

INSTITUTE FOR ADULT JEWISH STUDIES

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SPONSORING CONGREGATIONS

Bethpage Jewish Community Center

600 Broadway
Bethpage, NY 11714
938-9166
Rabbi Seth D. Gordon
Cantor Mordechai Dier
President Larry Schwartz
Adult Ed. Rita Goldman

Congregation Rinat Yisrael of Plainview

2 John Street
Plainview, NY 11803
622-1813
Rabbi Reuven Mann
Co-Presidents Dr. Ave Gold
Dr. Lenny Druyan
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Jericho Jewish Center

430 North Broadway
Jericho, NY 11753
938-2540
Rabbi Marvin Richardson
Rabbi Emeritus Stanley Steinhart
Cantor Barry Black
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Manetto Hill Jewish Center

244 Manetto Hill Road
Plainview, NY 11803
935-5454
Rabbi Morris Bernstein
Co-Presidents Stephen Honigman
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Adult Ed. Rabbi Morris Bernstein

Midway Jewish Center

330 South Oyster Bay Road
Syosset, NY 11791
938-8390
Rabbi Perry Raphael Rank
Rabbi Emeritus Ezra Finkelstein
President Joel Podell
Adult Ed. Dina Barze'ev-Hochbaum

North Shore Synagogue

83 Muttontown Road
Syosset, NY 11791
921-2282
Rabbi David A. Whiman
Associate Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer
Rabbi Emeritus Daniel Fogel
Cantor David Tauber
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Oyster Bay Jewish Center

11 Temple Lane
Oyster Bay, NY 11771-3700
922-6650
Rabbi Marvin Demant
President Irwin Tantleff
Adult Ed. Alfred Kuhn

Plainview Jewish Center

95 Floral Drive
Plainview, NY 11803
938-8610
Rabbi Moses A. Birnbaum
Cantor Morris Wolk
President Michael Stromberg
Adult Ed. Sharon Kunoff

Temple Beth Elohim

926 Round Swamp Road
Old Bethpage, NY 11804
694-4544
Rabbi Jeffrey Astrachan
Rabbi Emeritus Louis Stein
Cantor Richard Pilatsky
President Daniel Naftol
Adult Ed. Carole Wolfner
Harvey Cohen

Temple Beth Torah

243 Cantiague Rock Road
Westbury, NY 11590
334-7979
Rabbi Michael Katz
Cantor Kalman Fliegelman
President Steven Dershowitz
Adult Ed. Irene Abrahams
Fran Greene

Temple Chaverim

1050 Washington Avenue
Plainview, NY 11803
367-6100
Rabbi Jonathan Hecht
Cantor Bradley Hyman
President Alan Borko
Adult Ed. Fred Gladstone

Temple Or Elohim

18 Tobie Lane
Jericho, NY 11753
433-9888
Rabbi Harvey Abramowitz
Cantor Abbe Sher
Co-Presidents Toby Suroff
Mindi Messinger
Adult Ed. Ted Snyder
Phyllis Spisto
Janet Weinberg

Woodbury Jewish Center

200 Southwoods Road
Woodbury, NY 11797
496-9100
Rabbi Arthur Rulnick
Rabbi Raphael Adler
Cantor Aaron Cohen
President Paul Smolevitz
Adult Ed. Erika Witover

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for written directions*



Institute for Adult Jewish Studies



Sponsoring Congregations:

- Bethpage Jewish Community Center
- Congregation Rinat Yisrael
- Jericho Jewish Center
- Manetto Hill Jewish Center
- Midway Jewish Center
- North Shore Synagogue
- Oyster Bay Jewish Center
- Plainview Jewish Center
- Woodbury Jewish Center
- Temple Beth Elohim
- Temple Beth Torah
- Temple Chaverim
- Temple Or Elohim

PROGRAM 2006-2007 • ACADEMIC YEAR 5767

In Memory of our long time Steering Committee member Al Rosenthal

Fall Session: Jericho Jewish Center, 430 North Broadway, Jericho, NY Phone 938-2540

Registration: October 23, 2006 – 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM, followed by first lecture.

Fall Classes: Starting October 30 for eight weeks, 7:45 PM to 8:45 PM, preceding the lectures.

All Events on Monday Evenings

Refreshments donated by ShopRite of Plainview

| Lecture Date | Speaker | Title |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| October 23 | Dov Hikind | Topic of Current Interest |
| October 30 | Michele Zoltan | Tales from the Crypto Jews |
| November 6 | Ron Kronish | The Other Peace Process: Interreligious Dialogue in the Service of Peace |
| November 13 | Sarah Reguer | The Cairo Geniza |
| November 20 | Nachman Cohen | Esther's Plea: How Purim Became a Holiday |
| November 27 | Marcie Lenk | Conflicting Truths: Jewish and Christian Bible Interpretation |
| December 4 | Uzi Avner | Sacred Stones in the Desert |
| December 11 | Ruth Messinger | Ruth Messinger Bears Witness: A Crisis in Darfur |
| December 18 | Janie Stockhamer | Portraits of the Past: Jewish Women of Valor |

Winter Session: Temple Or Elohim, 18 Tobie Lane, Jericho, NY Phone: 433-9888

Music, Movies and Menschlachkite

Programs at 8 PM starting Monday, January 8, 2007 for four weeks.

Each lecture \$5, or \$15 for all four, if not registered for the Fall Session.

with Rabbi David F. Nesenoff

January 8th **PAST**

Hebrew and Yiddish songs with the screening of "The Wax and the Wicks" and a unique commentary of our bible and history.

January 15th **PRESENT**

Contemporary melodies with an original powerful short film and a presentation about our current society.

January 22nd **FUTURE**

Music innovations along with an eclectic short film and a discussion of where we are going.

January 29th **BEYOND**

Melodies that will save us, a film of the future, and the philosophy of the action we must take to survive.

Fall Session Lectures

October 23 – Assemblyman Dov Hikind Topic: Topic of Current Interest

A graduate of the City University of New York, Mr. Hikind completed his undergraduate studies at Queens College, and holds a Master's degree in Urban Studies from Brooklyn College. A champion of human rights and Jewish causes, Assemblyman Dov Hikind has served the 48th Assembly District since his election in 1982. Mr. Hikind has earned the confidence of communities throughout New York, New Jersey, and even as far as Israel.

Inspired to action by the anguish his parents endured at the hands of the Nazis, Mr. Hikind has devoted his life and political career to redressing injustices in the form of discrimination, racism and anti-Semitism. In the early 1970s, Assemblyman Hikind was a leading force in the movements to free Syrian and Soviet Jewry. Upon learning of President Ronald Reagan's visit to the graves of Nazi war criminals, Mr. Hikind traveled to the site in Germany to protest. When Kurt Waldheim's Nazi affiliations were revealed, Mr. Hikind went to Austria to denounce his bid for the presidency. In the aftermath of the 1991 Crown Heights riots, Assemblyman Hikind joined with Jewish leaders and other elected officials to call for calm, and an independent investigation into the murder of Australian-Jewish scholar Yankel Rosenbaum.

October 30 – Michele Zoltan Topic: Tales from the Crypto Jews

Michele Geldwerth Zoltan teaches Second Temple, Medieval and college level (Advanced Placement) Modern Jewish History at Yeshiva University High School for Girls. She holds M.A. and M. Phil degrees in Jewish History from Columbia University, where she was awarded the Honorary President's Fellowship. She lectures widely in adult education programs throughout the metropolitan area, and has served as an invited contributor to innovative web-based curriculum development projects in the field of Jewish history.

November 6 – Ron Kronish Topic: The Other Peace Process: Interreligious Dialogue in the Service of Peace

Rabbi Ron Kronish is a rabbi and educator who has lived in Israel for 27 years. A graduate of Brandeis University, he was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in NY and received his doctorate in Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. One of the leaders in the field of interreligious relations, peace education, contemporary Israel and Jewish identity, he has published articles in newspapers and journals for decades in Israel and the Diaspora. Since 1992, he has served as the director of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICC), which he founded in 1991.

Rabbi Kronish's lecture is co-funded by a generous contribution from the American Jewish Committee.

November 13 – Sarah Reguer Topic: The Cairo Geniza

Sara Reguer received her PhD in Middle East history from Columbia University. Her most recent major work is a co-written co-edited book, "The Jews of the Middle East and North Africa in Modern Times" [Columbia University Press, 2003]. She is a specialist on Jewish women in history, the politics of the Jordan River, and the Middle East during World War I. She has been Chairperson of the Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College for 20 years where she teaches a variety of courses, including Italian Jewry, The Sephardic Experience, modern Israel, and a new global course entitled "The Jewish Diaspora."

November 20 – Nachman Cohen Topic: Esther's Plea: How Purim Became a Holiday

Rabbi Nachman Cohen holds a doctorate in the philosophy of science from Boston University. He has semicha from Yeshiva Torah Vadaath. He is currently the rabbi of the Young Israel Ohav Zedek in North Riverdale. He is also the Director of Yeshivat Shaare Torah. He has published 8 *Seforim* for the Master Mesechta Series companion books for the study of Talmud. Rabbi Cohen is currently Chairman of the Board of the Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists.

November 27 – Marcie Lenk Topic: Conflicting Truths: Jewish and Christian Bible Interpretation

Marcie Lenk is the Academic Director of Me'ah in New York. She is the Schimberg Fellow at Harvard University, a doctoral candidate in Early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism. She has taught at Skirball Center at Temple Emanuel and at the Drisha Institute in New York City, and at Ma'ayan in Boston. While living in Jerusalem for twelve years, she was on the Talmud faculty at Midreshet Lindenbaum and taught Bible and Rabbinics at Pardes Institute.

Marcie has also taught at several Christian seminaries in Jerusalem, including the Tantor Ecumenical Institute, the Swedish Theological Institute and Ecce Homo Convent, and is deeply involved in interfaith dialogue. She has an MS in Bible and a BA in Judaic Studies and Mathematics from Yeshiva University and an MTS from the Harvard Divinity School.

December 4 – Uzi Avner Topic: Sacred Stones in the Desert

Dr. Uzi Avner is an Israeli archeologist who began working for the Israel Antiquities Authority in 1977. As the district archeologist of the southern Negev, he has conducted many surveys and excavations in the southern Negev and in eastern Sinai. In 2003 his PhD dissertation was awarded Summa Cum Laude by the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Presently he is lecturing in archeology in the Eilat campus of Ben-Gurion University, in the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, and in numerous synagogues and institutions in the U.S.

Dr. Avner's particular interest has been in recently discovered standing stone shrines (Masseboth). The Masseboth are referred to in many different sections of the Torah. One Biblical example is the story of Jacob at Beth-El. After he awakens from his dream of a ladder ascending to heaven, Jacob takes the stone that served as his pillow and sets it up, declaring, "This stone that I have set up as a pillar (massebah) shall be God's house" (Genesis 28:22). During the lecture he will present results of the studies of these shrines and will discuss their interpretation and implications.

December 11 – Ruth Messinger Topic: Ruth Messinger Bears Witness: A Crisis in Darfur

Ruth Messinger is the President and Executive Director of American Jewish World Service (AJWS), an international organization providing support to 200 grassroots social change projects in Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Prior to assuming her post at AJWS in 1998, Ms. Messinger was in public service in New York City for 20 years. She served 12 years in the New York City Council and 8 years as Manhattan borough president. She is currently a visiting professor at Hunter College, teaching urban policy and politics.

In May 2005, Ms. Messenger was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. In February 2006, in honor of her tireless work to end the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, Ruth Messenger received the Jewish Council for Public Affairs' prestigious Albert D. Chernin Award. For the past 5 years, The Forward has named Ms. Messenger one of the 50 most influential Jews of the year, putting her first on the list in 2005.

December 18 – Janie Stockhamer Topic: "Portraits of the Past: Jewish Women of Valor"

Janie Stockhamer celebrates 30 years of writing, producing and performing her one-woman shows nationwide, from California to Florida. She has acted in community and professional theatre, written, directed and produced original plays for children, conducted acting workshops and has appeared on TV and radio. Janie received a grant from the New York State Council of the Arts to write and perform her one-woman play "A Legend and a Lady." She was recently honored by the Town of Oyster Bay as "Woman of Distinction in the Arts."

Janie's other shows are "Six Women of Courage"; "Voices of Slavery"; "Promises Made: Salute to Women Immigrants"(with Kerma Gerz on guitar); "Women: Working, Organizing" (with Kerma); "Tribute to Martin Luther King & the Civil Rights Movement" (with Kerma).

Winter Session:

January 8, 15, 22 & 29 – Rabbi David F. Nesenoff Music, Movies and Menschlichkeit

Rabbi David Nesenoff returns to the Adult Institute where he had presented his very popular *Jewish Donahue Show* for six years to extremely well attended audiences. He was educated in the Syosset school system and Midway Jewish Center. He received his undergraduate degrees in Speech and Drama, Psychology, and Judaic Studies from Yeshiva University. He continued at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Jewish Theological Seminary where he received his Masters degree and rabbinical ordination.

Rabbi Nesenoff is a singer/songwriter and is also an award winning writer, director, and producer of narrative and documentary films. His works have been "Official Selections" at International Festivals from Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival in Utah, to the South Beach Film Festival in Miami, to Chicago, to Long Island and Washington. His award winning film *The Wax and the Wicks* was featured at film festivals in San Francisco, San Diego, Palm Beach, Miami and Long Island.

Rabbi Nesenoff has received five national Telly Awards, The Chris Award, The Long Island Film Festival Humanitarian Award, The Chicago International First Place Experimental Award, The National Council on Family Relations Media Award, and numerous other national and international first place awards. He has lectured to many organizations, and was a guest speaker for the International Feature Film Market at the Angelika Film Center in Manhattan.

Rabbi Nesenoff, the rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom of Smithtown, is also a social advocate for many important issues locally and nationally, and has been called upon by the New York State Governor, the Attorney General, the NYS Fraternal Order of Police, and the US Justice Department's Civil Rights Monitor's Office.

Fall Session Classes:

Each of the 14 courses listed below meets 8 times, from 7:45 pm to 8:45 pm, on Monday evenings from October 30 through December 18 at Jericho Jewish Center. **Register for one course only**, using the form on the back of this program. After your class, please do not delay in going to the sanctuary for the lecture. Classes **do not** meet on the evening of the first lecture, October 23.

Course # 1 • ISRAELI AND INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Instructor: Judith Adar, Registered Dance Therapist

This course is for the beginner and intermediate dancer. The pace of the class will be geared to the students, assuring the participants a relaxed and fulfilling experience. Share with Judith as she brings her joy and enthusiasm for dance to you.

Course # 2 • JEWISH MAGIC AND SUPERSTITION

Instructor: Rabbi Raphael Adler, The Woodbury Jewish Center

Join us for an amazing and fascinating exploration of the robust folk religion of the Jewish people. Uncover the beliefs and imagination that allow us to truly understand the customs and history of our ancestors. We will experience the legends of Jewish sorcery, how to avoid the evil eye, spirits of the dead, powers of good, procedures for casting spells, the use of gems and amulets, how to battle demons, fortune telling, astrology and the interpretation of dreams. Our sessions will bring a new light on the calendar and life-cycle of Judaism, through the prism of myth and magic.

Course # 3 • A SURVEY OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

Instructor: Rabbi Moses A. Birnbaum, Plainview Jewish Center

This course surveys American Jewish history covering the years between the end of the First World War and today. The focus will be on the fascinating changes in Jewish religious life in the U.S. during this period, including the continuing development of Reform, Conservatism, Reconstructionism and Modern Orthodoxy as well as the revitalization of other forms of Orthodoxy. The waning of Jewish secularism and the creation of new streams, such as Jewish Renewal, are also to be discussed.

Reference text: "American Judaism - A History" by Prof. Jonathan Sarna.

Course # 4 • INTELLIGENT DESIGN OR INTELLIGENT RELIGION

Instructor: Rabbi Morris Bernstein, Manetto Hill Jewish Center

We will examine Jewish insights, sources and texts which deal with the reality of human existence in the universe together with principles and insights from the physical sciences. Rabbi Bernstein has unique insights in the physical sciences (for a rabbi) holding a Masters Degree in Geology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and having published several professional articles on ancient ice age climate changes.

Course # 5 • GENESIS

Instructor: Judith Demant, Oyster Bay Jewish Center

Genesis: a look at the present from a trip through the past gathering insights through study and discussion of the first of the 5 Books of Moses.

Course # 6 • LIFE CYCLES

Instructor: Rabbi Marvin Demant, Oyster Bay Jewish Center

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|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1st week | October 30 | Brit Milah |
| 2nd week | November 6 | Pidyon Ha-ben |
| 3rd week | November 13 | Baby naming |
| 4th week | November 20 | Conversion |
| 5th week | November 27 | Bar and Bat Mitzvah |
| 6th week | December 4 | The Jewish marriage |
| 7 & 8th weeks | December 11 & 18 | Death and mourning |

Course # 7 • YIDDISH

Instructor: Carolyn K. Dinofsky, Temple Or Elohim

This course will explore our roots through the Yiddish language through new vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, translations, and the literary contributions of the great writers of the Shtetl. Experience the richness of Yiddish: Mama Loshen.

Course # 8 • REBELLION AND DISSENTION IN THE WILDERNESS – THE NARRATIVES OF B'MIDBAR

Instructor: Rabbi Seth Gordon, Bethpage Jewish Community Center

Communal harmony proved elusive for our ancestors, even as it has for many communities and peoples in many generations. What was the nature of the discord and what do the narratives and the commentaries have to teach us about ourselves?

Please bring any modern English translation of the Torah with you to class.

Course # 9A • BEGINNERS HEBREW

Instructor: Cila Klingher, Solomon Schechter Day School

Join Cila, a Judaic Studies Teacher at Solomon Schechter Day School of Nassau County and learn how to read Hebrew – enable yourself to follow Shabbat and holiday services.

Required text: Men's Club Shalom Aleichem (available for purchase through the IAJS)

Course # 9B • CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW

Instructor: Lisa Hadar

Can you read a bit of Hebrew already? Great. Now join Lisa and learn how to hold a bit of a conversation. Be prepared to speak and sing in a setting of fun.

Text: To be announced

Course # 10 • WILL I SEE YOU IN HEAVEN?

Instructor: Rabbi Reuven Mann, Congregation Rinat Yisrael of Plainview

The Rabbis say, "All of Israel has a share in the World to Come." The crucial question is, "What is it that defines one as being a part of Israel?" Put a different way, is Heaven a birthright or something which must be earned? If the latter, what must one do to "get in?"

Maimonides elucidates the classic beliefs, known as the "Thirteen Principles of Faith" which is incumbent on every Jew to affirm. We will embark upon an ambitious intellectual excursion into the most consequential theological questions which confront us as Jews. Topics will include:

- The Jewish Idea of God
- Prophecy and Revelation
- Reward and Punishment
- Moshiach
- Resurrection
- Transmigration of Souls
- Heaven and Hell

Course # 11 • HARLOTS AND HEROINES

Instructor: Rosanne P. Michelson, Director of Education, Temple Or Elohim

Beginning with Eve, Women in the Bible have often been viewed as evil temptresses out to lure the unsuspecting male. Is this assumption justified? Is it part of an attempt on the part of the Biblical writers to preserve patriarchal society? What was the status of the Biblical woman? Was she a harlot or a heroine? This course will examine the lives of fascinating women such as Eve, Esther, Ruth, Michal, Jezebel, and Athaliah the daughter of Jezebel, to better understand the Biblical woman and to discover what her stories can teach us today.

Course # 12 • BEGINNING TALMUD

Instructor: Rabbi Rafi Rank, Midway Jewish Center

If you studied one page of Talmud every day, you could finish the entire Talmud in about seven years. Since this is a once-a week course, it will take us a tad longer. But we'll begin with a fascinating section of the Talmud known as Megillah. It's not just about Esther and Mordecai. It touches on many issues, as is the Talmudic style, one discussion leading to another, and we will begin to explore just how the talmudic mind works. You don't need to know Hebrew for this course, but it would be helpful. Although it is a "beginners" course, Talmud is a challenge so come prepared to think.

Required Text: The Schottenstein Daf Yomi Edition of the Talmud – English Megillah (Folios 2a-32a)

Course # 13 • JEWISH PHILOSOPHY & THEOLOGY DURING GEONIC & MEDIEVAL TIMES

Instructor: Rabbi Marvin Richardson, Jericho Jewish Center

Whenever someone speaks of Jewish Philosophy prior to the modern period, everyone always points to Maimonides. Yet the thousand-year period prior to modernity was rich with a diverse approach to life's mystery and meaning. Accordingly, this course will explore both the mystics and the rationalists discussing along with Maimonides, the philosophical tenets of such personages as Saadia Gaon, Yehuda Halevi, Nachmanides, Gersonides, Crescas and Hassidei Ashkenaz, to mention a few.