

## Introduction to Judaism 5782

Three Congregations:

Congregation Dor Hadash

Temple Emanu El of Tempe, Arizona,

Temple Emanu-El of San Diego

Text Books:

Diamant, Anita. *Living a Jewish Life*. HarperCollins, (rev. ed.) 2007

Green, Arthur. *Judaism's 10 Best Ideas*. Jewish Lights, 2014

Silberman, Shoshana. *A Family Haggadah II*. Kar-Ben, 2010.

Sonsino, Rifat and Syme, Daniel. *Finding God: Selected Responses*. Behrman/URJ Press, 2002.

Wyllen, Stephen. *Settings of Silver*. Paulist Press, 2000.

Encouraged for further reading:

- A Jewish Bible (Tanakh) (JPS English translation) will be used in the class.
- The Jewish Study Bible, Oxford University Press, 2014.
- We also recommend you buy a guide for observing Shabbat.
- Zion/Fields-Meyer. "A Day Apart: Shabbat at Home," Shalom Hartman Institute, 2004. \$24.95
- Or Mark Shapiro. "Gates of Shabbat'" CCAR Press, (rev. ed.) 2016. \$18.95

## SCHEDULE

1. October 3rd (All Faculty)

Intro to the Faculty and Shabbat

Reading: SOS 79-85, 124-36; LJI 26-60, 141-49; TEN, 3-8, 37-46

2. October 10<sup>th</sup> (Devorah)

Jewish Prayer/Introduction to the Siddur

3. October 17<sup>th</sup> (Yael)

Life Cycle I: Birth, Jewish Education, Bar/Bat Mitzvah/Marriage/Jewish Home/Kashrut

Reading: SOS 53-56, 85-87; LJL 211-33; TEN 65-74

Reading: SOS 89-98; LJL 234-48, 82-92

4. October 24<sup>th</sup> (Devorah)

Life Cycle II: Death and Mourning

Reading: SOS 93-95, 110-116; LJL 255-67; TEN 75-84

5. October 31<sup>th</sup> (Devorah)

History I: Overview of Biblical History until the End of the Second Temple

Reading: SOS 10-14, 185-220; LJL 98-99; Interactive timeline:  
<http://www.odyeda.com/en/>

Journal Question: What are the important themes of Biblical history? What do these themes tell us about the meaning of the Jewish story?

6. November 7<sup>th</sup> (Benj)

Introduction to the Tanakh

Journal Question: What are three stories in the Bible that you relate to? What Jewish values do you derive from them?

7. November 14<sup>th</sup> (Benj)

History II: Judaism in the Middle Ages (70 CE-1000 CE): From the Zuggot to Saadya Ga'on

Reading: SOS 233-51, 252-86

Journal Question: What is the story of the Jewish middle Ages and how do you relate to it?

8. December 5<sup>th</sup> (Cookie)

Introduction to Chazal: The Mishnah, Talmud and Midrash

Reading: SOS 218-232, LJL 73 (“Talmud”) - 76

9. December 12<sup>th</sup>

Middle Ages to Early Modernism (1000 CE - 1750CE)

10. January 9<sup>th</sup>

Jewish Literature of the Middle Ages: Responsa, Commentaries, and Codes

11. January 23<sup>rd</sup> (Benj)

The High Holy Days

Reading: SOS 137-52; LJL 152-63; TEN 47-56; Tanakh: Jonah

Journal Question: In thinking about a Jewish New Year, what are some things you think would make a positive change in your life? What emotional baggage do you want to leave behind? What does it take to forgive someone and let go of hurt?

12. January 30<sup>th</sup> (Benj)

Sukkot and Simchat Torah

Reading: SOS 15-36, 172-175; LJL 71-81, 164-70; TEN 57-63; Tanakh: Ecclesiastes

13. February 6<sup>th</sup>

Hanukkah and Purim

Reading: SOS: 175-81, LJL 171-77, 182-5

14. February 13<sup>th</sup>

Modernity and Emancipation in Europe, American Jewish History

Reading: SOS: 313 - 335

15. February 27<sup>th</sup>

Theology and God Ideas

Reading: SOS 37-52, 116-23; TEN 9-17, 29-35; Finding God (whole book)

16. March 6<sup>th</sup>

Passover & Omer

Reading: SOS 153-84; LJL 186-200

17. March 13<sup>th</sup>

Shavuot/Peoplehood/Conversion

Reading: SOS 170-2, 336-57; LJL 205-8, 99-104; Tanakh: Ruth

Reading: SOS 3-9, 53-75, 87-89, 133-5, 407-27, 434-39; LJL 93-99, 249-54; TEN 19-27

18. March 20<sup>th</sup>

The Holocaust and Anti-Semitism

Reading: SOS 133-5, 182, 358-406; LJL 201-4

19. April 3<sup>rd</sup> (Devorah)

Zionism and the Modern Jewish State

20. April 10<sup>th</sup> (Yael)

Trends in Modern Judaism: Jewish Movements and Jewish Feminism

21. May 1<sup>st</sup>

Siyyum (All Faculty)