



MIDRESHET LINDENBAUM

FALL COURSE CATALOGUE

5787 / 2026-27

MAKE TORAH YOURS

LEARN WHAT YOU LOVE



MIDRESHET LINDENBAUM

FALL COURSE CATALOGUE 5787 / 2026-27

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:

- **Fixed Courses:** The following courses will appear automatically on your schedule with no need to register: Gemara Chavruta & Shiur, Women and Halacha, Chessed/Internships, Sicha Klalit, and Thursday Seder Erev.
- **NEW! Choose Your Track:** Interested in a deep dive? Create a "major" package of 10 or more hours a week of either Tanach or Gemara put together from our wide range of options throughout the week.
- **Flexibility:** You will be able to switch classes during Elul Zman, and add or drop electives, so feel free to choose more electives at first to see what works best for you!

HOW TO REGISTER:

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).

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 seminar: 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 than two hours of electives and see what works for you. We are here for any questions!

NEW! Choose Your Track

Each of you will build a schedule that reflects where you want to grow this year. Want to go deep into Tanach or Gemara? Build your "major" with ten or more hours a week in your focus, drawing from our wide range of options throughout the week — with plenty of hours left over to explore everything else the schedule offers. Prefer to move across everything at once? Perfect Balance lets you build a schedule with no single focus, shaped entirely by what interests you.

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!

Want to really master Gemara this year? Push your bekiut further by covering more dapim, deepen your iyun into the rishonim in the intensive morning class, and build your fundamentals in Essential Sugyot. Use Beit Midrash time in the afternoons to build in even more Gemara.

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

Want to really master Tanach this year? Cover more sefarim to understand the structure and message of each book, and build your skills in Pshat, Drash, and Parshanut so you can learn independently long after the year is over.

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 :)

Want the full picture? This is your chance to move fluidly between Gemara and Tanach while still going deep into machshava and halacha — building a broad, well-rounded foundation across everything the Midrasha offers, without locking into one focus.

All of you get to learn what you love!

Sefer Melachim

Rav Alex Israel

TANACH

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, Yеровam, 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

TANACH

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'lyun

Rabbanit Nomi Berman

GEMARA

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."

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 these three courses over the year.

Hilchot Shabbat

Rav David Brofsky

HALACHA

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 and navigating the complexities of contemporary life within the framework of Halacha.

Hilchot Kashrut: Keeping Your Kitchen Kosher

Rabbanit Dena Rock

HALACHA

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

HALACHA

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

TANACH

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)

TANACH

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.

Stones & Sources: Archaeology and Tanach

TANACH

Rabbanit Merav Edrei

This course brings archaeological findings from Eretz Yisrael into conversation with Tanach and Chazal. Each session focuses on a different subject, and will examine it through archaeological finds— a seal, an inscription, a site and more. We will uncover how they match the sources, add to them, and even raise questions we need to answer.

Through discussion and comparison, we'll think about what these discoveries teach us — about history, about how we understand our sources, and about our own connection to this land today.

Beit Midrash

SPECIAL

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

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.

ה'סודות בעבודת ה' (HEB)

הרב ברוך גיגי

Wednesday 2:45pm - 5:30pm

MACHSHAVA

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

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt

TANACH

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

GEMARA

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 & Rabbanit Daniella Grodko

MACHSHAVA

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 Saadia 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 Sarah Cabot

HALACHA

Prayer is something we do every day, yet understanding its halachot transforms a familiar practice into a richer and more intentional experience. This course will combine broad coverage of Hilchot Tefillah with the development of the skills needed to learn halachah independently. Through guided bekiut learning, students will gain fluency in navigating primary halachic sources and tracing the development of practical halachah from the Gemara through later authorities. Alongside these textual skills, the course aims to build a comprehensive knowledge of the laws of prayer and their underlying principles. By the end of the year, students will have both a strong command of Hilchot Tefillah and greater confidence in learning halachic texts on their own.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, & WEDNESDAY MORNINGS **GEMARA BEIT MIDRASH AND SHIUR**

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

GEMARA

Monday mornings 8:45am - 11:40am

Tuesday mornings 11:40am - 12:40pm

Wednesday mornings 8:45am - 11:30am

We will begin the year with Masechet Rosh Hashana, preparing during Elul for the Yamim Nora'im. After Succot, we will delve into Masechet Gittin, exploring the sensitive topic of marriage and divorce. Before Purim, we will learn Masechet Megillah and make a siyum all together on Shushan Purim! 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.

TANACH

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

HALACHA

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.

GEMARA

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!

Women and Halacha

Rabbanit Nomi Berman

Rabbanit Rachel Leshaw

Rabbanit Sally Mayer

HALACHA

This class is taught by our experienced Women & Halacha faculty. The classes will cover topics among the ones below; you will receive a survey to indicate your interests.

Women & Mitzvot

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 zimmin? What about the mitzvot of Shabbat? We will 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

What does it mean to live with kedusha in the modern world? We will explore 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

How does halacha respond to a world that is always evolving — especially when it comes to women's roles in the Jewish community? We will explore 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.

MONDAY AND THURSDAY AFTERNOONS, 2:45PM-5:00PM

Mesilat Yesharim

Rabbanit Daniella Grodko

MACHSHAVA

Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

Mindfulness. Intentionality. Self-reflection. These are buzzwords in our increasingly fast-paced lifestyles. Mesilat Yesharim challenges us to be as serious and dedicated to our personal growth as we are to our learning. We will pause to think who we want to be, what motivates us, and learn and practice a multi-step method for self-improvement. Join us to learn this classic mussar sefer, as we discover together how it is relevant in our modern lives.

Aggada

Rav Tuvia Kaplan

MACHSHAVA

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.

Philosophy of Ramban

Rav Cobi Nadel

MACHSHAVA

Monday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

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.

The Halachic Process

Rabbanit Dena Rock

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

MACHSHAVA

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

Rav Daniel Goldstein, Rabbanit Avigayil Unterberg Nouriel

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

TANACH

A wonderful opportunity to learn the parsha every week in a classroom with Darkaynu and overseas students together. With the teachers' support, students will get the opportunity to create their own lesson plans and activities to foster a classroom where learning is fun, engaging, and inclusive! In the weeks before the Darkaynu students arrive, we will be taking a deep dive (get it?) into the Book of Yonah. We will explore its themes of sin, Teshuva, and our unique relationship with Hashem, in anticipation of Yom Kippur when we read Sefer Yonah.

Lifecycles

Rav David Brofsky

Thursday 2:45pm - 3:45pm

HALACHA

Halacha and minhag accompany, enrich and guide us throughout our lives. In this source-based class, we will study the various laws and customs related to marriage, divorce, birth, bar/bat mitzvahs, death and mourning, and conversion. We will pay special attention to practical, real-life situations, while attempting to reveal the Torah's view of these important life milestones.

Chassidut

Rav Tuvia Kaplan

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

MACHSHAVA

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.

The World of the Rav: The Thought of Rav Soloveitchik

MACHSHAVA

Rav Daniel Goldstein

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

Whether you realize it or not, your understanding of Modern Orthodoxy has been profoundly shaped by the thought of Rav Joseph B. Soloveitchik. His ideas have influenced generations of rabbis, educators, and Jewish leaders—and, through them, the world in which you have been educated. Through close reading and discussion of the Rav's essays, we will explore his vision of modernity, halacha, religious experience, community, and many other topics.

Tehillim

TANACH

Rabbanit Nomi Berman

Monday 4:00pm - 5:00pm

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.

מסורת וביקורת (HEB)

MACHSHAVA

הרב חנן גפני

Thursday, 4:30pm – 5:30 pm

This course will help us understand dilemmas related to the biblical text that are discussed to this day. We will begin with how Chazal related to these questions, look at traditional commentaries during the Middle Ages, and finally see how modern critics address them. We will discuss how we as traditional Jews can deal with and resolve the questions that arise.

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

Beit Midrash

SPECIAL

Monday / Thursday 2:45pm-3:45pm

Monday / Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm

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.

Darchei Midrash: Literary Pathways into the Parsha

TANACH

Rabbanit Sarah Cabot

Monday 5:10pm - 6:00pm

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.

Mental Health in Halacha

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.

The Afterlife: Mashiach & Olam HaBa

MACHSHAVA

Rav Daniel Goldstein

Monday 5:10 - 6:00pm

What does Judaism actually believe about the end of history — and what comes after life itself? This course explores the classical Jewish sources on Yemot HaMoshiach, Techiyat HaMetim, Olam HaBa, Gan Eden and Gehinom. We will examine biblical foundations, Talmudic discussions, and major debates among Rishonim and Acharonim — including the Rambam's famously controversial position on resurrection and the afterlife. Is the Messianic era miraculous or natural? What changes — politics, nature, human consciousness? What happens after death? Is the World to Come physical or purely spiritual? How do justice, reward, and human responsibility function across time? Beyond mapping the ideas, we will explore the philosophical tensions beneath them: body and soul, history and eternity, national redemption and personal destiny.

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Chessed / Internships

SPECIAL

We believe that developing a Chessed 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. Our classic **Torah Seminar** class taught by **Rav Menachem Leibtag**.

TANACH

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. **Seder Erev with Rav Alex Israel**

SPECIAL

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.

Chavruta: Midreshet Darkaynu

SPECIAL

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

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

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

SPECIAL

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 one hour 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

GEMARA

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 & Rav Cobi Nadel

TANACH

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 1:45 – 2:30pm

Join us for a meaningful journey through Nach, combining daily independent learning with shared discussion and reflection. You'll learn the day's perek on your own, and together we'll explore its central ideas, messages, and questions. We'll begin with Kohelet, and later in the year transition into the 929 cycle so our learning connects with thousands of learners across Israel and around the world.

SPECIAL

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

Cheryl Burnat

Sunday 5:10 – 6:00 pm

MACHSHAVA

Looking for a place during the week to take pause to see how your Torah learning is impacting you? How can texts speak directly to you and feel meaningful in your daily life? Can they impact your middot and Avodat Hashem?

"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 close and personally meaningful.

This weekly class creates a space where Torah study meets personal reflection, and through collaborative text learning, you'll develop tools for connecting personally with the texts you encounter. As the course develops, you'll select and prepare texts for the group, practicing this type of learning firsthand.

Medical Ethics

Rabbanit Rivky Krestt

Sunday 6:10 – 7:00 pm

MACHSHAVA

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

Rav Alex Israel

MACHSHAVA

Sunday 6:10 - 7:00pm

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.

שו"תים (HEB)

הרבנית חמוטל שובל

HALACHA

Monday 5:30 – 7:00 pm

This class explores contemporary halachic dilemmas. We will examine fascinating questions such as: Is plastic surgery permitted? May a guide dog be brought into a synagogue? And does halacha allow paying an enormous ransom to free captives? Each session includes in-depth chavruta learning followed by a shiur.

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

קיום ומשמעות בספרות שלמה המלך (HEB)

הרב שלמה שוק

MACHSHAVA

Monday, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Shlomo Hamelech's wisdom is shared with us through Mishlei, Kohelet, and Shir Hashirim. Join us to uncover the messages he offers on living a meaningful existence in this world.

This course is cross-listed on the Israeli schedule.

Matmidot

Rabbanit Dena Rock

SPECIAL

Monday 7:30 – 10:00 pm

Approximately two out of every three 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.

בקיאות משנה (HEB)

הרבנית שלומית שבות

Tuesday, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

GEMARA

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.

Israel: Behind the Headlines

Jamie Salter

Tuesday 6:00 - 7:00pm

SPECIAL

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

Rav Yitzchak Blau

Wednesday 5:10 - 6:00pm

MACHSHAVA

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.

סוגיות בעבודת ה' במאה ה-21

הרב איתיאל אורון

Wednesday 5:30 - 7:00pm

MACHSHAVA

Modern times and ideas can present challenges to our eternal faith. How do we address these questions? How can we be modern, educated members of the broader society while maintaining our beliefs and practice? Join us as we explore the issues together.

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

MACHSHAVA

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

Dr. Tamar Ross

Thursday 5:10 - 6:00pm

MACHSHAVA

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)

SPECIAL

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.