



The Gertrude Lederman Family Continuing Education courses at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El offer a wonderful chance to deepen your understanding of Jewish thought, culture, and identity. These programs are made possible through the generous gift of the estate of Gertrude Lederman. The value she placed on Jewish education became the cornerstone of her legacy of lifelong learning in our congregation.

Fall Quarter Courses

The fee for Continuing Education courses is \$60 per quarter for NSS Beth El members and \$125 per quarter for guests. Payment for one course includes any additional classes during the same quarter (including Hebrew) at no additional charge. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Beth El members can purchase a special discounted annual pass for \$180 (\$360 for guests) which will include all classes during the 2022-2023 fall, winter, spring and summer quarters.

Register at <https://www.nssbethel.org/learn/lederman-continuing-education/ongoing-classes/>.

Talmud: Tractate *B'rachot*

Rabbi Michael Schwab

Tuesdays, 8:30-9:30 am, October 25-December 13, 2022

Rabbi Schwab takes students on a journey through the mainstay of the Jewish oral tradition, its rich history, structure, and famous personalities.

Class will meet in person and on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

The Mindful Jewish Approach

Rabbi Michael Schwab

Tuesdays, 8:00-9:00 pm, November 1-December 13, 2022

This Project Zug course from the Hadar Institute will explore the practice of mindfulness in Jewish sources and thought. We will consider mindfulness as a path of emotional healing, spiritual awareness and liberation from suffering and its role in leading a full and fulfilling Jewish life. Concrete techniques will accompany many of the practices, and participants are encouraged to engage on a practical as well as intellectual level.

Class will meet on Zoom and/or in-person. Quarter Fee: Fall

Breaking Jewish News & Views

Carl Schrag

Wednesdays, 9:45-11:00 am, October 26-November 9; and November 30-December 14, 2022 (no class November 16 & 23)

This weekly discussion-based class zooms in on local, national, and global news through a distinctly Jewish lens. We'll talk about politics, Israel, anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, rifts in our Jewish community, local and global Jewish affairs, campus life, and the intersection between these topics and more. Carl Schrag, who was the Editor of The Jerusalem Post, brings a journalist's probing questions to every topic.

Class will meet on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

A Fangirl's Guide to the Talmud: Rabbi Eliezer ben Hyrcanus

Shira Eliaser

Mondays, 2:00-3:00 pm, October 31-November 21, 2022

A study of the life and times of this fascinating and controversial Mishnaic sage, using his appearances in well-known works of fiction as a springboard to examine the original sources in the Talmud. Who was Rabbi Eliezer and how does an understanding of his character affect his famous standoff over the oven of Achnai? "Fangirls," "Fanguys," and all "Fanpeople" welcome!

Class will meet on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

Hebrew

Café Ivrit: Intermediate Conversational Hebrew

Silvi Freedson

Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30 pm, October 25-December 13, 2022

This Intermediate level course will help you improve your conversational and reading skills.

Class will meet on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

Shicha Ivrit: Advanced Conversational Hebrew

Silvi Freedson

Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 pm, October 20-December 15, 2022

(no class November 24)

Join this Advanced level course to study Israeli literature and culture in Hebrew.

Class will meet on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

Intermediate Conversational Hebrew

(in partnership with Moriah Congregation)

Silvi Freedson

Mondays, 7:30- 9:00 pm, October 24-December 19, 2022

In this class we will be reading stories, plays, and articles and discussing them in Hebrew.

Class will meet on Zoom. Quarter Fee: Fall

Open Conversational Hebrew

Sundays, 9:30-11:00 am

Practice Hebrew conversation informally with other participants. For information, contact Judy Farby at judyfarby@yahoo.com or 847-372-1700. Class will meet on Zoom. FREE

SAVE THE DATE:

The NSS Beth El Annual Used Book Sale will be January 13-22, 2023

Plan to drop off gently used books for both children and adults on any subject between December 1-January 12.

Donations received before December 1 may be discarded.

Special Programs & Events

Writer's Beit Midrash

Wednesdays, 9:30 am, October 19, November 2, 16 & 30, and December 14, 2022

All fiction, non-fiction, poetry, memoir, and essay writers (published or not yet published) are welcome for discussions, exercises, camaraderie, and critique every other Wednesday morning.

Class will meet in-person. FREE

Hidden Heroes with Pam Cohen & Rabbi Vernon Kurtz

Tuesday, October 25, 12:00 pm

Haunted by the legacy of the Holocaust, Pamela Braun Cohen became an activist in the Soviet Jewry movement and served as co-chair of Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry and the national president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. Pam will join us in-person for a Zoom conversation with Rabbi Kurtz about her new book *Hidden Heroes: One Woman's Story of Resistance and Rescue in the Soviet Union*. **Program will be held in-person and on Zoom. FREE**

Lunch & Learn

Thursday, November 10, 12:00-1:00 pm

Join Rabbi Schwab at Beth El or from the comfort of your own home or office for study and discussion.

Class will be held in-person and/or on Zoom. FREE

Meet Me in the Moment: A Theatrical Concert of Jewish Music

Thursday, December 1, 2:00 pm

Written and directed by violinist Aviva Chertok, with Monika Miodragovic on piano and starring Marc Frost, this one-of-a-kind production brings audiences the beauty of Jewish classical music while immersing them in Jewish history and culture.

In-person and on the Livestream. FREE

Janet and Irving Robbin Scholar in Residence

Saturday, December 10 – Sunday, December 11, 2022

Rabbi Elie Kaunfer, President and CEO of the Hadar Institute, will deliver three presentations over the weekend.

In-person and on the Livestream. FREE

Schechter Institute

Rabbinic Stories: Modern Lessons

Rabbi Dr. Vernon Kurtz

Sundays, 10:30-11:45am, October 30, 2022 – January 22, 2023 (no class December 18 & 25 and January 1)

Study Talmudic and Midrashic stories to examine ancient values and how they relate to our modern society and the world in which we live. Primary sources will be studied from many different perspectives including historical, sociological and literary approaches and will enable us to evaluate our personal lives as we encounter our families, our communities and society at large.

Class will meet on Zoom. Fee: \$200

Register at <https://schechter.edu/event/rabbinic-stories-modern-lessons/>

Because the cost of tuition should never be a barrier to participation in our NSS Beth El classes, we do offer financial assistance. Please contact Marcie Eskin at meskin@nssbethel.org for scholarship information.

New Melton Course

(in partnership with Moriah Congregation)

Highs and Lows: Our Communal Joys and Sorrows

Rebecca Minkus Lieberman

Mondays, 9:30-11:00 am, November 7-December 12, 2022

Jewish history puts a new twist on the famous opening line "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." How often do we stop and acknowledge the time-honored highs and the lows of our lives as Jews? Are we even aware of them? The Jewish year guides us through our peaks and valleys as a people, our moments of triumph and of tragedy. Together, we look back on the moments that offer a deeper understanding of the Jewish people throughout the millennia — and inspire us in the present.

Class will meet in-person at Moriah Congregation.

Cost: \$179; \$100 rebate available to NSS Beth El members.

Register at www.meltonschool.org/nssbe-moriah.

Sisterhood Torah Fund Book Club

Join Rachel Kamin, Director of Lifelong Learning, for lively book discussions and author events. New participants are always welcome!

The Thread Collectors by Shaunna J. Edwards & Alyson Richman

Wednesday, November 2, 8:00 pm: Meet the authors on Zoom

Saturday, November 5, 12:30 pm: In-person discussion after Shabbat Kiddush

From Miniskirt to Hijab: A Girl in Revolutionary Iran by Jacqueline Saper

Thursday, January 19, 7:00 pm: Meet the author in-person and on Zoom

Saturday, January 21, 12:30 pm: In-person discussion after Shabbat Kiddush

Copies of the books are available in the Gray Cultural & Learning Center and from public libraries, as well as from local and online booksellers. Participants are encouraged to make a minimum donation of \$54 to the Torah Fund Campaign. The Book Club will continue in March, April & June 2023.

ScholarStream Series

The Gertrude Lederman Continuing Education Program and the Beth El Sisterhood are excited to sponsor ScholarStream in 5783!

Throughout the year, the Conservative Movement seminaries and institutions will offer seven series that will bring you face-to-face with the brightest and most engaging scholars our movement has to offer. Series 2, "What's Your Burning Question?" will begin on October 26, 2022. We will also be planning special ScholarStream programs and classes at Beth El this year. Stay tuned for more information.

Everyone who makes a minimum \$54 donation to the Torah Fund will receive a discount code to access all 28 lectures for FREE!

You must register through ScholarStream to receive the Zoom link for each series. If you already made your annual donation to Torah Fund, contact Mary Ellen Bowers at eyerishmar@comcast.net for the discount code before you register.