisrael – Rav Shvat [H] (17)	Kuzrari – Rav Noam Himelstein (18)
	Derech Hashem – Rav Ron (19)	Hilchot Kashrut – Rav Berg (25)
	Shemirat HaLashon (fall) – Rav Yonny Sack (25)	Eliyahu and Elisha (fall) – Rav Yonatan (10)
<b>4:00 pm – 6:00 pm</b>	Big Questions People Ask (spring) – Rav Yonny Sack (20)	Yirmiyahu and Yechezkel (spring) – Rav Yonatan (10)
The Kedma Volunteering Program cont'd (2:00 pm – 6:00 pm)	Contemporary Halachah – Rav Bailey (25)	Behind the Scenes – Rav Efroni Schlesinger (12)
Art Option 2 – Rachel Himelstein (13)	Nashim B'Tanach – Miriam Wolf (9)	Halachic Woman – Dr. Judith Fogel (20)
	Introduction to Kabbalah – Rav Denitz (21)	Beit Midrash – Rav Bailey
	Beit Midrash – Rav Susman	
	Alei Shor – Rav Denitz (19)	Sippurei Rebbe Nachman – Esther Mayer-Deutsch (23)
	Torat, Am v'Medinat Yisrael – Rav Shvat (17)	Personal Status in Jewish Law – Rav Berg (25)
	Minhagim and Halachah – Rav Ron (27)	Confronting Modernity – Rav Yonatan (19)
	Sefardi Halacha – Rav Susman (26)	Bein Isha LaMakom – Dr. Judith Fogel (26)
	Tikkun HaMiddot – Rav Yonny Sack (24)	Great Hashkafic Debates of our Time – Rav Efroni Schlesinger (22)
	Nashim B'Tanach – Miriam Wolf (9)	Beit Midrash
	Beit Midrash	Writings of Rav Hirsch (fall) – Rav Noam Himelstein (20)
<b>Seder Erev (8:00 pm – 9:00 pm)</b>	<b>Seder Erev (8:00 pm – 9:00 pm)</b>	<b>Seder Erev</b>
Guest Speaker	Beit Midrash Supervisors – Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg	Beit Midrash Supervisors – Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg
Beit Midrash Supervisor – Dr. Judith Fogel	Israeli Chavrutot	
<b>9:00 pm – 10:00 pm</b>	<b>9:00 pm – 10:00 pm</b>	<b>8:30 pm – 10:00 pm</b>
Beit Midrash Supervisor – Dr. Judith Fogel	Beit Midrash Supervisors – Eytan and Lytal Kleinberg	Masa Israel Course (15)



## DEPARTMENT OF BIBLE תורה שבכתב

### BIB 101–102

#### *Walking with the Commentators*

In this course we focus on a pivotal issue in the weekly Torah reading, and we explore that topic together with the great Torah commentators. When being introduced to each commentator for the first time we study the biography of that personality as well as his exegetical approach. We spend time studying the texts independently, followed by a classroom discussion focused on revealing the deeper message that the commentator wished to impart.

■ Rav David Berg

■ Monday and Thursday 10:05 am – 12:45 pm

■ 4 credits per semester

### BIB 103–104

#### *Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • Book of Genesis/Exodus*

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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm

■ 4 credits per semester

### BIB 105–106

#### *Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate Level • Book of Exodus*

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

■ Rav Yonny Sack

■ Monday and Thursday 10:05 am – 12:45 pm

■ 4 credits per semester

**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 107-108*****Torah SheBichtav • Intermediate/Advanced Level • Book of Leviticus***

This course provides students with the opportunity to go through the entire Book and become well-versed in the sacrifices, narrative and plethora of mitzvot contained within Sefer Vayikra. We draw from classical and modern commentaries to enhance our understanding of the material and improve textual skills. This class seeks to enrich one's observance of Shabbat and the chagim, ignite student's anticipation of the geulah, enhance one's davening and strengthen each individual's understanding of kedusha in an effort to improve one's relationship with Hashem, others and the Land of Israel.

■ **Esther Grossman**

■ **Monday and Thursday 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**

■ 4 credits per semester

**BIB 107A-108A*****Torah SheBichtav • Advanced Level • The Weekly Torah Portion in Depth***

The central aim of this course is to develop the ability to study and formulate a comprehensive understanding of an issue in the Parashat Shavua as learned by the mefarshim, as well as to develop ideas independently. After a brief overview of the Parasha we analyze a chosen topic from the Parasha through the prism of both early and later commentators. As the year progresses and our learning skills develop, students are encouraged to present their ideas either in writing or verbally to the students in the class.

■ **Rav Avigdor Meyerowitz**

■ **Monday and Thursday 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**

■ 4 credits per semester

**BIB 107B-108B*****Torah SheBichtav • Advanced Level • Genesis/Numbers***

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

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

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz (Hebrew)**

■ **Monday and Thursday 10:05 am – 12:45 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 David Milston – Advanced**

■ **Monday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9:55 am**

■ 3 credits per semester





**BIB 109A–109B*****A D'var Torah for Shabbat***

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

■ **Rav David Berg**

■ **Monday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9:55 am**

■ 3 credits per semester

**BIB 119–120*****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**

■ **Monday 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester





**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 – 9:55 am**
- **Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:55 am**
- 3 credits per semester

**BIB 125*****Midrash and Aggada***

Midrashei Aggada, which we first hear as stories in early childhood, are often later dismissed as silly and simplistic, or simply incomprehensible. In this course, we delve into both the content and form of Midrashic literature, discover different styles of Midrash, its use of language and metaphor, its relationship to the Biblical text, and above all its meaning and purpose. A reasonable command of Hebrew text is recommended.

- **Rachel Himmelstein**
- **Monday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
- 1.5 credit per semester • Fall semester only

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

This course covers portraits of the women who appear in Tanach through the eyes of Chazal. Individuals studied will include Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, Leah, Miriam, Tzipora, Devora, Esther and Ruth.

- **Miriam Wolf**
- **Wednesday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- **or 5:50 pm – 7:00 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 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

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

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

- **Dara Unterberg**
- **Monday 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only





**BIB 137****Five Megillot**

This course takes an in-depth look at the episodes in the five Megillot, with the goal of showing how they apply to our everyday lives. Emphasis is placed on developing textual skills, using a variety of sources including Rashi, Chazal, Metzudot, and other classical meforshim.

■ **Devorah Starr**

■ **Tuesday 9:50 am – 10:50 am**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

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

This course will cover the main themes and prophecies in the books of Yirmiyahu and Yechezkel. Following the chronological order as found in the Book of Kings we will study the prophecies related to the time period from the days of Uziya until the exile in Bavel. The sessions will comprise self-study followed by a discussion and summary.

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

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

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

■ **Rav Zvi Ron**

■ **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:40 am**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

**BIB 145****Eliyahu and Elisha**

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

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only





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

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

■ **Dara Unterberg**

■ **Monday 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

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

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

■ **Rav Zvi Ron**

■ **Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

**BIB 155–156*****Off The Beaten (Biblical) Track***

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

This course was formerly titled Biblical Personalities.

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Sunday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

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

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

■ **Atara Starr**

■ **Tuesday 9:50 am – 10:50 am**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

**BIB 167–168*****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 9:50 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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**

■ 4 credits per semester

**BIB 173–174*****Behind The Scenes in the Bible***

The Torah covers over 2000 years of History, but the Chumash only teaches us about a handful of leaders, a couple of their stories, and a small fraction of the details. There's so much information that we're missing from the text alone. Why Did Yitzchak believe that Eisav was his successor? Why did Yaakov wait 8 years after working for Rachel and Leah to go back home? How did the brothers justify selling Yosef, and why didn't Yosef tell his father that he was still alive right when he came into power? Through a critical reading of the text, important insights of our rabbis, and some illuminating midrashim, we'll paint a picture of what was going on in the lives of our ancestors Behind The Scenes.

■ **Rav Efroni Schlesinger**

■ **Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

**BIB 177–178*****Drama and Tanach***

This class is identical to JA 103–104





## DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH CREATIVE ARTS אומנות

### JA 101-102

#### *Artistic Expression*

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

■ **Rachel Himmelstein**

■ **Tuesday 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm**

■ **and/or Tuesday 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

■ Each session: 2 credits per semester

### JA 103-104

#### *Drama and Tanach*

This class explores and analyzes the narrative portions of Tanach from a dramatic perspective. Students use theater arts as a means of increasing their understanding of various Biblical personalities and pesukim in the Torah in a hands-on approach to Torah learning which is both challenging and transformative. The performance elements of this class serve as a form of expression as well as an assessment of the areas of study.

This course is also numbered **BIB 177-178**.

■ **Devorah Starr**

■ **Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:15 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 written language. This course is a hands-on writing workshop where we will 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 will include those related to the Jewish yearly cycle and those that arise from our learning. Previous writing experience not required. Be sure to come with a willingness to explore and share in a group setting.

This course is also numbered **JUD 183-184**.

■ **Leiba Smith**

■ **Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester



**JA 109–110*****The Written Word • Journaling***

Creative writing is a means to explore both the world within us and that which surrounds us through written language. This course is a hands-on writing workshop, integrating our Jewish knowledge with techniques of self-exploration. These sessions will focus specifically on the use of journaling techniques to study and reshape our life. Each class will involve learning a technique, writing, and time for sharing. Previous writing experience not required. Be sure to come with a willingness to explore and work in a group setting.

■ **Leiba Smith**

■ **Thursday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ This is a one-semester course • 1.5 credits per semester

## DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH EDUCATION חינוך

**JED 105–106*****Introduction to Principles in Education • Leadership Workshop***

This course prepares the student for teaching in a classroom situation using group dynamics for informal education. Participants in this class are introduced to the following educational issues and needs:

- Preparation of group activities, plays, ceremonies and end of year events
- Using games and drama in the classroom
- A mini-course in First Aid
- Identifying and assisting students with learning difficulties or disabilities. Emphasis is placed on understanding the social implications for these students.
- Educational psychology – students are introduced to concepts in child development, learning disabilities and more.

- Practical Training – training experience in Israeli schools, principal and teacher interviews

■ **Rav David Berg**

■ **Sunday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 2 credits per semester

**JED 109–110*****Current Events***

In Current Events we discuss and debate various Israeli and international news items, examining how these issues impact our daily lives, from the perspective of religious women, and as people who are exposed to journalism outside of Israel. This class enables students to expand their Israel experience by learning about Israeli news as it develops, and becoming acquainted with local politicians and culture. On a weekly basis, we analyze the latest updates in Israeli local news and international journalism and learn what is going on behind the scenes. We follow news items and watch how they develop over the weeks while familiarizing ourselves with Israeli newspapers and becoming acquainted with their particular slant. Together we reflect on these topics and expand our understanding of our role in these changing times.

■ **Rachel Himmelstein**

■ **Monday 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ This class is not for credit

## DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH HISTORY היסטוריה

**JHI 107–108*****Halachik Responses to One Thousand Years of History***

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



challenges caused by the upheavals of the Crusades, and continuing until the establishment of the State of Israel.

■ **Rav Aviad Tabory**

■ **Monday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JHI 109–110

### *Masa Israel Course*

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

- The connection of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel
- Understanding the Arab–Israeli conflict
- The fundamentals of effective activism
- Leadership development and personal growth

The goal of this course is not simply to leave students with a greater knowledge and understanding of Israel and the conflict, but also to provide them with the skills necessary to step up for Israel on their campuses and within their communities. To that end, significant emphasis is placed on developing students' leadership potential and on empowering students to view themselves as actors in Jewish history with the ability

to make a meaningful impact in the world. Using the latest multimedia educational resources, including film and video, this course features interactive workshops, guest speakers, and uses current events as the back-drop for class discussion.

■ **Rav Michael Unterberg**

■ **Thursday 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm**

■ 2 credits per semester

## JHI 111

### *Jerusalem through Time*

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

■ **Rav Michael Susman, Rav Ari Shames**

■ **Monday 3:00 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ This is a one-semester course • 3 credits per semester

## JHI 116

### *Faith in Times of Darkness*

Since the time that the Talmud was completed, Jews have applied the precepts of Halacha to the changing social, legal and economic aspects of both their personal and communal lives. One of the most com-





mon 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 Halachik guidance help them confront the daily horrors forced upon them by the Nazi regime. In this class we study selected responsa which help us to appreciate the personal heroism which enabled individuals, and a nation to retain personal and communal dignity while trying to survive the genocidal goals of the Nazi killing machine.

■ **Rav Michael Susman**

■ **Sunday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

## JHI 121–122

### *The State and Jewish Law*

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 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JHI 123

### *Post-Talmudic History*

This course covers the period from the close of the Talmud to the end of the Geonim. The focus is on why events developed the way they did and how that period of history impacts us today. Among other topics, we will learn about the first siddur, how and when the Talmud was written, the first responsa literature, the first legal codes, what brought the Geonic period to a close, and why yeshivot today study Gemara the way they do.

■ **Rav Zvi Ron**

■ **Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

## 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 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester







## DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH PHILOSOPHY מחשבה

### JPH 103-104

#### *Finding Meaning in Prayer • Tefilla Workshop*

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

- **Rav Yonny Sack**
- **Sunday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- **or Rav Ari Shames**
- **Thursday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

### JPH 105-106

#### *Torat Eretz Yisrael •*

#### *The Philosophy of Religious Zionism*

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

- The Role of Am Yisrael – the State of Israel / the “three vows” / fixing new festivals / the Israeli Army / the Hebrew language / relations between religious and non-religious
- The Redemption – with or without repentance / Mashiach Ben Yosef / signs of Geula
- The Land of Israel – the center of Judaism / Torah and mitzvot / mitzvat Yishuv HaAretz / leaving Eretz Yisrael
- Torah VeAvoda, Yerushalayim – Temple and Kingship, seat of Hashem, of justice, and the House of David / king, prophet, sage and priest / balance and separation of power.

- **Rav Ari Shvat**
- **Wednesday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm (Hebrew)**
- **or Wednesday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm (English)**
- 1.5 credits per semester

### JPH 107-108

#### *The Thought of Rav Kook*

In addition to being the “Father of Religious-Zionism”, Rav Kook, the first Chief Rabbi of Israel, is considered among Jews and non-Jews alike to be one of the most original thinkers of the century. His harmonic, holistic and optimistic approach deals with just about every question and topic facing the modern Jew, and has proven to be extremely popular, relevant, and inspiring to our generation. Topics are selected by Rav Shvat (one of the editors of Rav Kook's writings!) from the most famous and classic chapters of Rav Kook's 40 books, as well as unpublished manuscripts, including Emunah; free will; good-evil in the world; the pleasant way to Tshuva; understanding “The Generation”; parent-child relationships; vegetarianism; improving motivation to learn; understanding/identifying with the mitzvot; the beauty of history; intellect and emotion; “understanding”, love and awe of G-d; the goal of life; evolution; secular morality; why youth are so idealistic, how do you know which “hashkafa” is correct, and more.

- **Rav Ari Shvat**
- **Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester



**JPH 111–112*****Shoalim V'Dorshim • The Yearly Calendar***

With the approach of every holiday and significant day in the Jewish Calendar we will explore topics relating to the times. Ideally, through our learning, we will be better prepared, informed and inspired to experience them. Sources will be from Tanach, Rishonim, Acharonim as well as contemporary. Sampling of topics – Teshuva, Tefillah, Simcha, Limmud haTorah and Eretz Yisrael.

■ **Esther Grossman**

■ **Sunday 5:50 pm – 7:00 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 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

**JPH 117–118*****Messilat Yescharim • Path of the Just***

We study this sefer from the very beginning, with an aim to complete an initial study by year-end. The work

comprises 27 chapters including the introduction. However, our real objective is more emphatically in the qualitative area. The work is a compendium of wisdom and real understanding of life. By intense study, and introspection, we hope to discover the pathway to Hashem.

■ **Rav David Milston**

■ **Thursday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

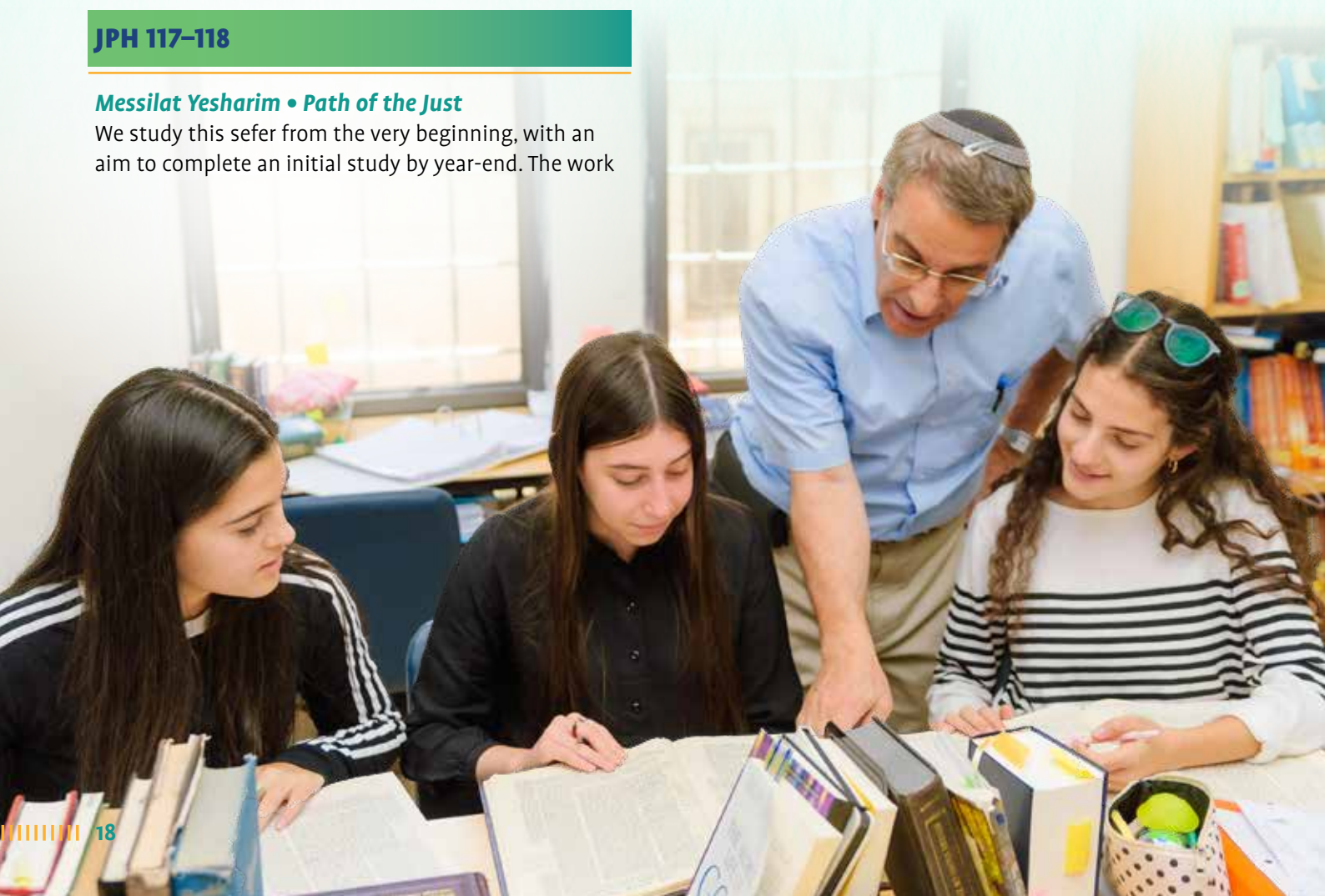
**JPH 119–120*****The Case for Judaism • Sefer HaKuzari***

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

■ **Rav Noam Himelstein**

■ **Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester





**JPH 125*****Introduction to the Philosophy of Rav Soloveitchik***

In this course we examine some basic and recurring themes in the Rav's philosophy, using a number of texts written in English.

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Sunday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

**JPH 127-128*****Confronting Modernity***

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

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

**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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**

■ 4 credits per semester

**JPH 137-138*****Allel Shor***

In this course we will study this outstanding work of the leading contemporary master of Mussar, Rav Shlomo Wolbe. In today's world there are probably very few yeshivot and seminaries that don't have Allel Shor lining the bookshelves. What is more essential than the actual study of the book, however, is the practical application of its teachings into our everyday lives. This course deals intensely with the practical application of Jewish Ethics and behavior and includes a detailed program for self-improvement. Rav Wolbe, who was a master in understanding human psychology and ethos, forces the student to challenge himself in ways

that lead to everlasting change in one's middot, character, and thought. Students who delve deep into this sefer will walk away having flexed the muscle of greater self-awareness and will be given the tools to dissect their own life in a healthy, positive, and permanent way. Join us as we deep dive into one the most popular modern day works.

■ **Rav Yoni Denitz**

■ **Wednesday 5:50 pm – 7:00 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, talks relating to Shoah and passages that offer 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 both comprehensible and uplifting.

■ **Rav David Milston**

■ **Monday 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

■ 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 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

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

In this course we analytically study the text of the mishnayot from the tractate Avot. Using the symbolic,



structured and metaphoric nature of the chosen texts, we are able to glean the integral lessons of our ancestors as they apply to our lives as Jews.

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

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 10:00 am**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 152

### *By His Light • The Thought of Rav Aharon Lichtenstein*

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

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

## JPH 156

### *Issues of Faith*

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

## JPH 159-160

### *Writings of Rav Samson Raphael Hirsch*

In this course we will deal with the historical background of the Jewish community in 19th century Europe during the period of Enlightenment, as well as

the Hirschian concept of “Torah im Derech Eretz”. We will be focusing primarily on Rav Hirsch’s seminal first work *The Nineteen Letters* as well as selected essays and excerpts of Chovev and his Commentary on the Torah. We will discuss the spirit of Judaism and the role of mitzvot as well as the significance of justice and love as primary goals in our Avodat Hashem.

- **Atara Starr**
- **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**
- **or Rav Noam Himmelstein**
- **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm • Fall semester only**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 165-166

### *Torat HaIsha • 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.

This course is also numbered **JUD 127-128**.

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**
- **or Thursday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- **or Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 167-168

### *Morality*

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

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

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



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

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

- **Dara Unterberg**
- **Monday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## 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 – 9:40 am**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 171–172

### **The Book of Tanya**

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

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 173–174

### **Introduction to Kabbala**

Standing on Mount Sinai the Jews received the most magnificent and extraordinary gift that mankind ever received. We received what is known as the revealed Torah. However, there was another point in Jewish history when we received what's called the hidden Torah, known as Kabbala. The word Kabbala literally means "that which is received". In order to grow and to receive and incorporate spirituality into our lives we must be receptive and we must open our hearts and nishamot to be a catalyst to receive the beauty of Torah. We must transform ourselves into a vessel in which to absorb that which we wish to understand or grasp, and in turn become part of Kabbala. Kabbala is the focus of opening the self, the neshamah, the person, to a higher reality; to view the purpose within everything physical, to see spirituality in everything that we do, to raise our consciousness to the point where our perception of reality is completely changed. Ultimately, we come to a level where the divine within all creation is revealed and felt. This class will explore all the aforementioned





concepts and not only inspire but give you the deeper understanding of the intricate, yet beautiful world, of Kabbala.

■ **Rav Yoni Denitz**

■ **Wednesday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 176

### *Family Redeemed*

Family Redeemed is one of the many books written by Rav Soloveitchik that demonstrate his keen understanding and depth of Torah knowledge. Whilst the Rav was world renowned for his vast scholarly abilities, this book is set apart precisely because it focuses on relationships. Using the first two chapters of the Book of Genesis, the Rav directed us to explore the roles and duties of individuals seeking to form community. We learn how these values and concepts are so relevant today, eye opening in their insight, and serving to enlighten us in a world with ever changing definitions and concepts of family. Group discussion is highly encouraged in response to this fascinating text.

■ **Rachel Himmelstein**

■ **Monday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

## 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 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 179–180

### *Greatest Hashkafic Debates of Our Time*

In your year in Israel you're exposed to so much – Tanach, Halacha, Gemara, Machshava, and Mussar. But, you know that this year is not only about learning; it's about integrating everything you've learned into a way of life. How do you do that? There are so many different types of Jews and so many different Hashkafas. Do you need to ask a Rabbi your Hashkafic questions, or can you choose for yourself? How do you decide what community and lifestyle is right for you after seminary? How do you decide if and when you should move to Israel? Are co-ed environments appropriate? Can you interpret the parsha on your own, or do you need to follow what's already been written? These are questions that Orthodox Jews have been debating for generations, and this year is your time to learn about these debates and develop a Hashkafa that is both personal and true to our tradition.

■ **Rav Efroni Schlesinger**

■ **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 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, practi-





cal, 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 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 185–186

### *Soul Mates: A Deeper Look at Men and Women*

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

■ **Rav Yonny Sack**

■ **Sunday 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

■ This class is not for credit

## JPH 189–190

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

■ **Rav David Milston**

■ **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester



## JPH 191–192

### *The Thought of Rav Nachman of Breslav*

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

■ **Esther Mayer-Deutsch**

■ **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JPH 193–194

### *Nefesh HaChayim • The Philosophy of Rabbi Chayim of Volozhin*

Nefesh HaChayim is the famous work of one of the main disciples of the Vilna Gaon, Rav Chaim Volozhin. This profound sefer organizes the deeper principles of Jewish thought into a guide for understanding ourselves in the context of our own spiritual reality. The purpose of this sefer is meant to inspire deep connection and purity in avodat Hashem. This class will delve into the tremendous depth that is latent within us, how our thoughts, speech, and actions affect both the physical and spiritual realms, and the power of Tefilla and Torah learning to change our selves, our lives, and the world. As the title suggests, your nefesh will expe-





rience the chiyut of a life of Torah, Mitzvah, and Avodat Hashem.

- **Rav Yoni Denitz**
- **Wednesday 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

### JPH 195-196

#### *Modern Orthodoxy*

When did Modern Orthodoxy begin and why? What message does it have for Judaism today? What distinguishes it from other streams of Judaism? Do I want to be Modern Orthodox? All these questions and more will be discussed by use of articles and papers written by Modern Orthodox thinkers.

- **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**
- **Sunday 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester • Spring semester only

### 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 9:50 am - 10:50 am**
- **or Wednesday 5:50 pm - 7:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

## DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH STUDIES הלכה ויהדות

### JUD 101-102

#### *Hilchot Shabbat • Laws of the Sabbath*

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

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Sunday 4:25 pm - 5:40 pm**
- **or Tuesday 8:30 am - 10:00 am**
- 1.5 credits per semester

### JUD 103-104

#### *Hilchot Shabbat • Laws of the Sabbath • Advanced Level*

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

- **Rav Ari Shames (Hebrew)**
- **Tuesday 11:00 am - 12:00 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 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- **or Thursday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 109-110****Hilchot Kashrut • Dietary Laws • Advanced Level**

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

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:40 am**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 115-116****Personal Status in Jewish Law**

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

- **Rav David Berg**
- **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 119-120****Shemirat HaLashon • Laws of Slander**

This course delves into the Halachot and the deeper spiritual mechanics of the words we speak. We learn the halachik 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 Halachik 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 4:25 pm – 5:15 pm • Fall semester only**
- **or Aviah Rosby**
- **Sunday 9:00 pm – 10:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 125-126****Contemporary Issues in Jewish Law**

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

- **Rav Jonathan Bailey**
- **Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- **or Wednesday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 127-128****Torat Halsha • Women in Modern Society**

This course is identical to **JPH 165-166**





**JUD 129–130****Bekiut Halacha •****Survey of Basic Concepts in Jewish Law**

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

- **Rav Ari Shames (Basic/Intermediate)**
- **Rav Michael Susman (Intermediate)**
- **Rav Jonathan Bailey (Advanced)**
- **Sunday 9:00 am – 9:55 am,**
- **Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:55 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**
- **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 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 Ovadia Yosef and Rav Mordechai Eliyahu as a template.

- **Rav Michael Susman**
- **Wednesday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**
- 1.5 credit per semester

**JUD 137–138****Defining The Changeless Relationship Between Woman and God in Changing Times**

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

- **Dr. Judith Fogel**
- **Thursday 5:50 pm – 7:00 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 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 147–148****Positively Shabbat**

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

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**JUD 149****The Jewish Ethicist**

Over the course of our lifetimes, we are confronted with innumerable ethical challenges. How do we



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

■ **Rav Michael Susman**

■ **Sunday 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

## JUD 151

### *Discovering Texts*

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

■ **Rav Jonathan Bailey**

■ **Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • This is a one-semester course

## JUD 159–160

### *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 zachor, 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**

■ **Sunday 4:25 pm – 5:40 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JUD 162

### *Medical Ethics*

When does life begin? When and how does it end? Can one donate a kidney while still alive? What about terminating a pregnancy? In this course we study the classic and modern sources that answer these and

many more questions in the fascinating and relevant area of medicine and halachah and discover an exciting interface between ancient texts and the most modern medical treatments.

■ **Rav Yonatan Horovitz**

■ **Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester • Fall semester only

## 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 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JUD 169–170

### *Women and the Mitzvot*

Everything you always were expected to do but perhaps didn't know why. This course provides an opportunity to learn about women from both a Halachic (practically how are we to observe the laws pertaining to women) and Hashkafic (what's the Torah's view on women) perspective. Topics include: modesty, dress, hair covering, separation between men and women, negiah and yichud.

■ **Esther Grossman**

■ **Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester

## JUD 180–181

### *Everyday Inspiration*

Through the fusion of contemporary articles, music, videos and movie clips from the secular world and Torah sources and Rabbinic literature, this class focuses on finding meaning and examining our thoughts on a variety of topics and ideas. The world is filled with inspiration; it is up to us to open our eyes to it..

■ **Devorah Starr**

■ **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

■ 1.5 credits per semester



## 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 103–104

#### *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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**
- 4 credits per semester

### TAL 103A–104A

#### *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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**
- 4 credits per semester

### TAL 105–106

#### *Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Intermediate Level • Tractate Beitzah*

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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**
- 4 credits per semester

### TAL 105A–106A

#### *Torah SheBe'al Peh • Intensive Talmud • Upper Intermediate Level*

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

- **Rav Ari Shames**
- **Sunday and Wednesday 10:05 am – 12:45 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 10:05 am – 12:45 pm**
- **Tuesday 9:50 am – 12:00 pm**
- 6 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 – 9:55 am,**
- **Tuesday 8:30 am – 9:40 am**
- **Wednesday 8:30 am – 9:55 am**
- 4 credits per semester

**TAL 121-122*****Massechet Derech Eretz***

The earliest mussar sefer ever, this compilation from the early post Talmudic period collects the instructions of the Sages for living the life of a talmid chacham. We will learn the ten chapters of this often overlooked treasure and see how Chazal explain the “derech eretz” lifestyle.

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Monday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

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

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

**TAL 123A*****Ethics of Our Fathers***

This course is identical to **JPH 143A**.

**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 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester

**TAL 131-132*****Avot d'Rabbi Natan***

This early work is the expanded version of Pirkei Avot containing an eclectic blend of ethical teachings, midrashim, sayings and generally interesting observations. During each class we will delve into another part of this rarely studied work and gain new insights and instruction from our sages (Chazal).

- **Rav Zvi Ron**
- **Tuesday 9:50 am – 10:50 am**
- 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**
- **Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**
- 1.5 credits per semester



## Academic Opportunities

### Jewish Literacy 101

One of the fundamental tenets of the educational philosophy of the Midrasha is that knowledge of basic Jewish concepts is essential for an individual to thrive and develop as an educated Jew. The Jewish Literacy program is designed to give students the solid foundation necessary to achieve this goal. In this class you will acquire a broad based familiarity with a wide range of topics, including: Biblical and halachic concepts, Jewish history, books, authors, important dates and events, commonly used abbreviations, famous quotations and more. Students who successfully complete the program will earn 1.5 credits per semester for **JUD 148**.

### 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 Chaim Kanterovitz and Rav Yonatan Horovitz – supervise the Seder Erev program. Attendance is mandatory.

### Israeli Chavrutot

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

### Judaism Through the Creative Arts

In response to the growing number of creatively-talented young women who join the Midrasha every year, we have developed courses allowing students to explore and expand their artistic, dramatic and writing skills within the structure of their studies at the Midrasha. All courses in the Creative Arts program are designed to guide students in the specific art form and teach techniques used in enhancing students' learning and living as Jewish women. Attention is given to the specific halachik issues that might arise for religious art students.

In "Artistic Expression" students learn a variety of specific techniques and experiment with materials, styles and mediums including painting, sculpture and drawing in order to produce individual art pieces of each student's choice or to create a combination exhibit or production with a shared theme. Students are encouraged to create personal projects to build up their own private portfolio, 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.

In "Drama and Tanach" students use theater arts as a means of increasing their understanding of various Biblical personalities and pesukim in the Torah in a hands-on approach to Torah learning which is both challenging and transformative. The focus is on deepening one's appreciation for the text of Tanach and creating greater understanding of the personalities who are central to our study of Tanach.



“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 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 5:50 pm – 7:00 pm. The shiur, generally given by Rav Milston, focuses on Parashat HaShavua. Attendance is mandatory for all students.

## Hitnadvut – Voluntary Work

An integral part of the educational program at the Midrasha consists of volunteer work. Hitnadvut opportunities include assisting the aged, the sick or handicapped children and their parents, and tutoring in English. All placements are done through the Hadracha staff. While not mandatory, participation in the Hitnadvut program is strongly recommended. Students register for the program as part of the overall registration process.





## 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 have been organized both in terms of educational structure, as well as seasonal and agricultural stages of the year. Participation in all tiyulim is mandatory.

## Poland Trip

The Midrasha conducts two yearly trips to Poland, one in the winter or spring for Northern Hemisphere students and the second during the summer, in conjunction with the MTA program, for Southern Hemisphere students. The trip focuses 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 what was and the transformation to the Israel that is today, greatly enriching their understanding of and identification with the Land and its people. There is no additional charge for 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. 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. Thus it is 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.

### Tochnit Chayil – Education Leadership Program

This program seeks to enable students with leadership potential to acquire necessary skills in formal and informal education. The program exposes students to a wide range of methodologies and materials, enabling them to develop their leadership skills.

Students who successfully complete the program receive a certificate from the Midrasha. While the certificate has no legal standing it attests to the students' participation in and completion of all the requirements of the program.

The program is comprised of the following modules:

- Educational methodology
- Educational theory
- Field work

Students in the program must take **JED 105–106**. As part of **JED 105–106** students are required to prepare

educational programs on each of the chagim and present educational material to their peers. Students are also taught how to prepare for an interview and to create a CV.

All inquiries should be directed to the program director, Rav David Berg.

### 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 guide.

### Guests on Shabbat

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

### Living Arrangements

The Midrasha offers students the opportunity to live in either the Berman Dormitory or in area apartments. Students are provided with three meals daily. 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 home. Students are expected to keep both their rooms and all public areas neat and clean.

### Security

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

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

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

Men are not allowed either inside or in front of the Midrasha, or the Midrasha dormitories or apartments, 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, there should be no gap between the layers of clothing. Excessive ear piercings, as well as all other body piercings, are considered inappropriate for Midrasha students. Visiting pubs, smoking, drinking, and use of any controlled substance are strictly forbidden and are grounds for immediate dismissal from the program. It goes without saying that students are expected to adhere to these norms at all times, whether the Midrasha is in session or not.





## Midreshet HaRova Faculty



**HaRav David Milston**  
**Rosh HaMidrasha**

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



**Rachel Himmelstein**

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



**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 Yonatan Horovitz**

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



**HaRav David Berg**

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



**Esther Mayer Deutsch**

Midreshet Rachel V'Chaya; Shearim; Neve Yerushalayim; Pardes Institute; MA, Jewish Education, Hebrew University; BA, Jewish Studies and Education, York University



**HaRav Yoni Denitz**

Semicha, Jerusalem Kollel; Machon Shlomo; Netivot Ahron; Mir Yeshiva; University of Michigan



**HaRav Avigdor Meyerowitz**

Yeshivat Beit El



**Dr. Judith Fogel**

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



**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



**Esther Grossman**

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



**Aviah Rosby**

Midreshet HaRova; BA Elementary Education, Yeshiva University; Teaching Certification, David Yellin Institute; MA Tanach, Michlelet Herzog



**HaRav Noam Himmelstein**

MA, Machon Lander College; BA Education, Michlelet Lipshitz; Teaching degree, Herzog Teacher's College



**HaRav Yonatan (Yonny) Sack**

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





### HaRav Efroni Schlesinger

Semicha from Rav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg; Yeshivat Hakotel: M.A. in Jewish Education, Yeshiva University



### HaRav Ari Shames

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



### HaRav Ari Shvat

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



### Atara Starr

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



### Devorah Starr

Bnot Torah Institute; MA Educational Theatre, New York University; BA, Elementary Education, 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, Israeli Rabbinate; Teacher's Degree, Herzog College; Amiel Rabbinic Training, Ohr Torah; Yeshivat Or Etzion; Yeshivat Har Etzion



### Dara Unterberg

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



### HaRav Michael Unterberg

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



### Yakira Wald

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



### Miriam Wolf

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

## ADMINISTRATION



### Jeremy Kurnedz Executive Director

Yeshivat Har Etzion; BSc, Economics, University of London



### Aviah Rosby Eim Bayit

Midreshet HaRova; BA Elementary Education, Yeshiva University; Teaching Certification, David Yellin Institute; MA Tanach, Michlelet Herzog



### Rachel Prais Assistant to Eim Bayit

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



### Leiba Smith Office Manager

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



## Annual Schedule 5783

### תוכנית שנתית חשפ"ג

## Ellul Zman

Arrival at the Midrasha	ג' אלול	Tuesday, August 30
Shabbat Midrasha	ז' אלול	Shabbat, September 3
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ח אלול	Shabbat, September 24
Rosh Hashanah	א'-ב' תשרי	Monday, September 26 – Tuesday, September 27
Tzom Gedaliah Regular classes until 12:45 pm, no afternoon classes	ג' תשרי	Thursday, September 28
Erev Yom Kippur No classes	ט' תשרי	Wednesday, September 15
Shabbat Midrasha	ו' תשרי	Shabbat, October 1
Yom Kippur in the Midrasha	י' תשרי	Wednesday, October 5
End of Ellul Zman No classes	י"א תשרי	Thursday, October 6
Sukkot Break • Thursday, October 6 – Thursday, October 20		

## Choref Zman

Start of Choref Zman	כ"ה תשרי	Thursday, October 20
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ז תשרי	Shabbat, October 22
Shabbat Midrasha	י"ח חשוון	Shabbat, November 12
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ג כסלו	Shabbat, December 17
Chanukah Break	כ"ח כסלו-א' טבת	Thursday, December 22 – Sunday, December 25
Shabbat Midrasha	ז' טבת	Shabbat, December 31
Shabbat Midrasha	כ"ח טבת	Shabbat, January 21
Journey to Poland / Zeminar	ז'-ט"ז שבט	Sunday, January 29 – Tuesday, February 7



<b>Shabbat Midrasha</b>	כ' שבט	Shabbat, February 11
<b>Shabbat Midrasha</b>	י"א אדר	Shabbat, March 4
<b>Ta'anit Esther</b> Regular classes until 12:45 pm	י"ג אדר	Monday, March 6
<b>Purim / Purim in Yerushalayim</b>	י"ד-ט"ז אדר	Tuesday, March 7 – Wednesday, March 8
<b>Tiyul to Eilat</b>	כ"ח אדר-א' ניסן	Tuesday, March 21 – Thursday, March 23
<b>Last day of Choref Zman</b>	א' ניסן	Thursday, March 23
<b>Pesach Break • Friday, March 24 – Sunday, April 16</b>		

## Kayitz Zman

<b>Return to the Midrasha</b>	כ"ו ניסן	Monday, April 17
<b>Yom HaShoah</b>	כ"ז ניסן	Tuesday, April 18
<b>Shabbat Midrasha</b>	א' אייר	Shabbat, April 22
<b>Yom HaZikaron</b>	ד' אייר	Tuesday, April 25
<b>Yom HaAtzmaut</b>	ה' אייר	Wednesday, April 26
<b>Shabbat Tzfat</b>	ט"ו אייר	Shabbat, May 6
<b>Yom Yerushalayim</b>	כ"ח אייר	Thursday, May 18 – Friday, May 19
<b>Erev Shavuot</b> No classes	ה' סיוון	Thursday, May 25
<b>Shabbat and Shavuot Midrasha</b>	ו'-ז' סיוון	Friday, May 26 – Shabbat, May 27
<b>Shabbat Siyum Northern Hemisphere</b>	כ"א סיוון	Shabbat, June 10
<b>Mesibat Siyum and End of Northern Hemisphere year</b>	כ"ב סיוון	Sunday, June 11

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.