

JLearn

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CATALOG OF CLASSES • FALL 2021/5782

Welcome to the Fall Class Catalog for JLearn, where Adult Jewish Learning comes to life. We are excited to continue offering classes on Zoom. From the comfort of your home, join a community of learners guided by some of the most talented educators in the Detroit area. JLearn offers a diverse selection of courses in art, history, religion, Talmud, ethics, Hebrew and so much more.



The Jewish Community Center
of Metropolitan Detroit



Supported by
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OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT



To register:
248-205-2557
or **JLearn.online**

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THOUGHTFUL JUDAISM

from Shalom Hartman

A new, exciting curriculum offered by JLearn that invites you to explore, discuss, question and think about your Judaism.

What is the Shalom Hartman Institute?

The Shalom Hartman Institute is an educational center for the Jewish people, and is based in Jerusalem and New York. The scholars of the Shalom Hartman Institute develop ideas that identify, frame and bring Jewish wisdom and relevance to life.

What is Thoughtful Judaism?

A new and exciting pluralistic course offering foundational concepts of Judaism and Jewish life. Learners from all backgrounds are invited to participate in deep conversations that apply wisdom from ancient and modern texts to Jewish life today. Explore compelling questions in Jewish thought, through the principles that are our Jewish heritage.

What does the curriculum look like?

We will examine four Jewish themes: Ethics, Peoplehood, Faith and Practice, over two, twelve-week sessions, each lasting seventy-five minutes. Explore questions like these with local, talented instructors:

- How do people come to faith and what does Jewish tradition teach us about entering faith?
- What does it mean to belong to the Jewish people?
- What are the strengths and challenges of peoplehood?
- How does Jewish tradition understand our ethical obligations to God, ourselves, and our community?

Classes begin October 4.
See listings on Pages 4 and 7.
Tuition: \$175 per series | \$300
for both series.

This program is supported by the
**Hermelin Davidson Center for
Congregation Excellence**



TORAH LINE BY LINE: GENESIS 2

Instructor: Rabbi Dr. Mitch Parker

MONDAY 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18; 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

Series 2: Jan. 3, 10, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14

Series 3: Mar. 21, 28; Apr. 4, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23; Jun. 13, 20

This in-depth study of the life of Jacob and his family, explores the book of Genesis as it was meant to be read through multiple lenses. During the year we will analyze our first families, parents and children, men and women, their successes and failures, as they pave the way for the creation of the people of Israel. This participatory class makes use of classical and contemporary commentaries as well as the insights of the students in a relaxed atmosphere where every week we get as far as the discussion takes us. Have your own *Tanakh*, preferably one with commentaries.

Tuition: \$160 per 10-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$455

THE WEEKLY HAFTORAH: THE REST OF THE STORY

Instructor: Rabbi Dr. Mitch Parker

MONDAY 11 AM – 12:15 PM

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

Series 2: Jan. 3, 10, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14

Series 3: Mar. 21, 28; Apr. 4, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23; Jun. 13, 20

Every Shabbat a selection from the Bible is added to the weekly Torah reading called the *Haftorah*. For some of us the *Haftorah* offers an opportunity to enjoy over its recital by the Bar/Bat celebrant, or schmooze with friends but for others the reading gives a moment to reflect before the next part of the service begins. Through a study and analysis of the weekly *Haftorah* we will get an overview of the rich variety of materials, styles and personalities that are part of our *Tanakh*. We will develop a chronology of Biblical events after the death of Moses and immerse ourselves in an in depth discussion of our Holy Writings.

Tuition: \$160 per 10-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$455

EVEN MORE READING BETWEEN THE LINES

Instructor: Rebecca Starr

MONDAY 12 NOON – 1:15 PM

Series 1 Monthly: Oct. 25; Nov. 15; Dec. 13; Jan. 10

Series 2 Monthly: Dates to be announced.

Join us monthly for a lively book discussion group where we discuss, analyze, and reflect upon stories containing either Jewish content or written by Jewish authors. Selected works include fiction, non-fiction, and short stories. Part one of this two-part series will begin with the newest book by Cynthia Ozick entitled *Antiquities*. Additional readings include the classic novel *As a Driven Leaf* by Milton Steinberg, a collection of short stories by Etgar Keret, Yehuda Burla, and Elie Wiesel. We will complete this series by reading *Florence Adler Swims Forever* by Rachel Beanland. Bring your favorite beverage and your lunch and join us for a deep, open and reflective conversation.

Tuition: \$65 per four-week series | *Class size is limited!*

MODERN MEDICAL JEWISH ETHICS NOW

Instructor: Jill Gutmann

MONDAY 10 – 11:30 AM

Monthly: Oct. 4; Nov. 1; Dec. 6; Jan. 3; Feb. 7; Mar. 7; Apr. 4; May 2

Take a deep dive into the hot medical issues of the day with bioethicist Jill Gutmann. Whether it is a discussion of the use of tear gas to disperse crowds or the ethics of vaccine passports, you will be guided through an engaging discussion while looking at the science, politics, Jewish commentary and other relevant sources to frame your opinion. Never knowing what the timely topic will be until class, this fun, informative and engaging class is sure to make you think and want the discussion to continue long after class has ended.

Tuition: \$160

BRURIA — THE HEART OF TALMUD

Instructor: Rabbi Steven Rubenstein

MONDAY 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

Oct. 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15

Among the strongest and most compelling characters of the *Talmud* is Bruria. A woman scholar among men, Bruria stands out in the *Talmud* as a person of sharp intellect and compassion. Join us as we explore several key stories featuring Bruria which touch on issues of wisdom, marriage, loss, and challenges to authority.

Tuition: \$75

THOUGHTFUL JUDAISM FROM SHALOM HARTMAN

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

MONDAY 7- 8:15 PM

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13; Jan. 3, 10

Series 2: Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 25; May 2

See Page 1 for full description.

Tuition: \$175 per series / Discount for full year - \$300

T U E S D A Y S

THE ORIGINAL HALACHIC DEBATES

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

TUESDAY 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Series 1: Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30; Dec. 7

Series 2: Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar. 1

Series 3: Mar. 8, 22, 29; Apr. 5, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24

This class is reserved for students who have previously enrolled at this day and time.

Tuition: \$120 per 9-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$340

CHAPTER AND VERSE – BOOK OF KINGS AND A DISCUSSION OF PROPHETS

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

TUESDAY 10:45 – 11:45 AM

Series 1: Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30; Dec. 7

Series 2: Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar. 1

Series 3: Mar. 8, 22, 29; Apr. 5, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24

We continue our study of The Book of Kings, and conclude with the Babylonian exile. Join us for another exciting weekly discussion with Rabbi Faudem where intrigue, plot twists and palace backstabbing are fused with an in-depth study of the Prophets for a fun and thought-provoking morning.

Tuition: \$120 per 9-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$340

PIRKEI AVOT (ETHICS OF THE FATHERS)

Instructor: Rabbi Rod Glogower

TUESDAY 10:30 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30; Dec. 7, 14; Jan. 4, 11

Series 2: Jan. 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Apr. 5

Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) is a rich treasure trove of moral and ethical teachings of the Tannaitic rabbis. These maxims serve as guides for Jewish living. In this class we will mine these inspiring materials by way of close textual analysis. Classic rabbinic commentaries from throughout the ages will serve as our guides. A famous passage in *Pirkei Avot* advises us with regard to the Torah: “Turn it and turn it, for everything is within it.” In this class, we will apply this teaching to the text of *Pirkei Avot* itself.

Tuition: \$230 per 12-week series | Discount: Sign up for both series - \$435

FOR THE SAKE OF HEAVEN: A JEWISH GUIDE TO DISAGREEMENT, ARGUMENT, AND THE PRESERVATION OF RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH IT ALL

Instructor: Rabbi Yonatan Dahlen

TUESDAY 11 AM – 12:15 PM

Oct. 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16

Over the last decade or more, we have seen growing tension, hostility, and anger in American discourse. But in Judaism, conflict is not necessarily a bad thing; in fact, it can be the very foundation of something sacred and beautiful. Join us as we will learn about the concept of ‘*makhloket l’shem shamayim*,’ (argument for the sake of heaven), its origins, how it works, and how it can teach us to be better Jews and voices of reason at a time of deep division.

Tuition: \$65

THE ARCHEOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS SITES

Instructor: Dr. Michael Pytlik

TUESDAY 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30

Can archaeology address religious beliefs based on what was left behind? What are the problems of using archaeology to learn about religion and the criteria that constitutes a religious site? Several sites will be analyzed, primarily Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Significant topics include: the archaeology of religion; cognitive archaeology; Gobekli Tepe (Turkey); biblical sites and the Bible and archaeology; synagogues; major Christian sites (Capernaum, Holy Sepulchre); Islamic Jerusalem and the Dome of the Rock; archeology and the impact on politics today. This is an extended version of a JLearn class offered in fall of 2019. Appropriate for new and returning students.

Tuition: \$155

AUTOS AND ANTISEMITISM

Instructor: Professor Howard Lupovitch

TUESDAY 7 – 8:30 PM

Oct. 12, 19

How did Henry Ford become the most well-known Antisemite in American History? How impactful was his Antisemitic rhetoric? Explore the origins of Henry Ford's antisemitism against the backdrop of the growing isolationism, xenophobia, and racism in America during and after the World War and how Ford's ideas, disseminated in publications like his Dearborn Independent, have influenced American attitudes toward Jews and other minorities over the last century.

Tuition: \$40

Co-Sponsored by: Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies

ON THE ROAD AGAIN: MIGRATION PATTERNS OF JEWISH DETROIT

Instructor: Professor Howard Lupovitch

TUESDAY 7 – 8:30 PM

Nov. 2, 9

Migration from the City of Detroit to the suburbs is a central theme in the history of our Jewish community. Explore several aspects of this theme: why Jews left the city, why they settled in northwestern Oak Park and Southfield rather than other suburbs, aspects of Jewish communal life; Jews transplanted to the suburbs; how suburban life impacted the Jewish Community; and how Jews remained, nostalgically and otherwise connected to the City even after leaving. An interesting and fun look back.

Tuition: \$40

Co-Sponsored by: Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies

EVERY PHOTO TELLS A STORY: DETROIT THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

Instructor: Robbi Terman

TUESDAY 7 – 8:15 PM

Nov. 30; Dec. 7, 14

Photographs can be overlooked as historical documents, but oftentimes they provide the only glimpse into people and their stories. By studying photos, we can immerse ourselves in a different time and place, all while developing a deeper understanding of our community. Join Robbi Terman, the Director of the Leonard N. Simons Jewish Community Archives, as she takes you on a journey through time and examines Jewish Detroit through a camera lens.

Tuition: \$50/Discount: Sign up for both ON THE ROAD AGAIN and EVERY PHOTO TELLS A STORY classes for \$80

KRYPTONITE CONFESSIONS: THE SECRET HISTORY OF JEWS AND COMIC BOOKS

Instructor: Professor Howard Lupovitch

TUESDAY 7 – 8:30 PM

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22

Was it just a coincidence that two of the most popular superhero comic book series – DC and Marvel Comics – were each the brainchild of Jewish authors? In this series we examine the role of Jews in creating the genre of the superhero comic book and how they addressed issues of identity during moments of crisis in the United States, especially during World War II and the 1960s.

Tuition: \$80

Co-Sponsored by: Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies

W E D N E S D A Y S

A JOURNEY OF GOOD DEEDS AND CREEDS

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

WEDNESDAY 10:30 – 11:45 AM

Series 1: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8

Series 2: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2

Series 3: Mar. 9, 23, 30; Apr. 6, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25

Join Rabbi Faudem as she guides you through your personal journey of *Mitzvot*. What does the Bible, Jewish texts and commentary say about our obligations to our family, the community and the world? What impact does this have on ourselves and others? Does it make us better people if we are simply fulfilling an obligation, or does it create a true change within?

Tuition: \$145 per 9-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$410

THOUGHTFUL JUDAISM FROM SHALOM HARTMAN

Instructor: Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

WEDNESDAY: 10:30 - 11:45 AM

Series 1: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8, 15; Jan. 5, 12

Series 2: Jan. 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2, 9, 23, 30; Apr. 6, 27; May 4

See Page 1 for full description.

Tuition: \$175 per series / Discount for full year - \$300

OPENING THE DOOR FOR ELIJAH (AND ELISHA, TOO)

Instructor: Rabbi Rod Glogower

WEDNESDAY 10:30 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8, 15; Jan. 5, 12

Series 2: Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr. 6

The prophet Elijah looms large in Jewish folklore and tradition. In this course, we return to the study of the figure of Elijah and his disciple Elisha as they emerge from the biblical text in the First and Second Book of Kings. Join us as our *Tanakh* series features close textual analysis based upon a wide range of commentators, both classical and modern. Explore the lives and significance of these two fascinating personalities of ancient Israel.

Tuition: \$230 per 12-week series | Discount: Sign up for both series - \$435

FROM HERESY TO REASON TO HUMANISM: UNDERSTANDING HUMANISTIC JUDAISM

Rabbi Jeffrey Falick

WEDNESDAY, 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27

Humanistic Judaism may be a small Jewish denomination, but its precedents and influences originate with some of the greatest figures in Jewish history, including the *Talmud's* Elisha ben Avuya; the medieval era's Maimonides; Benedict (Baruch) Spinoza, one of the greatest philosophers of the Enlightenment; and 20th-century sage Mordecai Kaplan. We will take a close look at these thinkers and others as we explore Rabbi Sherwin Wine's innovative approach to a positive and Humanistic Judaism for the 21st century.

Tuition: \$50

JUDAISM AND SHAKESPEARE: TO BE OR NOT TO BE!

Instructor: Rabbi Aaron Bergman

WEDNESDAY 12 NOON – 1:15 PM

Oct. 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17

Shakespeare may have been the first writer in English to portray a Jew as a human being, not just as a sinister caricature. Shylock is a difficult character, but so is just about everyone else in Shakespeare's plays. We will look at the world that created Shakespeare, as well as the world he lived in. We will read passages from *The Merchant of Venice* as we compare and contrast it to Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and Christopher Marlowe's play *The Jew of Malta*. We will explore various stages of *The Merchant of Venice* around the world and discuss how a group of Eastern European Jews translated Shakespeare into Yiddish and became among the world's greatest critics and champions of "The Bard."

Tuition: \$80

IS TIKKUN OLAM A JEWISH VALUE?

Instructor: Rabbi Josh Bennett

WEDNESDAY, 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

Jan. 5, 12, 19

What does *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World) look like in a modern Jewish context? How does social justice and social action connect to Jewish values and tradition? Through an exploration of Jewish texts on social justice learn what our modern and ancient sages say about the obligation we have as Jews to heal the world through action and service. This course will encourage all participants to concurrently engage in a social justice project that benefits the Detroit community.

Tuition: \$60

ANTISEMITISM YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Instructor: Ruth Bergman

WEDNESDAY: 7 – 8:15 PM

Oct. 6, 13, 20

In this three-part series, we will explore the origins of the belief that Jews are the ultimate outsiders, a power-hungry people who pose a threat to humanity. We will connect the antisemitic tropes of today to ancient and medieval characterizations of Jews and Judaism, study how antisemites use them in propaganda, and discuss why people are so ready to believe them. We will examine religious, political, and “racial” antisemitism, antisemitism disguised as “anti-Israel” politics, antisemitism on the right and the left. Many of the examples will draw on the Holocaust, both in terms of propaganda used during the Nazi regime as well as the use of Holocaust imagery today to turn the Jews into the Nazis. By the end of the course, you will understand how antisemitism, in the words of Robert Wistrich, has endured as “the longest hatred.”

Tuition: \$50

Co-sponsored by: Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus

THE (HALACHIC) LAW IS THE LAW...OR IS IT?

Instructor: Rabbi David Polsky

WEDNESDAY: 7 – 8:15 PM

Oct. 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17

The recent actions of certain members of the police force have created a great amount of discussion regarding police bias, use of excessive force, and the lack of accountability for officers who violate civil rights. Police officers and their defenders respond that the dangers of police work make it difficult to reduce force. Together, we will study Halachic sources that discuss the Judaic sources of the degree to which officers of the law are expected to minimize their use of force, whether they are expected to do so even when facing grave danger, and the circumstances under which they should be held liable for errors of judgment made under duress.

Tuition: \$50

SALON SERIES: A TALMUDIC EXPLORATION

Instructor: Rabbi Tzvi Muller

Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9, 16; Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27;
Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 24, 31; Apr. 7, 28

In this series we explore and analyze the Talmud's wisdom for kind, ethical and mindful living. Related teachings interspersed throughout the Talmud are examined in group discussion. We will enlighten ourselves through the process of translating relevant Talmudic teachings into everyday life at an advanced level. Salon series classes were developed to provide the advanced student with a more intense structure of learning in a small group setting.

Tuition: \$460 | Pre-Requisite: Previous Salon Series Course | Limited to 12 students

CONTEMPORARY HALACHIC DEBATES: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A JEWISH WOMAN

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

THURSDAY 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Series 1: Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3

Series 3: Mar. 10, 24, 31; Apr. 7, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26

Jewish law (*Halacha*) has been the building foundation of the Jewish people for thousands of years. Who holds the final word on *Halacha* and why? This class will focus on contemporary Judaic womens' topics. Join Rabbi Faudem for lively weekly discussions and debates on contemporary issues, using *Halacha* as a starting point to discover how decisions are reached, changed or compromised in today's society.

Tuition: \$120 per 9-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$340

FINDING HOPE AND HARMONY AMID SUFFERING AND STRIFE

Instructor: Rabbi Joseph Krakoff

THURSDAY 10 – 11:30 AM

Sep. 23, 30; Oct. 7

Life is exceedingly complex and so often poses serious challenges that can at times seem insurmountable. Thankfully, Jewish tradition provides us strategies for approaching the most difficult moments in our lives. Over three weeks we will explore pathways that offer the opportunity to bring hope and harmony when we need it most.

Tuition: \$60

THE PERFECT BLEND WITH THE RABBIS: EIGHT JEWISH BOOKS EVERYONE SHOULD READ

Instructors: Rabbi Joshua Bennett and Rabbi Joseph Krakoff

THURSDAY 10 – 11:30 AM

Monthly: Oct. 14; Nov. 11; Dec. 9; Jan. 6; Feb. 3; Mar. 3; Apr. 7; May 5

It is time to fill your coffee cups and your souls with this unique, monthly opportunity with two of our respected rabbis from the Detroit community. The Jewish people have long been referred to as “the people of the book.” In this class, we will discuss eight books that give insight into the storied history of our people. The books will range in genre from fiction, nonfiction, philosophy, and beyond. We will add comment from Jewish source texts as we dive into some of the greatest books of our history. Join Rabbis Bennett and Krakoff in this literary adventure. Their casual style and serious academic approach will guide the conversation about Modern Jewish Life.

Tuition: \$170 | Class size is limited!

A RANGE OF VISIONS; MORE ART BY JEWISH ARTISTS

Instructor: Wendy Evans

THURSDAY 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

Oct. 14, 21, 28

Starting in the nineteenth century Jews had unprecedented opportunities to embark on a variety of new careers. Some became artists, many gaining acclaim for their work. We will explore a number of Jewish painters, especially those who depict Jewish people or Jewish stories, and look at several Jewish sculptors from Europe, the US, and Israel. Jewish artists and designers whose creations impacted our daily lives, will also be reviewed.

Tuition: \$60

PRAYERS YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW

Instructor: Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

THURSDAY, 12 NOON – 1:15 PM

Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2

Our most familiar prayers are very comforting to say and to hear but they can lose their meaning when we say or hear them so often. This is unfortunate as the language, history and meaning of those familiar prayers are truly fascinating. Explore, in depth, some of our most recognizable prayers: the blessings for an Aliyah to the Torah, the Shehecheyanu, Aleynu and others. We will address the history of the prayers, the variations in text and the theological and historical foundations of the words. We will also share our thoughts on the relevance of these prayers in our lives.

Tuition: \$65

MORE OF THE SWEET SINGER OF ISRAEL: KING DAVID, SERIES 2

Instructor: Ariella Nadel

THURSDAYS, 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2

Further explore how King David's life uniquely encompassed the breadth of human emotion and experience. His greatest joys, deepest sorrow and profound faith were powerfully captured in his life's journal-the Book of Psalm. Each week we will study a new, seminal story in the bitter-sweet life of King David and overlay it with a corresponding Psalm. Through our studies we will gain insight into the valor, virtues and vicissitudes of this great monarch as well as understand why his words became the eternal language of the Jewish people. This is NOT a repeat of last year's class. It is all new material.

Tuition: \$155

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT BUT DO YOU UNDERSTAND IT?

Instructor: Rabbi Michele Faudem

THURSDAY 6:45 – 7:45 PM

Series 1: Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3

Series 3: Mar. 10, 24, 31; Apr. 7, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26

Join Rabbi Faudem for lively weekly discussion and debate on current, relevant topics. How does *Halacha* (Jewish Law) impact our everyday opinions and decisions? Join our round table discussion as Rabbi Faudem asks you to answer the question: "You don't have to like it, but do you understand it"?

Tuition: \$120 per 9-week series | Series Discount, Sign up for all three: \$ 340

TOUR DE DETROIT!

Instructor: Michael Hodges

THURSDAY, 7 – 8:30 PM

Sep. 23, 30

Ever wonder who the two guys on bronze thrones in Grand Circus Park are? Or what that bright steel circle rising above Hart Plaza is all about? Join just-retired Detroit News arts writer Michael Hodges for a tour of unique statues and other outdoor, interesting public art that grace our city that includes some of the stunning murals that have gone up in Eastern Market in recent years.

Tuition: \$40

A SPECIAL MULTI-EVENT PRESENTATION FEATURING DIARIES OF THE SHOAH — YOUR STORY, YOUR WORDS — HOW TO WRITE A COMPELLING PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Instructor: Robbie Terman

THURSDAYS, 7 – 8:15 PM

Oct. 7, 14, 21

Diary writing is more than just recounting daily events. Diaries provide a unique insight into everyday experiences from the common person's perspective. They reveal how people live, hope, and dream and explore eras and places different from our own. At times, they provide the only first-person account of an historical event. Join archivist and published author Robbie Terman for a hands-on class on writing meaningfully about your life and experience. Course material will include lessons on both diary and memoir writing. No writing experience necessary.

Events included in tuition cost:

- *Thursday, October 7 from 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Students may tour the special exhibit at the Holocaust Memorial Center.*
- *Sunday, October 3 at 2 PM: A Zoom event with diarist Zlata Filipovic.*
- *Sunday, October 17 at 2 PM: An in-person event at The Holocaust Memorial Center featuring the movie, "We Shall Not Die" and a talk-back with writer and director, Aston Gleckman.*

Tuition: \$65, includes all events

See Page 16 for more about this program.

Co-Sponsored by: Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus

FRIDAYS

PARSHA HASHAVUAH (Weekly Torah Portion)

Instructors: Community Rabbis, Cantors and Educators

FRIDAY 10 – 11 AM

Series 1: Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19; Dec. 3, 10, 17

Series 2: Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4, 22

Series 3: Mar. 18, 25; Apr. 2, 8, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27; Jun. 3

Each week a different rabbi, cantor or educator will present the weekly Torah portion from his or her own perspective. You never know who will be teaching each week but it is always enlightening and engaging! Sign up for one ten-week series or the entire year. Have your own *Tanakh*.

Tuition: \$120 per 10-week series | Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$340

Co-Sponsored by: The Michigan Board of Rabbis and The Michigan Board of Cantors

READING GENESIS AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME

Instructor: Rabbi Joseph Klein

FRIDAY 11:30 AM – 1PM

Oct. 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19; Dec. 3, 10

This take on Genesis is very different from anything you've heard before (even in other JLearn classes)! Rabbi Klein will argue: there is a reason there are two Creation stories, neither one is meant to explain how the world was created; the serpent is not evil, he's God's agent; Adam and Eve did not sin. In fact, God needed them to eat the fruit to get them out of the garden; Cain did not murder his brother, and should be seen as a "tragic hero"; Isaac, far from being a "patriarch," is a weak and seriously damaged child-man. The narratives themselves are hiding a very sophisticated literary structure, rivaling the complexity of Dickens' novels. Students should have a Bible translation of their choice.

Tuition: \$160

TEXT AND TEXTURE OF THE BOOK OF EXODUS

Instructor: Rabbi Joseph Klein

FRIDAY 11:30 AM – 1PM

Jan. 14, 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4

This eight-week course will be a close and careful reading of the better-known narratives in the Book of Exodus, looking for messages and meaning beneath the surface, with presented commentaries from Rabbinic and occasional Christian sources, and evidence from archaeology. The class will incorporate a discussion of the Documentary Hypothesis as a means of better understanding the history, development and message of this foundational text of *Torah*. Students should have a Bible translation of their choice.

Tuition: \$160

SING A NEW PSALM

Instructor: Rabbi Joseph Klein

FRIDAY 11:30 AM – 1PM

Mar. 25; Apr. 1, 8, 29; May 6, 13

This course will closely examine selections from the Book of Psalms with a focus on their structure, wordplay and literary sophistication. The poetry and theology of the Psalms transcend their almost 3000-year history. It is significant that the Psalter (the Book of Psalms) was the first book ever printed in the American colonies – *The Bay Psalm Book*. Though the Hebrew text of the Psalms will be referenced and examined, Hebrew skills are not required. Students should have a Bible translation of their choice.

Tuition: \$120



A JLEARN PRESENTS
**A MULTI-EVENT SHOAH PRESENTATION
WITH THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER**

We hope you will join us for this unique series of events, highlighting the special exhibit: **“The Girl in the Diary: Searching for Rywka from the Łódź Ghetto,”** at The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus.

EVENT 1

**DIARIES OF THE SHOAH — YOUR STORY, YOUR WORDS —
HOW TO WRITE A COMPELLING PERSONAL NARRATIVE**

Instructor: Robbie Terman

THURSDAYS | Oct. 7, 14, 21 | 7 - 8:15 PM

Diary writing is more than just recounting daily events. Diaries provide a unique insight into everyday experiences from the common person’s perspective. They reveal how people live, hope, and dream and explore eras and places different from our own. At times, they provide the only first-person account of an historical event. Join archivist and published author Robbie Terman for a hands-on class on writing meaningfully about your life and experience. Course material will include lessons on both diary and memoir writing. No writing experience necessary.

EVENT 2

THURSDAY | October 7 | 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Students may tour the special exhibit at the Holocaust Memorial Center: **The Girl in the Diary: Searching for Rywka from the Łódź Ghetto.** This exhibition is in cooperation with the Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków, Poland, and will be on display from July 29 through December 30, 2021. In 1945, a Soviet doctor found a school notebook in the liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau Camp. It was a diary written by Rywka Lipszyc, a teenager in the Łódź Ghetto, between October 1943 and April 1944. The contents were the testament of a Jewish girl who lost her siblings and parents, but never lost hope despite moments of doubt. More than 60 years

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after its discovery, the diary traveled to the United States, where it was translated from Polish, supplemented with commentaries and published in book form. Rywka Lipszyc's diary, a moving memoir of life and adolescence in the Łódź Ghetto, is the starting point for this exhibition. Selected excerpts of the diary are supplemented by expert commentary from historians, doctors, psychologists and rabbis. These commentaries help to understand the context of the times and events Rywka refers to in her diary.

EVENT 3

SUNDAY | October 3 | 3 PM

A zoom interview event with Zlata Filipovic. The author of *Zlata's Diary*, Zlata is a Bosnian-Irish diarist who kept a diary while a child living in Sarajevo during the Bosnian War.

EVENT 4

SUNDAY | October 17 | 2 PM

An in-person event at The Holocaust Center featuring the movie: "We Shall Not Die," written and directed by Ashton Gleckman: Seventy-five years after the conclusion of WWII, an exploration not only of the horrific human tragedy of the Holocaust and what can be learned from it, but also the resilience of those that rebuilt their lives despite the unimaginable. Join us for the movie followed by a talk-back with Mr. Gleckman.



Tuition \$65 and includes all events.

**Co-sponsored by
Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus**

HEBREW LANGUAGE & LITERATURE CLASSES

LEARN TO READ HEBREW IN TEN WEEKS

Instructor: Dorit Warfman

MONDAY 9:30 – 10:45 AM

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

If you ever wanted to learn the Hebrew letters, follow prayers in Hebrew or read signs in Israel then this is the course for you. This may be a stand-alone class or advance into the “Hebrew 1” class to learn conversational Hebrew.

Tuition: \$145

HEBREW 1

Instructor: Dorit Warfman

MONDAY, 11 AM – 12:15 P M

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

Pre-requisites: “Learn to Read Hebrew in 10 weeks” and “Total Beginner Hebrew.”

Tuition: \$145

HEBREW 3

Instructor: Dorit Warfman

MONDAY, 7:30 – 8:45 PM

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

Pre-requisite: Hebrew 2

Tuition: \$145

HEBREW 5

Instructor: Dorit Warfman

MONDAY, 6 – 7:15 PM

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13

Pre-requisite: Hebrew 4

Tuition: \$145

ADVANCED HEBREW 1

Instructor: Nira Lev

MONDAY, 10:30 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13;

Jan. 3, 10, 24

Tuition: \$265

ADVANCED BEGINNER HEBREW 2

Instructor: Nira Lev

MONDAY, 12:30 – 1:45 PM

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13; Jan. 3, 10, 24

Tuition: \$175

ADVANCED HEBREW 2

Instructor: Nira Lev & Amalia Poris

MONDAY, 7– 9 PM

Series 1: Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29; Dec. 6, 13; Jan. 3, 10, 24

Tuition: \$265

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW

Instructor: Nira Lev

TUESDAY, 11 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30; Dec. 7, 14; Jan. 4, 11, 18

Tuition: \$140

ADVANCED HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE 2

Instructor: Nira Lev

WEDNESDAY, 10 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8, 15; Jan. 5, 12, 19

Tuition: \$265

ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE HEBREW 1

Instructor: Nira Lev

WEDNESDAY, 12:15 – 1:15 PM

Series 1: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8, 15; Jan. 5, 12, 19

Tuition: \$140

ADVANCE HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE 3

Instructor: Nira Lev

SUNDAY, 10 AM – 12 NOON

Series 1: Sep. 12, 19; Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28; Dec 5, 12

Tuition: \$265

For more information about Hebrew classes
or to discuss placement of new students,
contact Nira Lev, Director of Hebrew Programs
248-330-3601 or **amnira@ameritech.net**

THE INSTRUCTORS

RABBI JOSHUA BENNETT is a rabbi at Temple Israel of West Bloomfield. Ordained at Hebrew Union College in 1994, he holds a Masters Degree of Hebrew Letters as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Champaign. He has served the Jewish community in many roles including Michigan Jewish AIDS Coalition, Salvation Army Legal Aid Clinic, Young Adult Division of the Allied Jewish Federation and The ADL. Social justice is a primary concern of his.

RABBI AARON BERGMAN is a Detroit native and a graduate of the University of Michigan. He was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary and pursued additional graduate work in Jewish Folklore at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was part of the educators' program at the Shalom Hartman Institute. Rabbi Bergman is the past President of the Michigan Board of Rabbis and represents local rabbis throughout the state in various interfaith initiatives. Rabbi Bergman served as a rabbi at Congregation Beth Ahm and was Rabbi-in-Residence at Hillel Day School. He was the founding Director of Jewish Studies at the Frankel Jewish Academy and has been a Melton instructor. Rabbi Bergman joined the Adat Shalom Synagogue clergy in July of 2008 and became Mara d'Atra of the Synagogue in May of 2009.

RUTH BERGMAN is the Director of Education at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Ruth oversees museum education and tours as well as teacher training workshops conducted throughout the state of Michigan. She earned her B.A. from Columbia University and did graduate work at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Ruth completed a certificate in Jewish Leadership for Educators from Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership and is currently working on a certificate on nonprofit leadership from the Kellogg School of Management. She was an instructor for the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Limud Michigan, and taught for Detroit's Jewish adult education programs for many years, including courses in antisemitism and Holocaust studies. She also mentored Melton instructors and was a presenter at both the Melton Teachers Seminars and Directors meetings.

RABBI YONATAN DAHLEN is a rabbi at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield. Originally from Sioux City, Iowa, Rabbi Dahlen received his M.A. in Jewish philosophy from Brandeis University and was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. As a rabbi, he is dedicated to a pursuit of lifelong Jewish learning, wrestling with the challenges of text and tradition, and engaging with holiness in its many forms.

RABBI ROBERT DOBRUSIN was born and raised in Boston and has served at Beth Israel in Ann Arbor since 1988. He was ordained from the Jewish Theological Seminary, and in 2015 was named one of the 33 most inspiring rabbis in America by *The Forward*. He is a published author of numerous essays and sermons, and a book entitled *The Long Way Around: Stories and Sermon's from a Life's Journey*.

WENDY EVANS was raised among the museums of London, England. She has advanced degrees from Oxford University in England and Wayne State University in Detroit. She taught art history at Wayne State University and elsewhere and is a long-time volunteer at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Ms. Evans gives presentations on a wide variety of art subjects throughout Michigan.

RABBI JEFFREY L. FALICK serves as rabbi at The Birmingham Temple Congregation for Humanistic Judaism in Farmington Hills. His education includes ordination from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Jeff has held leadership positions in the Society for Humanistic Judaism and the Association of Humanistic Rabbis. As a Jewish educator, he has served as a faculty member in numerous programs, including Melton and many congregational and community-wide offerings. In his community work Jeff serves on the executive committee of Freedom House Detroit and the advisory committee of the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights. In 2018 he was recognized as “Freethinker of the Year” by the Center for Inquiry of Michigan for his work in Humanistic community building.

RABBI MICHELE FAUDEM was ordained by The Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1995 where she also earned her M.A. in Education. She was the Coordinator of Adult Jewish Education at the Houston JCC and the Melton Director of Houston. Rabbi Faudem was a popular Melton instructor and teaches numerous JLearn classes. She is the Rabbi Educator for Hillel of Metropolitan Detroit.

RABBI ROD GLOGOWER is the rabbinic resource person on staff of the B’nai Brith Hillel Foundation at the University of Michigan and an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School. He received his rabbinic ordination with distinction from Midrasha Seminary of Machon Harry Fischel in Jerusalem.

JILL GUTMANN has experiences in Jewish ethics, *halakha*, medical ethics and public health. She holds an AB from Smith College; Fulbright Grantee to South Korea; a Masters of Public Health from the University of Cincinnati and Jewish Ethics from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. She has served on hospital ethics boards and worked as an ethicist for the CDC and the Israeli Ministry of Health. She served on faculty at the Melton School in Auckland, New Zealand.

MICHAEL H. HODGES is the recently retired fine-arts writer for *The Detroit News*, where he worked since 1991. *Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit* is his second illustrated book on local architecture, and recently won the State History Award, as well as the Balthazar Korab Award “for significant contributions to architecture” from the Michigan chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Hodges’ first book, *Michigan’s Historic Railroad Stations*, was named a Notable Book for 2013 by the Library of Michigan. The author blames his architectural obsessions on the picturesque Rochester Hills dairy farm where he grew up, and the six years he spent as a student at the Cranbrook School for Boys.

RABBI JOSEPH KLEIN was Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of Oak Park for 16 years before becoming Rabbi Emeritus in 2013. He holds a Master of Hebrew Letters and received his ordination from Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rabbi Klein has been Adjunct Professor at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Indiana State University and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He is currently Adjunct Professor at Oakland University and Rochester College, and Visiting Rabbi with the Grosse Pointe Jewish Council.

RABBI JOSEPH H. KRAKOFF is the Senior Director of Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network. He also serves on the Hospice teams of Residential Hospice and Heart to Heart Hospice. Rabbi Krakoff offers classes and seminars on a variety of spiritual topics and is a guest lecturer in the Wayne State Medical School's Health and Wellness program. Rabbi Krakoff is a graduate of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, California and the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, New York.

NIRA LEV holds two M.A. degrees from Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University and is a graduate of the Post Graduate Leadership Training Program from NYU. For over 30 years she has been teaching Hebrew, Bible and Literature, training teachers and presenting workshops nationwide. Ms. Lev is the author of several Hebrew textbooks and of several publications and was the editor of the Hebrew monthly *Ivriton*. She currently teaches at Oakland University. She is a recipient of the Berman Outstanding Professional Service Award and of the Schochet Outstanding Teacher Award.

PROFESSOR HOWARD LUPOVITCH received a Ph.D. in Jewish History from Columbia University. He has taught at Cornell University, Colby College, the University of Western Ontario and University of Michigan where he was also a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies. He is currently Associate Professor of History and the Director of the CohnHaddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. Professor Lupovitch is the 2009 winner of the Benard L. Maas Prize for Achievement in Jewish Culture and Continuity in the Area of Humanities.

RABBI TZVI MULLER specializes in teaching Judaism's guidelines for treating others with love, respect and kindness – *Mitzvot Bein Adam Lechavero*. Through his widely attended classes, award-winning programs and innovative educational leadership, Rabbi Muller has brought the values, teachings and practices of kindness to Jews in Michigan and all over the world. He serves as Rabbi of the Birmingham Bloomfield Chai Center and directs the Jewish Values Institute.

ARIELLA NADEL has been a longtime community educator and recently retired from teaching at Farber Hebrew Day School - Yeshivat Akiva. She has taught adult *Tanakh* classes at Limmud, community centers, synagogues and schools. Ms. Nadel holds degrees in Judaic Studies and Political Science from Yeshiva University and a Law Degree from the Cardozo School of Law.

RABBI DR. MITCH PARKER has been teaching Torah in the Detroit area for more than two decades. He is a child psychologist working with the families of children with developmental and learning challenges. Mitch has previously worked in a Children's Hospital and both a secular and a Jewish school for children with developmental disabilities in Buffalo and Toronto. He developed the Parent Education Program for the Florence Melton School and was the Special Needs Director at Hillel Day School of Detroit. Mitch has just retired as the Rabbi of Bnai Israel Synagogue in West Bloomfield.

RABBI DAVID POLSKY is a rabbi, educator and *Kashrut* professional in the area. He also serves as a volunteer Scholar-in-Residence for Congregation Beit Levitz and volunteers for a number of local Jewish organizations, including JCRC,, Detroit Jews for Justice, Limmud Michigan, and the Detroit Center for Civil Discourse. Before moving to Michigan, Rabbi Polsky served as rabbi of Congregation Anshe Sfard in New Orleans for five years. He received his rabbinical ordination from Yeshiva University.

AMALIA PORIS graduated from Beit Berel Teacher's College in Israel. She started her career in the Israeli Defense Force, teaching Hebrew to new immigrant soldiers. Ms. Poris has been teaching Judaic Studies in Jewish Day Schools for 28 years and is currently a teacher. She participates in a Master Hebrew Teacher's program at the Hebrew College in Boston.

DR. MICHAEL PYTLIK is Adjunct Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Religion and the Director of Jewish Studies at Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. He has excavated a number of biblical and more recent sites in Israel and takes students from Oakland to Israel each year on excavations. Dr. Pytlik has a Bachelor's degree in History and Philosophy, a Masters in Jewish Studies and a Doctorate in Jewish Studies from Spertus College of Judaic Studies and Leadership, Chicago. His area of study was historical and theological questions relating to the early Israelite monarchy at the time of King David.

RABBI STEVEN REUBENSTEIN has served as the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Ahm since 2005. Prior to coming to Beth Ahm, he served as the Associate Rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City, Missouri. During his time in the Metro Detroit area, Rabbi Rubenstein has served as the President of the Michigan Region of the Rabbinical Assembly and has served as an officer of the Interfaith Health & Hope Coalition. He graduated from The State University of New York in Binghamton with a degree in Political Science in 1992. He received an MA in Interdepartmental Studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary and was ordained as a Rabbi by JTS in 2000.

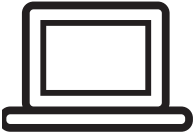
REBECCA STARR is the Midwest Manager at Shalom Hartman Institute of North America where she oversees all program development, management and partnerships in the Midwest region. Ms. Starr is a respected educator and community organizer. She served as an assistant director of the Alliance for Jewish Education at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and directed the Detroit branch of the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School where she later served as a Melton faculty member.

DORIT WARFMAN was a public educator in Israel from 1998 - 2006. She was a superintendent for a *kibbutz* school responsible for the programming of children, ages 1 - 18. She holds both a teaching certificate and an industrial engineering degree. Ms. Warfman and her husband recently moved from Israel to Michigan to be close to her sons and their families.

REGISTRATION

How to register

WEB



JLearn.online
(pay by credit card)

CALL



248-205-2557
(pay by credit card)

MAIL



Mail the registration form below
with checks payable to:
Jewish Community Center: JLearn
6735 Telegraph Road, Suite 105
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

Year you were born _____

Course Name _____ Day _____ Tuition \$ _____

Course Name _____ Day _____ Tuition \$ _____

Course Name _____ Day _____ Tuition \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Yes, I would like to join Detroit Friends of Adult Jewish Learning, 2021 - 22
(\$36 Minimum Donation)

\$36 (Friend) \$72 (Supporter) \$180 (Sustainer) \$360 (Backer)

Other

SCHOLARSHIPS: Through a generous grant from the family and friends of Susan Robin, the Susan R. Robin Memorial Scholarship is available to students in need of financial assistance. Additional scholarships are also available through the Detroit Friends of Adult Jewish Learning and the JCC. Please call the office at 248-205-2557 for scholarship information.

CANCELLATION: All courses are subject to cancellation due to insufficient enrollment. Classes are limited and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Refunds will be given after first class, no refunds thereafter.

