



## FALL 2019 - SUNDAY GUIDE



Makor (“Source” in Hebrew), Hebrew College’s 6th & 7th grade program offers an innovative and collaborative approach to Jewish middle-school education. The Makor curriculum comes alive through compelling learning and programs that address the diverse interests and needs of our students.

The program draws students from across the Greater Boston area from all denominations and affiliations including our synagogue partners – Temple Emanuel and Temple Reyim.

Makor is one of Hebrew College’s many community learning programs for all ages and stages of Jewish learning and enrichment. Hebrew College, a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership, also offers graduate programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education, and Jewish studies, all within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.





August 26, 2019

Dear Makor Students and Families,

Recently, a rising 11th grader approached me over lunch. Concerned about the future of our planet, she wanted to discuss how she might get members of her family to engage in conversation about the environment across political divides. I thought immediately of the fourth chapter, first verse of *Pirkei Avot* in which the rabbinic sage Ben Zoma famously asks “Who is wise? אֵיזוֹהוּ חָכָם?”

What does it mean to be wise in today’s fragmented world? How can we best support our students to engage honestly in brave conversations, build bridges of deep friendship, grow in good deeds, and learn Torah that speaks to their lived experience? How can we help them truly become wiser this year? And how can all of us – our entire community – learn wisdom from the passions and perspectives of our students, who are growing up in a world we could not have imagined? Ben Zoma’s response is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago. “Who is wise,” he asks. “The one who learns from all. הַלּוֹמֵד מִכָּל אָדָם.”

I am excited and honored to write to you as the incoming Director of Prozdor and Makor. I was first drawn to teach at Makor and Prozdor as a rabbinical student at Hebrew College. I knew of Prozdor’s long history of Hebrew immersion and engaging, challenging, and relevant learning, and as an educator and curriculum designer, I wanted to teach in a setting that encouraged connection to caring community, growing Jewish literacy, a focus on building a more just world, and rigorous and accessible learning. I found my home at Prozdor and Makor.

I am thrilled to be returning to Hebrew College this year as the Director of Prozdor and Youth Initiatives and look forward to learning from our students, families, and educators as we create a renewed vision for innovation and growth at Prozdor and Makor. With the support and partnership of Hebrew College leadership, we are gearing up for an exciting 2019-2020/5780 school year and it is my pleasure to share the Makor Fall 2019 Program Guide with you. I am also pleased to share that Ben Einsidler, long-time Prozdor & Makor educator, will be joining us as the Makor Coordinator this year. Ben and I will be working closely together to ensure a smooth and wonderful experience for our students.

I welcome your input, reflections, and ideas. Please feel free to reach out to me at [lbellows@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:lbellows@hebrewcollege.edu) to schedule a time for coffee in September or October.

Who is wise? The one who learns from everyone. May this year of dynamic Jewish learning – drawing on the insights of everyone – bring us closer to a peaceful and just world.

Warm regards,

Rabbi Laura Bellows  
Director of Prozdor & Youth Initiatives

# 2019-2020 MAKOR CALENDAR

PERIOD 1 - 9:30-10:15 / PERIOD 2 - 10:15-11:00 / NOSH & SCHMOOZE - 11:00-11:15 / PERIOD 3 - 11:15 -12:00 / PERIOD 4 - 12:00-12:40

*(Subject to change)*

## SEPTEMBER

Sunday classes	September 8, 15, 22
Opening Day Kick-off	September 8

## OCTOBER

Sunday classes	October 6, 20, 27
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## NOVEMBER

Sunday classes	November 3, 17, 24
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## DECEMBER

Sunday classes	December 8, 15
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## JANUARY

Winter MiniMesterat Makor	January 5, 12, 26
JTJC for 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Temple Emanuel only (at Temple Emanuel)	January 5, 12, 26

## FEBRUARY

Sunday classes	February 2, 9
Last Sunday of JTJC/ Makor Minimester	February 2

## MARCH

Sunday classes	March 1, 15, 22, 29
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## APRIL

Sunday classes	April 5
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## MAY

Sunday classes	May 3, 10, 17
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To reach us during Makor hours: Please visit us at the Prozdor and Makor office in Room 111 or call us at: 617-559-8820.

# THE MAKOR SUNDAY

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## HEBREW AND ELECTIVES (PERIODS 1 AND 2, 9:30-11:00)

For some students, immersive Hebrew language begins the Makor day, and for others it's a glimpse into Jewish history, leadership or ethics. During the first half of the day there will be three sections of double-period Hebrew offered and three electives (including one Hebrew infused elective). All Temple Emanuel students are required to take Hebrew, either (1) Double-period Hebrew or (1) Hebrew infused elective.

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## NOSH & SCHMOOZE 11:00-11:15

This is an opportunity for our students to unwind and relax with old and new friends. Our educators will be present to continue building relationships with our learners, and will help facilitate social interaction. Light snacks will be provided. Reminder: Makor is a cell phone free zone.

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## ROADMAP COURSES (PERIODS 3 AND 4, 11:15-12:40)

We strongly believe that Makor students should have a well-rounded Jewish education. To meet this goal, students follow a "Roadmap" during their Makor years. Roadmap courses allow students to choose from a variety of courses in Jewish history, Jewish texts, Jewish arts and culture, and modern Jewish living over the course of their Sunday mornings on campus.

Temple Emanuel students will have additional roadmap courses available on Tuesday afternoons.

## DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

The Makor day starts at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to drop off your child at the library entrance at Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Rd, Newton Centre. The library entrance is on the side of the building (drive through the first parking lot and the entrance will be on your left as you enter the second parking lot). For security reasons this entrance is normally locked. A staff person will be present to open the door and welcome students from 9:15-9:30 a.m. After 9:45, students will need to enter through the main lobby.

## REACHING YOUR CHILD DURING MAKOR HOURS

This year we are making Makor a cell phone free environment for our students. To contact your child during Makor hours for early pick-up or any other message, please call the Prozdor & Makor office at 617-559-8820 and we will page our on-call Makor staff member who will get the message to your child. For early pick-up, please plan to meet your child in the lobby at the library entrance of Hebrew College.

## MAKOR: A CELL PHONE FREE ZONE

Why a cell phone free Makor?

One of the primary goals of Makor and our partner synagogues is for students to connect with old friends, make new friends, engage in meaningful learning, and feel comfortable with their teachers. These important connections keep our students coming back and provides them with a sense of belonging to a community of their peers.

We have found in recent years that break time at Makor has become too quiet! Rather than hearing the joyful sounds of 6th and 7th graders chatting, laughing, and hanging out together, too often we see students isolated on their cell phones. Not only does this exclude those who don't have cell phones, but the barrier of a screen makes it more difficult for students to connect with one another.

By also eliminating cell phones in the classroom, we will foster a more cohesive and engaged learning experience without the interruption of phones. We know that you share our goal of building community among our participants. We appreciate your partnership as we continue to build a robust community and learning environment at Makor.

Please let your child know that there will be cell phone drop-off boxes available for students to safely store any phones at the start of each day. We will remind students to pick up their phones before leaving. **If a student is found using a phone during Makor hours, we will ask them to put it safely in the phone box and ask that a parent pick up the phone at the end of the day.**



# FALL 2019 COURSES

HEBREW AND ELECTIVES | PERIODS 1 AND 2: 9:30-10:15 AND 10:15-11:00

Conversational Hebrew is a two-period commitment that meets for the entire 90-minute block (HEBW1-3M). During periods one and two, we also offer a variety of electives including one Hebrew-infused choice in each period (HEBW004M or HEBW005M). All Makor students from Temple Emanuel are required to take either the Hebrew double-block or the Hebrew infused elective during periods one and two.

The Makor Hebrew language curriculum is based on a nationally recognized “proficiency” approach to foreign languages that focuses on how to function and use the language. Working closely with *Hebrew at the Center*-- a national training institution for the advancement of Hebrew-language studies, we have developed various thematic units, emphasizing topics and issues related to everyday life.

Students are consistently evaluated on how they function with the language in order to maximize learning in the classroom and to help them take the next step in their mastery of Hebrew language learning. All Prozdor and Makor Hebrew teachers have been trained in this approach and participate in a variety of professional-development workshops.

Students will be placed in the appropriate Hebrew class based on their current Hebrew level as determined by our Hebrew Language Coordinator. Please be in touch with Mor-Li Hartman with any questions ([morlihartman@yahoo.com](mailto:morlihartman@yahoo.com)).

## PERIODS 1 AND 2

### MODERN ISRAELI CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW

**HBRW1-3M**

**Category: Hebrew**

All of the conversational Hebrew courses are 90-minute blocks that take place at the start of the Makor day. For some students this will be their first opportunity to learn conversational Hebrew while others will be building on their previous experience with the Hebrew language. After you register for HBRW1-3M you will be placed in the appropriate level as determined by the Makor/Prozdor Hebrew Language Coordinator, Mor-li Hartman. If you have questions about Hebrew placements you can contact her at [morlihartman@yahoo.com](mailto:morlihartman@yahoo.com).

## PERIOD 1 ELECTIVE OPTIONS

### CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FOR TOURISTS IN ISRAEL

**HBRW004M**

**Category: Hebrew**

**Yigal Pe’eri**

In this course we will learn how to get along in Israel using practical phrases for transportation (taxi, bus and asking directions); eating, shopping (haggling); and dating. The emphasis will be on spoken everyday phrases rather than on reading or writing. Students can also suggest topics and we will learn how to discuss them in Hebrew.

## WHAT DOES JUDAISM HAVE TO SAY...ADDRESSING CHALLENGING QUESTIONS THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

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**MDRN001M**

**Category: Modern Jewish Living**

**Hindy Finman**

We may think that many of the dilemmas and big questions that we face in our world today are unique to our lives in 2019. In fact, Jewish texts, stories and traditions have so much to teach us about the challenges we face today – from the personal to the global. Judaism can be a rich resource providing comfort, guidance and even answers for our 21st century questions. In this class we will create a supportive space to dig into issues ranging from how we treat the earth to how we treat those we think of as different from ourselves; from understanding bullying to exploring how we handle peer pressure. Come ready to express yourself from a place of questioning and kindness.

## SEARCHING FOR SOUL-TRAITS: AN EXPLORATION OF MUSSAR

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**MDRN002M**

**Category: Modern Jewish Living**

**Heather Renetzky**

Think about *Mussar* as the Jewish Meyers-Briggs/Enneagram/Strengthsfinder/personality test of 19th century Lithuania. For centuries, individuals and communities have used *Mussar* as a curriculum for studying and thinking about how to be a better person. We'll keep this tradition going, diving into a new *middah* (soul-trait) each week and thinking about what it looks like to cultivate patience, humility, enthusiasm and other traits in our lives. Get ready for a Ms. Frizzle-style deep dive into our souls as we use text, art, and adventure to discover our inner strengths and weaknesses.

## PERIOD 2 ELECTIVE OPTIONS

### CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FOR TOURISTS IN ISRAEL

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**HBRW005M**

**Category: Hebrew**

**Yigal Pe'eri**

In this course we will learn how to get along in Israel using practical phrases for transportation (taxi, bus and asking directions); eating, shopping (haggling); and dating. The emphasis will be on spoken everyday phrases rather than on reading or writing. Students can also suggest topics and we will learn how to discuss them in Hebrew.

### JEWISH MINDFULNESS

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**MDRN003M**

**Category: Modern Jewish Living**

**Ben Einsidler**

Judaism offers us myriad opportunities for mindfulness, the opportunity to recognize and take part in the world around us in an intentional manner. In this course we will examine and experience how being present and showing gratitude are built into Jewish religious practice. We will cultivate mindfulness skills through a Jewish lens with the practice of meditation, *iyun t'fillah* (The deep study of prayer) and song.



## WHAT DOES JUDAISM HAVE TO SAY... ADDRESSING CHALLENGING QUESTIONS THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

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**MDRN004M**

**Category: Modern Jewish Living**

**Hindy Finman**

We may think that many of the dilemmas and big questions that we face in our world today are unique to our lives in 2019. In fact, Jewish texts, stories and traditions have so much to teach us about the challenges we face today – from the personal to the global. Judaism can be a rich resource providing comfort, guidance and even answers for our 21st century questions. In this class we will create a supportive space to dig into issues ranging from how we treat the earth to how we treat those we think of as different from ourselves; from understanding bullying to exploring how we handle peer pressure. Come ready to express yourself from a place of questioning and kindness.

### ROADMAP COURSES, PERIOD 3: 11:15-12:00

#### KRAV MAGA (MAX NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 15)

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**ARTS001M**

**Category: Jewish Arts and Culture**

**Yigal Pe'eri**

*Krav Maga* is the Israeli self-defense method designed for face to face combat. We learn how to react to an attacker, using their energy and power against them. Mostly we will train our brain in staying calm in any emergency situation.

#### #MINDBLOWN: EPIC JEWISH STORIES

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**TEXT001M**

**Category: Jewish Texts**

**Rav Hazzan Aliza Berger**

You know that moment when you think you know all there is to know and someone blows your mind with a new juicy tidbit of information? This class is designed to do just that. We're going to be visiting texts and prayers that you think you know, but just wait, we'll discover the coolest stories and gems of wisdom concealed inside. From original Jewish hip-hop, ancient wiki-leaks smuggled out in coffins, to epic heroes hidden within plain sight – this class will blow up your Jewish experience!

#### HADASHOT YEHUDIYOT: JEWISH CURRENT EVENTS

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**MDRN005M**

**Category: Modern Jewish Living**

**Wayne Goldstein**

Stay up to date on all that is happening in the Jewish world today. We will discuss events occurring in Israel, current news related to Judaism in America and around the world, and even talk about what is happening in your town from a Jewish angle. The course will include guest speakers, multi-media presentations, lively and interesting conversation, and much more. Class participation is a must if you enroll in this course-everyone's voice is important.

#### THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...!

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**TEXT002M**

**Category: Jewish Texts**

**Jonathan Tatelman**

At the completion of the Torah (The Five Books of Moses), Moses has led the Israelites to the Promised Land. The adventure continues as we move into the next section of the Bible, *Nevi'im* (The

Prophets). Who are the new leaders? How do they form a nation? We will explore texts, commentaries, and video to learn about this next important step in our people's story as we meet key players such as Joshua and Deborah, Samson and Samuel, as well as our early kings Saul, David and Solomon. Together, we'll examine the issues, dilemmas, and moral choices they faced and consider how the Books of the Prophets can still speak to us about leaders and leadership even today.

*This course will include in-depth text study on a variety of challenging topics.*

## ROADMAP COURSES, PERIOD 4: 12:00-12:40

### #MINDBLOWN: EPIC JEWISH STORIES

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TEXT003M

Category: Jewish Texts

Rav Hazzan Aliza Berger

You know that moment when you think you know all there is to know and someone blows your mind with a new juicy tidbit of information? This class is designed to do just that. We're going to be visiting texts and prayers that you think you know, but just wait, we'll discover the coolest stories and gems of wisdom concealed inside. From original Jewish hip-hop, ancient wiki-leaks smuggled out in coffins, to epic heroes hidden within plain sight – this class will blow up your Jewish experience!

### HADASHOT YEHUDIYOT: JEWISH CURRENT EVENTS

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MDRN006M

Category: Modern Jewish Living

Wayne Goldstein

Stay up to date on all that is happening in the Jewish world today. We will discuss events occurring in Israel, current news related to Judaism in America and around the world, and even talk about what is happening in your town from a Jewish angle. The course will include guest speakers, multi-media presentations, lively and interesting conversation, and much more. Class participation is a must if you enroll in this course-everyone's voice is important.

### KRAV MAGA (MAX NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 15)

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ARTS002M

Category: Jewish Arts and Culture

Yigal Pe'eri

*Krav Maga* is the Israeli self-defense method designed for face to face combat. We learn how to react to an attacker, using their energy and power against them. Mostly we will train our brain in staying calm in any emergency situation.

### THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...!

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TEXT004M

Category: Jewish Texts

Jonathan Tatelman

At the completion of the Torah (The Five Books of Moses), Moses has led the Israelites to the Promised Land. The adventure continues as we move into the next section of the Bible, *Nevi'im* (The Prophets). Who are the new leaders? How do they form a nation? We will explore texts, commentaries, and video to learn about this next important step in our people's story as we meet key players such as Joshua and Deborah, Samson and Samuel, as well as our early kings Saul, David and Solomon. Together, we'll examine the issues, dilemmas, and moral choices they faced and consider how the Books of the Prophets can still speak to us about leaders and leadership even today.

*This course will include in-depth text study on a variety of challenging topics.*

## OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE A PROZDOR CLASS 11:55 AM - 1:30PM

Makor students may elect to take classes at Prozdor after the Makor third period ends at 12:00. These courses are available during the 11:55-12:40 and 12:45-1:30 time slots. To enroll in these courses you must have approval from Rabbi Laura Bellows who will help you select the most appropriate course for your interests. These courses will not be listed in the Makor on-line course registration.

### PROZDOR COURSES OFFERED FROM 11:55-12:40

#### HURTING SOMEONE WITH WORDS: JEWISH LAW AND BULLYING

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**David Ehrenkranz**

*Ona'at Devarim* is the prohibition to hurt someone with words. We will explore the origins of this *mitzvah* in the *Torah* and we will study how it developed in such a way as to protect an individual's dignity. We will explore what rabbinical decrees were attached to this particular *mitzvah* in order to maintain a civil and ethical society. We will also explore in our own lives how each of us can improve by being careful with how we communicate to each other (speaking as well as social media), and the importance of paying attention to the words we choose to use in any given social interaction.

#### SAFE AND AFRAID: AMERICAN JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST ERA

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**Norm Finkelstein**

When the Nazis came to power in Germany, Jews in the United States reacted with horror. But, what could they do? Themselves targets of a vocal anti-Semitism in the 1920s and 1930s, they faced a dilemma: actively and publicly protest Nazi plans as Peter Bergson and his group did or engage in quiet diplomacy as advocated by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. Some say American Jews could have done more to save the Jews of Europe. Others say that they did what they could do given the times. In this class we will look back at news accounts, film excerpts and primary documents to analyze their choices. Some questions we will explore are: How did the Holocaust affect American Jews during and after the era? Could American Jews have done more to influence the American government to do more to save Europe's Jews? What were the political, economic and social conditions of American Jews in the 1930s and 1940s?

#### ISRAEL IN THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONSCIOUSNESS

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**Daniel Parmer**

Did you know that long before Michael Chabon wrote a fictional story of Jews establishing a homeland on the Alaskan frontier ("The Yiddish Policemen's Union") a fellow by the name of Mordecai Manuel Noah purchased land to establish a Jewish homeland in upstate New York? This course will introduce students to the ways in which Israel has been portrayed and understood by American Jews since the nation's founding. We will cover the representation of America as "the Promised Land," Noah's utopian dream, the rejection of Jews as a nation or a people by the Reform Jewish movement, the eloquent persuasive arguments of Louis D. Brandeis on the merits of Zionism, the establishment of a Jewish state in Israel in 1948, and American Jews relationship with Israel ever since. We will use primary source materials, as well as examine popular culture materials (literature, movies, music, art), to trace our relationship with Israel and the Jewish people.

## PROZDOR COURSES OFFERED FROM 12:45 - 1:30

### DATING, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN JEWISH LAW

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#### David Ehrenkranz

Everyone has a variety of options in choosing who they want to date and marry, and who not to date and marry. What does Jewish Law have to say about the myriad dating apps that are available to us nowadays? What do the rabbis have to say about maintaining a strong and deep relationship with someone for many decades and how do we know when to pursue a relationship and when to end it. We will explore the "ins" and "outs" of dating, marriage and divorce vis-a-vis Jewish Law.

### INVISIBLE IN HISTORY: THE FIRST JEWS IN THE NEW WORLD

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#### Norm Finkelstein

Jews are often "written out" of American history textbooks, yet we have played active roles in every period of American life. The Colonial and Revolutionary periods provide an exciting backdrop for examining Jewish life in an emerging country. In this course we will examine primary source documents, letters and memoirs to help us discover an era in Jewish history that often goes unnoticed. It was a time when Jewish religious, cultural and social institutions developed in America. The lives of Colonial and Revolutionary era Jews were interesting and varied. Understanding who they were and how they lived adds a new dimension to our understanding of American history. Some questions we will consider are: How did the earliest Jews in America lay the foundation for future arrivals? Why was America different for Jews from the beginning? Who were those early arrivals and how did they live?

### CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

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#### Daniel Parmer

Each week we will cover a topic that is being researched and debated, and we will examine its impact on the American Jewish community. We'll cover everything from Jewish education and Israel, to marriage and raising children. No topic is off topic. We'll read real research that has been published by some of the top scholars in the field and we'll talk about what it all means for you. Yes, you!

# HEBREW COLLEGE OFFERS JEWISH LEARNING FOR EVERY AGE AND STAGE

Our community programs for teens and adults include:

**MAKOR** (middle school)

**PROZDOR** (high school)

**JEWISH TEEN FOUNDATION OF GREATER BOSTON** (high school)

**YOUNG ADULT LEARNING: OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING AND ESER** (20s and 30s)

**PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS** (For parents of young children, tweens, teens, and grandparents)

**OPEN CIRCLE JEWISH LEARNING** (Discussion-based learning)

**ME'AH CLASSIC** (100 hours of Jewish learning at the college level)

**ME'AH SELECT** (Semester-long learning at the college level)

**RABBINICAL, CANTORIAL, AND GRADUATE EDUCATION COURSES** (Select courses are open to the community on a non-credit basis)

**HEBREW LANGUAGE ULPAN** (Intensive Hebrew language courses)

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (*Hebrew College Fall 2019 Educator Conference* and more)



Hebrew college is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership that offers graduate programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education, and Jewish studies, and community learning programs for all ages and stages within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.

For more information visit: [hebrewcollege.edu/community-learning](http://hebrewcollege.edu/community-learning)