

PROZDOR COURSE CATALOG SPRING 2010

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SUNDAY AT HEBREW COLLEGE NEWTON CENTER, MA

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Period 1 (9:30–10:20 a.m.)

ART 101 Israeli Dance (Open to MS & HS)

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Aaron Beckman and Abby Wolf

Do you like to dance? This beginner class is open to anyone who wants to learn the basics of Israeli dance. No experience necessary. We provide an introduction to the many styles of Israeli dancing, from traditional dances to modern ones. It is always a lot of fun, so come dance with us! Boys and girls welcome!

ART 103 Prozdor Klezmer Band (Open to MS & HS)

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Glenn Dickson

One of the most exciting art electives for our Prozdor musicians is the extraordinary Klezmer Band. This is an authentic Klezmer band and plays the vibrant music of eastern European Jewish origin. For this year we plan to add some Shlomo Carlbach tunes to the repertoire. This group will perform fall and spring concerts at Prozdor and community events when possible. Open to all students who play band and orchestra instruments, including woodwinds, brass,

strings, guitar, bass and piano. We especially need low brass and strings, but all are welcome. Ability to read music on your instrument is important.

ART 173 The Biblical Studio: A Visual Arts Workshop Inspired by Jewish Sources

Tirtzah Bassel

“Anything under the sun is beautiful if you have the vision – it is the seeing of things that makes it so.” —Charles W. Hawthorne, New England painter, early 20th century In this hands-on workshop we will use drawing as a tool for exploring our senses of sight and touch and for examining our perceptions of the world we live in. In each session, we will focus on specific techniques and visual concepts, such as composition, color, form, movement and texture. We will observe still life, landscape and the human figure, and experiment with pencil, charcoal and ink. We will view and engage in the study of great masterpieces of ancient and contemporary art, while using the characters and themes of biblical stories as a springboard for our own creative work. During the course, each student will keep a sketchbook and create an original body of work. No previous experience with visual arts is required.

BIBLE 114 Biblical Trials

Jill Smith

For this elective, we will read and discuss chapters from the Torah dealing with many controversial actions of our forefathers (and mothers). We will set the stage for a mock trial. You will be the plaintiff, the defendant, the witnesses, the lawyers, the judge and the jury. We will dress for and act out the parts to see who is guilty and who is not! Did Jacob steal Esau’s birthright and blessing? Should Rueben have prevented Joseph from being sold? Was it Judah’s fault? Was Aaron responsible for the building of the golden calf? Could he have prevented it? We shall see.... Meet me in court!

HIST 105 Can a Jewish Person get a Tattoo? Comparative Judaism - Get to Know the Different Perspectives!

Rabbi Julie Zupan

What is the difference between each branch of Judaism? What happens at a Reconstructionist religious service? Why might one synagogue allow women to read Torah while another will not? In this class, we’ll explore the similarities and differences among different approaches to Judaism today. We will explore the diversity in modern Judaism, from the major movements to new trends, and see where we fit, as individuals and as parts of our families, in the big picture.

LITR 171 Heroes, Monsters and the Secret of Eternal Life: The Epic of Gilgamesh

Jason Gaines

A god decides to destroy humankind, but one human survives the catastrophe by riding in an ark with his family and various animals. Sound familiar? The god is Enlil, the human is Untapishtim, and this is the fantasy story of Gilgamesh.

Come learn about these Mesopotamian characters and the story which provides another platform to understand the Bible and its story. See how knowing one story makes the other story richer.

LITR 169 White Fire Theatre

Josh Conescu

It is written that Torah is black fire on white fire. The written text is the black fire; our interpretation of the text is the white fire. In White Fire Theatre, all of the Tanakh will be our black fire. One of the most satisfying elements of Tanakh is that it challenges us to ask questions. What did Cain and Abel say to each other in that field? What were Abraham and Isaac thinking on those three days out to Mount Moriah? Who was the mysterious man who wrestled Jacob and renamed him Israel? White Fire Theatre will give us the opportunity to explore these (and many other) questions through the use of improvisational theatre. Improvisational theatre lends itself to Tanakh interpretation. Don't worry if you've never acted before—improvisational theatre is something you already do everyday. This class will help you focus your natural ability through the lens of Tanakh.

SOSTD 184 The Torah of Gossip Girl

Ari Lev Fornari

She's been the focus of a hugely successful series of books and a hit television show... but who is this "Gossip Girl" and who are her friends? What are the values which guide their lives, and how do they relate to the values we rely upon to guide our own lives? Come join a conversation about the Torah of Gossip Girl.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Period 2 (10:25–11:15 a.m.)

All middle school students have core classes or Hebrew during second period.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Period 3 (11:45 a.m.–12:35 p.m.)

ART 102 Nilhav Israeli Dance Troupe

(Double period class – 3 & 4)

(Open to those continuing from the fall semester.)

Aaron Beckman and Abby Wolf

Ever want to be on the stage? This is your chance! In addition to expanding our Israeli dance repertoire, we will spend much of the year preparing a stellar performance for the nationally renowned Israeli dance festivals in both Boston and New York City in the spring. Boys and girls are welcome. All students participating in Nilhav must make a commitment to the rehearsal and performance schedule, which includes some time outside of Prozdor. Nilhav is a great chance to be a part of a group that loves to work hard and have fun!

ART 104 Kol Rinah Chorus (Open to MS & HS)

May be taken for either one or two periods (3 & 4)

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Avi Wolf

The Kol Rinah Chorus brings together Prozdor students who enjoy choral singing. This choral group performs often throughout the year at a variety of Hebrew College and other local events. Participation requires a commitment to attending rehearsals, a great attitude and a good voice.

ART 177-MS Looking Again and Again: Revealing and Renewing in Art and Judaism

Jonah Friedman

What does the smell of honey look like? We are often told that we cannot look at what we cannot see. Is this true? Taking our cue from Rabbi Heschel who asks us to be mindful and to realize we are probably not noticing or using ourselves as much as we could. For example, do we notice that when we walk we perform a small dance of balance? And we do this with every step! How fully are we learning in and out of class with our hands as well as our eyes and ears? It'll be tough, but this semester we'll try looking and discovering – meaning uncovering, revealing, finding – what usually we cannot see. We will think visibly, work with balance, sound, momentum and rhythm, and ... yes, this is art. In this intensive hands-on art class we'll focus this semester on a variety of media including paint, glass, wire, story and sound. What will we find? Come, discover!

All welcome: No prior art-making experience required.

ART 178 More Jewish Readers Theater

Esther Kosofsky

Are you ready for some more Jewish Readers Theatre? This is a great way to read more plays (aka literature) out loud (dramatically!) with others. You don't have to be a born actor to be in this course; all you need is the ability to read, to use your imagination and to enjoy yourself. We will read plays we haven't previously encountered in the Jewish Readers Theater course. As we read, we'll discuss and analyze the themes of Jewish identity, culture and religion in each work. This class is open to those who have previously taken Jewish Readers Theater as well as those who have not.

BIBLE 136 Brave or Stubborn, Fair or Unfair: Is that a Judge?

Jason Gaines

The famous "judges" of Israel were tribal leaders who ruled over and protected the Israelites in the times before the Kings ruled. These people were brave and stubborn, violent and holy, fair and unfair. They could be familiar to every single one of us. Come see these moving, chaotic and exciting stories as we explore leadership, morality and God.

BIBLE 178 The Bible Says So... Or Does It?

Jennifer Stevens

"But it's in the Bible!" Did you ever wonder whether "it" really is in the Bible or if "it" was meant in the way the person saying it used it? In this course, students will have the opportunity to study familiar biblical verses more closely in order to gain a better understanding of the original context. Students will compare the biblical context to how the verses are used or invoked today.

ETHIC 127 Is It Ethical to Steal Second Base?

Offered in partnership with TeenJCC

David List

Hank Greenberg, a Hall of Fame first baseman for the Detroit Dodgers, asked three Rabbis whether Jewish law allowed him to play baseball on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. He played on Rosh Hashanah but not Yom Kippur. What did the Rabbis say? Sports make us happy and also cause us sadness. Some people cheat and some become heroes. Some in sports are kings and some people turn into criminals. What does Judaism have to say about all of this? In our class we will encounter stories from the world of sports as we explore the relationship between sports and Judaism.

HIST 123 Jews of Boston

Seth Wax

Are you curious about what life was like for Jews before they came to the suburbs and why they moved around and out of the city in the first place? Do your grandparents' stories of the old days in Dorchester and Roxbury seem like a different world to you? In this course, we will learn about the history of the Boston Jewish community, from the Colonial-era settlers, through the immigration waves of the 1800s and early 1900s, the gradual movements around and out of the city and the unique contributions and behaviors of the Jews of Boston. Depending on student interest, we will also go on two field trips, one to downtown Boston and the other to former synagogues in Roxbury and Dorchester.

SOCJC 101 Bnai TELEM

Julie Zupan

B'nai TELEM introduces students to many themes of social justice by pairing a unique service-learning lesson with a corresponding service visit. Areas of service include addressing hunger, visiting the elderly, caring for the environment, and helping children in need. Students learn about each issue through a Jewish lens and reflect on their service experiences.

**SOCJC 104 TELEM: Dor L'Dor - Generations in Action
(Open to Students in Grades 8-11)**

Ari Lev Fornari

This unique and enriching course will provide students a wonderful opportunity to explore their relationships with older adults. Students will experience the mitzvah of Hiddur P'nai Zaken—enhancing or relating to the elderly. Some of the many issues we will explore in this course include questions about what the normal aging process is, where do the elderly “fit” into our society, what does Judaism have to say about the elderly, where do our seniors stand on political issues, how do our lives transition over the years, what is a living will and what do legal guardians really do, and how do we view death as we age? This class will investigate these issues and more via Jewish texts, class discussions, creative expression and personal relationships developed with local seniors. Periodic field trips (during class time on Sunday mornings) to Coleman House Assisted Living in Newton will be an integral part of this curriculum. Students will build relationships with seniors, share wisdom and gain inspiration as they bridge the so-called “generation gap.”

SOSTD 135 The Hollywood Connection: Jews, Movies, and the American Dreams

(Open to students in 8th Grade only)

Double Period Class (periods 3 & 4)

Jacqui Adler

Did you know that your favorite movie might have an underlying Jewish premise? Did you know that Hollywood was created by Jews who produced films that were Jewish in nature but cloaked in universal principles? Did you know that the first studio moguls fled to California to escape anti-Semitism and built one of the most powerful industries in the world? This course will expose the behind the- scenes development of Hollywood and the Jewish foundations, ideas and subtext of some of the most popular and acclaimed films in the history of the motion picture industry. We will view films with underlying Jewish themes and then discuss the impact and the message of the film on society, as well as on each other.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Period 4 (12:40–1:30 p.m.)

ART 102 Nilhav Israeli Dance Troupe

(Double period class – 3 & 4)

(Open to those continuing from the fall semester.)

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ART 149 A Bookmaking Workshop Inspired by Jewish Sources

Tirtzah Bassel

This hands-on workshop combines instruction in the crafts of binding and book structure, with a visual investigation of biblical and midrashic themes. In each session, we will focus on basic bookmaking skills and explore the relationship between image, text and The Book. We will view different forms of artist books and discuss aspects of book art in relation to Jewish culture and history. We will explore various materials and experiment with unusual combinations of multimedia techniques in creating expressive and personal statements inspired by the characters and stories of the Bible and midrash. During the course, each student will experiment with several book structures and create an original book. This course is open to all students who are interested in exploring the book as an art form.

ART 177-MS Looking Again and Again: Revealing and Renewing in Art and Judaism

Jonah Friedman

What does the smell of honey look like? We are often told that we cannot look at what we cannot see. Is this true? Taking our cue from Rabbi Heschel who asks us to be mindful and to realize we are probably not noticing or using ourselves as much as we could. For example, do we notice that when we walk we perform a small dance of balance? And we do this with every step! How fully are we learning in and out of class with our hands as well as our eyes and ears? It'll be tough, but this semester we'll try looking and discovering – meaning uncovering, revealing, finding – what usually we cannot see. We will think visibly, work with balance, sound, momentum and rhythm, and ... yes, this is art. In this intensive hands-on art class we'll focus this semester on a variety of media including paint, glass, wire, story and sound. What will we find? Come, discover!

All welcome: No prior art-making experience required.

BIBLE 207 The Proverbial “Truth”

Josh Conescu

The Book of Proverbs provides us with practical advice on ethically living our lives (with other people, with one's family, etc.). This class will give us the

opportunity to explore the big topic of “ethics” through classroom discussions leading to improvisational theatre games. Improvisational theatre lends itself to these texts. Don’t worry if you’ve never “acted” before – improvisation is something you already do, everyday.

HOLID 101 Jewish Holidays 101

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

David Ehrenkranz

In this course, we will discuss and examine the biblical and postbiblical sources for our holidays. We will also discuss how certain customs developed and why family and community customs are valuable to every Jew. From Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot, we will discover the significance of rituals like fasting and why we should pray (let alone take off days from school for this). If you would like to improve your understanding and enjoyment of the holidays, this course is for you.

ISRST 122 What's the Latest? Israel Current Events

Ben Rotenberg

Major news sources are jam-packed daily with information from the Middle East. What is happening in Israel, and more importantly, why? Each week we’ll review the most current events, from the expected stories (peace talks, terrorism) to the pieces less likely to make their way into headlines (major scientific achievements at the Technion, key arts advances), which are still vital to Israeli life and society. In addition to keeping informed, we’ll explore the background of each issue, in briefing style. We’ll also examine how Israeli affairs are covered by news sources throughout the world, including non-English-speaking and Arab media. Materials from radio, television, the Internet, and print publications will all be utilized to create the most interesting, controversial and, perhaps most critically, honest and complete story possible.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let’s look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases “torn from the headlines” of the original *Law and Order*. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?

SOCJC 108 TELEM: Hunger and Homelessness (8-11)

Ari Lev Fornari

This interdisciplinary curriculum will introduce you to the reality of poverty in America today, its causes and consequences, the history of the Jewish response to poverty and what our tradition says about fighting poverty. We will explore this complex topic through a variety of disciplines and genres: economics, writing, history, sociology, theology, Bible, Rabbinics, Jewish philosophy and Hebrew. This course will also require a commitment to doing community service. This course will also require a commitment to doing community service. Students will periodically travel to Sandra’s Lodge, a women’s and children’s shelter, on Sunday afternoons, where we will spend time with the shelter's children. The

energy and spirit you bring will build relationships and create a gratifying experience for all.

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SOSTD 187 New Moon – A Girls’ Group for Middle School (MS)

Elyse Rast

How do we deal with relationships? How do we understand the differences of good and bad, the presence of evil, the ways in which anxiety and fear are sometimes expressed? The Twilight series gives us the beginnings for many of these conversations, and our Jewish text in Girls Group will bring the conversations to the next level. Come talk with us!

HIGH SCHOOL: Period 1 (9:30–10:20 a.m.)

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strings, guitar, bass and piano. We especially need low brass and strings, but all are welcome. Ability to read music on your instrument is important.

ART 177 Looking Again and Again: Revealing and Renewing in Art and Judaism

Double Period Class (periods 1 & 2)

Jonah Friedman

What does the smell of honey look like? We are often told that we cannot look at what we cannot see. Is this true? Taking our cue from Rabbi Heschel who asks us to be mindful and to realize we are probably not noticing or using ourselves as much as we could. For example, do we notice that when we walk we perform a small dance of balance? And we do this with every step! How fully are we learning in and out of class with our hands as well as our eyes and ears? It'll be tough, but this semester we'll try looking and discovering – meaning uncovering, revealing, finding – what usually we cannot see. We will think visibly, work with balance, sound, momentum and rhythm, and ... yes, this is art. In this intensive hands-on art class we'll focus this semester on a variety of media including paint, glass, wire, story and sound. What will we find? Come, discover!

All welcome: No prior art-making experience required.

ART 179 So You Want To Be in Pictures?

Max Werber

So you want to be in pictures? The picture Bible that is... This course will look at how stories from the Bible have been drawn, painted and depicted through the ages. We will compare the art to the stories in the text. And then, in each class you will have a chance to express your version of the Biblical story in art. You do not have to be an artist to be in this course, but you do have to be willing to “try it out” as we experiment with different media such as colored pencils, collage, comics, paint and pastels.

ISRST 106 The Media and the Modern Middle East

Randy Geller

In this course we will discuss breaking news stories emerging from the Middle East, with special attention to Israel. Historical background will be discussed in order to better understand contemporary Middle Eastern issues. A wide range of news sources, video and map exercises will be used to familiarize students with current events. The class will be discussion-based and students will be encouraged and expected to actively participate in class. Several quizzes will be administered throughout the semester.

ISRST 135 Israel Ambassadors in the 21st Century

Dan Brosgol

This educational program incorporates a thorough grounding in Israeli Jewish history with acquisition of communication and advocacy skills to facilitate the training of “fresh voices” in the media. The aim is for our students to become relevant and conversant players in their world and, most importantly, on the

media stage. This program will be enriched by collaboration between 25 Israeli students from the Reali School in Haifa and 25 Jewish American students from Prozdor. The two peer groups will be working together throughout the year via videoconferencing. In the spring, the Haifa students will be hosted by the American students, and both groups will take part in a full day of intensive workshops in Boston. The culmination of this program will be a documentary film produced by the students about their shared experiences.

LAW 104 Modesty 101: Sex, Sensuality, and Modesty in Rabbinic Thought

David Ehrenkranz

This course, designed for more mature students, will analyze how Judaism views sex as a positive and holy force worth waiting for. While we will focus on the normal range of emotions that accompany this most intimate of acts, including love and lust, we will examine how Jewish Law attempts to dignify these emotions through a structured set of laws that have successfully guided us for the last 3,000 years. Moreover, we will compare and contrast the postmodern era's view of sexuality to rabbinic thought. Let me stress that this course is for the student who is willing to delve into these profound issues with great sensitivity and with great respect for rabbinical authority. There will be one bound text that will be handed out by the instructor on the first day of classes. Knowledge of basic Hebrew is a plus.

LAW 118 Prohibiting the Religion of Free Exercise

Jason Happel

When and how should a government limit religious practices? Although in the United States we believe that practice of religion is a constitutional guarantee, we also know that the practice of religion is often limited by law as well. Let's study recent cases and stories of how religion fares in different places around the world. The course will culminate in a mock trial case on religion and the challenges of free exercise.

LITR 300: Advanced Hebrew Literature

(Must get faculty approval to join this course)

Double Period Class (periods 1 & 2)

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Mira Angrist

This class will continue to examine Israeli culture and Jewish tradition through different literary genres, such as short novels, short stories, poetry, Israeli songs, newspaper articles and movies. The course will introduce students to S. Y. Agnon, Amos Oz, Yehudah Amichai, Gila Almagor and other writers and poets. Some of the material will be in its original language and some will be an abridged version. We will also read from Hebrew newspapers and magazines and discuss current issues in the Jewish world and in Israel. Students will participate in class discussions and oral presentations, and also write short essays in response to the reading material.

PHIL 161 How Could God Have Allowed the Holocaust to Happen?

Full-year course, only open to continuing students.

Tamar Duke-Cohan

How could God have allowed the Holocaust to happen? This question has troubled Jewish thinkers during and after the Holocaust. Was it a punishment for the sins of Israel? Is it proof that there is no God? Is this a question that good Jews should even pose? In this course, we will examine the explanations that rabbis from all branches of Judaism and other Jewish thinkers have offered for this thorny issue. We will also read what Holocaust survivors had to say about their relationship with God. Our year will close with the writings of a teenager, living in hiding in Nazi occupied Holland, who tried to wrestle with this question in his touching and thought-provoking diary entries.

SOSTD 157 Jewish History through Jewish Music

Efraim Yudewitz

Jewish History through Jewish Music brings together a diverse playlist of Jewish songs to discuss the struggles, survival and success of Jewish life across history. How do we understand the historical tribulations of the Jews, and at the same time appreciate our Jewish music as entertainment and artistic voice?

SOSTD 128 American Jewish You

Katie Light

What makes me an American Jew? How do my different experiences in life shape me into an American Jew? In this class we will use a lens from sociology to explore the questions about our own lives. We will talk about Jewish suburbia, Jewish education, families, and lifecycle events. Students will have an opportunity to experiment with interviews and other tools to develop an in-class research project.

SOSTD 178 Spielberg, Levinson, and Lumet: An In Depth Study (HS) Double Period Class (periods 1 & 2)

Jacqui Adler

This comparative film class will examine the films of directors Steven Spielberg and Sidney Lumet and writer/director Barry Levinson, three Jewish filmmakers who approach their craft from completely different perspectives. Students will examine their films in depth, including the inner workings of character, story, history, moral conflict, triumph and loss, as well as their design of each film and how Judaism has shaped the movies that they have brought to the screen. Students will discuss the impact these filmmakers have made on today's society and their legacy. There is no prerequisite for this course. Some R-rated films will be shown, including Schindler's List.

SOSTD 179 Prozdor Girl Group – New Group

Esther Kosofsky

Think about this for a second: You enter your Prozdor classroom, kick off your shoes, take a deep breath and relax. You know for a little while you can be

yourself, focus on making yourself happy and having a really good time. When it's time to go, you leave with some new skills, feeling empowered and like you can accomplish anything! In this class you can do all those things... and more! We're going to draw on Jewish tradition, literature, holidays and beliefs while doing meditation, relaxation, arts and crafts, storytelling, drama and music. You'll be in a safe place, have a chance to articulate your questions and concerns, have fun and be real.

SOSTD 185 Prozdor Girl Group - Continuing from 1st semester only

(Pre-Requisite: Girls Group Fall 2009)

Elyse Rast

Students who took last semester's Girl Group class are invited to continue learning with Elyse and each other for the spring semester.

HIGH SCHOOL: Period 2 (10:25–11:15 a.m.)

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Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Aaron Beckman and Abby Wolf

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ART 152 Jewish A Cappella

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Avi Wolf

A cappella music, singing without instruments, is one of the most popular Jewish art forms on college campuses, and now it comes to Prozdor! Add your voice to the close-harmony blend of Prozdor's newest performing group. No experience is necessary, but you should have a good voice and a great attitude. We'll be singing a variety of Jewish and Israeli music, with performances at Prozdor in May, as well as at some area events.

ART 159 Oh, the Drama of Joseph—and the Musical, Too!

Esther Kosofsky

Joseph—you know his story, but we'll take a closer look at this action-packed, made-for-the-stage saga. Why did Joseph have the tendency to tattle on his brothers, and why was he Jacob's favorite? And what about that coat, his dreams and being Pharaoh's second in command? In this course, we will read, act out and discuss the biblical story of Joseph in the text with accompanying commentaries and midrashim, along with a read- and sing-along of the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

ART 173 The Biblical Studio: A Visual Arts Workshop Inspired by Jewish Sources (HS)

Tirtzah Bassel

“Anything under the sun is beautiful if you have the vision – it is the seeing of things that makes it so.” —Charles W. Hawthorne, New England painter, early 20th century In this hands-on workshop we will use drawing as a tool for exploring our senses of sight and touch and for examining our perceptions of the world we live in. In each session, we will focus on specific techniques and visual concepts, such as composition, color, form, movement and texture. We will observe still life, landscape and the human figure, and experiment with pencil, charcoal and ink. We will view and engage in the study of great masterpieces of ancient and contemporary art, while using the characters and themes of biblical stories as a springboard for our own creative work. During the course, each student will keep a sketchbook and create an original body of work. No previous experience with visual arts is required.

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Jill Smith

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ETHIC 123 The Holocaust and “Doing the Right Thing”

Tamar Duke Cohan

Should a Jewish lawyer defend a Nazi war criminal? Does the property of victims of the Holocaust belong to their relatives or does the rule of “finders keepers” prevail? Is it permissible to make use of the results of the Nazi medical experiments? These are some of the many questions we will examine in this course. We will reach our own conclusions about these controversial issues and also learn what rabbis thought when these questions were posed to them. We will analyze the methods that rabbis used to construct their replies and glimpse both the rich tradition that guided them and the compassion and wisdom they showed.

HIST 105 Can a Jewish Person get a Tattoo? Comparative Judaism - Get to Know the Different Perspectives!

Rabbi Julie Zupan

What is the difference between Conservative Judaism and conservative Judaism? What happens at a Reconstructionist religious service? Why might one synagogue offer Confirmation but not another? In this class, we’ll explore the similarities and differences among different approaches to Judaism today. We will encounter the diversity in contemporary Judaism, from the major movements to emerging trends, and see where we fit, as individuals and as parts of our families, in the big picture.

HIST 170 Hitler Youth and Neo-Nazis

Elyse Rast

If you have ever been in a youth group, you understand the intoxicating feelings of unity and ownership. Think for a moment if those feelings were used for evil. During WWII, German children between the ages of 10 and 18 were forced to join the Hitler Youth. We’ll look at what that meant, how children were indoctrinated and what life was like as a member. We’ll see two people who were in the Hitler Youth, and we’ll talk about why this group was so important to the war movement. Next, we’ll look at current Hitler Youth movements (Neo-Nazis), how they are gaining in popularity and what members are doing to recruit new kids.

LAW 111 Modesty 102: Sex, Sensuality, and Modesty in Rabbinic Thought
Full-year course; students must have completed both semesters of Modesty 101 and the fall semester of Modesty 102 to enroll.

David Ehrenkranz

This course is designed for students who have previously taken Modesty 101: Sex, Sensuality and Modesty in Rabbinic Thought. In this course, we will study how Jewish Law enhances the spiritual life of marriage by examining the theoretical framework that is the underpinning for *taharat mishpachah* (family purity). We will delve into rabbinical thought regarding the honor of your spouse, especially as it relates to his or her personal space. We will also attempt to understand how this covenantal relationship fits within the larger Jewish community. There will be selected pages of Mishnah, Talmud and Shulchan Aruch; Rambam will be used as the main text.

LITR 169 White Fire Theatre

Josh Conescu

It is written that Torah is black fire on white fire. The written text is the black fire; our interpretation of the text is the white fire. In White Fire Theatre, all of the Tanakh will be our black fire. One of the most satisfying elements of Tanakh is that it challenges us to ask questions. What did Cain and Abel say to each other in that field? What were Abraham and Isaac thinking on those three days out to Mount Moriah? Who was the mysterious man who wrestled Jacob and renamed him Israel? White Fire Theatre will give us the opportunity to explore these (and many other) questions through the use of improvisational theatre. Improvisational theatre lends itself to Tanakh interpretation. Don't worry if you've never acted before—improvisational theatre is something you already do everyday. This class will help you focus your natural ability through the lens of Tanakh.

LITR 300 Advanced Hebrew Literature
(Must get faculty approval to join this course)
Double Period Class (periods 1 & 2)

Mira Angrist

This class will continue to examine Israeli culture and Jewish tradition through different literary genres, such as short novels, short stories, poetry, Israeli songs, newspaper articles and movies. The course will introduce students to S. Y. Agnon, Amos Oz, Yehudah Amichai, Gila Almagor and other writers and poets. Some of the material will be in its original language and some will be an abridged version. We will also read from Hebrew newspapers and magazines and discuss current issues in the Jewish world and in Israel. Students will participate in class discussions and oral presentations, and also write short essays in response to the reading material.

PHIL 162 The Guide of the Perplexed: With Extra Homework??

Jason Happel

Only a foolish teacher would advertise a course by calling attention to the hard work involved in learning something new. But Maimonides did just that: in the Guide, he made the material so difficult it's like he wanted people to quit before they began. If you desire to know the secrets of the law, the mysteries of the universe, you'll be disappointed... unless you sign up for this class and join other curious students in exploring this earth-shaking book together.

SOSTD 106 The Inner Meaning of the Jewish Calendar

Jonathan Ellis

What is your favorite Jewish holiday? Why is it meaningful to you? What inspiration do you glean from this moment in time? This course will help you to explore the different aspects of our Jewish holidays. Come and look at the meanings of Purim, Passover, Shavuot, and the Jewish fast days.

SOSTD 178 Spielberg, Levinson, and Lumet: An In Depth Study (HS) Double Period Class (periods 1 & 2)

Jacqui Adler

This comparative film class will examine the films of directors Steven Spielberg and Sidney Lumet and writer/director Barry Levinson, three Jewish filmmakers who approach their craft from completely different perspectives. Students will examine their films in depth, including the inner workings of character, story, history, moral conflict, triumph and loss, as well as their design of each film and how Judaism has shaped the movies that they have brought to the screen. Students will discuss the impact these filmmakers have made on today's society and their legacy. There is no prerequisite for this course. Some R-rated films will be shown, including Schindler's List.

HIGH SCHOOL: Period 3 (11:45 a.m.–12:35 p.m.)

ART 102 Nilhav Israeli Dance Troupe

(Double period class – 3 & 4)

(Open to those continuing from the fall semester.)

Aaron Beckman and Abby Wolf

Ever want to be on the stage? This is your chance! In addition to expanding our Israeli dance repertoire, we will spend much of the year preparing a stellar performance for the nationally renowned Israeli dance festivals in both Boston and New York City in the spring. Boys and girls are welcome. All students participating in Nilhav must make a commitment to the rehearsal and performance schedule, which includes some time outside of Prozdor. Nilhav is a great chance to be a part of a group that loves to work hard and have fun!

ART 104 Kol Rinah Chorus (Open to MS & HS)**May be taken for either one or two periods (3 & 4)***Full-year course, open to new and returning students*

Avi Wolf

The Kol Rinah Chorus brings together Prozdor students who enjoy choral singing. This choral group performs often throughout the year at a variety of Hebrew College and other local events. Participation requires a commitment to attending rehearsals, a great attitude and a good voice.

ART 149 A Bookmaking Workshop Inspired by Jewish Sources

Tirtzah Bassel

This hands-on workshop combines instruction in the crafts of binding and book structure, with a visual investigation of biblical and midrashic themes. In each session, we will focus on basic bookmaking skills and explore the relationship between image, text and The Book. We will view different forms of artist books and discuss aspects of book art in relation to Jewish culture and history. We will explore various materials and experiment with unusual combinations of multimedia techniques in creating expressive and personal statements inspired by the characters and stories of the Bible and midrash. During the course, each student will experiment with several book structures and create an original book. This course is open to all students who are interested in exploring the book as an art form.

BIBLE 169 Parshat HaShavua: A Look at the Weekly Torah Portion

Efraim Yudewitz

Want to be able to impress your friends and your local rabbi? This class will teach you to look at the Torah portion and create an interesting and thoughtful interpretation to dazzle your friends and family. We will focus on the skills to create your own interpretations of the text, develop skills and confidence in independent learning of the text, and in crafting a talk about the text.

BIBLE 199 Book of Numbers -The Destructive Nature of Complaining*Full-year course, open to new and returning students*

David Ehrenkranz

The fourth book of the Torah, which contains only 52 of the 613 Mitzvot, has, at its core, a description of our tumultuous journey through the wilderness. At times, the Israelites bitterly complained about various situations that could have been approached in a much more dignified way. We will examine and explore these narratives, focusing on the second half of the book, through the perspective of classical rabbinic commentators. We will discuss and analyze the value of resolving problems that seem insurmountable vis a vis trust in God, trust in others and trust in ourselves. Knowledge of Hebrew is a plus but not necessary. Each student should bring a JPS Tanakh to this class.

BIBLE 207 The “Proverbial” Truth or The Proverbial “Truth”

Josh Conescu

The Book of Proverbs provides us with practical advice on ethically living our lives (with other people, with one's family, etc.). This class will give us the opportunity to explore the big topic of “ethics” through classroom discussions leading to improvisational theatre games. Improvisational theatre lends itself to these texts. Don't worry if you've never “acted” before – improvisation is something you already do, everyday.

HIST 107 The History of the Middle East

Randy Geller

If you are curious to know the difference between Sunnis and Shias, Arabs, Persians and Turks, or to find out more about Middle Eastern minorities such as the Druze, Alawis and Kurds, then this course is for you. Beginning with the founding of Islam in the 7th century, we will explore and examine critical issues facing this storied region of the world over the past 14 centuries. Special attention will be given to the historical interplay between Jews, Muslims and Christians and the impact of the founding of the State of Israel on the surrounding region. In addition to readings, parts of movies and documentaries will be used to give a visual picture of the region. This will be a two-part course; in the spring, we will discuss the unique background and identity of individual Middle Eastern nations. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in class and to participate in several projects. A few quizzes will be given during the semester as well.

HIST 171 The Many Assassinations Attempts on Adolf Hitler

Elyse Rast

Few world leaders have been the target of so many assassination attempts. Numbers vary, but historians feel there were roughly 42 serious attempts on Hitler's life, and methods varied. Some of the most popular were bombs, shooting and plane crashes, but some definitely were creative! We're going to look at some of the most notorious, including Valkyrie and the July 20 plot. We'll watch archived films, documentaries and movies. We'll do some research, read some articles and think about what went wrong and what may have happened if one of the attempts worked.

ISRST 122 I Saw It on Twitter @Israel Current Events

Ben Rotenberg

Major news sources are jam-packed daily with information from the Middle East. What is happening in Israel, and more importantly, why? Each week we'll review the most current events, from the expected stories (peace talks, terrorism) to the pieces less likely to make their way into headlines (major scientific achievements at the Technion, key arts advances), which are still vital to Israeli life and society. In addition to keeping informed, we'll explore the background of each issue, in briefing style. We'll also examine how Israeli affairs are covered by news sources throughout the world, including non-English-speaking and Arab media. Materials

from radio, television, the Internet, and print publications will all be utilized to create the most interesting, controversial and, perhaps most critically, honest and complete story possible.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let's look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases "torn from the headlines" of the original Law and Order. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?

LITR 170 Magical Reality - Fantastical Israeli Literature

Full-year course, open to new and returning students

Roselyn Farren

This course will consider the problem of telling the truth. How can fiction speak the unspeakable or reveal the unbelievable? Our people's history in the 20th century certainly poses this problem for writers: how to justly represent the highs and lows of Jewish history, from the Holocaust to the creation of the State of Israel. Exploring short and longer works of Israeli authors Amos Oz, Aharon Appelfeld and Meir Shalev, students in this year-long course will trace many different themes, including love, the land of Israel and the Holocaust, as we explore the texts' uses of magical realism.

LITR301 Hebrew Literature Intermediate

(Must get faculty approval to join this course)

Talia Berman-Kishony

This class will continue to examine Israeli culture and Jewish tradition through different literary genres, such as short novels, short stories, poetry, Israeli songs, newspaper articles and movies. The course will introduce students to S. Y. Agnon, Amos Oz, Yehudah Amichai, Gila Almagor and other writers and poets. Some of the material will be in its original language and some will be an abridged version. We will also read from Hebrew newspapers and magazines and discuss current issues in the Jewish world and in Israel. Students will participate in class discussions and oral presentations, and also write short essays in response to the reading material.

PHIL 160 Judaism vs. Idolatry

Matthew Lowe

Being Jewish means smashing idols! In this class, we will look at the age-old battle between Judaism and idolatry. What is idolatry and why are people drawn to it? Why is it wrong? Are other religions idolatrous? Can Judaism be idolatrous? What are the modern versions of idolatry, and how can we draw on Jewish tradition to fight them? All this and more in Judaism vs. Idolatry. This time, it's theological.

SPIR 101 Jewish Meditation and Mindfulness

Jonathan Ellis

Meditation is the art of mental self control. In this course students will learn how to participate in Jewish meditation and mindfulness. We will investigate Jewish rituals and unlock mindful practices in them, discover Jewish chanting and Torah Yoga, and learn the practices of Jewish meditation.

SOCJC 104 TELEM: Dor L'Dor - Generations in Action (Open to Students in Grades 8-11)

Ari Lev Fornari

This unique and enriching course will provide students a wonderful opportunity to explore their relationships with older adults. Students will experience the mitzvah of Hiddur P'nai Zaken—enhancing or relating to the elderly. Some of the many issues we will explore in this course include questions about what the normal aging process is, where do the elderly “fit” into our society, what does Judaism have to say about the elderly, where do our seniors stand on political issues, how do our lives transition over the years, what is a living will and what do legal guardians really do, and how do we view death as we age? This class will investigate these issues and more via Jewish texts, class discussions, creative expression and personal relationships developed with local seniors. Periodic field trips (during class time on Sunday mornings) to Coleman House Assisted Living in Newton will be an integral part of this curriculum. Students will build relationships with seniors, share wisdom and gain inspiration as they bridge the so-called “generation gap.”

SOCJC 109 Preparing for Gateways (Open to Students in Grade 10 only)

Andrea Lesser-Gonzalez & Rachel Dayanim

This course is a precursor to volunteering for Gateways, and will give an overview of how to work with people with special needs. We will cover such topics as “What is a Learning Disability” and “Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome,” as well as give an overview of basic teaching strategies to use when working with children with disabilities. Guest speakers will be invited to present more detailed information on topics such as working with hearing-impaired children, teaching communication skills, and using adaptive equipment. This class is largely influenced by Jewish views on disabilities and discovering how the Torah defines and deals with people with differences. A visit to Gateways will be a part of this course. A presentation will be required of all participants. Please note: Gateways has its own interview process-this class does not guarantee admittance to Gateways.

HIGH SCHOOL: Period 4 (12:40–1:30 p.m.)

ART 102 Nilhav Israeli Dance Troupe
(Double period class – 3 & 4)
(Open to those continuing from the fall semester.)

Aaron Beckman and Abby Wolf

Ever want to be on the stage? This is your chance! In addition to expanding our Israeli dance repertoire, we will spend much of the year preparing a stellar performance for the nationally renowned Israeli dance festivals in both Boston and New York City in the spring. Boys and girls are welcome. All students participating in Nilhav must make a commitment to the rehearsal and performance schedule, which includes some time outside of Prozdor. Nilhav is a great chance to be a part of a group that loves to work hard and have fun!

BIBLE 205 First Families: The Family Dynamic of Genesis

Roselyn Farren

Who wore the pants in the patriarch's families? What kinds of people were our forefathers and foremothers? We all know that the Torah shares not only our ancestors' strengths, but also their weaknesses, missteps, and mistakes. Genesis invites us to think about family, relationships, and the complexity of being human, instead of making simple judgments. Nobody in Genesis is perfect, but everyone brings something for us to think about and relate to—love and jealousy, cooperation and competition, insight and denial, generosity and deception. We will study the stories of our first families in depth and consider especially the patterns of thought and behavior, wish and desire, belief and values that are passed from generation to generation.

BIBLE 179: Unusual Bible Stories: Bible Stories They Didn't Teach You in Hebrew School

Jennifer Stevens

Political intrigue, family dysfunction, violent deaths, and sensual language—all the makings of a blockbuster film or play? No—it's the Bible, but perhaps not how you've looked at it before. In this class, students will explore the "dark side" of the Bible. Possible stories and selections may include: Dinah, Tamar and Judah; Yael; various tales of David and subsequent kings of Israel; the highly symbolic prophecies of Ezekiel; Song of Songs and verses found in modern Israeli music.

ART 178 More Jewish Readers Theater

Esther Kosofsky

Are you ready for some more Jewish Readers Theatre? This is a great way to read more plays (aka literature) out loud (dramatically!) with others. You don't have to be a born actor to be in this course; all you need is the ability to read, to use your imagination and to enjoy yourself. We will read plays we haven't previously encountered in the Jewish Readers Theater course. As we read, we'll discuss and analyze the themes of Jewish identity, culture and religion in each

work. This class is open to those who have previously taken Jewish Readers Theater as well as those who have not.

HIST 174 Famous Jews You've (Probably) Never Heard Of

Julie Zupan

Meet Jewish men and women from different centuries and different parts of the world who perhaps should be a little more famous than they are. They've made a huge impact in music, sports, science, aerospace and more, both for the Jewish People and the world. Come get to know these famous people.

ISRST 102 Israel in the News

Katie Light

In this course we will be exploring what's currently going on in Israel. Through both print and internet sources, we will examine Israeli politics, culture and the environment. We will learn about different types of perspectives in the news by looking at differences in how stories are reported.

LITR 171 Heroes, Monsters and the Secret of Eternal Life: The Epic of Gilgamesh

Jason Gaines

A god decides to destroy humankind, but one human survives the catastrophe by riding in an ark with his family and various animals. Sound familiar? The god is Enlil, the human is Untapishtim, and this is the fantasy story of Gilgamesh. Come learn about these Mesopotamian characters and the story which provides another platform to understand the Bible and its story. See how knowing one story makes the other story richer.

LITR301 Hebrew Literature Intermediate (ALL) (Must get faculty approval to join this course)

Talia Berman-Kishony

This class will continue to examine Israeli culture and Jewish tradition through different literary genres, such as short novels, short stories, poetry, Israeli songs, newspaper articles and movies. The course will introduce students to S. Y. Agnon, Amos Oz, Yehudah Amichai, Gila Almagor and other writers and poets. Some of the material will be in its original language and some will be an abridged version. We will also read from Hebrew newspapers and magazines and discuss current issues in the Jewish world and in Israel. Students will participate in class discussions and oral presentations, and also write short essays in response to the reading material.

PHIL 105 World Religions through a Jewish Lens

Seth Wax

In a country and world of many religious faiths, what does it mean to be Jewish? How do Jewish ideas and practices relate to what our Christian, Muslim and Buddhist friends and neighbors do? How do they affect how we act? In this class, we'll explore some of the basic beliefs and traditions of some of the world's major

religions, with a special emphasis on how we can enhance our own understanding and practice of Judaism.

SOCJC 108 TELEM: Hunger and Homelessness (8-11)

Ari Lev Fornari

This interdisciplinary curriculum will introduce you to the reality of poverty in America today, its causes and consequences, the history of the Jewish response to poverty and what our tradition says about fighting poverty. We will explore this complex topic through a variety of disciplines and genres: economics, writing, history, sociology, theology, Bible, Rabbinics, Jewish philosophy and Hebrew. This course will also require a commitment to doing community service. This course will also require a commitment to doing community service. Students will periodically travel to Sandra's Lodge, a women's and children's shelter, on Sunday afternoons, where we will spend time with the shelter's children. The energy and spirit you bring will build relationships and create a gratifying experience for all.

SOSTD 186 Eco-Judaism – Part Two

Matt Lowe

Note: Eco-Judaism, Part I not required.

What does Judaism have to say or offer in response to the greatest crisis our world faces today: the immanent and imminent ecological catastrophes that threaten to overwhelm and possibly end all life as we know it? This class argues for a Jewish/spiritual approach to the eco-crisis. We will consider biblical, rabbinic and spiritualist resources in order to find out whether and how Jewish religious life could be reoriented to address and take action on environmental problems. Eco-Judaism Part Two focuses on the environmental dimension of Jewish laws, blessings, and holidays.

**MONDAY AT TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM
NASHUA, NH**

Period 1

(6:30–7:20 p.m.)

ETHIC 109 Mussar: How to Become a Human Being through Jewish Spirituality and Ethics

Jonathan Spira-Savett

This course is about you! Each week we'll look at a concept and a practice in Jewish spirituality that can help a person become more ethical -- a better mensch. We'll have discussions about how to do that, talk about things that happened during the week, and do some individual writing, reflecting, and meditating.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let's look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases "torn from the headlines" of the original *Law and Order*. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?

Period 2

(7:30–8:20 p.m.)

ART 138 Holocaust Literature Through Drama

Esther Kosofsky

This "Readers' Theater" course is group story reading. You don't have to be an actor to take this class; all you need is the ability to read out loud, use your imagination and be expressive. We will read Holocaust literature that has been adapted into plays and scripts, including *Number the Stars*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. After each reading, we will discuss the literature, the adaptation, the characters and their stories.

ART 179 So You Want To Be in Pictures?

Max Werber

So you want to be in pictures? The picture Bible that is... This course will look at how stories from the Bible have been drawn, painted and depicted through the ages. We will compare the art to the stories in the text. And then, in each class you will have a chance to express your version of the Biblical story in art. You do not have to be an artist to be in this course, but you do have to be willing to "try it out" as we experiment with different media such as colored pencils, collage, comics, paint and pastels.

**TUESDAY AT HEBREW COLLEGE
NEWTON CENTER, MA**

Period 1

(6:30–7:20 p.m.)

ART 163 Choreography and Storytelling in Israeli Dance

Abby Wolf

Do you like to dance? Have you ever been interested in choreographing your own dances? Using Israeli music and themes from Jewish history, students will learn how to tell stories through dance. We will use steps and elements from both Israeli and modern dance to express events, emotions and actions. By working in

small groups, students will learn to explore new ways of self expression. No dance experience necessary.

BIBLE 192 Melachim Aleph (The Kings Have Returned)

Dan Brosgol

In this semester-long course, we will look at heady days of Jewish history after the death of King David. The centuries following David were filled with intrigue, revolts, political machinations and shifting alliances, and interesting prophecies. In this class we will meet characters like Eiljah, Jeroboam and Rehoboam, Solomon and Avshalom, and many more, all while highlighting the intriguing, mysterious, controversial, violent, and surprising events of the time.

HIST 107 The History of the Middle East

Randy Geller

If you are curious to know the difference between Sunnis and Shias, Arabs, Persians and Turks, or to find out more about Middle Eastern minorities such as the Druze, Alawis and Kurds, then this course is for you. Beginning with the founding of Islam in the 7th century, we will explore and examine critical issues facing this storied region of the world over the past 14 centuries. Special attention will be given to the historical interplay between Jews, Muslims and Christians and the impact of the founding of the State of Israel on the surrounding region. In addition to readings, parts of movies and documentaries will be used to give a visual picture of the region. This will be a two-part course; in the spring, we will discuss the unique background and identity of individual Middle Eastern nations. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in class and to participate in several projects. A few quizzes will be given during the semester as well.

HIST 148 Man with a Beard: The Extraordinary Life and Times of Theodor Herzl

Norm Finkelstein

His image is familiar to everyone. His story is not. Who was Theodor Herzl and how did he become the father of the modern State of Israel although he died in 1904? In this course we explore the life of this charismatic leader and discover the steps he began taking in 1897 which directly led to the establishment of Israel in 1948. It's a fascinating story that helps us understand how he alone could succeed when others could not.

HIST 171 The Many Assassination Attempts on Adolf Hitler

Elyse Rast

Few world leaders have been the target of so many assassination attempts. Numbers vary, but historians feel there were roughly 42 serious attempts on Hitler's life, and methods varied. Some of the most popular were bombs, shooting and plane crashes, but some definitely were creative! We're going to look at some of the most notorious, including Valkyrie and the July 20 plot. We'll watch archived films, documentaries and movies. We'll do some research, read

some articles and think about what went wrong and what may have happened if one of the attempts worked.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let's look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases "torn from the headlines" of the original *Law and Order*. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?

PHIL 153 Theology for Skeptics

Matthew Lowe

Theology for Skeptics is exactly what it sounds like—a challenge to God-friendly students to engage skepticism, and a challenge to skeptics to engage theology. We will look at a variety of classic and modern objections to theology and consider the nature and validity of some responses to these objections. Is theology really necessary or even useful in postmodern times?

Period 2

(7:30–8:20 p.m.)

BIBLE 206 Bad Men

Dan Brosgol

The Tanakh is filled with stories and events that we find morally troublesome and unsettling. You are probably familiar with some of the famous enemies in our tradition – Amalek, Haman, and others – but the fact remains that there are plenty of home-grown bad guys in our holy writings. Even with our heroes like Abraham, Joseph, and David, there are events in their lives that make us re-evaluate how we feel about them. Be prepared to unlearn some of what you think you know, and to come to grips with just how human and imperfect some people are in the Tanakh.

HIST 104 Together and Apart: Jews, Blacks, and Civil Rights

Norm Finkelstein

Few people remember the close bonds which existed between Jews and Blacks in America during the Civil Rights era. Together, they tore down barriers to discrimination which had marked American life for centuries. Using legal and non-violent means, they facilitated the end of legal discrimination in this country. The struggle for equal rights forged a close connection between African Americans and Jews. In recent years, that once amiable relationship has become strained. In this course we will discover how much the shared history of both groups should unite rather divide us.

HIST 170 Hitler Youth and Neo-Nazis

Elyse Rast

If you have ever been in a youth group, you understand the intoxicating feelings of unity and ownership. Think for a moment if those feelings were used for evil. During WWII, German children between the ages of 10 and 18 were forced to join the Hitler Youth. We'll look at what that meant, how children were indoctrinated and what life was like as a member. We'll see two people who were in the Hitler Youth, and we'll talk about why this group was so important to the war movement. Next, we'll look at current Hitler Youth movements (Neo-Nazis), how they are gaining in popularity and what members are doing to recruit new kids.

ISRST 106 The Media and the Modern Middle East

Randy Geller

In this course we will discuss breaking news stories emerging from the Middle East, with special attention to Israel. Historical background will be discussed in order to better understand contemporary Middle Eastern issues. A wide range of news sources, video and map exercises will be used to familiarize students with current events. The class will be discussion-based and students will be encouraged and expected to actively participate in class. Several quizzes will be administered throughout the semester.

PHIL 160 Judaism vs. Idolatry

Matthew Lowe

Being Jewish means smashing idols! In this class, we will look at the age-old battle between Judaism and idolatry. What is idolatry and why are people drawn to it? Why is it wrong? Are other religions idolatrous? Can Judaism be idolatrous? What are the modern versions of idolatry, and how can we draw on Jewish tradition to fight them? All this and more in Judaism vs. Idolatry. This time, it's theological.

ART 179 So You Want To Be in Pictures?

Max Werber

So you want to be in pictures? The picture Bible that is... This course will look at how stories from the Bible have been drawn, painted and depicted through the ages. We will compare the art to the stories in the text. And then, in each class you will have a chance to express your version of the Biblical story in art. You do not have to be an artist to be in this course, but you do have to be willing to "try it out" as we experiment with different media such as colored pencils, collage, comics, paint and pastels.

**WEDNESDAY AT TEMPLE EMUNAH
LEXINGTON, MA**

**Period 1
(6:00 – 6:50 p.m.)**

BIBLE 198 Prophecy, Magic and Witchcraft in Biblical Times

Jason Gaines

A man stands on a street and claims to know the future. Is he crazy? Is he a warlock? Or, could he be a prophet? How would your answer change if this man lived three thousand years ago? Does it matter if he is Jewish? This class will examine what it means to be a prophet and magical practitioner in the ancient world. We will focus on the Hebrew Bible, but we will also read stories of Jesus in the New Testament and Muhammad in the Quran, as well as various myths from ancient Mesopotamia and the Levant. Finally, the class will consider how ancient biblical prophets continue to speak to us today.

ETHIC 127 Is It Ethical to Steal Second Base?

David List

Hank Greenberg, a Hall of Fame first baseman for the Detroit Dodgers, asked three Rabbis whether Jewish law allowed him to play baseball on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. He played on Rosh Hashanah but not Yom Kippur. What did the Rabbis say? Sports make us happy and also cause us sadness. Some people cheat and some become heroes. Some in sports are kings and some people turn into criminals. What does Judaism have to say about all of this? In our class we will encounter stories from the world of sports as we explore the relationship between sports and Judaism.

SOSTD 126 Judaism & Bioethics

Lila Kagedan

This course will follow a number of case studies regarding bioethical issues and address them from a Jewish perspective. We will be using traditional and modern sources.

**Period 2
(6:55 – 7:45 p.m.)**

BIBLE 192 Melachim Aleph (The Kings Have Returned)

Dan Brosgol

In this semester-long course, we will look at heady days of Jewish history after the death of King David. The centuries following David were filled with intrigue, revolts, political machinations and shifting alliances, and interesting prophecies. In this class we will meet characters like Eiljah, Jeroboam and Rehoboam,

Solomon and Avshalom, and many more, all while highlighting the intriguing, mysterious, controversial, violent, and surprising events of the time.

ISRST 106 The Media and the Modern Middle East

Lila Kagedan

In this course we will discuss breaking news stories emerging from the Middle East, with special attention to Israel. Historical background will be discussed in order to better understand contemporary Middle Eastern issues. A wide range of news sources, video and map exercises will be used to familiarize students with current events. The class will be discussion-based and students will be encouraged and expected to actively participate in class.

LITR 171 Heroes, Monsters and the Secret of Eternal Life: The Epic of Gilgamesh

Jason Gaines

A god decides to destroy humankind, but one human survives the catastrophe by riding in an ark with his family and various animals. Sound familiar? The god is Enlil, the human is Untapishtim, and this is the fantasy story of Gilgamesh. Come learn about these characters and the story which provides another platform to read about the Bible and its story. See how knowing one story makes the other story richer.

WEDNESDAY AT COHEN HILLEL ACADEMY MARBLEHEAD, MA

Period 1

(6:30 – 7:20 p.m.)

ART 180 Faithbooking

Stacey Doniger

In order to preserve our future, we must preserve the present. Faithbooking is an opportunity to create a testimony in words and pictures of your own personal faith journey. In hundreds of years, who will know your stories and your journey? Who are your heroes? Do you have a teacher who has made a meaningful impact on your life? What are your family's customs and traditions? What is your role in our world? Throughout the semester, students will answer these questions and other by studying a variety of passages from the Siddur, Torah, Prophets and Pirkei Avot (Teachings of our Fathers). Each student will create a personalized scrapbook documenting while will not only incorporate the passages from our tradition, but will also use pictures and personal accounts to show how he or she relates to the text. Students will need to spend time outside of class collecting appropriate pictures that relate to the text. Classes will be spent both studying text and scrapbooking. You will learn scrapbook and

journaling techniques that you can use to help preserve and document your Jewish values!

BIBLE 189 The Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge: Looking at the Torah through the Lens of Legend and Lore

Max Werber

Using myths and legends from the Talmud and the Midrash, we will delve deeply into the Torah to find out the story behind the story, like: Just how giant is Og the Giant? Is King David the original secret agent 007? Is Leviathan a dragon? What is a “behemoth” and what does it eat? You’ll view the usual suspects like Abraham and Moses in a whole new light after learning and acting out the legends surrounding them. Midrash will take you into a world of imagination where the original verse is just the starting point.

Period 2

(7:40 – 8:30 p.m.)

RTUAL 118 From Birth to Death: Rituals and Concepts of the Jewish Lifecycle

Stacey Doniger

For countless years, the Jewish people have participated in various lifecycle ceremonies. These ceremonies provide a cause for rejoicing, a mean for reinforcing our ties to tradition, an avenue for our society to recognize the importance of each individual and an emphasis on the unity of the Jewish people. Throughout the semester, we will take an in-depth look at the concepts of the Jewish lifecycle and the rituals associated with them. Topics will include the rituals of birth (brit milah, simchat bat, pidyon ha-ben), bar/bat mitzvah, marriage, the elderly and aging, and death.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let’s look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases “torn from the headlines” of the original *Law and Order*. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?

**WEDNESDAY AT TEMPLE ISRAEL
NATICK, MA**

Period 1

(6:30 – 7:20 p.m.)

ETHIC 121 Navigating the News: Applied Judaism in Current Events

Jennifer Stevens

Reading or watching the news can be an overwhelming experience. How can Judaism help us process what we experience and react in a positive, even productive, way to today's headlines? This seminar-style course will discuss current events and explore how to respond based on Jewish tradition and personal practice. Alternatives for activism will be discussed. Students will have the opportunity to bring topics to the table and will determine their own understanding of the issues by researching opposing views and through careful reading of biblical texts and rabbinic and modern commentaries.

HIST 148 Man with a Beard: The Extraordinary Life and Times of Theodor Herzl

Norm Finkelstein

His image is familiar to everyone. His story is not. Who was Theodor Herzl and how did he become the father of the modern State of Israel although he died in 1904? In this course we explore the life of this charismatic leader and discover the steps he began taking in 1897 which directly led to the establishment of Israel in 1948. It's a fascinating story that helps us understand how he alone could succeed when others could not.

Period 2

(7:40 – 8:30 p.m.)

ETHIC 112 Living Middot: Past, Present and Future

Jennifer Stevens

What makes a value Jewish? How can we incorporate that value into our lives? In this course, students will explore the biblical and rabbinic context of present-day Jewish values and will discuss how they currently live out these values and consider how they might continue to live by them. Possible topics include making peace in the home, the use of language, guarding the environment and protecting or saving life.

HIST 104 Together and Apart: Jews, Blacks, and Civil Rights

Norm Finkelstein

Few people remember the close bonds which existed between Jews and Blacks in America during the Civil Rights era. Together, they tore down barriers to discrimination which had marked American life for centuries. Using legal and non-violent means, they facilitated the end of legal discrimination in this country. The struggle for equal rights forged a close connection between African Americans and Jews. In recent years, that once amiable relationship has become strained. In this course we will discover how much the shared history of both groups should unite rather divide us.

**THURSDAY AT TEMPLE ISRAEL
SHARON, MA**

**Period 1
(6:30 – 7:20 p.m.)**

ART 179 So You Want To Be in Pictures?

Max Werber

So you want to be in pictures? The picture Bible that is... This course will look at how stories from the Bible have been drawn, painted and depicted through the ages. We will compare the art to the stories in the text. And then, in each class you will have a chance to express your version of the Biblical story in art. You do not have to be an artist to be in this course, but you do have to be willing to “try it out” as we experiment with different media such as colored pencils, collage, comics, paint and pastels.

SOCJC 119 Pay It Forward: A Jewish Guide to Making the World a Better Place

Julie Zupan

Let’s explore the small ways in our lives we can pay it forward. Looking at text, stories and other inspirations, examine what you already do and where else you can make a difference, one small gesture at a time.

HOLID 104 Lunny Tunes: The Month, the Moon, and the Jews

Roselyn Farren

Why do we Jews take the moon so seriously? What do the phases of the moon have to do with Judaism? What is Rosh Chodesh, and why should we celebrate each month’s beginning? In this course, we will learn some of the laws of the New Moon—how it was established and proclaimed and the stages of that testimonial process. We will also look at the surprising rituals that surround the New Moon, including Birkat HaChodesh, blessing the month, and Kidush Levanah, the Sanctification of the Moon. (Why does the moon need to be sanctified? And what’s all that jumping about?) Finally, we will talk about some of the customs that have grown up around this mini-Holiday, and we’ll think about ways these monthly moony moments can be meaningful to us.

**Period 2
(7:40 – 8:30 p.m.)**

BIBLE 205 First Families: The Family Dynamic of Genesis

Roselyn Farren

Who wore the pants in the patriarch's families? What kinds of people were our forefathers and foremothers? We all know that the Torah shares not only our ancestors' strengths, but also their weaknesses, missteps, and mistakes. Genesis invites us to think about family, relationships, and the complexity of being human, instead of making simple judgments. Nobody in Genesis is perfect, but everyone brings something for us to think about and relate to—love and jealousy, cooperation and competition, insight and denial, generosity and deception. We will study the stories of our first families in depth and consider especially the patterns of thought and behavior, wish and desire, belief and values that are passed from generation to generation.

HIST 174 Famous Jews You've (Probably) Never Heard Of

Julie Zupan

Meet Jewish men and women from different centuries and different parts of the world who perhaps should be a little more famous than they are. They've made a huge impact in music, sports, science, aerospace and more, both for the Jewish People and the world. Come get to know these famous people.

LAW 116 Jewish Law and Order

Max Werber

Let's look at the ways that our Jewish law, through the rules of the mishnah, might respond to cases "torn from the headlines" of the original *Law and Order*. How does the punishment fit the crime in the Jewish text and in the TV show?