

Pathways: An Introduction to Judaism Wed / Begins Sep 4 / 6:30-8:30 pm

Rabbi Neil Zuckerman Rabbi Lori Koffman Rabbinic Intern Aiden Pink

Course Readings: In class we will address the chapters from *On One Foot* by Adam Greenwald, however it may be helpful to skim these in advance. Please do not purchase this book as we will provide copies on the student webpage.

Required Texts:

On One Foot: An Introduction to Judaism Coursebook by Adam Greenwald (2015) *To Life! A Celebration of Jewish Being and Thinking* by Harold Kushner (1994) *The Book of Jewish Values: A Day by Day to Ethical Living* by Joseph Telushkin (2000)

Recommended

Choosing a Jewish Life by Anita Diamant (2016) The Jewish Way: Living the Holidays by Irving Greenberg (1988) The Sabbath by Abraham Joshua Heschel (1951) A Short History of the Jewish People by Raymond Scheindlin (2000) Jewish Literacy: Revised Edition by Joseph Telushkin (2001)

Shabbat Dinner

There will be a Shabbat dinner for the class on **Friday**, **December 6 at 7:30 pm** in Ballroom 3.

Location

Class will meet in the **Third Floor Chapel Rear** on September 4, 11 and 18. When we return after the High Holidays, class will be in **Ballroom 3** for the reminder of the semester.

Course Schedule and Outline:

History (Part 1): Origins

- Sep 4 Beginnings: From Creation to the Edge of the Wilderness Required: Greenwald, chapter 1 Recommended: Telushkin, chapter 1-30
- Sep 11 The World of the Bible Required: Greenwald, chapter 2, Kushner, pgs 3-48 Recommended: Telushkin, chapter 31-63, Scheindlin, pgs. 1-49

Living A Jewish Life (Part I): Spirituality and Ethics

אגודת שרים PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

| Sep 18 | Starting Over: The High Holidays Required: Greenwald, chapter 10 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 285, 288 Greenberg, chapter 6 | |
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| Oct 30 | God: Encountering the Holy Required: Greenwald, chapter 8, Kushner, pgs 143-180 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 257, 268, and 292-294 | |
| Nov 13 | Kashrut: The Original Soul Food Required: Greenwald, chapter 11, Kushner, pgs 49-60 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 276 and 336 | |
| Nov 20 | Shabbat: Palace in Time Required: Greenwald, chapter 5 Recommended: Heschel, The Sabbath | |
| Dec 4 | When Do I Bow? And Other Questions About Jewish Prayer Required: Greenwald, chapter 6, Kushner, pgs 197-214 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 337-339 and 341-352 | |
| Dec 6 | Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm / 50 East 87 Street / Ballroom 3 | |
| Dec 11 | Hearts of Many Rooms: Understanding Jewish Diversity Required: Greenwald, chapter 3, Kushner, pgs 49-86 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 116-117, 120-121, 208-211, 222, and 225- 229 Diamant, pgs 181-185 | |
| The Jewish Calendar | | |
| Dec 18 | Holy Days: The Wheel of the Jewish Year Required: Greenwald, chapter 4, Kushner, pgs 87-142 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 296-319 Greenberg, chapter 1 | |
| Jan 8 | Passover: The Jewish Master Story Required: Greenwald, chapter 7, Kushner, pgs 124-129 Recommended: Greenberg, chapter 2 | |

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| PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE |

| History (Par | rt II): Life in the Diaspora |
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| Jan 15 | Talmud: Argument for the Sake of Heaven Required: Greenwald, chapter 9 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters 64-84 Scheindlin, pgs 51-69 |
| Jan 22 | Philosophers, Poets, and Mystics: The Jewish Middle Ages Required: Greenwald, chapter 12 Recommended: Telushkin, 85-115 Scheindlin, pgs 71-121 |
| Jan 29 | Out of the Darkness: Stories of the Holocaust Required: Greenwald, chapter 16, Kushner, pgs 259-277 Recommended: Scheindlin pgs 199-215 Telushkin, chapters 240-246 and 185-201 |
| Living a Jev | vish Life (Part II): From Birth to Death |
| Feb 5 | From Birth to B'nai Mitzvah: Raising a Mensch Required: Greenwald, chapter 14, Kushner, pgs 215-226 and 230-236 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters 277, 295, and 324-325 |
| Feb 12 | Marriage, Love & Kosher Sex Required: Greenwald, chapter 13, Kushner, pgs 226-230 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters 326-328 and 330 |
| Feb 19 | A Time to Mourn: Traditions for Death, Grief, & Healing Required: Greenwald, chapter 15, Kushner, pgs 236-241 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters, 278-280 and 332-334 |
| History (Par | t III): A Jewish Future |
| Feb 26 | Israel: Dreaming of Deliverance Required: Greenwald, chapter 17, Kushner, pgs 243-257 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters 133-184 Scheindlin, pgs 217-248 |
| March 5 | The Jewish Mission to Heal the World Required: Greenwald, chapter 18, Kushner, pgs 293-304 Recommended: Telushkin, chapters 291 |