



**Schechter Institute
of Jewish Studies**
מכון שכטר למדעי היהדות



Midreshet
Schechter
JERUSALEM



Autumn at SCHECHTER

English Lecture Series in Jewish Studies

(October 2017 - February 2018)

At the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (behind the Israel Museum)

- * Eight lectures per series *
- * Discounts for early registration or for more than one series *

Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, 4 Avraham Granot St., Jerusalem, Israel, 9116002



Duddy Kravitz, Lost Europe and Living in that “Next Door Place:” Canada and Its Jewish Writers

*With **Dr. Shana Rosenblatt Mauer**, lecturer at Herzog College. Her research and teaching focus on topics in Modern Jewish Literature, particularly transgressive Holocaust narratives and the work of Russian-American Jewish writers.*

We will look at the forefathers of Canadian Jewish literature (A.M. Klein, Irving Layton, Leonard Cohen and Mordecai Richler), and writers who provide a literary snapshot of the psychological upheaval, nostalgia and bittersweet humor associated with the process of acclimating to life in, not just Montreal, but also Winnipeg, Toronto and Vancouver (J.I. Segal, Ted Allan, Adele Wiseman, Eva Hoffman and David Bezmozgis). We will also read works that address the Holocaust and the conversation on “inherited trauma,” by Chava Rosenfarb, Arye Lev Stollman and Anne Michaels. Lastly, we will return to Montreal with Segal Samuel’s inventive novel, *The Mystics of Mile End*.

Mondays 10:30 - 12:00

Dates of Sessions:

▶ Oct 16 ▶ Oct 30 ▶ Nov 13 ▶ Nov 27
▶ Dec 11 ▶ Dec 25 ▶ Jan 8 ▶ Jan 22



Wondrous Women in the Bible

*With **Esther Lopian**, a teacher and teacher educator in the field of Bible studies and the pedagogy of teaching Jewish texts, in Israel and abroad.*

Israel has produced some extraordinary Wonder Women - some of cinematic fame, and some of Biblical renown. In this course we will return to stories surrounding several outstanding female personalities in the Bible - many of whom are misunderstood or maligned - from a new, more nuanced perspective. Seeking to understand the complexities of character, we uncover intricate agendas hidden between the lines of the Biblical narratives. Our female heroines include: Rebecca, our matriarch - manipulative or visionary? Rachel and Leah - collaborators or competitors? Hannah - dissident or saint? Avigayil - mercenary or merciful?

Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:00

Dates of Sessions:

▶ Nov 7 ▶ Nov 21 ▶ Dec 5 ▶ Dec 19
▶ Jan 2 ▶ Jan 16 ▶ Jan 30 ▶ Feb 6



Seeing Women through Art

With **Dr. Shula Laderman**, a senior lecturer in Judaism and the Arts at the Schechter Institute. She is the author of *Images of Cosmology in Jewish and Byzantine Art-God's Blueprint of Creation* and co-author with Avner Moriah of *The Illuminated Torah*.

In this course we will examine Jewish, Christian, and general works of art in an attempt to understand the changing attitudes toward women as they are reflected in the art of different periods. We will look at portrayals of single, married, and widowed women, which were based primarily on the way they are depicted in the Bible, and how they are treated in biblical exegeses in order to acquire some insight regarding the changing approaches to women in society throughout history.

Wednesdays 12:30 - 14:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Oct 25 ▶ Nov 1 ▶ Nov 15 ▶ Nov 29
- ▶ Dec 13 ▶ Dec 27 ▶ Jan 10 ▶ Jan 24



Foundations of Jewish Ethics

with **Dr. Elliott Malamet**, cofounder of Torah in Motion. He lectures in literature at the Hebrew University and in Jewish Thought at Yeshivat Machanaim.

This course will explore the central concepts, dilemmas and theories that underlie Jewish ethics. Among questions to be discussed: Are moral values objective? Can ethics be determined by human reason alone? Is belief in God imperative for an ethical life (can we be good without God?) How do we navigate Torah passages that seem irrational and even immoral? What are the rights and responsibilities of the individual and how do we balance self-interest with our duties to others? How do Jewish ethics deal with the moral challenges of modernity?

Tuesdays 12:30 - 14:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Oct 17 ▶ Oct 24 ▶ Oct 31 ▶ Nov 28
- ▶ Dec 12 ▶ Dec 26 ▶ Jan 9 ▶ Jan 23



Jewish Leadership in Talmudic Times: Teachers, Students, and the Populace

with **Dr. Paul Mandel**, senior lecturer in Midrash and Aggadah at the Schechter Institute and at the Rothberg School at the Hebrew University. He is the author of *The Origins of Midrash: From Teaching to Text*.

What was the role of the teacher and legal instructor in ancient Jewish society? What really went on in the *bet midrash*? How did the roles of *hacham* ("rabbi") and his disciple, the *talmid hacham*, evolve? We will read legal anecdotes and aggadic tales which describe the grandeur as well as the foibles of the *hachamim* in their relations with their colleagues, their disciples and the people at large. We will compare the *hachamim* with their predecessors (Ezra, the Pharisees, the Qumran sect) and investigate the role of the Torah as a study text and how the law was taught in different periods.

Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Oct 24 ▶ Oct 31 ▶ Nov 14 ▶ Nov 28
- ▶ Dec 12 ▶ Dec 26 ▶ Jan 9 ▶ Jan 23

Price:

650 NIS for one series

375 NIS for each additional series

OR

20% discount with registration

by Oct. 3, 2017

(Only one discount per student)

Returning Students:

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For information and registration

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