

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will choose two courses to take in each of the three quarters, usually one “Core Course” and one “Elective” or “Serious Judaism” Class.

***SERIOUS JUDAISM**

Each student before Confirmation will need to take at least 2 “Serious Judaism” Classes –choices include T’fillah Leading, Jewish History, Torah Talk, Text Talk, Judaism and the Environment, Jewish Practices and Ethics 2.

***CORE COURSES**

Students also need to take all 5 “Core” Courses-:

Diversity in Judaism,

Ethics 1,

God Torah & You,

Love Sex and Marriage-Jewish Views,

Confirmation Practicum in spring of 10th grade.

***TRANSCRIPTS**

Students will have transcripts folders here at temple to help them keep track of their progress toward Confirmation.

COURSE OFFERINGS

2011-2012

Fall Quarter: September 21-December 21

First Hour

- **Torah Talk with Rabbi Paula (SERIOUS JUDAISM)**

A dynamic discussion of the weekly torah portion and its commentary. What are the layers of meaning in the parasha?

What are the issues it presents?

- **God Torah and You with Rabbi Rick (CORE)**

Do Jews believe in evolution? What happens after death? How do we know that God is real? We'll explore these and other interesting question in this new core class.

- **It was Jewish Zen and it's Jewish Tao with Sephy Elizai (ELECTIVE)**

Meditation and Mindful activities, a Jewish way

Second Hour

- **Jewish Ethics 1 with Rabbi Rick (CORE)**

Ethics is a very important part of Judaism. We'll explore ethics as applied to the life of teenagers today. This will include Jewish ethics of speech and facebook, Jewish ethics applied to shopping at the mall, Jewish ethics and you and your body, whether or not to give tzedakkah to the beggar downtown, and other interesting and relevant applications of Jewish ethics. We'll also read some ethical questions and answers posed to rabbis today and explore how our answers compare.

- **Jewish Craft with Jen Vered (ELECTIVE)**

Creating Jewish Ritual Objects like Challah Covers and Passover objects

- **Jewish Practices with Sephy Elizai (SERIOUS JUDAISM)**

Winter Quarter: January 11-February 29

First Hour

- **Diversity in Judaism with Rabbi Paula (CORE)**

Explores the similarities and differences among the major movements in Judaism, comparative study of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Develop a personal Jewish practice.

- **Tefillah Leading with Sephy Elizai (SERIOUS JUDAISM)**

Students will explore the structure of the evening service, the basic prayers and alternative expressions, and central Jewish values and topics expressed in our liturgy. Students will plan and lead Tefillah for their peers.

- **Jewish Cooking with Jennifer Vered (ELECTIVE)**

"Wherever you go, there's always someone Jewish..." ...and wherever Jews are, they are always cooking and eating! Tour the world with your taste buds- cooking dishes you may know and love and some you have never heard of. Learn a little history behind each dish and take home your recipes. Classes limited to 8 students.

Second Hour

- **Love Sex and Marriage a Jewish View with Rabbi Rick (CORE)
(9th & 10th Grade only)**

Covers the following topics: dating, marriage and family life, premarital sex, sexually transmitted diseases, contraception, partner selection and intermarriage.

- **Judaism and the Environment with Mimi Guiney (SERIOUS JUDAISM)**

As Jews we are taught the importance of tikkun olam, repairing the world, but each day we see that our planet's fate hangs, in fact, by a thread. How well do the laws of Judaism fit with the laws of nature? We'll look at Kashrut & the treatment of animals; Jewish holidays; the role of environmentalism in Israel; war and water and peace; global warming and even more!"

- **An elective to be announced with Sephy Elizai, (see descriptions below)**

Spring Quarter: March 7-May 9

First Hour

- **Confirmation Practicum with Rabbi Rick and Rabbi Paula (CORE)**
(10 grade only, two class sessions for Spring Quarter)

Preparation for the confirmation service. Students will create their confirmation service and prepare their speeches.

- **Jewish Cooking with Jennifer Vered (ELECTIVE)**

“Wherever you go, there’s always someone Jewish...” ...and wherever Jews are, they are always cooking and eating! Tour the world with your taste buds- cooking dishes you may know and love and some you have never heard of. Learn a little history behind each dish and take home your recipes. Classes limited to 8 students.

- **An elective to be announced with Sephy Elizai, (see descriptions below)**

Second Hour

- **Confirmation with Rabbi Rick and Rabbi Paula (10 grade only)**
(See above description)

- **Jewish History with Sephy Elizai, (SERIOUS JUDAISM)**

Sages, ancestors, heroes, and heroines, rebels and well, you name it. Let’s learn and explore Jewish folks from Abraham to Adam Sandler and most everyone in between.

- **An elective to be announced**

Electives

World Religions with Sephy Elizai, 2nd hour

Learning about and understanding faith, beliefs, traditions, practices and rituals are important. It is as important to do this with what others practice. World religions begin the process of looking objectively at what people think/believe in regards to religion. We will learn how ancient belief has shapes much of what our traditions are today in Judaism and in other religions. We will also come to an understanding that religion and attitude toward religion is viewed differently from individual to individual. Come ready to explore your own spirituality as you learn of the religion of others.

Traditional Jewish Arts & Crafts with Jen Vered,

Learn about the history of Jewish paper cutting and kippah making while designing and creating your own works of art.

Drama with Sephy Elizai

This drama course will give us an opportunity to explore what Judaism and Jewish culture have to offer and how they fit into our modern lives. Through skits, plays and readings we will take in some of this knowledge and present it to others on stage.

Jewish Meditation with Sephy Elizai

It was Jewish Zen and it's Jewish Tao. Meditation has a long-standing tradition within Judaism. Let's practice mindfulness through meditation. We will meditate every class starting out with simple breathing exercises as well as guided meditation and simple visualizations. If you're in search of a quiet and mindful space, this is the class for you to take.

Drumming and Calligraphy with Dror Sinai

Jews Do That with Batya Kagen

You don't have to go into a remote village high in the Andes or deep in a jungle to find unusual rituals. Jews from all over the world and for 5,000 years have been practicing and forming rituals to say Thank You, I love you, Good-bye, WOW and "I'm trying to talk to G-d here" and we've come up with some pretty amazing ways of doing it. We will learn about some of these practices, learn from each other, practice some rituals that you've maybe never had a chance to do before, and maybe even make up our own.

Goals for Hebrew High School

CREATING AN ADULT JEWISH LIFE

- Understand and appreciate the diversity of Jewish religious practice (i.e. Reform, Renewal, Orthodox, Reconstructionist, Hassidic, Conservative, etc.)
- Explore values and choices of adult Jewish life (i.e. dating, sex, marriage, parenting, business ethics, and death);
- Create a personal Jewish religious practice:
- Encourage the continued use of Hebrew as a tool of Jewish learning:
- Learn the tools to create a joyful Jewish life (i.e. Shabbat cooking and song, celebrating Holidays, etc.
- Foster Jewish Self-Expression through Jewish art, drama, and movement

BUILDING COMMUNITY

- Develop a lasting bond with Jewish contemporaries,
- Build appreciation for responsibility to our local Jewish community and the greater Jewish world,
- Deepen the commitment to the state of Israel,
- Continue a dedication to tzedakkah (righteous giving) and tikkun olam (improving and enhancing the world).

WORKING TOWARD CONFIRMATION

- Assimilate accumulated learning and apply it in creating the Friday night confirmation service.