

Fundamentals of Judaism

Class Outline

17 Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

----- Revised: 8 January 2010 -----

Lesson Plan	Date	Subjects
8	January 6, 2010	Kashrut
9	January 13	Synagogue Life
10	January 20	Mitzvot III: Modernity
11 a/b	January 27	Life Cycle 1 & II
12 a/b	February 3	Holidays I & II
13	February 10	Time/High Holidays
14	February 17	Shoah
15	February 24	Israel
16	March 3	Conversion/Modern Issues
17	March 10	(Open)

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Synagogue Life

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 210-218; 247-252
Jewish Literacy	pp. 594; 705-717
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 74-83 (Hospitality)

Terms and Concepts

- Bet Kenneset
- Bet Midrash
- Bet Tefilah
- Rabbi
- Chazzan/Cantor
- Shaliach Tzibbur
- Gabbi
- Sefer Torah
- Yad
- Bimah
- Aron HaKodesh
- Parochet
- Ner Tamid
- Shulchan
- Ba'al Koray
- Mizrach
- Mezzuah
- Tzedaka Box/Puske
- Sefarim
- Judaica
- Shalom Bayit
- Haknasat Orchim

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Mitzvot III: Modernity

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 106-113
Jewish Literacy	pp. 210-211; 530-534
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 22-31 (Jewish Law)
Hand Outs	Introduction to <i>A Guide to Jewish Religious Practice</i> "Jewish Law" from <i>Emet Ve-Emunah</i> "Converts Mourning the Death of Close Relatives" by Rabbi Joel Rembaum

Terms and Concepts

- Mitzvah
- Halakhah
- Emet
- Emunah
- Posek
- Committee on Jewish Law and Standards
- Shulkah Arukh
- Tzivui
- Shelah/She'elot
- Teshvah/Tehsuvot
- mara d'atra
- machlocot l'shem shamyim
- lo b'shamyim hee

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Life Cycle I

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 285-295
Jewish Literacy	pp. 600-603; 671-675
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 96-107 (Kivud Av v'Em)
Hand Out	"The Messianic Idea" from <i>The Book of Jewish Belief</i> by Louis Jacobs

Terms and Concepts

- **Bris/Brit milah**
- **Bar/Bat Mitzvah**
- simchat bat
- **Confirmation**
- mohel
- Messiah
- sandek
- Messianic Age
- pidyon haBen
- Kivud Av v'Em

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Life Cycle II

Reading Assignments	
Living Judaism	pp. 295-322
Jewish Literacy	pp. 676-699
Hand Out	"The World Beyond the Grave" By Rabbi Maurice Lamm

Terms and Concepts

- **Kiddushin**
- Kesef/Shtar/ Binah
- Erusin
- Nissuin
- Kettuba
- Huppah
- Auf Ruf
- Ayidim
- Yichud
- Get
- **Aninut**
- Kavod HaMet
- Shivah
- Kaddish Yatom
- Sheloshim
- Yartziet
- Avel
- Met
- Chevra Kadisha
- Tachrichim
- Shmirah
- Levyah
- Kriah
- Hespel
- Keruvah
- Chesed Shel Emet
- Yizkor
- Tchilat HaMatim

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Holidays I

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 147-57
Jewish Literacy	pp. 629-637
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 50-61 (Bal Tashchit)

Terms and Concepts

- Regalim
- Sukkot
- Passover
- Shavuot
- Sukkah
- Lulav
- Arba'ah minim
- Etrog
- Smini Azeret
- Khol Ha'Moed
- Hannukah
- Hannukiah
- Shamesh
- Piersuma d'nisa
- Increasing in Holiness
- Dreidel / Seveevon
- Nes Gadol Hayah Sham
- Latkes
- Sufganiot
- December Dilemma
- Chag Le'elyanot
- Bal Tashchit

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Holidays II

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 158-182
Jewish Literacy	pp. 637-660
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 108-117 (Captives)

Terms and Concepts

- Purim
- Ta'anit Ester
- megilla / Megillat Ester
- graggor
- hamentashen / oznei Haman
- Mishloach Manot /
- Mattatot l'evyonim
- Puirm carnival
- Passover / Peshach
- Hametz
- Bedikat Hametz
- Yitziat Mitzraim
- Ma'ot Hitim
- Haggadah
- Plagues
- Seder plate
- L'shana Habaya B'Yerusalim (Ha'Biriah)
- Sefiriat HaOmer
- Lag B'omer
- Shavuot
- Bikkurim
- Ruth
- Tikkun Lel Shavuot
- Pidyon Sh'vuyim

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Time / High Holidays

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 114-126; 139-146
Jewish Literacy	pp. 619-629
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 186-195 (Tesuvah)

Terms and Concepts

- erev
- motza'ay
- chag
- yom tov
- Chol HaMoed
- Yamim Noraim
- tashlikh
- shofar
- machzor
- Teshuvah
- Yamim Noraim
- Leshana Tova Teeataivu
- ta'anit
- chet/ Al chet
- Yizkor
- kittle
- Yom HaDin
- Yom HaZikaron
- Yom Truah

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Shoah

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 181-194
Jewish Literacy	pp. 373-422 ; 507-521

Terms and Concepts

- Antisemitism
- Shoah/Holocaust
- "Christ Killer"
- blood libel
- Protocols of the Elders of Zion
- Henry Ford
- Adolf Hitler
- Mein Kampf
- Yom HaShoah
- Never Again
- Concentration camps
- Yellow star/ pink triangle
- State of Israel
- hester panim
- assimilation
- Neo-Nazis
- Skinheads
- Hakarat HaTov

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Israel

Reading Assignments

Living Judaism	pp. 323-355
Jewish Literacy	pp. 273; 286; 311; 321; 335; 358; 326. Plus any of Part 6 that is of interest.
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 34-49 (Zionism)

Terms and Concepts:

- Spiritual Zionism
- Political Zionism
- Judean
- Alyiah/Alyiot
- Shoah/Final Solution
- Palestinian
- World Zionist Congress
- Balfor Deceleration
- British Mandate
- Chiam Weitzman
- Jewish Agency
- *Struma*
- *Exodus*
- UN Partition Plan
- Deir Yagin
- David Ben Gurion
- May 14, 1948 @ 4 p.m.

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Conversion/Modern Issues

Reading Assignments	
Living Judaism	pp. 51-71, 274-284
Jewish Literacy	pp. 443-447; 459-461; 467-472; 476-478
It's A Mitzvah	pp. 218-220
Hand Outs	"Ethnicity is not Judaism" by David Essex. Reform Judaism (Summer 2002) "The Ideal Conservative Jew" by Rabbi Jerome Epstein. USCJ Website "Orthodox Feminism in the Next Century" by Blu Greenberg. Sh'ma (January 2000) "Questions for an Unfinished Revolution" by Tamara Cohen. Sh'ma (January 2000)

Terms and Concepts

- Evri
- Jew/Yehuda
- matrilineal descent
- patrilineal descent
- "Who is a Jew"
- Kohen
- Levi
- Yisrael
- Kol Yisrael Eurvin ze la'ze
- Orthodox
- Conservative
- Reform
- Reconstructionist
- Lubavitch
- Askenzik
- Sefardic
- ger tzedek