

# Adult Education

## Adult Education | Curriculum 5780 | 2019 – 2020

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וציונו  
לעסוק בדברי תורה

PRAISED ARE YOU, OUR ETERNAL GOD, SOVEREIGN  
OF THE UNIVERSE, WHO MAKES US HOLY WITH YOUR  
COMMANDMENTS AND WHO COMMANDS US TO  
ENGAGE IN MATTERS OF TORAH.

**Guided by, and grounded in, our sacred Jewish texts and traditions, we are committed to teaching and learning that embraces, inspires, and matters to our congregation and community at every age and level.**

At Temple Sholom, we:

- instill Jewish values
- further the development of a strong and positive Jewish identity, and
- cultivate an appreciation for Jewish history, culture and language

resulting in deep resilience, empathy for others, and a meaningful spiritual context for our modern lives not only as Jews, but as humans. Through our engaging and inclusive approach, our education program aims to create and deepen the connection of members to their lifecycle events, the synagogue, each other, and to the broader Jewish community.

# Adult Education | Overview & Schedule

## Usage

This course and event catalogue provides an overview of offerings for the 2019 – 2020 academic year. The following course listings are organized by date and by subject matter, followed by detailed course descriptions.

## Cost

Courses and events are free to members, and \$50 per course for non-members, except as noted.

## Textbooks

Required textbooks are listed by course. Students are responsible for purchasing their own books. Bring your textbook on the first day of class.

## Registration

Please register on our website at [sholomchicago.org/adult-education](https://sholomchicago.org/adult-education) or contact [lori@sholomchicago.org](mailto:lori@sholomchicago.org) or 773-435-1531.

Please note that some courses require additional online registration.

These links are available at [sholomchicago.org/adult-education](https://sholomchicago.org/adult-education).

# Sundays

TIME	LOCATION	KICK-OFF SEPT. 8	FALL A SEPT. 15, 22	FALL B OCT. 20, 27	FALL B NOV. 3, 10, 17, 24	FALL B NOV. 10, 17, 24	WINTER A DEC. 8, 15	WINTER A DEC. 15	WINTER B JAN. 26, FEB. 2, 9	WINTER C FEB. 23	WINTER C MAR. 1	SPRING A MAR. 15, 22	SPRING A MAR. 29	SPRING B APR. 26, MAY 3, 10	SIYYUM MAY 17
1 <sup>ST</sup> PERIOD 9:30 – 10:30 AM	Moadon		Focus on the Yamim Noraim: The Days of Awe	Leaving Iran	Two Books, One Sholom: Book Discussions	The Moment Judaism Began		Focus on the Holidays: Chanukah	Sacred Symphonies: Music As Midrash	History of Jewish Chicago	Focus on the Holidays: Purim	Prayer & Worship 101		I'm Cold, Put On A Sweater - What Americans Get Wrong About Israel	Focus on the Holidays: Shavuot
	Room 415		Introduction to Biblical Hebrew				Introduction to Biblical Hebrew				Introduction to Biblical Hebrew				
2 <sup>ND</sup> PERIOD 10:45 – 11:45 AM	Moadon	Focus on the Yamim Noraim: The Days of Awe	Primo Levi's Most Famous Poem: Shema	A Tale of Love and Darkness				Life Stories & Legacy: Our Jewish Journeys	Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month Presentation	Two Books, One Sholom: Book Discussions		Focus on the Holidays: Passover	Taking God Seriously (APR 19-26)		
	Room 415		Hebrew Prayer and Text Reading				Hebrew Prayer and Text Reading				Hebrew Prayer and Text Reading				
	Mezz.		Reform Responsa												

## Sunday - Guest Scholar Classes

TIME	LOCATION	OCT. 20	OCT. 27	NOV. 3	NOV. 10	NOV. 17	DEC. 8	FEB. 2	MAR. 15	MAR. 22	MAR. 29	APR. 19
1 <sup>ST</sup> PERIOD 9:30 – 10:30 AM	Gallery		Be a Blessing: Raise Your Jewish Consciousness and Encounter the Infinite				The Schmear					Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World
2 <sup>ND</sup> PERIOD 10:45 – 11:45 AM	Gallery	Writing as a Spiritual Practice		Prayer & Worship 101			What Are We Doing When We Say 'Amen'?	Reproductive Rights and Jewish Values Brunch	Twisted Scriveners of the Tribe: Just How Jewish Is Cartooning?			

# Adult Education | Schedule

## Mondays

TIME	LOCATION	FALL NOV.	WINTER DEC. – MAY	WINTER JAN. – FEB.	SPRING APR.
6:45 – 8:45 PM	Beit Midrash	Taste of Judaism	Introduction to Judaism		Taste of Judaism
	Clonick Youth Lounge (CYL)			Taste of Judaism	
TIME	LOCATION	NOV. – MAY			
7:00 PM	Bettie Port Hall	Cliff Scott-Rudnick: Monthly Film Series			

## Tuesdays

TIME	LOCATION	OCT. 15 – DEC.	JAN. – APR. 7	APR. 14 – MAY
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Beit Midrash	Rabbi Rossoff	Rabbi Gelman	Rabbi Conover

## Wednesdays

TIME	LOCATION						
10:00 – 11:30 AM	Clonick Youth Lounge (CYL)						

## Fridays

TIME	LOCATION	NOV. – JUN.
12:00 – 1:00 PM	TradeLink LLC 71 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 1900	Rabbi Rossoff: Monthly Downtown <i>Talmud</i> Study

## Shabbat Morning

TIME	LOCATION	
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Beit Midrash	Clergy team: Weekly Shabbat Morning Minyan & Torah Study (year-round)

# Sunday Class Series



## Focus on the Holidays

Rabbi Don and Fran Rossoff

**SUNDAYS**

**DEC. 15 | 9:30 AM | Chanukah**

**MAR. 1 | 9:30 AM | Purim**

**MAR. 29 | 10:45 AM | Passover**

**MAY 17 | 9:30 AM | Shavuot**



## Sacred Symphonies: Music As Midrash

Rabbi Don Rossoff

**SUNDAYS | JAN. 26, FEB. 2, 9  
9:30 AM**

The Bible has inspired creative *midrash* (interpretation) not just by ancient rabbis but by musicians, artists and poets throughout the ages, including modern Jewish classical composers. In this three-part class, we will listen to and analyze three Biblically based modern compositions: Bloch's Shelomo Rhapsody, Bernstein's Jeremiah Symphony and his Chichester Psalms.

*No musical background necessary.*



## Writing as a Spiritual Practice

Rabbi Shoshanah Conover

**SUNDAY | OCT. 20 | 11 AM**

We will explore how poetry writing can be an outlet for our creativity and spiritual connection gathering inspiration from Psalms.

## Reproductive Rights and Jewish Values Brunch

Hosted by Women of Temple Shalom

Rabbi Shoshanah Conover

**SUNDAY | FEB. 2 | 10:45 AM**

## “Two Books, One Shalom.” Book Discussions

Rabbi Shoshanah Conover

- ***An American Summer: Love and Death in Chicago*** by Alex Kotlowitz

**SUNDAY | NOV. 3 | 9:30 AM**

Alex Kotlowitz visits Temple Shalom Friday, January 17!

- ***Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition***

by Yossi Klein Halevi

**SUNDAY | MAR. 1 | 11 AM**

## I'm Cold, Put On A Sweater - What Americans Get Wrong About Israel

Rabbi Shoshanah Conover

**SUNDAYS | APR. 26, MAY 3, 10 | 9:30 AM**

Eavesdrop on a fascinating and enlightening conversation from July 17, 2019, with two Israeli thought leaders from the Shalom Hartman Institute. As we listen, we will reflect on what we want to get right when it comes to Israel.



## Prayer & Worship 101

Cantor Sheera Ben-David

**SUNDAYS**

**NOV. 3, 10, 17 | 11:00 AM**

**MAR. 15, 22, 29 | 9:30 AM**

**TUESDAYS**

**NOV. 5, 12, 19, MAR. 3, 10, 17 | 4:30 PM**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**NOV. 6, 20, DEC. 4, MAR. 4, 11, 18 | 6:30 PM**

Deepen your understanding of the main Jewish prayers and Sacred Music within our Shabbat services and Jewish Liturgy. Cantor Ben-David will spend time delving into worship, prayer comprehension and the choreography that guides us when we pray.

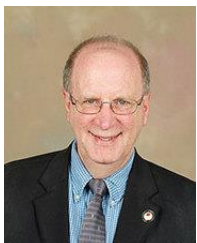


## A Tale of Love and Darkness

Roberta Schwartz

**SUNDAY | OCT. 20, 27,  
NOV. 3, 10, 17, 24  
10:45 AM**

A recent *New York Times* selection of the 50 best memoirs written within the last half century included Amos Oz's reflection on his early life, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*. The text is easily available in used & unused copies & at your local library. Please read the first 50 pages in advance of the opening session.



## Reform Responsa

Cliff Scott-Rudnick

**SUNDAYS | DEC. – MAY | 10:45 AM**

Is it kosher to eat dinosaur meat? Is it kosher to eat fish in the shape of a shrimp? Jewish status and the Ten Lost Tribes. We will review Reform Responsa

by discussing contemporary Jewish issues in an open forum and then review the findings of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR).

## Guest Scholar Series



## My Iran: Memories, Mysteries, & Myths

Isaac Yomtovian

**SUNDAY | OCT. 20 | 9:30 AM**

Covering his life in Iran, Israel, and the U.S., Yomtovian has much to tell about being one of the few Jews living among a Muslim majority. His book describes the power of Muslim religious authorities on the majority population, the author's life in the U.S., and illustrates the combination of his Americanization with the retention of certain Iranian traits.



## Be a Blessing:

**Raise Your Jewish Consciousness and Encounter the Infinite**

Tzivia Garfinkel

**SUNDAYS | OCT. 27, NOV. 3, 10 |  
9:30 AM**

We will examine the essential meaning of the idea of "bracha" or blessing when it is first introduced in the Torah. We will then examine the structure and design of the basic bracha formula, and how it is part of formal and informal prayer.



## The Book of Jeremiah:

**a novel in stories**

Julie Zuckerman

**MONDAY | OCT. 28 | 7:00 PM**

We will discuss the inspiration and research behind The Book of Jeremiah, touching on themes of family, forgiveness and hope, as well as questions of her characters' Jewish and American identities. She will read from her work and share thoughts about the writing life.



## The Moment Judaism Began

Rabbi Steven Bob

**SUNDAY | NOV. 10 | 9:30 AM**

Books of Ezra and Nehemiah describe a dynamic period in the narrative of our people. We will look closely at key verses from Ezra and Nehemiah which reveal the emergence of new rituals and the birth of Judaism.



## “The Schmeat” Podcast: Exploring Your Jewish Identity Through Jewish Food

Beth Schenker

**SUNDAY | DEC. 8 | 9:30 AM**

Join Beth Schenker for an exploration of all the richness and history that make the subject of Jewish food so enticing. Beth, the host and Executive Producer of *The Big Schmeat*, will share excerpts and stories from her podcast episodes, providing interesting anecdotes with a behind the scenes look how her podcast came to life.



## What Are We Doing When We Say “Amen”?

Sanford C. Goldberg

**SUNDAY | DEC. 8 | 10:45 AM**

Using tools from the philosophy of language to explore the significance of saying “Amen.” Let’s seek to understand not only why this word is apt in religious contexts (i.e., after prayers) but why there has developed a secular usage as well. This approach will be contrasted with leading theories from the rabbinic tradition.



## Life Stories & Legacy: Our Jewish Journeys

**A Three-Part Series on Faith & Writing**

Ellen Blum Barish

**SUNDAYS | JAN. 26, FEB. 2, 9 | 10:45 AM**

### Part I: The Legacy Letters

In this workshop, we will read excerpts from older texts to get a feel for how values and ethics have been articulated over the years. We will identify some of our own values and get some thoughts onto the page. You will leave the workshop with prompts to help you explore them on your own.

### Part II: Faith Formation

Our children have their own idea about God, Torah, the soul and the people in their lives. We will look at examples of children’s writing and talk about ways we can support and guide children on their Jewish spiritual journeys.

### Part III: Before I Go

An ethical will helps us pass along stories and wisdom that create a spiritual legacy. They address questions that may not come up during daily conversation such as, What makes a good life? What are sources of hope in your life? Or how do you see God? We’ll talk about the potency of unearthing significant spiritual memories and shaping them into words for generations to come.



## Jewish History of Chicago: Jews, Housing and the Contract Buyers League

Rabbi Aryeh Bernstein

**SUNDAY | FEB. 23 | 9:30 AM**

Learn from Rabbi Aryeh Bernstein, Director of the Justice Fellowship in Chicago & Educational Consultant for the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, about the complicated role Jews have had in shaping Chicago neighborhoods and housing policy.



## Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month Presentation: History of Jewish Chicago – Friedman Place

Alexander Brown

**SUNDAY | FEB. 23 | 10:45 AM**

Come learn about the history of Friedman Place and how it changed – along with its Jewish character – over nearly nine decades to its current incarnation as a modern nonprofit specially designed to serve the needs of people who are disabled and blind.



## Twisted Scriveners of the Tribe: Just How Jewish Is Cartooning?

Ken Krimstein

**SUNDAYS | MAR. 15, 22, 29  
10:45 AM**

Beyond Superman's creators, Jews have a rich history with comics. Think *The New Yorker* covers since the 1920's. And then there was *Maus*, the memoir that defined a new genre of graphic novels. Together, we'll explore what exactly it is about the *Yiddisher Kop* (and hand) that has helped create what Art Spiegelman describes as, "the art of turning time back into space."



## Book Launch! Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World

Roberta Kwall

**SUNDAY | APR 19 | 9:30 AM**

"Remix Judaism," Kwall's new book, illustrates the process of "remix" by discussing selection, rejection and modification of Jewish rituals and encourages readers to find their own personal meaning in Judaism by broadening their understanding of how law, culture and tradition fit together.



## Taking God Seriously

Rabbi Michael Zedek

**SUNDAYS | APR. 19 & 26 | 10:45 AM**

What are the options for God ideas that are other than a literal notion of what seems to be in the Bible or an embrace of atheism?

## What It Means To Be Wise

Janet Belsky

**DATE AND TIME TBD**

## Sunday Hebrew



## Introduction to Biblical Hebrew

Mitchell Brown

**SUNDAYS | SEP. – MAY | 9:30 AM**

Learn to read Hebrew and the basics of the Hebrew language. The class will

focus on the rudiments of grammar, supplementing our studies with texts from *Torah* and the *Siddur*. The class is recommended for the absolute beginner as well as those who have some knowledge of Hebrew grammar.\*

**\*Class Textbook:** *The First Hebrew Primer* (Simon, Resnikoff and Motzkin, eds.). We also suggest getting the accompanying answer book. Please try to familiarize yourself with the Aleph-Bet (pages 3 - 12) before the first class.

## Hebrew Prayer and Text Reading

Mitchell Brown

**SUNDAYS | SEPT. – MAY | 10:45 AM**

Intended for those who can read and have some basic understanding of Hebrew grammar. We will build on this knowledge by reading and translating prayers and sections of *Torah* including Friday night service prayers, and the Ten Commandments. In-depth knowledge is not required, as we the texts to become more familiar with Biblical and Prayer Book Hebrew.



# Regular Study Groups

## Monthly Film Night

Cliff Scott-Rudnick

**1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAYS, NOV. – JUNE, 7:00 PM**

Join us for the screening and discussion of movies with a Jewish theme.

## Daf Shevui: A Weekly Study of a Page of Talmud

### Laws & Legends of Appreciating & Repairing Our Relationship with God

Rabbis Rossoff, Conover and Gellman

**TUESDAYS OCT. 15 – MAY | 8:30 – 9:30 AM**

**OCT. 15 – DEC. 31 | Rabbi Rossoff**

**JAN. 7 – APR. 7 | Rabbi Gellman**

**APR. 14 – MAY 26 | Rabbi Conover**

Join our Rabbis to study a page of *Talmud* each week in Tractate *Brachot* from the Babylonian *Talmud*. Over this year-long course, we will explore the stories and meaning within the pages and sharpen our *Talmud* skills.

## Shabbat Morning Minyan and Torah Study

Rabbis Rossoff, Conover and Gellman

**SATURDAYS | 9:00 – 10:30 AM**

## Weekly Wednesday Morning Study Group

Rabbi Rossoff, Rabbi Conover, Rabbi Gellman, Cantor Ben-David, Jay Rapoport, RJE and Karen Titus

**WEDNESDAYS | 10:00 – 11:30 AM**

### Topics:

- **Focus on Holidays**

Rabbi Rossoff

- **Jews, God, and History**

Rabbi Conover

- **Origins of Reform Judaism**

Rabbi Gellman

- **Prayer & Worship 101**

Cantor Ben-David

- **Hineih Mah Tov (How Good It Is)**

Jay Rapoport



- **Summer Book Discussion**

Karen Titus

## Monthly Downtown Talmud Study

### Topic: Civil Law: Worker & Employee Rights

at TradeLink LLC | 71 S. Wacker Dr. | Ste. 1900

Rabbi Rossoff

**1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAYS, NOV. – JUNE | 12:00 – 1:00 PM**

Make *Talmud* study a fixed habit.

RSVP needed in advance to be on security list.

# Introduction to Judaism Classes

## A Taste of Judaism

Rabbi Rossoff, Rabbi Conover, Rabbi Gellman, Cantor Ben-David and Jay Rapoport, RJE

### MONDAY EVENINGS

NOV. 4, 11, 18 | 6:45 - 8:45 PM

OR JAN. 27, FEB. 3, 10 | 6:45 - 8:45 PM

OR APR. 6, 13, 20 | 6:45 - 8:45 PM

A free, 3-session class for beginners — Jewish or not — that explores the topics of Jewish spirituality, ethics and community values that will be offered three times this year. This class is designed for those who would like to explore or re-explore the foundations of our traditions and are looking for an entry into Jewish life. Note: this course is offered in conjunction with the Union for Reform Judaism.

Register online at [reformjudaism.org/learning/judaism-classes](https://reformjudaism.org/learning/judaism-classes)

## Introduction to Judaism

Rabbi Rossoff, Rabbi Conover, Rabbi Gellman, Cantor Ben-David, and Jay Rapoport, RJE

### MONDAY EVENINGS

DEC. 2 – MAY 4 | 6:45 - 8:45 PM

This 18-week overview to Judaism provides an opportunity to learn about Jewish history, traditions, holidays and life cycle ceremonies. Participants will gain comfort and familiarity with the symbols, liturgy, music, traditions and Hebrew blessings that accompany Jewish celebrations in the home and synagogue. Introduction to Judaism is designed for individuals and couples wishing to explore Judaism, as well as for those considering becoming Jewish. Partners in interfaith relationships are encouraged to enroll together.

**Note:** this course is offered in conjunction with the Union for Reform Judaism. Tuition is \$310 for individuals and couples and includes books. Scholarship funds are available for those for whom the tuition is a hardship – please contact Jay Rapoport.

# The Rabbi Frederick C. Schwartz Library

## Visit Our Online Library Catalog!

Daniel Stuhlman, Temple Sholom Librarian



The Rabbi Frederick C. Schwartz Library on the fourth floor of Temple Sholom is a resource for both the congregation and the wider community. The Library houses a collection of nearly 6,000 titles for adults and 2,000 titles for children and is open during Religious School and Temple weekday business hours.

The Temple Library online catalog is available on [sholomchicago.org](https://sholomchicago.org) on the library tab under “learn.” There are links to other Judaica reference sources, Jewish RSS news feed, and online resources for early childhood. The direct link is: [tsc.hl.scololaid.net/bin/home](https://tsc.hl.scololaid.net/bin/home).

For more information, contact Daniel D. Stuhlman at [librarian@sholomchicago.org](mailto:librarian@sholomchicago.org) (or visit him on Wednesday mornings in the library!).

## Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Technically, a Jew becomes *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* simply by turning 13 (traditionally, 12 for girls). Nevertheless, the thrill of being called to the Torah for the first time as a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* is a right that anyone can earn any time with guided preparation and a commitment to study:

We offer the opportunity to acquire the skills necessary to read from the *Torah*, write a *d'var Torah* and reflect on the *Torah* portion as an adult. Our program is tailored to the needs of the individual, but consists of the following components:

- An Introduction to Judaism or Other Adult Education Course
- Hebrew Training
- One-On-One Study with a clergy member
- Periodic seminars with other adult “*Bar/Bat Mitzvah*”

The clergy of Temple Sholom would love to help make this happen! Pending sufficient interest, a new cohort may begin in 2021.list.

Please contact [lori@sholomchicago.org](mailto:lori@sholomchicago.org) to add your name to the interest list.

Register online at [reformjudaism.org/learning/judaism-classes](https://reformjudaism.org/learning/judaism-classes)

# Registration Form

Visit [sholomchicago.org/adult-education](http://sholomchicago.org/adult-education) to register online

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**NAME OF REGISTRANT(S)**

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**PHONE**

**EMAIL**

We will communicate with you via email in the event of a class cancellation, or to occasionally forward materials from your teacher.

- I am a member of Temple Sholom
- I am NOT currently a member of Temple Sholom. I have included my \$50 tuition fee for each Sunday morning course for which I am registered

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**ADDRESS OF REGISTRANT(S) - if not a member of Temple Sholom**

Please make checks payable to Temple Sholom of Chicago.

**PLEASE REGISTER ME/US FOR THE FOLLOWING COURSE(S) OR EVENT(S):**

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**COURSE SESSION**

**(FALL / WINTER / SPRING)**

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**COURSE SESSION**

**(FALL / WINTER / SPRING)**

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**COURSE SESSION**

**(FALL / WINTER / SPRING)**

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**COURSE SESSION**

**(FALL / WINTER / SPRING)**



RETURN THIS FORM AND ANY REQUIRED PAYMENT TO:

## Temple Sholom of Chicago

3480 North Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60657-2898

[lori@sholomchicago.org](mailto:lori@sholomchicago.org)

773-435-1531 phone

773-525-4710 fax