



Schechter Institute
of Jewish Studies
מכון שכטר למדעי היהדות

Midreshet
Schechter
JERUSALEM



Spring at SCHECHTER

English Lecture Series in Jewish Studies

March - June 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



Their Parents' Children: Second Generation Holocaust Literature

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.

Defined by Alan Berger as the Second Generation, children of Holocaust survivors have produced a body of literary texts that are often considered to stand on their own as a response to the Holocaust, their parents' experience and the idiosyncrasies of having grown up in families rooted in trauma. With compassion, fury, curiosity, irony, introspection and slivers of humor, these writers' narratives most often ask, and in some ways answer, the "what next" in a world where the reliability of human decency has been so thoroughly corroded.

Mondays 10:30–12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Mar 5 ▶ Mar 19 ▶ Apr 9 ▶ Apr 23
- ▶ May 7 ▶ May 21 ▶ Jun 4 ▶ Jun 18



Revolutionary Zionist Thinkers: From Ahad Ha'am to Mordecai Kaplan

With **Prof. Yossi Turner**, professor of Jewish Philosophy at the Schechter Institute. He holds a PhD in Jewish Thought from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and has published numerous articles and books on Jewish Philosophy.

To some Zionism means supporting the State of Israel. For others, living in the Land is the main thrust. For some, Aliyah is a secular statement, for others it is a religious one. We will be reading from the works of prominent, and fascinating Zionist thinkers – Ahad Ha'am, Theodore Herzl, A. D. Gordon and Mordecai Kaplan. Each thinker understood and interpreted Zionism differently. Yet they all shared at least one common denominator. They all believed that the recreation of Jewish life in the Land of Israel was essential for the continued existence of Jews and Judaism in the modern period.

Mondays 10:30–12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Mar 12 ▶ Mar 26 ▶ Apr 16 ▶ April 30
- ▶ May 14 ▶ May 28 ▶ Jun 11 ▶ Jun 25



More Wondrous Women in the Bible - Compliance and Deception

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

Contrary to popular belief, women in the Hebrew Bible exercised great influence on their surroundings. Often, they defied authority - even kings - in order to change the course of events as they saw fit. How did they go about this? What strategies did Biblical women use to exert the influence they wanted - compliance, circumvention, deceit? In this course, we will closely read the stories of several wondrous Biblical women in an attempt to understand how they decided, disagreed and resisted in a patriarchal society.

Tuesdays 10:30–12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Mar 13 ▶ Mar 27 ▶ Apr 17 ▶ May 1
- ▶ May 15 ▶ May 29 ▶ Jun 12 ▶ Jun 26



Tanach and Talmud: From the Rabbis to Rashi

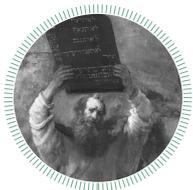
with **Dr. Paul Mandel**, senior lecturer in Midrash and Aggadah at the Schechter Institute and at the Rothberg School at the Hebrew University. He is the author of *The Origins of Midrash: From Teaching to Text*.

We begin by reading selected biblical passages through the eyes of the talmudic authorities ('the Sages') in an attempt to understand the various methods employed in interpreting the biblical narrative (midrash aggadah) and law (midrash halakhah). We will discover conflicting approaches of the talmudic rabbis, reflecting varying views of the relationships between text, ancient history, divine revelation and law. We will then compare the writings of the major medieval biblical commentators – Rashi, Rashbam, Ibn Ezra and Ramban. In doing so, we will be made aware of the amazing audacity of these later scholars in their readings of the biblical text, through which new answers to the problems of divine revelation and the Bible are suggested.

Tuesdays 10:30–12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Mar 6 ▶ Mar 20 ▶ Apr 10 ▶ Apr 24
- ▶ May 8 ▶ May 22 ▶ Jun 5 ▶ Jun 19



Jewish Ethics in the Modern World

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 Jewish ethics in light of some of the crucial moral dilemmas of our age. What are the rights and responsibilities of the individual? How do we balance our self-need with our duties to others? How does Judaism cope with rapidly changing technologies and the contemporary emphasis on personal autonomy? Topics to be discussed include abortion; euthanasia; bio-medical ethics; fluid sexual identities and orientations; and much more.

Wednesdays 10:30–12:00

Dates of Sessions:

- ▶ Mar 7 ▶ Mar 14 ▶ Mar 21 ▶ Apr 11
- ▶ Apr 25 ▶ May 2 ▶ May 16 ▶ May 30

Starting after Passover

Special Study Series in honor of the 70th Anniversary of the State of Israel

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650 NIS for one series

375 NIS for each additional series

OR

20% discount with registration

by February 7, 2018

(Only one discount per student)

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For information and registration

074-7800-673

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www.schechter.edu/spring-2018-lecture-series

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