



GRADUATE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS
AT HEBREW COLLEGE

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

Fall Semester 2024-2025 Classes

September 3 – December 20, 2024

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Academic Support Services

Hebrew College is committed to being an inclusive learning institution and community, supporting all students to the extent possible to engage fully with the courses of study. Hebrew College seeks to enhance the quality of learning by offering services and support to students with disabilities who need additional help in their academic coursework.

To learn more, please:

- Visit the “Academic Support Services Policies and Procedures” in the Academic Catalog,
- Or contact Ildi Szekely Director of Academic Support Services, at iszekely@hebrewcollege.edu

General Information

Courses listed below are all credit-bearing unless marked otherwise. If you would like to take one of the listed classes for non-credit (which is the same as “auditing” the class), please send an email to the registrar at registrar@hebrewcollege.edu. Students who are registered for non-credit will not receive a grade at the conclusion of the course and will be expected to be mostly silent observers during class discussions.

PLEASE NOTE: We use the online platform Schoology for our online courses. The majority of our on-campus courses also use the online platform to provide readings and other information to the students. You must have an email address to participate.

Registration is not complete until you pay your tuition. You will not receive access to Schoology until registration is complete.

Tuition and Fees

Registration fee: *(This fee is non-refundable)*

Credit courses only	\$120 per semester
Combination of Credit and Non-credit courses	\$120 per semester
Non-Credit Courses only	\$ 60 per semester

TUITION FOR RABBINICAL SCHOOL COURSES (EXCLUDING THOSE BEING CHARGED BLOCK TUITION)

# Credits	Credit Price	Non-Credit
1 credit	\$1,280	\$ 390
2 credits	\$2,560	\$ 780
3 credits	\$3,840	\$1,170
4 credits	\$5,120	\$1,560

TUITION FOR MASTER’S AND CERTIFICATE OF JEWISH EDUCATION COURSES (EXCLUDING THOSE BEING CHARGED BLOCK TUITION)

# Credits	Master’s Degree Credit Price	Certificate Credit Price
1 credit	\$660	\$646
2 credits	\$1,320	\$1,292
3 credits	\$1,980	\$1,938
4 credits	\$2,640	\$2,584

Questions about tuition and fees? Contact Student Services at studentservices@hebrewcollege.edu.

Calendar

For rabbinic and cantorial students

- Fall courses begin on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, and end on Friday, December 13.
- Add/Drop period ends on Monday, September 16.

For Jewish education students

- Education modules 1 begin on Tuesday, September 3, and end on Monday, October 23.
- Add/Drop period for module 1 classes ends on Monday, September 9.
- Education modules 2 begin on Tuesday, October 29, and end on Friday, December 13.
- Add/Drop period for module 2 classes ends on Monday, November 4.

The last day of instruction for fall courses is Friday, December 13, and all final work must be turned in by Friday, December 20. Grades will be posted on Friday, January 3, 2025.

The complete Academic Calendar may be viewed here: hebrewcollege.edu/resources/academic-calendar/

Dropping/Withdrawing from a Course

You may drop a course during the Add/Drop Period by returning to the Hebrew College Student Portal, in Campus Café, and dropping the course. If you do not have access to Campus Café, please contact the Registrar at registrar@hebrewcollege.edu.

If you withdraw from a course after Add/Drop is over, you must email the Registrar's Office and include a [Course Withdrawal Form](#). *The student is responsible for notifying the Registrar's Office when withdrawing from any course.* A conversation with the instructor is not sufficient. If the Registrar's Office is not notified, you will be responsible for full course tuition and not entitled to any sort of refund.

Refunds for withdrawals are offered up to and including the end of the fourth week of classes. Students withdrawing from class after the fourth week of classes are no longer eligible to receive a refund.

Refunds will be applied as follows:

- During the Add/Drop period: 100 percent tuition refund
- First week after Add/Drop period ends: 50 percent tuition refund.
- Second week after Add/Drop period ends: 25 percent tuition refund.
- No tuition refund after two weeks past end of Add/Drop period.

Students receiving Federal Direct Loans are subject to federally mandated refund regulations. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for further information: 617.559.8726 or financialaid@hebrewcollege.edu.

Students with extenuating financial circumstances may contact the financial aid office for special consideration: 617.559.8726 or financialaid@hebrewcollege.edu.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

Please note: course information is subject to change. Please check with your advisor, department head, or faculty if you have any questions, or contact the Registrar's Office at registrar@hebrewcollege.edu.

BIBLE

Core Text - Torah 1: Bereshit 1

Matthew Hass

BIB500

3 graduate credits

Tuesdays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm and Thursdays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation 9:15 am – 11:15 am Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Level Year: 1

Non-Hebrew College students may take this class only with permission from the instructor

Requires Hebrew 5 or above

In this course, we will engage in close readings of selected passages in Genesis (Bereshit), revolving primarily around the matriarchs and patriarchs. Focus will be on honing skills in reading the biblical text, as well as delving into Rashi's commentary and the midrashic sources. We will address questions of gender and family dynamics, character development and narrative arc, themes of procreation and barrenness, as well as rivalry and sacrifice.

TANAKH – Introduction to Reading Tanakh

Rachel Adelman

BIB506 (use BIB506X for non-credit)

2 graduate credits

Tuesdays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Tuesdays 9:15am–10:45am and Thursdays 11:00am–1:00pm)

Level: Mekorot

Requires Hebrew 4 or above, or 2.5 years of college-level Hebrew

This course introduces students to the excitement of reading Tanakh in the original Hebrew through a close reading of two short “novellas”: Jonah and the Book of Ruth. Students will hone their skills in translation and meaning-making, covering basic skills, including how to parse biblical grammar and syntax, and use resources like the BDB lexicon, concordance, and commentary. Thematic questions include: what makes a Hebrew prophet? What is redemption in *Megillat Rut*? Why do we read Jonah on Yom Kippur and Ruth on Shavuot? In the second semester we will cover the David story in Samuel I and II.

Core Text - Torah 2: Shemot 1

Rachel Adelman

BIB600

3 graduate credits

Thursdays and Fridays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation 9:15 am – 11:15 am Thursdays and Fridays)

Level Year: 2

Non-Hebrew College students may take this class only with permission from the instructor

Requires Hebrew 7 or above

From a family of twelve sons to a great nation, Exodus (Shemot) recounts the foundational myth of the Jewish People. This course entails a close study of the Hebrew text, through the lens of classical Parshanut and Midrash as well as modern literary readers (Benjamin Sommer, Avivah Zornberg, Umberto Cassuto), while attentive to major themes and motifs such as exile, the Egyptian oppression and plagues, the role of Righteous Women in the Redemption, and miracles in the desert (as in the Splitting of the Sea and the Manna).

Core Text –Torah 3: Vayikra

Nehemia Polen

BIB800

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm)

Level Year: 3 & Year 4

Requires Hebrew 8 or above

Standing at the very center of the Pentateuch, Vayikra reveals the priestly view of the relationship between God and Israel, and the interconnected dimensions of sacred time, space, and person. We will study major themes of Vayikra including the sacrificial system, the numinous power of the divine Presence, purity and impurity, the relationship between personal and social embodiment, the meaning of sacred time, and the interplay of the ritual and the ethical. We shall attempt to understand Vayikra's theory of priesthood, including the paradox of self-referentiality and the paradox of initiation. Attention will be given to the role of Vayikra in the context of the Pentateuch as a whole, with special focus on narrative elements such as the death of Aaron's sons on the Tabernacle's inaugural day. We will apply insights from anthropology, comparative theology, and the contributions of modern scholars, but our main emphasis will be a close and careful reading of the text, assisted by classical commentators including Rashi, Ramban and Seforno.

Core Text - Torah 5: Devarim

Devora Steinmetz

BIB900

2 graduate credits

Tuesdays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
(Beit Midrash preparation on Tuesdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am)
Level Year: 5
Requires Hebrew 8 or above

Over the course of the semester, we will work through the entire book of Devarim, reading extended sections of the book each week, while focusing on particular passages in beit midrash and class. We will pay special attention to core themes and ideas in the book as well as to a variety of approaches, traditional and modern, to studying the biblical text.

CANTORIAL

Nusach Workshop

Jessica Kate Meyer
CAN518
1 graduate credit
Fridays 9:15 am – 10:15 am
Level 1
Requires permission from the instructor to enroll

From 8am-9am on Friday mornings, we will daven shaharit in a traditional Ashkenazi nusach. From 9am – 10:30am, we will break down the musical modes we just prayed, in order to understand and internalize the sounds of weekday davening. We will focus on the relationship between text and music. There will be reading assignments, and weekly recording assignments.

Introduction to Basic Cantillation

Louise Treitman
CAN519 (use CAN519X for non-credit)
2 graduate credits
Tuesdays, 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Level Year: Mekorot
Requires Hebrew 4 or permission from the instructor
Although this course cannot count for graduate credit for Cantorial Ordination students, Cantorial students are welcome to enroll for non-credit.

This class is an introduction to basic concepts of Torah cantillation. It is not just about learning the melodies. Students will acquire and/or improve skills to chant Torah on weekdays, Sabbaths and Festivals using a common Ashkenazi trope. Topics will also include the rituals surrounding the Torah service, the history of cantillation/trope, correct contemporary pronunciation of Biblical Hebrew, and the underlying syntactic structure of the whole system of cantillation. While this course is primarily for Rabbinical students, others are welcome (depending on size of the class), provided they have adequate

sense of musical pitch and the ability to read and translate Biblical Hebrew (with the help of a dictionary).

EDUCATION

MODULE ONE: SEPTEMBER 3 - OCTOBER 23, 2024

Teaching Israel: Theory and Practice

Jonathan Golden

EDU508 (Online and asynchronous class)

2 graduate credits for MJE students (section #1), 1 credit for CJE students (section #2), or 0 credits for auditing students (contact Registrar to register)

Required for Certificate in Emerging Trends in Jewish Education

As a field, Israel education is at a crucial turning point to meet the needs of practitioners and students alike. In this course, educators will explore educational theories about teaching Israel and have opportunities to try out those theories in relation to their personal and professional interests. The course will explore educational paradigms that focus on affective, behavioral, and cognitive goals. Each paradigm will be considered in the context in which it was created and its applicability to our context post October 7th. Throughout the course, students will apply one or more of these paradigms to a class or unit in an educational institution or environment of their choice.

Becoming a Reflective Practitioner: Developing our Teacher Stance

Shira Horowitz

EDU506 (Online and asynchronous class)

2 graduate credits for MJE students (section #1), 1 credit for CJE students (section #2), or 0 credits for auditing students (contact Registrar to register)

Required for Certificate in Teaching & Learning in Jewish Education

The work of teaching is deeply connected to our own stories: who we are, what our experiences in and out of school and Jewish education have been. Who are we as learners? Who do we want to be as teachers and Jewish educators? In this module we will deepen our own teacher identities and learn to be reflective practitioners who continually assess and reflect on our own teaching practices. We will explore how students, teachers, content, and environment all interact, with a particular focus on strategies to build learning communities. We will develop an inquiry stance, learning to observe students and practice and asking questions that lead to new insights.

MODULE TWO: OCTOBER 29 - DECEMBER 17, 2024

Navigating DEI and Addressing Anti-Semitism in Jewish Educational Settings

David Rhodes

EDU518 (Online and asynchronous class)

2 graduate credits for MJE students (section #1), 1 credit for CJE students (section #2), or 0 credits for auditing students (contact Registrar to register)

Required for Certificate in Emerging Trends in Jewish Education

In this course, educators will examine moments in American history that have shaped views on racial and Jewish identities today. Facing history pedagogy will be implemented to analyze the legacies of inequity within and outside of our Jewish communities with attention to the tools necessary to mitigate barriers to equity. Frameworks for thinking about diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) will also be considered in the context of contemporary antisemitism and the extent to which different models of DEI can integrate or marginalize efforts to combat antisemitism. This involves inquiry into the ways in which antisemitism intersects with other “isms”, including reflection on the ways in which antisemitism and anti-Zionism can overlap.

Curriculum and Planning: Beginning with the End in Mind

Shira Horowitz

EDU516 (Online and asynchronous class)

2 graduate credits for MJE students (section #1), 1 credit for CJE students (section #2), or 0 credits for auditing students (contact Registrar to register)

Required for Certificate in Teaching & Learning in Jewish Education

Excellent teaching begins with strong planning. In this module, we will learn how to design lesson plans that begin with the end in mind. What do we want students to know and be able to do at the end of our lesson? How will we structure a class session that is engaging, purposeful, and responsive to all of the students' needs? We will learn how to open and close lessons, how to pace the activities in between, and how to differentiate so that all students can succeed. From there, we will zoom out to consider how an individual lesson fits in a bigger context of a unit or a curriculum in the Jewish educational setting.

PARDES TEACHER FELLOWSHIP COURSE – MEETS FOR FULL SEMESTER

Teaching Skills for the Day School Classroom

Marion Gribetz

EDU600 (Taught at Pardes Institute in Jerusalem)

3 graduate credits

Required for Master's in Jewish Education – Pardes Teacher Fellowship Students

The goal of this course is to prepare students with the necessary practical skills and accompanying knowledge to craft and teach Jewish studies lessons in a Jewish Day School setting. Learners will examine ways of framing classroom education and its Jewish nuances, to be more intentional as they learn about, design and implement engaging experiences for learners. Space is created where learners will practice the craft of teaching to reflect on their own experience, learning and growth as well as those in their cohort.

HEBREW LANGUAGE

Foundations of Biblical Hebrew 1

Navah Levine

HBW510-1 (use HBW510X for non-credit)

4 graduate credits

Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 9:15 am – 10:45 am

Level Year: Mekorot

Requires permission from the instructor

This course is an intensive introduction to Biblical Hebrew. A basic familiarity with Hebrew is presumed. Working in close coordination with the Parashat HaShavua course, students will learn grammatical concepts to be applied to the decoding of Biblical texts.

Hebrew for Tanakh Study

Instructor TBD

HBW605

3 graduate credits

Tuesdays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm and Thursdays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Level Year: 1

Requires permission from the instructor

Students will work on the language of the biblical text and of the related midrash and traditional rabbinic commentary assigned in the Shanah Aleph Bereshit course, with which this course will be closely coordinated. Grammatical topics will be presented in the context of the text study. Foundations of Biblical Hebrew is a prerequisite.

Rabbinic Hebrew

Harvey Bock

HBW608

2 graduate credits

Mondays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Level Year 2

Prerequisites: Foundations of Biblical Hebrew (or equivalent)

Using as its text corpus the rabbinic commentary and midrashic passages assigned in the Shanah Bet Shemot course, with which this course will be closely coordinated, students will apply their knowledge of Biblical Hebrew to reading and understanding unvocalized rabbinic text. Foundations of Biblical Hebrew is a prerequisite.

INTERDISCIPLINARY

Jewish Life and Practice

Gita Karasov

INT515

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Level: Mekorot

Requires Hebrew 7 or above

Open to non-rabbinic students with permission from the instructor.

This course will provide students an opportunity to weave together traditional texts with reflections on their own personal Jewish practice. In this course, students will explore mitzvot often practiced in their homes — the more intimate, inhabited spaces that define and inscribe our deepest social, cultural, and religious commitments. By putting real lived experiences into conversation with *aggadah*, rabbinic legends, and contemporary guides to Jewish practice, students will gain a deeper understanding of these mitzvot themselves and be able to articulate their current and evolving relationship to each of the mitzvot explored throughout the semester.

Israel Study Abroad for Rabbinical Students

Various instructors

INT777

6 graduate credits

Student spends a semester or more in Israel studying. Time in Israel is required by program. Institutions at which the student may study and courses the student may choose from are specifically directed by Associate Dean for Academic Development and the Dean of the Rabbinical Program. Courses of study are chosen with a particular student in mind and will include Hebrew language courses as well as intensive text study. Student must take a minimum of 6 credits per semester and may be required to do online course work at Hebrew College during the semester as well.

Capstone Seminar- Jewish Studies

Rachel Adelman

INT950

1 graduate credit

Dates and Time TBD by Instructor and Students

Level Year: 5

This is a year-long course open only to Cantorial and Rav-Hazzan students

The Capstone project allows the Shanah Heh student to delve deeply into one text with the support of a faculty member, both independently and in meetings with their tutor over the course of the fall and spring semesters. The student will build a study practice, and together with the advisor, define and complete a final project that reflects their learning.

JEWISH THOUGHT

The Zohar

Allan Lehmann

JTH808

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Thursdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am)

Level Year: 3

A working knowledge of Talmudic Aramaic is required for this course

Students who are not in the Hebrew College Rabbinical program should speak to the instructor before enrolling

An introduction to the Jewish mystical tradition and the reading of its central text, the Zohar. Students will be taught the symbolic language of Kabbalah and will learn to read passages in the Aramaic original, but also using the new translation and commentary of the Pritzker edition.

Modern Jewish Thought

Dan Judson

JTH838

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Thursdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am)

Level Year: 4

A working knowledge of Talmudic Aramaic is required for this course

Students who are not in the Hebrew College Rabbinical program should speak to the instructor before enrolling

This course will explore the writings of major Jewish thinkers living in the modern era and place them in the context of their historical setting. The class will focus on the various ways these thinkers –from Mendelssohn to Buber –understood the dynamic relationship between inherited tradition and modern conceptions of religious life.

MUSIC

Voice Lessons

Various Instructors

MUS500

1 graduate credit

1 graduate credit

Day and Time TBD by Instructor and Student

Enrollment by non-cantorial students is only with permission from the Dean of the Rabbinical School, and will require payment of a studio fee

Private lessons in singing. Emphasis is on understanding the working of the vocal mechanism, maximizing the potential of the individual singer, and preparing the student to be an inspiring musician and prayer leader. Students will be taught how to use correct technique while singing a variety of different styles of music. Students will be required to participate in a studio recital once each semester and to memorize the music that is being performed. To adjudicate progress, cantorial students will also be required to sing in Vocal Boards, performing two selections: a liturgical selection either from memory or from the Hebrew text, and a secular or liturgical piece with instrumental accompaniment, from memory from repertoire to be approved in advance.

Lesson Cancellation Policy: Private voice lessons can be cancelled only with sufficient lead-time by the instructor and a make-up lesson must be scheduled. If a student cancels their private lesson(s), the instructor is not obligated to offer a make-up lesson. All sessions must be completed during this semester -- no incompletes will be permitted.

PRACTICAL COURSES FOR CLERGY

Cantorial Coaching

Various Instructors

PRC579

1 graduate credit

Day and Time TBD by Instructor and Student

Open only to Cantorial & Rav-Hazzan students

This course provides coaching by practicing cantors and Jewish music professionals who will guide the student according to their individual needs. Goals of coaching are to increase facility with prayer leading and to improve vocal and musical interpretations of selected repertoire as pertains to the Jewish Lifecycle and other professional Cantorial skills.

Lifecycle Seminar for Clergy

Michael Shire

PRC620

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Level Year: 2

Non-Hebrew College Ordination students require permission from the instructor

The Lifecycle seminar is an opportunity to build professional development skills around ritual making and specifically lifecycle events that are transformational and meet a life moment need. We will focus on liturgy as the rabbinic/cantorial pastoral and spiritual toolkit reviewing the history of liturgical change as well as creating contemporary liturgies of our own. The focus in the seminar is on three focal questions:

1. How do we understand the nature and needs of the life moment the ritual is responding to?
2. Ritual response: What are some of the varied and creative ritual responses Jewish tradition and contemporary liturgical leaders have developed for this life moment? What are some of the key decision points for officiating this ritual?
3. Officiating: How do we prepare for these rituals? How do we guide people through these rituals?

There will be a session with current clergy who share their professional expertise and experience. The lifecycle seminar this semester parallels the halachaic courses that deal with *kiddushin* from halachaic and legal frameworks.

Introduction to Rabbinic Formation

Daniel Klein

PRC680

1 graduate credit

Fridays 11:30 am – 12:30 am

Level 1

What is a rabbi? What are the processes for growth necessary for becoming a rabbi? In this course, Shanah Aleph rabbinical students will learn about and locate themselves in relationship to Hebrew College's vision of the rabbinate and approach to rabbinic education. The course will pay particular attention to deepening our relationship to God, dynamics in our relationship with the Divine, and practices for encountering God in Talmud Torah and with people. The class is for Shanah Aleph rabbinical students. Other interested students must have permission from the instructor to participate in the class.

Homiletics

Sharon Cohen Anisfeld

PRC790

2 graduate credits

Wednesdays, 9:45 – 11:30 am

Level Year: 5

Sermons offer an important context for meaningful dialogue between a rabbi and her community. The process of preparing a sermon challenges the rabbi to bring Torah to bear on real and significant questions and concerns in her own life and in the lives of her congregants. This course will help students cultivate skills in sermon preparation and delivery. There will be an emphasis on encouraging students to develop their own voices and styles as darshanim. Learning to give and receive constructive feedback will be an important part of the substance and structure of the course.

Introduction to Spiritual Care and Counseling

Margot Meitner

PRC810

2 graduate credits

Thursdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am

Level Year: 4

Requires permission from the instructor to enroll

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of spiritual care and counseling through the life cycle with particular focus on times of grief and loss and on mental health issues. Students will explore the role of clergy as “spiritual health practitioner,” integrating knowledge of psychology, spirituality, and Jewish tradition and practice to offer comfort and support, and inspire healing and growth, in individuals and communities. Topics covered include contemporary grief theory; the dynamics of healing relationships; boundaries and confidentiality; transference and counter-transference; active listening; psychological and spiritual dimensions of loss and grief, suffering and resilience; and prayer and Jewish practice as a pastoral resource. Students will write reflective papers, as well as participate in experiential exercises and roleplaying in class.

Senior Seminar

Allan Lehmann

PRC915

2 graduate credits

Tuesdays 2:30 pm – 4: 00 pm

Level Year: 5

The Senior Seminar provides an opportunity for students approaching graduation to investigate a number of current topics that face rabbis in their practice. Most of these topics involve issues of personal status and Jewish identity such as intermarriage, Jewish identity by birth, the role of non-Jews

in Jewish families and communities, and conversion. Contemporary readings from a range of Jewish sources are integrated with primary text study. Students are encouraged to bring their personal experience to class discussions.

RABBINICS

Core Text - Rabbinics 1: Berakhot 1

Shani Rosenbaum

RAB500

Mondays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm and Wednesdays 11:45 am – 1:15 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 9:15am–11:15am and Wednesdays 9:30am–11:30pm)

Level Year: 1

Requires Hebrew 6 or above

Through intensive, guided study of one chapter of the tractate Berakhot, this first semester inducts first-year Rabbinical students into the discipline of traditional Rabbinical learning. Course work covers essential themes in Jewish liturgy while building skills for reading, understanding, appreciating, analyzing and participating in Talmudic discourse.

Introduction to Mishnah

Matthew Hass

RAB514 (use RAB514X for non-credit)

3 graduate credits

Mondays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm and Wednesdays 11:45 am – 1:15 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 11:00am–1:00pm and Wednesdays 9:30am–11:30am)

Level Year: Mekorot

Requires Hebrew 4

This course is an intensive introduction to the form and content of the Mishnah, the first code of rabbinic law. Students will gain familiarity with classical rabbinic syntax, vocabulary, and literary structures, building a foundation for the further study of rabbinic literature. In addition, this course will help students cultivate a relationship to the Mishnah as guide to grounding, innovating and evolving their own Jewish practice.

Theories of Halakhah

Jane Kanarek

RAB529

2 graduate credits

Mondays 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Level Year: 1

Requires Hebrew 6 or above

This course will provide an introduction to theories of halakhah and halakhic literature. We will contextualize halakhah within a wider world of legal theory as well as examine this particularly Jewish expression of law. As we gain a more expansive understanding of the development of halakhah and halakhic literature, we will also have the opportunity to consider how the languages of halakhah can be a resource for our individual and communal Jewish practices.

Core Text – Rabbinics 1: Nashim u’Gevarim (Section 1)

Jane Kanarek

RAB601-1

3 graduate credits

Mondays 11:30 am – 1:00 pm and Wednesdays 11:45 am – 1:15 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 9:15 – 11:15 am and Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:30 am)

Level Year: 2, 3, and 4 (5 – Optional)

This course centers on intensive study of a number of sugyot from the first chapter of tractate kiddushin along with relevant academic secondary readings on women/gender and rabbinic Judaism. As we examine the ways in which these sugyot conceptualize betrothal, we will focus on identifying the different issues or questions that implicitly animate each sugya. Academic secondary readings present yet another interpretive lens. This course aims to build your skills in reading a talmudic sugya and Rashi.

Core Text – Rabbinics 1: Nashim u’Gevarim (Section 2)

Shayna Rhodes

RAB601-2

3 graduate credits

Mondays 11:15 am-12:45 pm and Wednesdays 11:45 am–1:15 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 9:00-11:00 am and Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 am)

Level Years: 2, 3, and 4 (5 – Optional)

A study of essential talmudic sources in *Seder Nashim* introduces classical rabbinic concepts, categories and practices concerning the roles and status of women and men. Students will read these classical rabbinic sources for their own understanding in light of the present day. They will consider issues that surround gender roles in contemporary Jewish practice through readings and discussions.

Core Text – Rabbinics 1: Nashim u’Gevarim (Section 3)

Devora Steinmetz

RAB601-3

3 graduate credits

Mondays 11:15 am-12:45 pm and Wednesdays 11:45 am–1:15 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Mondays 9:00-11:00 am and Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 am)
Levels Year: 2, 3, and 4 (5 – Optional)

We will be learning the third chapter of Gitin, which, among other topics, includes discussion of fascinating concepts such as *lishmah*, *bereira*, *simanim*, and *chazaqa* – several of which address how legal reality is created and how it is determined. The course is designed for people with solid intermediate to advanced gemara skills who want to challenge themselves to gain stronger skills, learn a significant amount of material, be introduced to new and complex concepts, and wade through a variety of rishonim.

Hilkhot Kiddushin ve-Gittin (Section 1)

Shani Rosenbaum

RAB616-A

2 graduate credits

Tuesdays, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Tuesdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am)

Level Year: 2, 3, and 4

Requires Hebrew 7 or above

Open to non-rabbinic students with permission from the instructor.

This course covers the laws of marriage. With a view to practical rabbinic applications, it surveys the essential rules and regulations that traditionally govern Jewish marriage ceremony and divorces. Having laid the groundwork for classical concepts and practices, the course culminates with considering contemporary adaptations and innovations, and brings them in conversation with the classical material. Students in Section 1 arrive with introductory-level familiarity with the Tur & Shulhan Arukh; this course will firm our foundations in navigating classical halakhic literature.

Hilkhot Kiddushin ve-Gittin (Section 2)

Shani Rosenbaum

RAB616-B

2 graduate credits

Tuesdays, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

(Beit Midrash preparation Tuesdays 9:15 am – 11:15 am)

Levels Year: 2, 3, and 4

Requires Hebrew 7 or above

Open to non-rabbinic students with permission from the instructor.

This course covers the laws of marriage. With a view to practical rabbinic applications, it surveys the essential rules and regulations that traditionally govern Jewish marriage ceremony and divorces. Having laid the groundwork for classical concepts and practices, the course culminates with considering contemporary adaptations and innovations, and brings them in conversation with the classical material. Students in Section 2 have demonstrated intermediate fluency in decoding and comprehension of Tur & Shulhan Arukh; this course will incorporate forays into Beit Yosef, nosei kelim and some responsa literature.