



**Congregation Beth Israel  
Adult Education**

*Bringing instruction, insight, and inspiration to our community*

18 Shalom Way Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 (908) 889-1830



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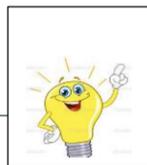
**University of Congregation Beth Israel  
Adult Education**

**Course Catalog - 5774/2013-2014**

18 Shalom Way

Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

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**Comments & Suggestions**

Don't see something listed here that you would like to learn? Have a suggestion, or a comment about this brochure? Please send your thoughts in an email to our Education Direction, Elly Bauman, at [school@cbinj.org](mailto:school@cbinj.org).

Thank you to the synagogue clergy and professional staff for their contributions to the program, and to congregant Dov Ehrlich, proprietor of 1-2-3 Quick Print in Perth Amboy, for printing this brochure.

# JTS CONTEXT SEMINARS AT CBI

**Tuition Policy: Individual classes are \$10 each. One annual payment of \$18 will permit attendance to all classes, except where an additional fee is noted.**



Instructor: Rabbi Nudell

## Course Title: *The Haftarah Revealed*

**Course Description:** Join Rabbi Nudell as he teaches adults the ins and outs of the haftarah. The class sessions will cover the historical background for the institution of the haftarah, as well as a survey of different messages contained in the haftarahs throughout the year. He will also discuss the meaning behind both blessings, both before and after the haftarah reading.

**Dates:** Sunday mornings, 9:30AM – 10:45AM, October 27, November 3, November 24 and December 8

**Instructor:** Rabbi Nudell

**Course Title:** *Monthly Mishnah*

**Course Description:** Discover the text of the oral law, or Mishnah, in monthly classes. The Rabbi will introduce us to various teachings found in the Mishnah, and how they shape our practice of Judaism today.

**Dates:** Wednesday evenings, 7:00PM – 8:00 PM, October 16, November 20, December 18, January 29, February 19, March 19 and May 21.



**Instructor:** Cantor Axelrod

**Course Title:** *Music Through the Ages - From the Siddur*

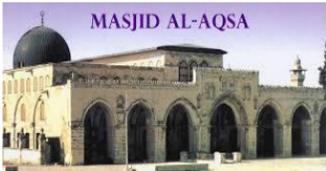
**Course Description:** Explore the melodies of the prayers in the siddur from both Shabbat and holiday services. Learn how the tunes from a specific era are representative of that time, and why they have been consistently preserved throughout the years.



The Temple



The Church of the Holy Sepulcher



Al-Aqsa Mosque

**Instructor:** Dr. Jonathan Gribetz, Rutgers University

## Course Title: *Jerusalem Contested: Readings, Analysis and Discussion*

**Course Sponsor:** Institute for Jewish Learning of the Jewish Theological Seminary

**Course Description:** Jerusalem is considered a holy city to three faiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. In this Context Seminar, we will learn the history of Jerusalem, from its founding in pre-biblical times, until the present. Using a wide range of sources, including biblical lamentations, archeological excavations, qur'anic passages, medieval pilgrim itineraries, modern poetry, and political negotiating handbooks, Dr. Gribetz will reconstruct Jerusalem's past, and help us to understand it from the perspectives of Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

**Course Registration:** Register online by September 16, 2013—www.jtsa.edu/context/registration

**Course Fee:** \$425. For information about scholarships available for this class, contact Lynn Feinman at lyfeinman@jtsa.edu.

**Dates:** Monday evenings, 7:00PM – 9:30PM, October 7, 14, 21 and 28, and November 4, 11, 18 and 25.

**Instructor:** Dr. Gary Rendsburg, Rutgers University

## Course Title: *The Bible Through Literary Eyes*

**Course Sponsor:** Institute for Jewish Learning of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

**Course Description:** This course will focus on the literary artistry of the Bible by examining the manner in which language and literature intersect to create the prose and poetry of the Bible, and how recent translations of the Bible reflect this linkage. We will learn how people in ancient Israel heard and read this literature, and survey the literary-linguistic devices the Bible uses. We will study the narratives on the creation of the world, Abraham, Jacob and Joseph, as well as sections of the legal and cultic material, the stories of Deborah and Yael, and David and Bathsheba.

**Course Registration:** Registration will take place later this fall--www.jtsa.edu/context/registration

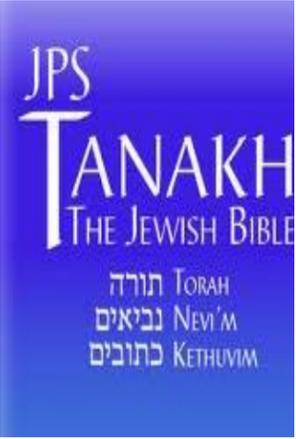
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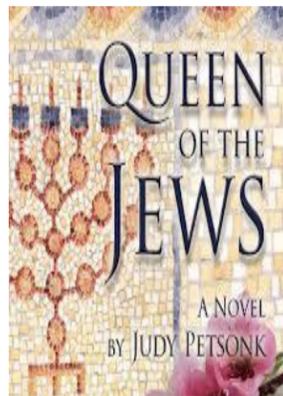
Lynn Feinman at lyfeinman@jtsa.edu.

Dates: Monday evenings, 7:00PM – 9:45PM,

Eight classes,

Beginning February 3.





Judy Petsonk

**Instructor:** Judy Petsonk

**Course Title: *Queen of the Jews—An Unknown Heroine***

**Course Description:** Was there really a Jewish queen, (other than Esther)? Indeed there was—Salome Alexandra, called Queen Shalom-Zion by the Jews of the Second Commonwealth. Come learn the fascinating story of perhaps the most influential (and mostly forgotten) woman in Jewish history, as told by Judy Petsonk, author of the book, “Queen of the Jews.” Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.

**Dates:** Sunday morning, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM, January 26.



**Instructor:** Kol Halayla

**Course Title: *A Cappella Concert***

**Course Description:** Come and enjoy a performance by the Rutgers University Jewish a cappella group, Kol Halayla. They will sing contemporary Israeli and American songs in Hebrew and in English.

**Dates:** Saturday night, January 8, 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Doors will open at 7:45PM, and refreshments will be served after the concert.

**Course Fee:** \$18 per person

**Instructor:** Rabbi Dr. Joseph Novick

**Course Title: *The Torah Guide to Individual Rights and Community Needs: Congruence or Conflict?***

**Course Description:** Dr. Novick will explain how various passages on ethical laws, written in the Talmud, the Code of Jewish Law, the Bible and in related commentaries, apply to contemporary issues. These issues include business ethics, deceptive practices, false advertising, government regulation, social welfare, equality, taxes and capitalism.

**Dates:** Wednesday evenings, 7:30PM – 8:45PM, January 8, 15 and 22.



**Instructor:** Cantor Axelrod

**Course Title: *Torah Trope***

**Course Description:** Come and learn Torah trope. After participating in this class, you will be able to chant a Torah reading for a bar/bat mitzvah, and at any other Shabbat morning service.

**Dates:** Sunday mornings, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, September 29 and October 6.

# SHABBAT CLASSES

**Instructor:** Rabbi Nudell

**Course Title: *Seudah Shlisheet***

**Course Fee:** \$10 per session.

**Course Description:** Join us on a Saturday afternoon for the traditional third Shabbat meal, davening and a lively discussion led by the Rabbi.

**Dates:** Saturday afternoon, January 11 and February 22. (The times will be announced closer to the dates.)

**Course Fee:** \$10 per session.



## Shabbat Shalom CBI!

**Instructor:** Rabbi Nudell and Cantor Axelrod

**Course Title: *Shabbat Shalom CBI***

**Course Description:** In this weekly email newsletter, you will find:

- An overview of the weekly Torah reading
- A D’var Torah on the parsha
- A description of a custom or ritual we observe that originated in that week’s parsha
- A D’var Tefillah on one of the prayers from our services

**Dates:** Every Thursday afternoon.

**Course Title: *Scholar-In-Residence Shabbat***

**Course Description:** Reserve this Shabbat for a scholar-in-residence program we hope to confirm in the fall.

**Dates:** Friday evening, April 25 and Saturday, April 26, 2014

**Instructor:** Rabbi Nudell and congregants



**Course Title: *Shabbat Learning***

**Course Description:** Take advantage of the opportunity to learn at CBI on Shabbat at Friday night and Saturday morning services. The words of the Torah are discussed in the following venues:

- A Friday night sermon by the Rabbi
- A Saturday morning sermon by one of the congregants
- A discussion of the weekly parsha led by the Rabbi, following Saturday morning kiddush.

Check the weekly Shabbat Shalom CBI newsletter for the learning activities scheduled for Saturday morning.

**Dates:** Friday nights and Saturday mornings.