



Midreshet Lindenbaum Course Catalogue Spring 5785/2025

Sunday 9:30am - 11:30am & Thursday 8:45am - 10:40am

Sefer Bamidbar – Building a Nation; Overcoming Obstacles Rav Alex Israel

We shall study Sefer Bamidbar with its unique story of trying, failing, and trying again to reach the Promised Land. Bamidbar is unique in describing a nation struggling with very human challenges: Vision, leadership, fear, temptation, holding on to your goals, and learning how to move beyond your comfort zone. We shall speak about leadership and different models of leadership, about challenge and adversity and much more.

We shall study this Sefer Be-Iyun, using and gaining skills in reading peshat carefully and sensitively, learning how to study the classic mepharshim – Rashi, Ibn Ezra, Rashbam and Ramban – but also exploring Midrash and modern commentators from Rabbi Hirsch to Rav Medan and Rabbi Sacks. This will be a class where methodology meets meaning.

פרשנות (Elementary HEB)

Rav Shmuel Klitsner

We will examine Sefer Breishit and other Biblical texts with the classic parshanim as well as with modern literary commentaries. The aim of this course will be to attune the reader's ear to the sophisticated deployment of subtext, context, and inter-text (allusions), as well as to the artistic use of ambiguity, repetition, key words, and wordplay. A greater appreciation of Tanach as literature will lead to a more profound religious connection to Tanach as kitvei kodesh.

Lifecycles

Rav David Brofsky

"Moshe Rabbeinu established the seven days of mourning and the seven days of festivities after a marriage" (Rambam Avel 1:1). This semester, we will study the laws of the Jewish wedding, including the kiddushin, nisuin, ketuba, sheva berachot and shana rishona, We will then study, in contrast, the laws of mourning, starting from aninut, through the shiva, shloshim, year long mourning for one's parents, and the mourner's kaddish. We will learn each topic from its primary sources, including the practical halacha and customs.

Sunday 11:40am-12:40pm & Thursday, 10:50am-12:40pm

Hilchot Shabbat and Hilchot Kashrut

**Rav David Brofsky, Rabbanit Dena Rock,
& Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel**

This class, co-taught by our outstanding Halacha faculty, will enable you to study the central and most practical laws of Shabbat, the Chagim, Kashrut, and other relevant and contemporary halachic issues. Our goals include developing a methodology of learning Halacha, acquiring a familiarity with important Rabbinic figures and texts, improving textual and analytical skills, and gaining a greater understanding of the development and practice of Halacha.

Sunday and Wednesday, 2:45pm - 5:00pm

Yaakov, Yosef & the Expansion of the Jewish Family

Rav Yitzchak Blau

This shiur integrates traditional *mefarshim* and modern literary approaches to enhance our understanding of the second half of Sefer Bereishit. Starting with Rivkah's giving birth to twins, we shall explore the drama of family conflict between Yaakov and Esav, Yaakov and Lavan, and Yosef and his brothers. We shall discover stories of great moral insight and literary power. This class meets from 2:45-4pm on Sundays and from 2:45-5pm on Wednesdays.

ספר ירמיהו (HEB) Rav Shlomo Brown

In this class we will study Yirmiyahu, the prophet of the churban. His prophecies begin in the reign of King Yoshiyahu and continue until the destruction of the Beit HaMikdash.

We will study the prophecies chronologically, which is different from the order in which they appear in the sefer. We will also learn the parallel perakim in Sefer Melachim and in Divrei HaYamim in an attempt to understand the prophecies from a more encompassing perspective. In addition we will study central concepts of prophecy, the nevuot hahakdasha, the symbolic acts performed by Yirmiyahu, the prophet's prayer, and others.

Megillah B'Iyun**Rabbanit Nomi Berman****Sunday, 2:45-5:00pm**

Looking for more in-depth iyun in Gemara? Want to see the “shas topics” that come up in Megillah and meet the full range of rishonim? Join the Megillah biyun shiur on Tuesdays for a deep dive into major topics.

Beit Midrash**Sunday afternoon 2:45pm - 5:00pm**

If you choose Rav Gigi or Rav Oron's classes on Wednesday, you will have Beit Midrash time on Sunday.

Open Beit Midrash time is a wonderful opportunity to learn a sefer you're interested in, or to investigate an issue that is on your mind. A teacher will be there during each beit midrash slot and will be happy to help you as you explore topics, gain skills, and make the beit midrash your home.

If you choose to take the Religion and State class, your beit midrash time will end at 4pm to accommodate the class.

Religion & State: Can They Coexist?**Rav Itiel Oron****Sunday, 4:10-5:00pm**

The establishment of the State of Israel is not just one of the most significant events in the history of the nation of Israel, it is also one of the most significant landmarks in the world of Halacha. The reality of a modern Jewish state raises many halachic questions - the style of government, the economic and legal system, service in the army & the laws of war, redeeming captives, intelligence and espionage operations, and many other questions.

Above all of them hovers the great question - how can a halachic ruling be formulated on questions that have no halachic foundation or precedent from the sources? Is there a difference between a halachic ruling from the perspective of a Jewish state and a halachic ruling from the perspective of a Jewish community abroad? We will explore all this and more on a halachic and philosophical level, as an issue that is still being developed and written about.

This class is for students who are in Beit Midrash or in Rav Blau's class on Sunday afternoons.

יסודות בעבודת ה' (HEB)**הרב ברוך גיגי****Wednesday 2:45pm - 5:30pm**

This shiur will focus on Sefer Mada and Sefer Ahava in the Rambam. During chavruta time, students will have the opportunity to gain experience with the fundamental works of Halacha. The goal of the shiur will be to enrich our understanding and connection to the mitzvot of kri'at shema and tefilla as well as gaining depth of understanding into the concepts of ahavat and yirat Hashem.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

מחשבת ההלכה (HEB)**הרב איתיאל אורון****Wednesday 2:45pm - 5:30pm**

Through chavruta study and class discussion, we will investigate classic and contemporary halachic issues from the Gemara through modern sources, with a focus on understanding the meaning and ideas behind them.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Sunday and Tuesday, 8:00pm- 10:00pm
Bekiut

Bekiut Tanach**Dr. Nava Finkelman**

In this course we will speed-learn the major books of Jewish history in the Land of Israel. We will struggle with Yehoshua as he leads us to conquer the land (or not); follow the downhill trend during the time of the Shoftim; immerse ourselves in the political intrigues of Shmuel; and cringe while we prepare ourselves for the train-wreck at the end of Melachim. Finally, if time allows, we will follow Ezra and Nechemia as they lead us back to rebuild the Beit Hamikdash! Students will learn all of the material in chavruta, and in shiur we will discuss the "big ideas." By the end of the year you will have a clear grasp of how our nation coped with their political and military challenges while creating a social and religious identity.

Bekiut Halacha**Rabbanit Nomi Berman**

Does a married couple need to have the same minhagim? How high does a mechitza really have to be? As an adult, can my parents tell me what to do? Increase your knowledge and understanding of Halacha by delving into the world of responsa. Each week we will discuss a halachic question that was posed to Rav Ovadia Yosef, Rav Moshe Feinstein, Rav Yehuda Herzl Henkin, and others with an eye to understanding the considerations and thought behind psak halacha.

Bekiut Gemara**Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw**

Through learning all of Masechet Rosh Hashana, students will improve their independent Gemara learning skills, while also gaining a wider exposure to different types of Talmudic conversations. We'll focus on targeting chavruta skills and using shiur time to enrich our understanding of the topics being discussed. If you're ready to invest time in growing as a Gemara learner, this is the class for you.

בקיאות גמרא (HEB)**הרבנית שלומית שבות**

Through a combination of chavruta preparation and class instruction, students will develop skills to prepare a Gemara text independently while gaining a deeper understanding of Talmudic methodology. We will study and complete מסכת ברכות.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Bekiut Machshava**Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel**

What does it mean to believe in God? What will the time of Mashiach look like? To what extent is God involved in our day-to-day lives? Bekiut Machshava is the place where we will address these questions and more! The goal of this course is to encounter great debates throughout Jewish Philosophy. Through these encounters we will get to know different Jewish thinkers like Rabbi Yehuda HaLevi, the Ramban, the Rambam, Rav Soloveitchik, Rav Aharon Lichtenstein, and many more. We will analyze both primary and secondary sources and connect to age-old questions asked by tannaim, rishonim and modern thinkers alike. Our analysis of the sources will contribute to the growth of our spiritual personalities and help us actualize ourselves as ovdei Hashem navigating our complicated world.

בקיאות הלכה (HEB)**הרב אביעד סנדרס**

In this course, we will cover many topics in Halacha over the year, with a focus on Hilchot Shabbat, using chavruta time as well as shiur time to delve into the sources and discuss the issues. We will be using the סדרת צורבא series of sefarim.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Monday & Wednesday mornings Beit Midrash and Shiur

There is no need to register for these classes; they will appear on your schedule.

GEMARA

Gemara - Rabbanit Nomi Berman, Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw, Rav Itiel Oron, Rabbanit Dena Rock

**Monday & Wednesday mornings 8:45am - 11:40am,
Tuesday mornings 11:40-12:40**

We will begin the year with Masechet Rosh Hashana, preparing during Elul for the Yamim Nora'im. After Succot, we will delve into Masechet Gittin. Gemara meets two mornings a week, with the time divided between chavruta preparation and shiur time. Your Ra'm is with you both in the beit midrash and in the classroom, helping you develop and hone your ability to decipher the Gemara and consider the conceptual underpinnings and practical and hashkafic implications of the topic at hand. You'll also enjoy special programming and spend Shabbatot with your Ramim.

Monday & Wednesday mornings, 11:50am-12:40pm

HALACHA

Women and Halacha

Rabbanit Nomi Berman, Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw, Rabbanit Sally Mayer

In this source-based course, we will explore the world of women in halacha - women and mitzvot, issues of sexuality, women in leadership positions, and more. We will understand where the halachot come from, what the debates are all about, and discuss how this all relates to our lives.

Tuesday mornings 8:45am - 11:30am

TANACH

Relevance & Resonance in Tanach **Rabbanit Yael Leibowitz**

How does Tanach respond to tragedies, particularly when they happen to good people? Why were so many of Tanach's heroines barren and why is the older brother always rejected? Does Tanach excuse the fact that so many of its protagonists lied? What about the graver mistakes they made? Is Tanach chauvinistic, as so many modern scholars claim? What does it say about building societies? Temples? Why is the notion of a Chosen Land so pivotal? And why, ultimately, does it make a difference if we believe in One God, or in many?

Taking into account the historical and cultural contexts in which the works of Tanach were written, this course will delve into the questions you have always wanted to ask about Tanach, its seemingly troubling aspects, and its enduring relevance in our modern lives.

Chamesh Megillot**Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw**

The Five Megillot are often grouped together, but are written in very different styles, during different time periods, and with different goals. Together we'll study Megillat Esther, a tale of political intrigue, and uncover its layers of hidden allusions. We'll analyze Shir Hashirim, and learn how to interpret biblical poetry while also searching for the religious significance in nature-based love songs. Megillat Rut will take us back historically to the time period of the Judges, allowing us to ask questions about what it means to join the Jewish people and work towards redemption. Studying these three megillot will give us new insights into familiar stories, as well as broaden our skillset in methods of Biblical textual analysis.

Essential Sugyot Every Talmida Chachama Should Know
Rabbanit Dena Rock

Each week we will explore a sugya that develops a fundamental halachic or Talmudic concept. These are the principles that appear over and over again throughout Shas and halachic discourse. If you want to be a Talmida Chachama who knows the lingo, recognizes the concepts, and has a grasp of the most essential sugyot in Shas, come learn with us!

Monday and Thursday afternoons, 2:45pm-5:00pm**Facing Our Emuna Obstacles** **Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel**
Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

How can I connect to God when he asks Avraham to sacrifice his own son? What does it mean that God wrote the Torah? How can I reconcile Halacha and modern values? Did Chazal struggle with the same questions as I do? Being a believing Jew in the modern world is not always an easy task. When learning Tanach and Gemara, we find things that may challenge us in our day to day avodat Hashem and our overall emuna. In this course we will tackle tough questions that arise from our traditional texts and challenge ourselves to face them head on. We will work to find relevant answers and embrace nuance.

Parsha with Darkaynu
Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm**Merav Edrei**

A wonderful opportunity to have a chavruta with a Darkaynu student, using creative initiatives for fun activities connecting to the parsha.

Progress in Avodat Hashem
Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

Rav Tuvia Kaplan

We will discuss ideas and practices we can use to deepen our commitment to Torah and experience our relationship with God in a more intense and personal way.

Sefer Shemot
Darkness to Dawn: The Journey from Galut to Geulah
Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt

Journey through Sefer Shemot's dramatic transformation of the Jewish people from family to nation. Experience the Ten Plagues, Exodus from Egypt, and Splitting of the Sea with fresh eyes. This exploration of our foundational journey from slavery to freedom will bring new meaning to your Pesach Seder and deepen your connection to these timeless texts.

Character Explorations
Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

Rabbanit Dena Rock

We will engage in in-depth explorations of various Biblical characters, including Adam and Chava, the Imahot, Moshe, Aharon, Nadav and Avihu, Tziporah, and more. We will focus primarily on a close reading of the pesukim themselves, looking for larger patterns and themes, and comparing and contrasting different passages to develop broader perspectives on these central figures. We will also utilize midrashim and mefarshim to deepen our understanding of each character, as well as to appreciate the complexity of each one and the array of possible approaches to understanding them. Ultimately, I hope we will all gain a more profound appreciation of these significant figures, skills for analyzing pesukim, and lessons we can apply from these characters to our own lives.

Letters Through the Ages
Thursday 2:45 - 3:45pm

Rabbanit Davina Wanderer-Kriel

Step into history through the correspondence of Judaism's most fascinating thinkers and leaders. Each week, we'll explore a powerful letter that shaped Jewish thought - from mystical revelations to modern-day wisdom. We'll decode messages from legendary figures like the Baal Shem Tov, Rav Kook, Ben Gurion, Nechama Leibowitz, and the Lubavitcher Rebbe, discovering how their ideas and struggles speak to Jewish life in the 21st century. Before texts and emails, letters were where history happened - join us as we uncover the conversations that shaped Judaism as we know it.

Tefila**Rav Tuvia Kaplan****Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

Prayer is one of the basic paths to relate to God. How can we make prayer a meaningful and inspiring experience? What do the words mean and what is their deeper significance? We will “learn” the siddur, going through our daily prayers and we will discuss what we are saying about ourselves as we pray, what we are saying about God, and what relationship we are trying to create.

Pirkei Avot**Rabbanit Sally Mayer****Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

"If not now, when?", "The reward for a mitzva is a mitzva," "Judge everyone favorably" - these famous lines and so many others come from Pirkei Avot, a masechet often read through quickly and without much thought. Join us as we delve into the wisdom of Chazal, seeking new insight into their statements, and growing from their teachings about middot and attitudes that shape our outlook on life.

Halachot You Didn't Know You Want to Know**Rabbanit Yael Nitzanim****Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

The words "What?! This is a thing?!" and "I've always wondered about this!" have actually been uttered in this class. This course will explore practical halachot you never realized are relevant to your day-to-day life... as well as some you've always wondered about but never had the answers to. We'll make our way through units including Navigating Your Caffeine Needs, Jewelry in Halacha, and Halacha for College and the Workplace, discussing both the topic at hand as well as some broader questions in halachic methodology.

Beit Midrash**Monday / Thursday 2:45pm-3:45pm (can choose one or both)****Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm (these two go together)**

Open Beit Midrash time is a wonderful opportunity to learn a sefer you're interested in, or to investigate an issue that is on your mind. A teacher will be there during each beit midrash slot and will be happy to help you as you explore topics, gain skills, and make the beit midrash your home.

Tuesday afternoons, 2:45pm

Chessed / Internships

We believe that developing a Chesed mindset is a crucial part of Avodat Hashem. We work with numerous partner organizations in Yerushalayim that welcome our students as volunteers a few hours per week. In previous years, students have become “Big Sisters” for One Family, an organization that provides support for victims of terror and their families, helped at the local chapter of Friendship Circle, volunteered at Shalva, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, or made weekly visits to Beit Sababa, a local nursing home. In recent years, we have also done a lot of work in our local community of Arnona/Armon Hanatziv, including providing significant help & support for miluim families over the past year. Students may also intern in places such as Yad L’Isha, an Ohr Torah Stone organization that helps free agunot, and the Eden Center that synthesizes women's health and spirituality. Our students volunteer, and also learn how to look for needs to fill and how they can fill them. We work with each student to find a meaningful way to contribute.

Wednesday evenings

There are two options for Wednesday evenings.

I. The first is our classic **Torah Seminar** class taught by **Rav Menachem Leibtag**. The class is from **5:30pm – 10:00 pm** with a break for dinner.

This seminar class will study Torah by methods of textual analysis. Through extensive study of medieval commentaries, we will examine the major themes of each *sefer* and their connection to the details of the individual narratives.

II. The second is **Seder Erev** with **Rav Alex Israel** from **8:00 – 10:00 pm**.

Seder Erev enables you to learn a topic / *sefer* of your choice together with a chavruta or to use the time to review material that you are studying. Rav Alex will be with you in the beit midrash for help and guidance.

*8-9pm is one of the three potential slots for a **chavruta** with a **Darkaynu** student.

SPECIAL

TANACH

SPECIAL

Chavruta: Midreshet Darkaynu

This is a unique in-house opportunity to combine learning and inclusivity. Join a Darkaynu student for a weekly chavruta. This meaningful experience will enhance your year by enabling a friendship with someone with special needs.

There will be three opportunities per week to register to learn with Darkaynu students – we encourage each student to find one that fits into your schedule. They are: Sunday 5:10-6:00pm, Monday 2:45-3:45pm, or Wednesday 8-9pm.

**Seder Erev in the Beit Midrash
Thursday 8:00pm - 10:00pm**

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt, Cheryl Burnat and Rabbanit Sally Mayer

At seder erev, you have the opportunity to learn a topic / sefer of your choice together with a chavruta or to use the time to review material that you are learning. There will be faculty in the beit midrash for help and guidance. It's a wonderful atmosphere of Torah learning at night!

ISP: Individual Spiritual Plan - half an hour in your schedule

Each student at Midreshet Lindenbaum has a faculty mentor, who is there for you to meet with once every two weeks - to discuss questions, have a chavruta on a topic that you're interested in, or talk about an issue in Torah or hashkafa that is on your mind. A wonderful opportunity to have a faculty mentor dedicated to your growth and progress, at your pace.

ELECTIVES

Electives are another opportunity to customize your learning experience at Midreshet Lindenbaum. Please choose at least two hours of electives per week - feel free to choose as many as you would like to try out; you can see what you enjoy most and find the right rhythm for your day.

Daf Yomi **Rabbanit Sally Mayer**
Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 1:30 – 2:30pm

Are you interested in covering a lot of ground in Gemara in a short time? Join us for a fast-paced, fun experience as we make siyum after siyum together! A great and easy way to improve your Gemara skills and learn lots of halachic concepts and meaningful stories in a short time. No prior Gemara experience necessary. We are learning Masechet Chagiga, a tractate full of incredible stories.

Nach Yomi**Rabbanit Nomi Berman****Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 1:30 – 2:30pm**

We will gain exposure to some of the less commonly learned books of Nach. The goal will be to complement (and avoid overlap with) the other Nach classes on the schedule. Our meetings will alternate between chavruta learning of the daily Prakim, and shiurim which will tie together some of the overarching themes that emerge from the texts. We will absorb the lessons of the neviim, be inspired by the poetry of David, learn from the wisdom of Shlomo, experience the chagim through the prism of their Megillot, and take a peek into the visions of Daniel.

Chavruta: Midreshet Darkaynu**Sunday 5:10 – 6:00 pm**

This is a unique in-house opportunity to combine learning and inclusivity. Join a Darkaynu student for a weekly chavruta. This meaningful experience will enhance your year by enabling a friendship with someone with special needs.

Taamei Hamitzvot**Rabbi Aaron Feigenbaum****Sunday 5:10 – 6:00 pm**

"Wait... Why do we do that?" In this class we will look at the Mitzvot in an attempt to answer that one essential question. After a brief study of the philosophical advantages, drawbacks, and limitations of assigning rationales for Hashem's directives, we will look at the breadth of Mitzvot to try to discern why we do them and how they enlighten our lives. So, why do we put a mezuzah on our door? Why is meat good, cheese good, but a cheeseburger bad? Why can't I text on Shabbat? Why do we shake a Lulav branch? Why, why, why, that's what we will learn to figure out.

The Siddur: Beyond the Surface**Rav Aaron Feigenbaum****Sunday 6:10 - 7:00pm**

In this class we will study Tehillim as a source text of prayer. Learning the mizmorim b'Iyun, we will appreciate the history, structure, and nuanced meaning of Tehillim as a means of unlocking the depths of our ancient and yet amazingly relevant prayers.

Sunday 6:10pm - 7:00pm**Habits of the Heart****Rav Alex Israel**

Come and spend some time thinking about our own personal growth. Each class will discuss a human or Jewish virtue: We will discuss gratitude, anger, materialism and consumerism, self-control, zerizut-enthusiasm, speech and silence, obligation in mitzvot, and other themes. Our study will include sources, articles, and practical exercises.

Mental Health in Halacha
Monday 5:10 - 6:00pm

Rav Yoni Rosensweig

In this class, we will learn about the interplay between halacha and mental health, gain a deeper understanding of the legal mechanisms involved in this topic, and show how practical questions can be answered in this complicated field.

אתגרי האמונה בדורנו (HEB)
Monday 5:30 – 7:00 pm

הרב צבי קורן

We will study the foundations of Jewish belief as we explore topics such as the purpose of man's existence, faith in God particularly in times of crises, the nature of man's character and expressions of belief. We will raise questions and seek answers through classical and modern Jewish philosophy. The goal of our learning is to engage, internalize, and transform the philosophical ideas into our pragmatic Torah lives for now and for years to come.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Matmidot
Monday 7:30 – 10:00 pm

Rabbanit Dena Rock

Each Monday night, the Matmidot Scholars have the opportunity to visit the home of a different leader, scholar, or innovator to meet and learn personally with him or her. Past years have included sessions with Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Brander, Dr. Yael Ziegler, Rabbi Dr. Shlomo Riskin, and Rav David Stav, among many others. Under the guidance of a faculty mentor, each Matmida will also work throughout the year on an independent research and writing project, culminating in the publication of the Matmidot Scholars Journal.

Israel: Behind the Headlines
Tuesday 6:00 - 7:00pm

Jamie Salter

This course will meet twice a month. In each session, we will take a look together at the big stories in the Israeli news. We will dig a little deeper into the background, try and make the issues clearer, and probably have a few debates and arguments amongst ourselves!

The Variety of Modern Rabbinic Thought
Wednesday 5:10 - 6:00pm

Rav Yitzchak Blau

Our community has some familiarity with Rav Soloveitchik and Rav Kook but is largely unaware of other major rabbinic thinkers from the past two centuries. In this elective, we will encounter, among other topics, Rav Hirsch on reasons for mitzvot, Netziv on the dangers of religious passion, R. Meir Simcha from Dvinsk on the nature of sanctity, R. Zadok of Lublin's quest for meaning, Rav Hutner's poetic beauty and psychological insight, Nechama Leibowitz's biblical wisdom, R. Jonathan Sacks on a moral society, and R. Yechiel Yaakov Weinberg on modern women and Judaism.

הרב קוק (HEB)

הרב שאול ויזר

Wednesday 5:30 - 7:00pm

In this course, we will learn about and understand the fundamentals of Religious Zionist philosophy, through meeting some of the foundational texts of Rav Kook that influenced and shaped the movement. Through this study, we will gain skills to consider these ideas ourselves.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael, u'Medinat Yisrael & The Thought of Rav Kook
Thursday 5:10 - 6:10pm

Rav Ari Shvat (Chwat)

This course deals with the most relevant issues facing the individual Jew and the State of Israel in our historic, exciting and complex generation - in an intellectual, inspiring, and practical way. We will study various writings of Rav Kook, the "Spiritual Father of Religious Zionism," considered among Jews and non-Jews alike to be one of the most original thinkers of the century. Topics include: Can we be sure that the modern State of Israel is really the atchalta d'geu'la and not just another false messiah? How can we, as religious Jews, support a secular Jewish State? Are we a religion, a nation or something else? Tzahal (the Israeli army) - victories, dilemmas and halachic questions; Aliya, Israeli politics - The Right, Left, and the Chareidim; "The Focus on Israel"- why is the world preoccupied with us?

Rambam and the Challenges of Rationalism
Thursday 5:10 - 6:00pm

Dr. Tamar Ross

In this course on Maimonides' philosophical system, we will introduce the major problems of Jewish philosophy, including science and religion, concepts of God, Divine revelation, miracles and free will.

Leadership Training: Empowering You for Today's World
Rabbanit Jennifer Raskas
Thursday 6:15 - 7:00pm

Our world needs bright, creative, compassionate, and thoughtful leaders. Our world - needs you.

The goal of this course is to empower you to reach your full potential so you can create visionary, transformational impact in your chosen profession and community, including on college campus. We will learn and practice leadership concepts taught at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, as well as contemporary wisdom developed to help you build vibrant community, turn your ideas into reality, and create innovative new initiatives.

In the second semester, we will cover concepts including identifying your calling, facilitating conflict resolution, time and energy management, how to lead organizations through change, as well as how to develop effective communication strategies. Throughout the journey we will explore how these vibrant frameworks for leadership are portrayed throughout Tanach and in the Gemara.

The class takes place as a "dinner and learn" while students enjoy their dinner.

Thursday, 7:05pm - 7:50pm

Taharat Hamishpacha

Rabbanit Sally Mayer

Join us for an overview of the halachot of nidda and marital intimacy, and to get your questions answered.