

# Park Avenue Synagogue

## Pathways: An Introduction to Judaism

### Information

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Rabbi Neil Zuckerman

[nzuckerman@pasyn.org](mailto:nzuckerman@pasyn.org)

212-369-2600, ext.124

Rabbi Steven Philp

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212-369-2600, ext. 200

### Course Reading

In class we will address the chapters from *On One Foot*, however it may be helpful to skim these in advance. *To Life!* is a helpful companion to our course; if you're able, read the suggested pages before our meetings.

### Required

Adam Greenwald, *On One Foot: An Intro to Judaism Coursebook* (2015)

Harold Kushner, *To Life! A Celebration of Jewish Being and Thinking* (1994)

### Recommended

Joseph Telushkin, *Jewish Literacy: Revised Edition* (2001)

Raymond Scheindlin, *A Short History of the Jewish People* (2000)

Irving Greenberg, *The Jewish Way: Living the Holidays* (1988)

Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Sabbath* (1951)

Anita Diamant, *Choosing a Jewish Life* (2016)

## Schedule

### HISTORY (PART I): Origins

#### Beginnings: From Creation to the Edge of the Wilderness (5/19)

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 1

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 1-30

#### The World of the Bible (5/26)

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 2

Kushner, pgs. 3-48

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 31-63

Scheindlin, pgs. 1-49

#### Talmud: Argument for the Sake of Heaven (6/2)

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 9

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 64-84

Scheindlin, pgs. 51-69

### LIVING A JEWISH LIFE (PART I): Spirituality and Ethics

#### God: Encountering the Holy (6/9)

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 8

Kushner, pgs. 143-180

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 257, 268, and 292-294

#### Shabbat: Palace in Time (6/16)

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 5

**Recommended:**

Heschel, *The Sabbath*

## When Do I Bow? And Other Questions About Jewish Prayer (6/23)

### Required:

Greenwald, chapter 6

Kushner, pgs. 197-214

### Recommended:

Telushkin, chapters 337-339 and 341-352

## Kashrut: The Original Soul Food (6/30)

### Required:

Greenwald, chapter 11

Kushner, pgs. 49-60

### Recommended:

Telushkin, Chapters 276 and 336

## THE JEWISH CALENDAR

### Holy Days: The Wheel of the Jewish Year (7/7)

#### Required:

Greenwald, chapter 4

Kushner, pgs. 87-142

#### Recommended:

Telushkin, chapters 296-319

Greenberg, chapter 1

### Starting Over: The High Holy Days (7/14)

#### Required:

Greenwald, chapter 10

#### Recommended:

Telushkin, chapters 285-288

Greenberg, chapter 6

### Passover: The Jewish Master Story (7/21)

#### Required:

Greenwald, chapter 7

Kushner, pgs. 124-129

#### Recommended:

Greenberg, chapter 2

## **HISTORY (PART II): Life in the Diaspora**

### **Philosophers, Poets, and Mystics: The Jewish Middle Ages (7/28)**

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 12

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 85-115

Scheindlin, pgs. 71-121

### **Heart of Many Rooms: Understanding Jewish Diversity (8/4)**

**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

### **Out of the Darkness: Stories from the Holocaust (8/11)**

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 16

Kushner, pgs. 259-277

**Recommended:**

Scheindlin, pgs. 199-215

Telushkin, chapters 240-246 and 185-201

## **LIVING A JEWISH LIFE (PART II): From Birth to Death**

### **From Birth to B'nai Mitzvah: Raising a Mensch (8/18)**

**Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 14

Kushner, pgs. 215-226 and 230-236

**Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 277, 295, and 324-325

## **Marriage, Love & Kosher Sex (8/25)**

### **Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 13

Kushner, pgs. 226-230

### **Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 326-328 and 330

## **A Time to Mourn: Traditions for Death, Grief, & Healing (9/1)**

### **Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 15

Kushner, pgs. 236-241

### **Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 278-280 and 332-334

## **HISTORY (PART III): A Jewish Future Israel: Dreaming of Deliverance (9/8)**

### **Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 17

Kushner, pgs. 243-257

### **Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapters 133-184

Scheindlin, pgs. 217-248

## **The Jewish Mission to Heal the World (9/15)**

### **Required:**

Greenwald, chapter 18

Kushner, pgs. 293-304

### **Recommended:**

Telushkin, chapter 291