



# *Course Catalog*

OHR SOMAYACH  
TANENBAUM COLLEGE

**NOTICE:** The College reserves the right to make changes to the information contained in this publication without prior notice, including the fees, schedules and the revision or cancellation of particular courses. Please contact the Office of the Registrar for current information.

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*Message  
From  
the Dean*

Learning for living is certainly the mission statement of any respectable academic institution.

Ohr Somayach - Tanenbaum College has been providing such learning for graduates of high schools and universities throughout the world for close to four decades. The encouraging proof of the impact of the demanding course of study outlined in this course catalog is the success which our students have enjoyed in their advanced academic and professional careers.

No catalog, however, can describe the special atmosphere of campus life which shapes the personality while training the mind. We therefore ask you to view this course catalog as an invitation to enjoy the unique experience of our school.

RABBI MENDEL WEINBACH

## DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Ohr Somayach offers degree-granting programs which prepare students for positions in education and communal leadership. Students in these programs must fulfill the requirements with no less than a B (3.0) average:

### UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

To receive a Bachelors Degree 130 course credits must be successfully completed. Half of these courses must be in the 300 and 400 series. The credits must be earned over a period of no less than eight (8) semesters of which two (2) may be summer semesters.

The following degrees are available: **Bachelor of Judaic Studies (BTS)** **Bachelor Talmudic Law (BTL)**

Any of the above may be combined with a minor in Philosophy, Law or Education by completing at least 30 credits in any of these areas in the 300 and 400 series courses. A student may be required to write an original paper, at the discretion of the Dean, as an additional requirement to earn a Bachelor's degree. The subject matter will be chosen in conjunction with student and a teaching staff member and with the approval of the Dean or a department head.

### TEACHERS CERTIFICATE

A Teachers Certificate may be earned by successfully completing the Ohr Lagolah Leadership Training Program. This certificate is authorized and issued by the Israel Ministry of Education.

This program is a course of studies offered over two years and is additional to the regular undergraduate or graduate courses. It is possible to participate in this program separately or concurrently with a student's regular program.

The certificate is recognized by Jewish educational organizations as an acceptable credential for employment as an educator in the Diaspora.

Teacher Certificate courses are indicated in the Course Catalog as E, S, PSY and CNSL.

### GRADUATE DEGREES

The following graduate degrees are available: **Masters of Judaic Studies (MJS)** **Masters of Talmudic Law (MTL)**

To earn any of the above graduate degrees a minimum of 16 courses must be successfully completed over a period of four semesters, one of which may be a summer semester.

### POST GRADUATE DEGREE (DOCTORATE)

Post graduate degrees are available at the discretion of the Dean of Academic Affairs and approval of a department head.

A major thesis is required illustrating the student's understanding of all major texts of Talmudic, Halachic and/or philosophical nature. The topic must be approved by the Dean and a department head.

The student must display creativity and the ability to produce well grounded novelae.

## CREDITS AND SEMESTERS

CREDITS EARNED per course are dependent on a) classroom hours per week, b) supervised independent study, c) a combination of above.

Credits per course are indicated in Course Descriptions. Extra credit for courses may be issued for special projects at the instructor's discretion.

COURSE NUMBERED with a double number e.g. 110-111 indicate that two semesters of course work are generally expected. However a student may take only the first or second semester with permission from the department head.

A DESIGNATION on a transcript of "a" and "b" added to an existing one semester course indicates that the course was extended to two semesters.

THERE ARE THREE SEMESTERS: Fall, Spring and Summer. Generally the Fall semester begins near September 1st and continues through December or beginning of January. Spring semester begins in the first week of January and continues through middle or end of May. Summer semester begins May/June and continues until July/August.

SUMMER SEMESTER may be divided into two sessions or taken as a full semester with full credit. Those students enrolled in a single session earn approximately half credit.

MINI-SEMESTERS are offered in the winter and summer as specially organized programs. Duration is usually 2-3 weeks. Credits earned are commensurate with the criteria indicated above in "Credits Earned". Course usually indicated as *Judaic Research Seminar*.

## TRANSCRIPTS AND TRANSFER CREDITS

Transcripts of course study, credits earned and grades and degrees are sent to colleges and universities throughout the world. Although many universities have traditionally accepted credits from Ohr Somayach, we cannot guarantee such acceptance and therefore assume no responsibility. (See "Fees and Application")

Credit for course work in other institutions is accepted by Ohr Somayach. These credits may be included as part of the requirements for matriculation. Ohr Somayach reserves the right to decide to and from which institutions credits will be transferred.

Credits from other institutions must be sent sealed directly from that institution and authorized as an official transcript or degree.

## GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for the various courses are generally set by the instructor of the course. This includes verbal and/or written examinations and mid-term and final-term papers. These may be waived at the discretion of the instructor.

Full attendance is required for all courses unless otherwise specified. This includes classroom sessions, tutorials and supervised independent study.

### Grades and Codes

|     |                      |
|-----|----------------------|
| A   | Excellent            |
| A-  | Superior Achievement |
| B+  | Very good            |
| B   | Good                 |
| C   | Passing              |
| F   | Insufficient         |
| W   | Withdrew             |
| AUD | Audit                |

### Quality Points

|    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| A  | 4.0              |
| A- | 3.7              |
| B+ | 3.3              |
| B  | 3.0              |
| B- | 2.7              |
| C  | 2.0              |
| F  | no credit earned |

## COURSE NUMBERS AND LETTER DESIGNATION OF COURSE TITLES

Generally 100s through 400s are undergraduate courses. Generally 500s through 600s are graduate courses. Exceptions are indicated alongside titles of area of study.

Following are the letter and number equivalents:

**B** - Bible

**H** - History

**JL** - Jewish Law

**T** - Talmud

**L** - Language

**P** - Philosophy

**S** - Sociology

**A** - Art

**E** - Education

**PS** - Public Speaking

**PSY** - Psychology

**CNSL** - Counseling

**SMR** - Seminar

**100s** - First level courses

**200s** - Second level courses

**300s** - Third level courses

**400s** - Fourth level courses

**500s** - Graduate First level courses

**600s** - Graduate Second level courses

## APPLICATION AND FEES

Application for Admission forms may be requested from any location listed in the back of this catalog. (Refer to the address closest to you.)

The application must be completed in its entirety and must be accompanied by the \$50.00 non-refundable application fee. Currency of the country from which the application is sent is acceptable but must equal \$50.00 (U.S.).

It is imperative that the applicant read the "Instructions" carefully. Failure to adhere to the instructions may result in non-acceptance of the application and unnecessary delay.

Fees are currently \$12,000 per academic year and cover room, board and tuition. (Health Insurance is not included.) Fees are subject to change. The student must verify the present rate by contacting either the Bursar's office. All financial arrangements must be made with the Bursar before arrival at Ohr Somayach.

**Please note:** *No transcript or certificate or degree will be issued without full payment of outstanding fees. This applies even in the event that reduction or deferment of fees has been mutually agreed upon by the Bursar and student while the student is in the midst of his course work. At the time the student requests credits to be transferred by the Registrar, it must be accompanied by an authorization from the Bursar.*

Generally a personal interview must be conducted prior to enrollment. This requirement may be moderated or waived at the discretion of the institution when the situation so indicates.

## Course Descriptions

### Bible (B)

#### **B 100-101 The Scope of the Pentateuch**- Overview – 3 credits p/semester

Basic course for those with minimal or no exposure to Bible studies. Begins with origins of the Pentateuch from Moses at Sinai and traces its transmission through the generations to present. Course includes outlines of the stories and commandments in order of their appearance in the Pentateuch.

#### **B 102-103 Pentateuch: Rashi Commentary** – 4 credits p/semester

Study of the Book of Genesis following the commentary of Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki (Rashi), 11th century commentator. Dual emphasis is placed upon the translation and grammatical structure of the Biblical Hebrew and the method that the commentator used in explaining the verses. Includes study of other commentaries written during the period 1000 C.E. through 1400 C.E., paying special attention to the commentaries of Abraham Ibn Ezra and Rabbi Moshe ben Nachman (Nachmanides).

#### **B 104-105 Tutorial** - 2 credits p/semester

Senior tutor under the supervision of an instructor guides the student through the Pentateuch in the original Hebrew text, concentrating on translation into English. Secondary emphasis is placed on understanding Rashi's commentaries.

#### **B 106-107 Philosophical Issues in Biblical Commentary** – 2 credits p/semester

In-depth lectures on the major points of each weekly Torah portion. Emphasis on the views of major commentators and motivating the student to probe independently.

#### **B 108-109 Prophets** – 2 credits p/semester

Study of weekly Torah portion Prophet supplement. Contents and relevance to weekly portion.

#### **B 200-201 – Pentateuch – Rashi and Other Medieval Commentaries** – 3 credits p/semester

In-depth examination of the material covered in B 102, plus coverage of the entire Pentateuch. Supplementary commentaries from the Medieval Period will be examined.

#### **B 202-203 Biblical Commentaries** – 2 credits p/semester

Selected excerpts from various commentaries on the Pentateuch are examined for style and content. Material covered according to the weekly Torah portion.

#### **B 204-205 Tutorial** – 2 credits p/semester

Senior tutor under the supervision of an instructor guides the student through weekly portions of the Pentateuch in the original Hebrew text, placing equal emphasis on translation of text and knowledge of Rashi's commentary. Other commentaries will be examined.

#### **B 206-207 Prophets (Neviim)** – 3 credits p/semester

Overview through verse-by-verse translation beginning with the Book of Joshua and generally following the commentaries of Metzudot David and Malbim. Supplementary commentaries will be examined.

#### **B 208-209 Writings (Ketuvim) – (Esther – Ruth – Jonah)** – 2 credits p/semester

Overview of either one or more of aforementioned books, and verse-by-verse translation, generally following the commentary of Metzudot David. Supplementary commentaries will be examined.

**B 210-211 – Pentateuch – Weekly Portion – Overview – 2 credits p/semester**

Discussion of weekly portion. Emphasis on verse by verse content (e.g. narrative and/or commandments).

**B 300-301 Pentateuch – Weekly Portion – Overview – 2 credits p/semester**

The Pentateuch is analyzed with particular emphasis placed on the medieval and post-medieval commentaries covering the weekly portion.

**B 302-303 – Prophets and Writings (Ketuvim) – 3 credits p/semester**

Emphasis is placed on the simple and hidden meaning as revealed by the Talmud and Midrash. Prerequisite B 206-207 or 208-209 or permission of instructor.

**B 304-305 Pentateuch – Post-Medieval and Contemporary Commentaries – 2 credits p/semester**

A study of selected portions of the Pentateuch as analyzed by the post-medieval and contemporary commentators, with particular emphasis on modern relevance.

**B 306-307 Tutorial – 2 credits p/semester**

Senior tutor under the supervision of an instructor guides the student in the original Hebrew text placing equal emphasis on translation of text and comprehension of Rashi commentary. Secondary emphasis on other commentaries. (This course is alternative to B 300-301.)

**B 400-401 – Pentateuch – Weekly Portion with Commentaries – 2 credits p/semester**

In-depth study from a chronological, stylistic and content standpoint. Analysis of the commandments, through various commentaries medieval and modern.

**B 402-403 Latter Prophets – 2 credits p/semester**

Student prepares text independently with concentration on major commentaries. Supervision by instructor or senior mentor.

**B 404 Individual Readings – 2 credits**

Independent study of philosophical and halachic areas in the Pentateuch chosen by the student and his instructor. Student must display an understanding of the major commentaries in each area.

**B 500-501 Pentateuch – Philosophical and Legal (Halachic) Analysis – 2 credits p/semester**

Study of Sefer Hachinuch and related sources. Study of the law (Shulchan Aruch).

**B 600-601 – Continuation of 500-501 – 2 credits p/semester**

Emphasis on philosophical underpinnings.

**History (H)**

— Independent Study under supervision of instructor and/or mentor. Classes by staff and visiting lecturers. Thematic paper increases credit as decided by the staff.

**H 100 History of the Jewish People – Overview – 2 credits**

Development of the Jewish people from Abraham to the present, with particular attention to the Temple periods, redaction of the Mishna and Talmud, the Holocaust and the formation of the State of Israel.

**H 101 Biblical History – 2 credits**

World history from Creation until entrance into Land of Israel. Particular attention is paid to the Patriarchs, the Egyptian bondage and the Siniatic experience.

**H 102 Ancient Civilizations and the Jewish People – 2 credits**

The relationship of the Jewish People to the world's major civilizations, from the creation of man through the Babylonian Exile. Examination of the effect these relationships have had to the present.

**H 200 Post-Second Temple to Talmud: History of the Jewish Communities – 2 credits**

Events from the time of the destruction of the Second Temple to the redaction of the Talmud. Particular emphasis on the personalities who transmitted and compiled the Mishna and the Talmud. Redaction of Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds.

**H 201 Medieval Period 500 C.E. – 1500 C.E. – 2 credits**

The thoughts and writings of the post-Talmudic scholars through the late Kabbalists, and how the dispersion influenced them and the Jewish communities in which they flourished.

**H 300-301 The Jewish Experience in Europe and History of the Sephardic Community – 3 credits p/semester**

Traces the origins of the Jewish community in Europe, the development of Torah centers, the Crusades, the expulsion from Spain, pogroms, ghettos, the Holocaust and its aftermath. The origins of Sephardic communities in various countries: Islamic – Jewish relations, major personalities and leaders, aliyah to Israel and its effects.

**H 302 The Talmudic Periods – The Sages – 2 credits**

Covers the generations from the destruction of the Second Temple through the close of the Babylonian Talmud. Emphasis placed on the personalities who were responsible for transmitting the Torah from generation to generation.

**H 303-304 Contemporary Jewish History and the Holocaust – 2 credits p/semester**

Reading and research in a specific topic or topics under direction of a faculty member. Analysis of the events leading to the Holocaust and its aftermath and the major personalities involved. Overview of the literature of the period, with particular attention to the writings that led to the rise of Nazism and the writings of its victims.

**H 400 The Chassidic Movement – 2 credits**

Explores origins, development and major personalities of the Chassidic movement through the present. Chassidism and its opposition.

**H 401 Development of Judaism in the Twentieth Century – 2 credits**

Focus on intercontinental shifts of Jewish population, effects on religious observance, with its effect on the State of Israel and world Jewry, Zionism and anti-Zionism.

**H 402 Jewish History in the Americas – 2 credits**

Traces the development of the Jewish community from the earliest settlers in the Americas to the present. Emphasis on the 20th century, particularly the development of Jewish education.

**H 500 Jewish History –Contribution to World Society- Research Paper – 2 credits****H 600 Jewish History – Effect on Universal Ethics – Research Paper – 2 credits**

## Jewish Law (JL)

### **JL 100 Foundations of Jewish Law – Overview – 2 credits**

Origins of the Written and Oral Law from its development to the present. Focus on the style of the Yad HaChazakah (Maimonides), Shulchan Aruch (Rabbi J. Karo), Abridged Shulchan Aruch (Rabbi S. Gantzfried), Mishna Brura (Rabbi I.M. Kagan) and Ben Ish Chai (Sephardic) as codifiers of Torah Law.

### **JL 102-103 613 Commandments – 3 credits p/semester**

Overview of the working principles and dynamics of individual commandments. Compares the enumeration of commandments by Maimonides versus Nachmanides.

### **JL 104-105 Basic Laws of Sabbath and/or Kashruth (Dietary laws) – 3 credits p/semester**

Introduction to, and practical application of, the major literature dealing with Sabbath and/or kashruth observance. Focus on roots of the law of Sabbath and/or kashruth observance, definition of the 39 categories of activities forbidden on the Sabbath, and practical application, how kashruth laws are derived from the Pentateuch, and the difference between Divine and rabbinic injunctions. Emphasis on practical application of the laws.

### **JL 106 The Jewish Calendar – Major and Minor Festivals – 2 credits**

Overview of the lunar year's major and minor events, including laws and customs necessary for observance of these days. Lectures prior to each calendar event.

### **JL 107-108 Abridged Code of Law Level I (Kitzur Shulchan Aruch) – 3 credits p/semester**

Foundational course for study of the Code of Law (Shulchan Aruch). Overview of the four orders of Jewish Law.

### **JL 200-201 Laws of Defamation – 3 credits p/semester**

Exploration of the role and limits to freedom of speech and the Torah's injunction against defamation of character, its application in practice and ramifications.

### **JL 202-203 Code of Law – Latter Commentaries – 4 credits p/semester**

Study of the Code of Law, particularly as illustrated by the Mishna Brura (a compendium of all commentaries through early 20th century). Post-Mishna Brura commentaries will also be examined.

**JL 300-301 Code of Law- Latter Commentaries-** 4 p/semester (prerequisite 203-203) Continuation and expansion of the Mishna Brura commentary as in course JL 202-203.

### **JL 400 Law and Medicine Seminar – 2 credits**

Focus is on the laws regulating treatment of the ill and injured, genetic engineering, abortion, euthanasia, plastic surgery and psychiatry. Talmudic/Medical experts will lecture in the majority of class meetings. Course is designed primarily for those involved in the medical sciences. Organized upon request.

### **JL 401 Business Law – 4 credits**

Legal dimensions of commerce as prescribed by the Torah. Includes issues of payment of wages, overcharging for goods and services, deceptive and potentially deceptive business practices.

### **JL 402 Business Ethics – 2 credits**

Covers ethical dimensions of commerce as prescribed by Biblical and Talmudic sources as applied to working within 21st century global economy.

**JL 404-405 Codes of Sabbath Laws- Advanced** – 4 credits p/semester

Major text, Mishnah Brurua (Volume 3) and other appropriate texts- Hebrew and English

**JL 406-407 Codes- Holidays and Fasts** - 3 credits p/semester

Major text, Mishnah Brurua and Fasts and other appropriate texts- Hebrew and English.

**JL 408 Seminar in Contemporary Issues** – 2 credits

Issues of relationship between Religious and Secular Law. Explores Israel particularly and other regions of the globe.

**JL 409-410 Laws of Family Purity**- 3 credits p/semester

A detailed study of the laws governing marital relations as codified by Shulchan Aruch and other appropriate texts and codifiers.

**JL 500-501 Dietary Laws** – 5 credits p/semester

Includes in-depth study of mixtures, Meat and Dairy Laws and koshering process (Salting and Fire processes).

**JL 600-601 Codes- Dietary Laws** – 5 credits p/semester

Ritual slaughtering, preparation of animal and knife and practicum. Includes animals (bovine and ovine) and fowl.

## Talmud (T)

**T 100-101 Mishnaic Texts**- 3 credits p/semester

Various chapters of the Mishna in the original Hebrew text. Excerpts from the six basic orders which comprise the Mishna. Emphasis on translation, comprehension and relationship to the Babylonian Talmud.

**T 102-103 Introduction to Talmud (Oral Law) and Methodology** – 4 credits p/semester

Overview of the Talmud. Instruction in basic Aramaic language and Talmudic analyses through examination of sections from a tractate of the Babylonian Talmud.

**T 200-201 Mishna With Major Commentaries** – 3 credits p/semester

Study of a Tractate of Mishna emphasizing the development of learning skills through insights of the major commentators.

**T 202-203 Talmudic Texts – Rashi and Other Medieval Commentaries** – 5 credits p/semester

Intensive study of Talmud with the aid of commentaries. Ten to fifteen folio pages per semester.

**T 204-205 Encyclopedic Talmudic Study** – 4 credits p/semester

A cursory study of the Babylonian Talmud exposing student to a broader range of topics. One quarter of a folio page per session.

**T 300-301 Talmudic Texts – Latter Commentaries** – 5 credits p/semester

Introduction to latter commentaries written since 1450 with focus also on early commentaries.

**T 302-303 Encyclopedic Talmud Study** - 4 credits p/semester

Expanding the breadth of the student's Talmudic knowledge through study of Rashi commentary and at least one other major commentary. One half of a folio page per session

**T 304 Seminar in Talmudic Logic** – 4 credits

Acquisition of skills in studying the commentaries. Prerequisite: Ability to independently prepare basic Talmudic texts, including the commentaries of Rashi and Tosafot.

**T 307-308 Introduction to Applied Talmudic Law** – 5 credits p/semester

Study of a tractate emphasizing the final halachic (practical) conclusions as condensed in the Code of Law (Shulchan Aruch) and its commentaries. Special topics: Torts, contracts, debtors' and creditors' rights, wills, marriage and divorce, testimony and court procedure.

**T 400-401 Honors Talmud Symposium** – 5 credits p/semester

Exhaustive study of a tractate to develop the ability to integrate all pertinent information. Prerequisite: Ability to independently prepare all the sources presented in the syllabus. Enrollment by permission of the instructor.

**T 402-403 Special Topics – Independent Study** – 5 credits p/semester

Topical study of the Talmud with all relevant commentaries. A major paper presenting original ideas will be required each semester. Topics chosen by the student and the head of the Talmud Department. Minimum 3 topics p/semester.

**T 404-405 Encyclopedic Talmudic Study** – 5 credits p/semester

One half of a folio page per session, including all major early and latter commentaries. Enrollment by permission of the head of the Talmud Department.

**T 500-501 Individual Readings** – 5 credits p/semester

Subject area chosen by the student and a senior faculty member. Major paper. Weekly conference. By permission of the head of the Talmud Department.

**T 502-503 Tractate Chulin** – 5 credits p/semester

Passages relating to Dietary Laws

**T 600-601 Tractate Bava Metziah** – 5 credits p/semester

Passages relating to Laws of Interest and related topics

## Language (L)

**L 100 Fundamentals of Hebrew Language** – 3 credits

Phonetic reading, basic Hebrew vocabulary and primary writing skills.

**L 101-102 Elementary Modern Hebrew** – 3 credits p/semester

Speaking, reading and comprehension skills. Textbooks and newspapers designed for the novice are utilized. Prerequisite: Basic reading and vocabulary skills.

**L 103 Basic Biblical Hebrew** – 3 credits

Study of Biblical Hebrew grammar. Attention focused on commentaries based on linguistic extrapolation.

**L 200-201 Intermediate Modern Hebrew** – 3 credits p/semester

Concentration on speaking, reading comprehension and writing skills. Daily newspapers and letter writing. Prerequisite: L 101-102

**L 300-301 Advanced Modern Hebrew** – 4 credits p/semester

Concentration on comprehension of newspapers, prose, poetry and textbooks. Writing business letters and reports. Prerequisite: L 200-201.

**L 302 Talmudic and Targumic Aramaic** – 3 credits

Focus on interpretation of the Talmud and the Bible. Examines differences between Aramaic utilized in the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds and the Targumic translation of the Bible.

**L 400 Thesis and Theme Writing – Independent Study** – 3 credits

The student and his instructor choose a topic for research. Weekly conferences. Major paper. Prerequisite: Fluency in Biblical and Modern Hebrew. May be taken more than once for credit.

## Philosophy (P)

May be credited as undergraduate or 1st and 2nd year graduate level as indicated.

**P 100-101 Introduction to Judaism** – 3 credits p/semester

Exploration of the philosophical underpinnings of Judaism, deism, monotheism, free will, integration of the Written and Oral Law, immutability of Torah Law, Divine revelation and ethics.

**P 102-103 Issues in Jewish Thought** – 3 credits p/semester

Free will, miracles, male/female relationships, man/G-d and fellowman, meditation, Chassidut, mysticism, Jew/Gentile relationships and good and evil.

**P 104 Philosophy of Prayer** – 3 credits

Overview of the origin and development of prayer to the present. Definition of the parameters of prayer and its place in daily Jewish life.

**P 105 Introduction to Jewish Ethics** – 3 credits

Explores a wide selection of Talmudic, medieval, post-medieval and contemporary ethical writings.

**P 106 Philosophy of Logic** – 3 credits

Deductive logic, philosophical problems of formal logic, truth, meaning and reference.

**P 107 The Kuzari: Judah Halevy's Philosophical Guide** – 3 credits

Study of Hebrew and/or English text according to students' level.

**P 200 Philosophy of Introspection (and Self-Improvement)** – 2 credits

Ethical and spiritual development as seen by medieval and post-medieval Torah scholars. Basic human characteristics are examined from a moral/psychological perspective. Also explores philosophy of moral/psychological introspection.

**P 201 Medieval Jewish Philosophers** – 3 credits

Works of Maimonides, Nachmanides, Rabbeinu Bachya, Ibn Pekuda, Albo, Y. HaLevi, and Rabbeinu Yona of Gerona. Presentation of the essential techniques of each author. Students expected to master selected portions of original texts discussed in lectures.

**P 202 Ethical Works of Rabbi Israel Meir HaKohen – 3 credits**

Overview of the ethical and halachic works of Rabbi Israel Meir HaKohen. In-depth study of one work chosen by the instructor.

**P 203-204 The Way of G-d- “Path of the Just”- Rabbi M.C. Luzzatto – 3 credits p/semester**

Selected portions are examined as an introduction to R. Luzzatto’s works.

**P 301-302 Midrashic Philosophy – 2 credits p/semester**

Ethical teachings of the Midrash following the weekly Torah portions. Main concentration is on Midrash Rabbah and Midrash Tanchuma.

**P 303-304 Philosophical Works of Nachmanides – 3 credits p/semester**

Course focuses on Nachmanides’ commentary on the Torah following the weekly Torah portion. The instructor will integrate the commentator’s writings and discourses with his Torah commentary. Original texts assisted by recent Hebrew and English translation/explanation texts.

**P 306-307 The Eight Chapters of Maimonides – 3 credits p/semester**

Study of Maimonides’ *Anatomy of the Soul*, the soul’s strengths and its relationship to the physical world. Prerequisite: Philosophy 100 or 102.

**P 308 Talmudic Philosophy- 2 credits**

In-depth study of selected Aggadic (non-legal) portions of the Talmud. Emphasis on the philosophical / ethical teachings.

**P 309-310 The Kuzari and Maimonides’ Guide to the Perplexed- 3 credits p/semester**

Study of Maimonides’s *Guide for the Perplexed* and Rabbi Judah HaLevi’s the *Kuzari*: Major discourses on the philosophy of Judaism. HaLevi’s poetry and songs tangential to the *Kuzari* will also be examined. A topical analysis of the two above-mentioned including similarities and differences in approach to philosophical issues and their impact on the general body of philosophy.

**P 311-312 Issues in Jewish Thought – Advanced – 3 credits p/semester (For course description see P102-103.)**

**P 400-401 or 500-501 Works of Rabbi Chaim Luzzatto (Ramchal) – 3 credits p/semester**

In-depth study of portions of three major works by the Ramchal: *The Path of the Just*, *The Way of G-d* and *The Knowing Heart*. Overview of the entire writings. Familiarization of the basic topics covered in these works. Comparison of the principles as presented by the author with other sources in which these principles are found; Talmud and other medieval philosophers.

**P 402-403 or 502-503 Works of Rabbi Loewe of Prague (Maharal)- 3 credits p/semester**

In-depth study of portions of the major works of the Maharal. Overview of his entire writings.

**P 404 or 504 Metaphysics – 3 credits**

Examination of selected portions of works of the major Torah philosophers pertaining to the field of metaphysics. Views the ultimate nature of existence, reality and experience.

**P 405-406 or 505-506 Maimonides’ Book of Knowledge- 3 credits p/semester**

Course presented in two sections, one dealing with the Laws of Moral Disposition, and the second with the Laws of Repentance.

**P 600 Advanced Topics in Philosophy- Independent Study- 3 credits**

Student must display an ability to analyze and explain all the major works pertaining to a topic agreed upon by the student and the instructor. The paper must present an original idea, supported by research.

**P 601 Survey of Jewish Philosophy**- 3 credits

Examination of philosophical concepts concerning the Written and Oral Laws, the Land of Israel, medical ethics, contemporary issues, Jewish history, commandments and their rationale, and Kabbalah.

**Sociology (S)****S 300 Jewish Social Theory**- 2 credits

The principles of individual and group dynamics which have characterized the Jewish People from antiquity to the present, as seen through works of major Torah philosophers.

**S 400 or 500 The Jewish Family- A Life of Torah**- 2 credits

Basic structure of the family unit founded upon the teachings of Torah. The ideal model of the Jewish man and the Jewish woman. Father, mother and grandparents as role models for children. Childhood development. Educational system inside and outside the home. Courtship, marriage and divorce. Death and mourning. Crime and juvenile delinquency.

**S 401-402 or 501-502 Practical Problems**- 3 credits

Practical application of the relevant Jewish Law pertaining to problems arising in such areas as Jewish life in countries outside of Israel, bar mitzvah, circumcision, marriage and family life, funerals, kashruth, Sabbath, family purity, Israeli Independence Day, and conversion.

**S 403 or 503 Individual Readings- Directed Study**- 2 credits

The student and his instructor agree on a sociological topic to be explored from a Torah perspective. In-depth study and weekly conferences. Paper required.

**P 404 or 504 Sociology and Public Relations**- 2 credits

Guest lecturers representing various interest groups in Israel and abroad will speak on issues they are advocating. The student must present a written analysis / critique of each address.

**Education (E)**

May be credited as undergraduate or 1st and 2nd year graduate level as indicated.

**E 400 or 500 History and Overview of Jewish Education** – 3 credits p/semester

Includes the history of Jewish education, the development of Jewish educational systems to the present. Special attention is paid to the major pedagogical masters of the past century and their achievements.

**E 401-402 or 501-502 Educational Psychology and Counseling** – 3 credits p/semester

Overview of the field of psychology. Emphasis on standard educational psychology with special attention paid to recent innovations. Provides the student with the fundamental skills required for educational counseling, including identifying learning disorders and distinguishing between learning disorders and social pathology.

**E 403-404 or 503-504 Pedagogy and Methodology** – 3 credits p/semester

Focuses on the teaching of specific subjects and the problems involved with teaching various subjects. Discusses various approaches to pedagogy, including modern innovations. In-depth analysis of standard educational practices, including the student-teacher relationship, classroom management and discipline, lesson preparation and presentation, tests and measurements.

**E 500-501 or 600-601 Practice Teaching** – 3 credits p/semester

Student teaching in a local school under the mentorship of an experienced teacher. Video-taping the student teaching and analysis of his presentation.

**E 502-503 or 602-603 Teaching Jewish Philosophy** – 3 credits p/semester

Focuses on the effective teaching of Jewish Philosophy. How to build a framework of philosophical concepts, and how to present conflicting approaches.

**E 504-505 or 604-605 Teaching Jewish Literature** – 3 credits p/semester

Methodology of teaching the Torah, Prophets and Writings to students with different levels of comprehension and Jewish educational backgrounds through familiarity with the Books of the Bible. Prerequisite: In-depth familiarity with the aforementioned materials.

**E 506 or 606 Teaching Adult Education** – 3 credits

Methods for educating parents regarding understanding of their children's education. Methods, organization and goals of education for adults; classroom and individual settings. Young adult education. Male and female roles in Jewish education.

## **Public Speaking (PS)**

Graduate level only except by special permission

**PS 500-501 or 600-601 Methodology of Verbal Public Communication** – 3 credits p/semester

Focuses on self-awareness, principles of oratory including speech preparation, speech presentations, non-verbal communication, homiletics, advocacy (preparation and presentation), intra-group communication, dialogue and group leadership. The student will publicly address the class and have his presentation video-taped and critiqued.

Class may be in English or Hebrew according to demand.

## **Psychology and Counseling (PSY-CNSL)**

May be credited as undergraduate or 1st and 2nd year graduate level.

**PSY-CNSL 400-401 or 500-501 Introduction to Basic Psychology** – 3 credits p/semester

Study of various schools of psychology such as Freud, Jung, Adler, Erikson, Piaget and Frankl. Defining and recognizing psychopathology such as neurosis, psychosis, manic-depressive, obsessive-compulsive disorder, sexual dysfunctions.

**PSY-CNSL 502-503 or 600-601 The Child and His Family** – 3 credits p/semester

Focus on diagnosis of dysfunction in parent/child relationships and the appropriate treatment. Working with the child and/or parents in guiding them to cope with the problems of child-rearing. Analysis of the states and methods of child and adolescent growth and development. Emphasis on appropriate discipline and constructive criticism and how children should deal with their emotions. Sibling dynamics. Parent-teacher relationship and communication.

**CNSL 504-505 or 602-603 Introduction to Counseling** – 3 credits p/semester

Marriage (including second marriages), family dynamics, single parents, adoption, sexual dysfunctions, major life-style crises, professional and vocational direction, terminal illnesses and death.