



Dear Students,

You are about to begin an incredible year of Torah learning, growth, and connection to Israel and to our wonderful staff and your fellow students.

We have put together a rich and diverse set of choices for you, as you learn Gemara, Tanach, Machshava, and Halacha here in the Beit Midrash of Midreshet Lindenbaum. With our **new Tanach and Gemara Tracks**, you can really learn what you love! We have many options for taking classes along with your Israeli counterparts in Tochnit Hadas. These choices are indicated by an Israeli flag on the schedule (and there are even more that couldn't fit on the printed schedule), offering the opportunity to improve your Hebrew as you get to meet new people and learn different perspectives. There are also slots for beit midrash time throughout the afternoons and evenings, to allow you to explore *sefarim* and topics that interest you, with a friend or with a teacher.

Please read the instructions and the course catalogue carefully as you choose from the array of shiurim in all the different areas of Torah learning. Feel free to try more classes than are required; you can always adjust as you settle into life at the midrasha.

Please feel free to be in touch with any questions. Can't wait to greet you here soon, be'ezrat Hashem!

Kol tuv,
Rabbanit Sally Mayer
Rosh Midrasha

Rabbanit Nomi Berman
Rosh Beit Midrash

How the Schedule Works:

1. The following courses will appear on your schedule, with no need to register for them:
 - a. Gemara chavruta and shiur (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday mornings)
 - b. Women and Halacha (Wednesday)
 - c. Chessed/Internships (Tuesday)
 - d. Sicha Klalit (Monday) & Seder Erev (Thursday).
2. Every student is encouraged to choose a slot for a chavruta with a Darkaynu student.
3. Please read the course catalogue carefully. You are required to choose:
 - a. Tanach/Gemara: Sunday 9:30 - 11:30am / Thursday 8:45 - 10:40am
 - b. Halacha: Sunday 11:40am - 12:40pm / Thursday 10:50am - 12:40pm
 - c. **NEW!** Tanach, Gemara or Halacha seminars: Tuesday 8:45 - 11:30am
 - d. Tanach/Beit Midrash: Sunday afternoon 2:45 - 5:00pm
Tanach/Machshava: Wednesday afternoon 2:45 - 5:00pm
 - e. Bekiut: Sunday/Tuesday evening 8:00 - 10:00 pm
 - f. Classes/Beit Midrash, Monday afternoon 2:45 - 6:00pm
 - g. Torah Seminar/Seder Erev: Wednesday evening 8:00 - 10:00pm
 - h. Classes/Beit Midrash: Thursday afternoon 2:45 - 5:00pm
 - i. Plus at least 1 hour of elective classes (Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 5:10 - 7:00pm, or Daf Yomi or Nach Yomi at lunchtime)

You will be able to switch classes during Elul Zman, and add or drop electives, so feel free to choose more electives and see what works for you. We are here for any questions!

Interested in the Tanach or Gemara track?

Create a package of ten or more hours a week of either, put together from our wide range of Tanach and Gemara options throughout the week. Your “major” will be Tanach or Gemara, but there are still many hours to explore all of the other fascinating topics in the schedule.

Tanach track options : Sunday & Thursday mornings, Tuesday morning seminar, Sunday & Wednesday afternoons, Bekiut Tanach at night, Nach Yomi during the lunchbreak, Torah Seminar. Choose any combination you like!

Gemara track options: Monday & Wednesday mornings combined with Tuesday morning seminar, Bekiut Gemara at night, Daf Yomi during the lunch break and/or Gemara Shiur that meets 4.5 mornings a week. Choose any combination you like!

Your Perfect Balance: No need to count hours – choose whatever interests you in each slot and find the exact balance that is right for you :).

All of you get to **learn what you love!**

Midreshet Lindenbaum

Course Catalogue 5786/ 2025 – 2026

Sunday 9:30am - 11:30am & Thursday 8:45am - 10:40am

Sefer Melachim

Rav Alex Israel

Sefer Melachim is an exciting and important sefer because it tells the story of the Beit Mikdash from its inception to its demise.

Although a challenging book to learn due to a plethora of names and lists, we shall find its drama and pulse, meeting powerful characters like Shlomo Hamelekh, Yeravam, Achav and Izevel, Eliyahu and Elisha, King Hizkiyahu, and understanding pivotal events of our national history. We will study both the narrative episodes and make sense of the technical details, while learning the ebb and flow of the first Temple period.

פרשנות (Elementary HEB)

Rav Shmuel Klitsner

We will examine Sefer Breishit and other Biblical texts with the classic parshanim as well as with modern literary commentaries. The aim of this course is to attune the reader's ear to the sophisticated deployment of subtext, context, and inter-text (allusions), as well as to the artistic use of ambiguity, repetition, key words, and wordplay. A greater appreciation of Tanach as literature will lead to a more profound religious connection to Tanach as kitvei kodesh.

Gemara B'Iyun

Rabbanit Nomi Berman

Bring your Gemara learning to the next level! Meeting four mornings a week (plus a special session on Tuesdays with Rav Itiel Oron) will give us the opportunity to cover more ground and hone Gemara fluency while also diving deeper. We will become more familiar with the schools of Rishonim, with a focus on concepts and connections with other "shas topics."

Portraits of Leadership

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt

Leadership. It is a modern buzzword, but not a new concept. In a world that increasingly seems to lack strong leaders, we will consider: What is leadership? What does it look like? Does the term only apply to elected officials? What are the qualities that distinguish a leader? In this course, we will investigate four central Tanakh personalities and consider questions of leadership -- official and unofficial. How did Avraham convince an entire generation to believe in monotheism? What made Rivka's decisive "I will go" so powerful? What transformed Moshe from a reluctant shepherd to the leader of Israel? How did Miriam's behind-the-scenes leadership sustain the entire nation? Through this study, we will think about implications and applications for our lives today.

TANACH

GEMARA

TANACH

Sunday 11:40am-12:40pm & Thursday, 10:50am-12:40pm

These classes are each one semester and then repeat in the second semester - you will choose two of out these three courses over the year.

Hilchot Shabbat

Rav David Brofsky

In this course, we will begin with the fundamental principles that govern melachot, and get into practical questions and applications. The course covers key melachot, including borer (sorting) and bishul (cooking), analyzing their classical definitions and contemporary applications. We will give special attention to modern-day issues such as the use of cosmetics, creams, and lotions, wearing makeup, and the proper methods for opening packages and containers on Shabbat. Through the detailed study of primary sources and contemporary halachic responsa, students will develop the analytical skills necessary to understand how halachic principles apply to modern situations. Students will emerge with a deeper appreciation for the intricate balance between preserving the kedusha of Shabbat sanctity and navigating the complexities of contemporary life within the framework of Halacha.

Hilchot Kashrut: Keeping Your Kitchen Kosher

Rabbanit Dena Rock

For many of you, next year may be the first time you're living independently and managing your own kitchen. The primary goal of this course is to give you the tools and knowledge to confidently maintain a kosher kitchen. We will study the core principles of Hilchot Kashrut and learn how to apply them to real-life scenarios. For example: If you cook pasta in a meat pot, can you later mix it with cheese? If you cut a potato with a dairy knife, can you throw it into your cholent? What about an onion? Alongside the practical halachic decision-making, the course will emphasize developing skills in navigating classic halachic texts — including the Rambam, Tur, Beit Yosef, and Shulchan Aruch — to understand how rulings are derived and debated.

Whether you're preparing for your own kitchen or just want to deepen your halachic literacy, this course aims to make Hilchot Kashrut both accessible and personally relevant.

Hilchot Bein Adam L'chaveiro

Rabbanit Sally Mayer

Being an observant Jew involves more than Bein Adam LaMakom — there are many mitzvot in the Torah that govern our interpersonal relationships as well. What does it mean to live a life of integrity, kindness, and responsibility toward others? This course explores the halachot of interpersonal mitzvot — from judging others favorably to the obligations of visiting the sick, comforting mourners, and welcoming guests. We'll also delve into issues such as lying, geneivat daat (misleading others), holding grudges, and cultivating gratitude. Through sources, discussion, and real-life scenarios, students will gain a deeper understanding of how Torah guides us in our relationships with others, and work on becoming the kind of personality Hashem wants to see in us.

Sunday and Wednesday, 2:45pm - 5:00pm

Yaakov, Yosef & the Expansion of the Jewish Family

Rav Yitzchak Blau

This shiur integrates traditional mefarshim and modern literary approaches to enhance our understanding of the second half of Sefer Bereishit. Starting with Rivkah's giving birth to twins, we shall explore the drama of family conflict between Yaakov and Esav, Yaakov and Lavan, and Yosef and his brothers. We shall discover stories of great moral insight and literary power. This class meets from 2:45-4pm on Sundays and from 2:45-5pm on Wednesdays.

ספר ירמיהו (HEB)

Rav Shlomo Brown

In this class we will study Yirmiyahu, the prophet of the churban. His prophecies begin in the reign of King Yoshiyahu and continue until the destruction of the Beit HaMikdash.

We will study the prophecies chronologically, which is different from the order in which they appear in the sefer. We will also learn the parallel perakim in Sefer Melachim and in Divrei HaYamim in an attempt to understand the prophecies from a more encompassing perspective. In addition, we will study central concepts of prophecy, the nevuot hahakdasha, the symbolic acts performed by Yirmiyahu, the prophet's prayer, and others.

Kings, Prophets, and Power: A Journey Through the Book of Shmuel

Dr. Nava Finkelman

Step into the dramatic world of ancient Israel, where warriors rise, kings fall, and nevi'im shape history. This course dives deep into the riveting narrative of the Book of Samuel—a story packed with political intrigue, personal betrayal, divine encounters, and timeless questions about leadership, loyalty, and faith. From the rise of Shmuel to the tragic downfall of King Shaul and the ascent of David Hamelech, you'll explore the text of Tanach with fresh eyes, paying attention to its literary methods and considering its historical context. Get ready for a story that has it all—power struggles, battlefield heroics, secret anointings, and heart-wrenching choices.

Beit Midrash

Sunday 2:45pm - 5:00pm

If you choose Rav Gigi's class on Wednesday, you will have Beit Midrash time on Sunday.

Open Beit Midrash time is a wonderful opportunity to learn a sefer you're interested in, or to investigate an issue that is on your mind. A teacher will be there during each beit midrash slot and will be happy to help you as you explore topics, gain skills, and make the beit midrash your home.

הרב ברוך גיגי (HEB) יסודות בעבודת ה

הרב ברוך גיגי

Wednesday 2:45pm - 5:30pm

This shiur will focus on Sefer Mada and Sefer Ahava in the Rambam. During chavruta time, students will have the opportunity to gain experience with the fundamental works of Halacha. The goal of the shiur will be to enrich our understanding and connection to the mitzvot of kri'at shema and tefilla as well as gaining depth of understanding into the concepts of ahavat and yirat Hashem.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Sunday and Tuesday, 8:00pm- 10:00pm Bekiut

Bekiut Tanach

Dr. Nava Finkelman

In this course, we will speed-learn the major books of Jewish history in the Land of Israel. We will struggle with Yehoshua as he leads us to conquer the land (or not); follow the downhill trend during the time of the Shoftim; immerse ourselves in the political intrigues of Shmuel; and cringe while we prepare ourselves for the train-wreck at the end of Melachim. Finally, if time allows, we will follow Ezra and Nechemia as they lead us back to rebuild the Beit Hamikdash! Students will learn all of the material in chavruta, and in shiur we will discuss the "big ideas." By the end of the year, you will have a clear grasp of how our nation coped with its political and military challenges while creating a social and religious identity.

Bekiut Gemara

Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw

Through learning all of Masechet Makkot, students will improve their independent Gemara learning skills while also gaining a wider exposure to different types of Talmudic conversations. We'll focus on targeting chavruta skills and using shiur time to enrich our understanding of the topics being discussed. If you're ready to invest time in growing as a Gemara learner, this is the class for you.

Bekiut Machshava**Rabbanit Davina Wanderer-Kriel**

The aim of this course is to introduce key themes and central figures of Jewish Thought through the Ages. It is structured according to both a chronological as well as a thematic order, which means that we will have the chance to encounter texts written by thinkers such as Rabbi Saadiya Gaon, Rabbi Yehuda HaLevi, the Rambam, Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, Prof. Yeshayahu Leibowitz, and Emmanuel Levinas, amongst others. It will also invite us to engage with key questions, such as: Can God be proven? Does God intervene in the world? Are there such things as miracles? What is the nature of faith? Can the Jewish tradition be read in a rational way? If God is good, then why do bad things happen to innocent people? Is faith possible after the Holocaust? How do Jews understand a good and meaningful life?

We will learn to read and analyse sources, to grapple with central questions, and to forge a connection with those who have come before us, in order to impact thoughtfully and spiritually on our own lives.

Bekiut Halacha**Rabbanit Sally Mayer & Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel**

Co-taught by Rabbanit Sally and Rabbanit Avigayil, this course offers a clear and structured study of the halachot that shape the Jewish calendar — including Rosh Chodesh, Sefirat HaOmer, the Three Weeks and fast days, Chanukah, Purim, Yom Haatzma'ut, and more. Using *Peninei Halacha – Zmanim* and the *Mishneh Berurah* as primary texts, students will build halachic and textual skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the mitzvot, customs, and spiritual messages of each time of year. You'll come away with practical knowledge and a clear grasp of the bottom-line halacha.

**בקיאות מחשבה
(HEB)****הרב אביעד סנדרס**

In this course, we will take a broad look at classic sefarim of Jewish Philosophy, including the Kuzari by Rabbi Yehuda HaLevi, the Rambam's Moreh HaNevukhim, Tanya in the realm of Chasidut, and works by Rav Kook and Rav Soloveitchik. Join us to learn these famous and fundamental sefarim of machshevet yisrael.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Monday & Wednesday mornings Beit Midrash and Shiur

**Gemara - Rabbanit Nomi Berman, Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw,
Rav Cobi Nadel, Rabbanit Dena Rock**

Monday & Wednesday mornings 8:45am - 11:40am

Tuesday mornings 11:40-12:40

We will begin the year with Masechet Rosh Hashana, preparing during Elul for the Yamim Nora'im. After Succot, we will delve into Masechet Avoda Zara, exploring how Chazal guide us to live as a Jew in a non-Jewish world. Gemara on Monday & Wednesday is divided between chavruta preparation and shiur time. Your Ra'm is with you both in the beit midrash and in the classroom, helping you develop and hone your ability to decipher the Gemara and consider the conceptual underpinnings and practical and hashkafic implications of the topic at hand. You'll also enjoy special programming and spend Shabbatot with your Ramim.

There is no need to register for these classes; they will appear on your schedule.

Wednesday mornings, 11:50am-12:40pm Women and Halacha

Each of these classes is one semester, and they will repeat. You will choose two of these three classes to learn over the course of the year; this choice will take place on a survey that you will receive.

Women & Mitzvot

Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw

Are women's obligations in mitzvot fundamentally different from those of men? What are positive time-bound mitzvot, and how many of them are there actually? Are women obligated in tefilah and zimmun? What about the mitzvot of Shabbat? In this course we'll clarify some fundamental questions about women and mitzvot, and develop a deeper understanding of how mitzva performance connects all Jews to Hashem.

"V'haya Machanecha Kadosh": Halacha, Dignity, and Relationships **Rabbanit Sally Mayer**

What does it mean to live with kedusha in the modern world? This course explores the halachot that shape how we navigate personal space, relationships, and presence — including *shmirat negiah*, *yichud*, modesty in dress and behavior, *kol isha*, and hair covering. Through sources and discussion, we'll discuss the values of dignity, self-respect, and sanctity that underlie these mitzvot.

Contemporary Questions

Rabbanit Nomi Berman

How does halacha respond to a world that is always evolving — especially when it comes to women's roles in the Jewish community? This course explores contemporary questions at the intersection of tradition and modernity, including women's Torah learning and the evolution of women studying Gemara, tefillah betzibbur, women and leadership, and women reciting Kaddish. Through close study of halachic sources and thoughtful discussion, we'll examine how halacha remains rooted and resilient while addressing the questions of each generation.

NEW! Tuesday mornings 8:45am - 11:30am

Relevance & Resonance in Tanach

Rabbanit Yael Leibowitz

How does Tanach respond to tragedies, particularly when they happen to good people? Why were so many of Tanach's heroines barren and why is the older brother always rejected? Does Tanach excuse the fact that so many of its protagonists lied? What about the graver mistakes they made? Is Tanach chauvinistic, as so many modern scholars claim? What does it say about building societies? Temples? Why is the notion of a Chosen Land so pivotal? And why, ultimately, does it make a difference if we believe in One God, or in many?

Taking into account the historical and cultural contexts in which the works of Tanach were written, this course will delve into the questions you have always wanted to ask about Tanach, its seemingly troubling aspects, and its enduring relevance in our modern lives.

Sense and Sensibility in Halacha

Rav Itiel Oron

What happens when halacha confronts genetic testing, artificial insemination, or smart-home Shabbat tech? Do chumrot deepen our avodat Hashem — or sometimes weigh us down? And who truly shapes halacha: the poskim or the people?

In this course, we'll explore some of the most compelling halachic questions of our time. Through close study of primary sources and modern responsa, we'll trace how halachic decisions are formed, uncover the principles behind major debates, and gain a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the halachic process itself.

Essential Sugyot Every Talmida Chachama Should Know **Rabbanit Dena Rock**

Each week we will explore a sugya that develops a fundamental halachic or Talmudic concept. These are the principles that appear over and over again throughout Shas and halachic discourse. If you want to be a Talmida Chachama who knows the lingo, recognizes the concepts, and has a grasp of the most essential sugyot in Shas, come learn with us!

Monday and Thursday afternoons, 2:45pm-5:00pm

Facing Our Emuna Obstacles Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel **Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm**

How can I connect to God when he asks Avraham to sacrifice his own son? What does it mean that God wrote the Torah? How can I reconcile Halacha and modern values? Did Chazal struggle with the same questions as I do? Being a believing Jew in the modern world is not always an easy task. When learning Tanach and Gemara, we find things that may challenge us in our day-to-day avodat Hashem and our overall emuna. In this course, we will tackle tough questions that arise from our traditional texts and challenge ourselves to face them head-on. We will work to find relevant answers and embrace nuance.

Philosophy of Ramban **Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm**

Rav Cobi Nadel

To be a Jew today is, in many ways, to be a student of the Ramban. From the study of Tanach to the laws of Halacha; from the great debates in Jewish philosophy to the hidden secrets of Kabbalah - Rabbi Moshe Ben Nachman left his mark on virtually every aspect of Jewish living. In this class, we will explore the core principles of his thought and unpack how they continue to impact us today. We'll examine his profound answers to some of the questions that have been troubling us for thousands of years: What will happen when the Mashiach comes? Is being a Jew fundamentally different from being a gentile? If not, what does it mean to be the chosen people? Why do bad things happen to good people? By exploring his responses to these eternal questions and others, we will gain a deeper understanding of where we come from and who we are as Jews in the modern world.

Aggada

Rav Tuvia Kaplan

Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

Aggada is the treasure house of the wisdom of Chazal. In creative interpretations of Tanach, in stories and metaphors, our Sages share with us their profound and inspiring understandings of man and God. Their philosophical, moral, theological, and psychological insights in aggada are the complement to their halachic brilliance in making Talmud Bavli the foundational book of Talmud Torah. As does every living thing, our living Torah has a body and a soul -- halacha is the indispensable body of Torah; aggada is its soul. We will look for the simple meanings and deeper messages in the aggadot of Talmud Bavli

The Halachic Process

Rabbanit Dena Rock

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

In this course, we will delve into questions that are fundamental to understanding how the halachic system works. For example, we will explore: What exactly did God give Moshe on Har Sinai? Who were Chazal, and what gave them the authority to interpret the Torah? How binding is minhag? Do I have to choose one Rabbi to follow? Why is there so much machloket? How do poskim arrive at psak halacha? What's the balance between authority and autonomy? What are the boundaries and parameters of pluralism within halachic debate? What are the mechanisms through which a timeless Torah remains timely and relevant? The goal is to develop a deeper understanding of the system as a whole - rather than seeming chaotic and arbitrary, we will uncover how it is meaningful and compelling.

Parsha with Darkaynu

Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

A wonderful opportunity to have a chavruta with a Darkaynu student, using creative initiatives for fun activities connecting to the parsha.

Hilchot Tefilla: From Source to Practice

Rav David Brofsky

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

This course traces the development of our tefillot from rabbinic sources to modern practice, examining primary texts to understand how the laws of tefilla evolved and continue to shape our daily connection to Hashem. The curriculum covers essential components of our tefillot from netilat yadayim and birkot hashachar through pesukei d'zimra, keriat shema, and shmone esrei, concluding with keriat shema al hamitta. Through textual analysis and practical application, students gain both a deeper understanding and enhanced personal connection to their daily tefillot.

Chassidut
Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Rav Tuvia Kaplan

We will study how Chassidut added new insights into basic Torah concepts. The significance of simchah, the centrality of prayer, the power of Torah study, the meaning of emunah, and the importance of songs and stories.

Religion & State: Can They Coexist?
Monday, 4:00-5:00pm

Rav Itiel Oron

The establishment of the State of Israel is not just one of the most significant events in the history of the nation of Israel, it is also one of the most significant landmarks in the world of Halacha. The reality of a modern Jewish state raises many halachic questions - the style of government, the economic and legal system, service in the army & the laws of war, redeeming captives, intelligence and espionage operations, and many other questions.

Above all of them hovers the great question - how can a halachic ruling be formulated on questions that have no halachic foundation or precedent from the sources? Is there a difference between a halachic ruling from the perspective of a Jewish state and a halachic ruling from the perspective of a Jewish community abroad? We will explore all this and more on a halachic and philosophical level, as an issue that is still being developed and written about.

Darchei Midrash: Literary Pathways into the Parsha
Rabbanit Sarah Cabot
Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm

In this course, we will explore the rich world of Midrash Aggadah—the imaginative and insightful interpretations of the Torah crafted by Chazal. Using the weekly parsha as our guide, we'll read selected midrashim not just for what they say, but for how they say it: What literary tools are the Rabbis using? How do they fill in the silences of the biblical narrative? What values and questions emerge through their storytelling? Together, we'll uncover the beauty of aggadic midrash as both a form of sacred creativity and a window into timeless Jewish ideas. Along the way, students will develop skills in close reading, literary analysis, and interpretive thinking—learning how to engage deeply with text, tradition, and imagination.

Beit Midrash**Monday / Thursday 2:45pm-3:45pm (can choose one or both)****Monday & Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm (these two go together)**

Open Beit Midrash time is a wonderful opportunity to learn a sefer you're interested in, or to investigate an issue that is on your mind. A teacher will be there during each beit midrash slot and will be happy to help you as you explore topics, gain skills, and make the beit midrash your home.

Mental Health in Halacha**Rav Yoni Rosensweig****Monday 5:10 - 6:00pm**

In this class, we will learn about the interplay between halacha and mental health, gain a deeper understanding of the legal mechanisms involved in this topic, and show how practical questions can be answered in this complicated field.

Tehillim**Rabbanit Nomi Berman****Monday 5:10 - 6:00pm**

We will study Sefer Tehillim from multiple perspectives: as the source for our tefillot, as a book that tells the story of a spiritual journey, as a book within our sacred Tanach that learns from and informs other books, and as a book of theology that has transformed the way we think about Hashem.

פרשת השבוע (HEB)**Rav Itiel Oron****Monday 5:10 - 6:00pm**

Come and learn central themes from the weekly parsha from a variety of sources, and the relevant message for our lives that we learn from them. The shiur is in the language in which the Torah was given - Hebrew!

Tuesday afternoons, 2:45pm**Chessed / Internships**

We believe that developing a Chesed mindset is a crucial part of Avodat Hashem. We work with numerous partner organizations in Yerushalayim that welcome our students as volunteers a few hours per week. In previous years, students have become "Big Sisters" for One Family, an organization that provides support for victims of terror and their families, helped at the local chapter of Friendship Circle, volunteered at Shalva, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, or made weekly visits to Beit Sababa, a local nursing home. In recent years, we have also done a lot of work in our local community of Arnona/Armon Hanatziv, including providing significant help & support for miluim families over the past year. Students may also intern in places such as Yad L'Isha, an Ohr Torah Stone organization that helps free agunot, and the Eden Center that synthesizes women's health and spirituality. Our students volunteer, and also learn how to look for needs to fill and how they can fill them. We work with each student to find a meaningful way to contribute.

Wednesday evenings

There are two options for Wednesday evenings.

I. The first is our classic **Torah Seminar** class taught by **Rav Menachem Leibtag**. The class is from **5:30pm – 10:00 pm** with a break for dinner.

This seminar class will study Torah by methods of textual analysis. Through extensive study of medieval commentaries, we will examine the major themes of each *sefer* and their connection to the details of the individual narratives.

II. The second is **Seder Erev** with **Rav Alex Israel** from **8:00 – 10:00 pm**.

Seder Erev enables you to learn a topic / *sefer* of your choice together with a chavruta or to use the time to review material that you are studying. Rav Alex will be with you in the beit midrash for help and guidance.

*8-9pm is one of the three potential slots for a **chavruta** with a **Darkaynu** student.

Chavruta: Midreshet Darkaynu

This is a unique in-house opportunity to combine learning and inclusivity. Join a Darkaynu student for a weekly chavruta. This meaningful experience will enhance your year by enabling a friendship with someone with special needs.

There will be three opportunities per week to register to learn with Darkaynu students – we encourage each student to find one that fits into your schedule. They are: Sunday 5:10-6:00pm, Wednesday 8-9pm, or Thursday 2:45-3:45pm.

Seder Erev in the Beit Midrash

Thursday 8:00pm - 10:00pm

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt & Cheryl Burnat

At seder erev, you have the opportunity to learn a topic / *sefer* of your choice together with a chavruta or to use the time to review material that you are learning. There will be faculty in the beit midrash for help and guidance. It's a wonderful atmosphere of Torah learning at night!

ISP: Individual Spiritual Plan - half an hour in your schedule

Each student at Midreshet Lindenbaum has a faculty mentor, who is there for you to meet with once every two weeks - to discuss questions, have a chavruta on a topic that you're interested in, or talk about an issue in Torah or hashkafa that is on your mind. A wonderful opportunity to have a faculty mentor dedicated to your growth and progress, at your pace.

ELECTIVES

Electives are another opportunity to customize your learning experience at Midreshet Lindenbaum. Please choose at least two hours of electives per week - feel free to choose as many as you would like to try out; you can see what you enjoy most and find the right rhythm for your day.

Daf Yomi**Rabbanit Sally Mayer****Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 1:30 – 2:30pm**

Are you interested in covering a lot of ground in Gemara in a short time? Join us for a fast-paced, fun experience as we make siyum after siyum together! A great and easy way to improve your Gemara skills and learn lots of halachic concepts and meaningful stories in a short time. No prior Gemara experience necessary. We will begin with Masechet Taanit, a tractate full of incredible and inspiring stories.

Nach Yomi**Rabbanit Nomi Berman****Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 1:30 – 2:30pm**

We will gain exposure to some of the less commonly learned books of Nach. The goal will be to complement (and avoid overlap with) the other Nach classes on the schedule. Our meetings will alternate between chavruta learning of the daily Prakim, and shiurim which will tie together some of the overarching themes that emerge from the texts. We will absorb the lessons of the neviim, learn from the wisdom of Shlomo, experience the chagim through the prism of their Megillot, and take a peek into the visions of Daniel.

Chavruta: Midreshet Darkaynu**Sunday 5:10 – 6:00 pm**

This is a unique in-house opportunity to combine learning and inclusivity. Join a Darkaynu student for a weekly chavruta. This meaningful experience will enhance your year by enabling a friendship with someone with special needs.

Ki Karov Eilecha
Sunday 5:10 – 6:00 pm

Cheryl Burnat

Looking for a weekly opportunity to reflect on how Torah learning impacts your daily life? Want to develop learning skills that can make texts more relevant to your life in the here and now? "Ki karov eilecha hadavar me'od" - "For this matter is very close to you." This pasuk from Devarim reminds us that Torah isn't meant to feel distant or academic, but personally meaningful.

This weekly class creates space where Torah study meets personal reflection. Through collaborative text learning, you'll develop tools for connecting personally with the texts you encounter. Each session will follow a simple rhythm: share weekly reflections, explore carefully chosen texts together, and leave with new insights. As the course develops, you'll select and prepare texts for the group, practicing this type of learning firsthand.

Medical Ethics & Halacha
Sunday 6:10 – 7:00 pm

Rav Eitan Aviner

Medical ethics brings us face-to-face with some of the most intense and human dilemmas we encounter - life and death, body and soul, morality and law. It's no coincidence that so many hit TV dramas unfold in hospitals: the stakes are high, the emotions raw, and every decision carries ethical weight.

In this course, we'll begin by exploring how moral instincts develop, how societies shape ethics, and what different theories say about right and wrong. From there, we'll delve into core halakhic sugyot surrounding brain death, organ donation, abortion, surrogacy, fertility treatments, and end-of-life care - while also tracing how societal attitudes have evolved over time.

This is a course for thinkers - for those ready to wrestle with real-world questions where Torah and morality meet the front lines of modern medicine.

The Philosophy of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
Sunday 6:10 - 7:00pm

Rav Alex Israel

There is no contemporary teacher of Judaism who is quoted more than Rabbi Sacks. But what are the major pillars of his philosophy? Among other themes, we shall study the following topics:

Judaism as Protest; Covenant and Contract; The Power of Words; Responsibility, Kiddush Hashem and Tikkun Olam; Prayer; Faith; Dignity of Difference and Religious Tolerance; Not in God's Name and Rabbi Sacks' "Rejection of Rejection"; Storytelling as a mode of Building Society; Fate and Hope; Attitudes to Medinat Yisrael; Happiness and the Search for Meaning.

(HEB) אתגרי האמונה בדורנו**הרב צבי קורן****Monday 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

We will study the foundations of Jewish belief as we explore topics such as the purpose of man's existence, faith in God particularly in times of crises, the nature of man's character and expressions of belief. We will raise questions and seek answers through classical and modern Jewish philosophy. The goal of our learning is to engage, internalize, and transform the philosophical ideas into our pragmatic Torah lives for now and for years to come.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

(HEB) בקיאות משנה**הרבנית שלומית שבות****Monday 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

Join us as we cover all of Shas Mishnayot, getting the basics of Torah Shebe'al Peh and exposure to all of the halachot in the Torah! This class will involve independent study throughout the week.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli schedule.

Matmidot**Rabbanit Dena Rock****Monday 7:30 – 10:00 pm**

On Monday nights, the Matmidot Scholars have the opportunity to visit the home of a different leader, scholar, or innovator to meet and learn personally with him or her. Past years have included sessions with Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Brander, Dr. Yael Ziegler, Rabbi Dr. Shlomo Riskin, and Rav David Stav, among many others. Under the guidance of a faculty mentor, each Matmida will also work throughout the year on an independent research and writing project, culminating in the publication of the Matmidot Scholars Journal.

Israel: Behind the Headlines**Jamie Salter****Tuesday 6:00 - 7:00pm**

This course will meet twice a month. In each session, we will take a look together at the big stories in the Israeli news. We will dig a little deeper into the background, try and make the issues clearer, and probably have a few debates and arguments amongst ourselves!

The Variety of Modern Rabbinic Thought
Wednesday 5:10 - 6:00pm

Rav Yitzchak Blau

Our community has some familiarity with Rav Soloveitchik and Rav Kook but is largely unaware of other major rabbinic thinkers from the past two centuries. In this elective, we will encounter, among other topics, Rav Hirsch on reasons for mitzvot, Netziv on the dangers of religious passion, R. Meir Simcha from Dvinsk on the nature of sanctity, R.

Zadok of Lublin's quest for meaning, Rav Hutner's poetic beauty and psychological insight, Nechama Leibowitz's biblical wisdom, R.

Jonathan Sacks on a moral society, and R. Yechiel Yaakov Weinberg on modern women and Judaism.

הרב קוק (HEB)

הרב שאול וידר

Wednesday 5:30 - 7:00pm

In this course, we will learn about and understand the fundamentals of Religious Zionist philosophy, through meeting some of the foundational texts of Rav Kook that influenced and shaped the movement. Through this study, we will gain skills to consider these ideas ourselves.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli program schedule.

Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael, u'Medinat Yisrael & The Thought of Rav Kook

Rav Ari Shvat (Chwat)

Thursday 5:10 - 6:10pm

This course deals with the most relevant issues facing the individual Jew and the State of Israel in our historic, exciting and complex generation - in an intellectual, inspiring, and practical way. We will study various writings of Rav Kook, the "Spiritual Father of Religious Zionism," considered among Jews and non-Jews alike to be one of the most original thinkers of the century. Topics include: Can we be sure that the modern State of Israel is really the atchalta d'geu'la and not just another false messiah? How can we, as religious Jews, support a secular Jewish State? Are we a religion, a nation or something else? Tzahal (the Israeli army) - victories, dilemmas and halachic questions; Aliya, Israeli politics - The Right, Left, and the Chareidim; "The Focus on Israel"- why is the world preoccupied with us?

Rambam and the Challenges of Rationalism
Thursday 5:10 - 6:00pm

Dr. Tamar Ross

In this course on Maimonides' philosophical system, we will introduce the major problems of Jewish philosophy, including science and religion, concepts of God, Divine revelation, miracles and free will.

Leadership Training: Empowering You for Today's World
Rabbanit Jennifer Raskas
Thursday 6:30 - 7:20pm (over dinner)

Our world needs bright, creative, compassionate, and thoughtful leaders. Our world - needs you.

The goal of this course is to empower you to reach your full potential so you can create visionary, transformational impact in your chosen profession and community. Throughout the course we will explore vibrant frameworks for leadership portrayed in Tanach and Gemara. We will learn and practice leadership concepts taught at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, as well as wisdom developed specifically for women who want to "play big", create, and lead. We will cover concepts including quieting your inner critic while elevating your inner mentor, identifying your calling, leading organizations to clarify their values and develop new strategies, mapping the field, and utilizing your personal story to grow your impact.