HOW TO ENROLL

STEP ONE: COURSE SELECTION
• Browse the list of eligible courses, taking note of any prerequisites and the course number and title.
• All courses are three credits except as noted; six-credit courses carry a higher tuition rate.

STEP TWO: THE APPLICATION
• Complete the online application. Applications will be accepted through August 15, 2019.
• A $25 deposit is due upon application. This amount is applied to tuition; it is refundable only if a class is oversubscribed or cancelled due to insufficient enrollment.

Please note that submitting an application does not guarantee enrollment; classes may be oversubscribed or cancelled.

STEP THREE: ENROLLMENT
• Your application will be reviewed as soon as possible, but no later than August 22, 2019.
  If your selection is approved, you will receive an email with registration and payment instructions.

REFUNDS/WITHDRAWALS
• To withdraw from your course, send an email to: openclassroom@jtsa.edu.
• For refunds (minus the $25 deposit), notification of withdrawal must be received September 17, 2019.

Questions? Call (212) 678-8821 or email openclassroom@jtsa.edu.

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW BIBLE (BIB 5011)
Stephen Garfinkel
T 2:45–5:25
An introduction to the contents, structure, and themes of the Hebrew Bible. Integrated with that content, the course will also introduce students to a variety of methods in the study of Bible, both traditional and modern.

MEDIEVAL JEWS AND CHRISTIANS READ SCRIPTURE (BIB 5516)
Robert Harris
W 10:10–12:55
This course explores the commonalities as well as the differences between Jews and Christians in medieval biblical study. The course will focus on the relationships and mutual influences that rabbis and churchmen had on one another and, in particular, the polemics through which they typically interacted.

ADVANCED EXEGESIS: RASHI’S SUPERCOMMENTARIES (BIB 7518)
Walter Herzberg
T 10:10–12:55
This course will focus on Rashi’s supercommentaries, especially the Mizrahi, Siftei Hakhamim, Masqil Ledavid, Gur Aryeh, Sefer Haziqaron, Be’er Yitzhaq, Lifshu Shel Rashi, and Ramban (who frequently serves as a supercommentator), paying special attention to Rashi’s dual comments. Taught in Hebrew.

DEVOTION AND BEREAVEMENT IN THE JEWISH LEGAL TRADITION (CDE 7563)
Jonathan Milgram
M & W 8:40–9:55
In this course, students will learn about the laws of prayer and mourning in the Jewish legal tradition. Through an analysis of the presentation of these laws in the classical legal codes, including Mishneh Torah, Arbaah Turim, and
Shulkhan Aruch, students will be exposed to major topics and concepts within the two subject areas. The course will also include units on the contemporary application of the laws. Competency in Rabbinic Hebrew required.

FOUNDATIONS OF HEBREW (HEB 1001)
Nitza Krohn
M–TH 10:10–11:25 / 6 CREDITS
The course begins with lesson 1 of Hebrew from Scratch A (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Alef). Learners will gain active mastery of 500 words, knowledge of the present tense and infinitive verb forms, and reading comprehension of dialogs relating to everyday life as well as simple narrative and informative texts. Prerequisites: Students are expected to have mastered the materials covered in units I–VII of the textbook (up to page 99), including the ability to write in cursive.

ELEMENTARY HEBREW 1 (HEB 1101)
Nina Brennan Nesher
M–TH 10:10–11:25 / 6 CREDITS
This course, a direct continuation of HEB 1001, brings students near the end of the first volume of Hebrew from Scratch A (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Alef) with the same emphasis on reading comprehension as well as the development of communication skills. Students will continue to expand their vocabulary and learn—among other basic language forms—the past tense. Additional readings will be assigned from the folktale anthology Sipur ve-Od Sipur.

ELEMENTARY HEBREW 2 (HEB 2103)
Sarah Hochfeld
M–TH 10:10–11:25 / 6 CREDITS
Using the second volume of Hebrew from Scratch (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet) as textbook, supplemented by additional readings, this course is designed to seamlessly follow HEB 1101 by building on the comprehension and oral-aural skills previously acquired, and continuing to develop vocabulary and grammar knowledge (including the future tense); special attention will be given to dictionary look-up skills.

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW 1 (HEB 2201)
Ilona Ben-Moshe
M, T & TH 8:40–9:55
This course continues with the second volume of Hebrew from Scratch (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet), complemented with online listening comprehension modules. Students will continue to expand their vocabulary and advance their aural-oral skills. In grammar, the study of the future tense and major prepositions begun in the previous semester will be concluded, and new topics in syntax and the verb system will be introduced.

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW 2 (HEB 5203)
Hanna Garti-Bar
M, T & TH 8:40–9:55
This intermediate-level course will bring students to the end of Hebrew from Scratch II (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet), supplementing the textbook with materials from level gimel books and other readings in Hebrew from various periods (e.g. adapted stories, poems, selections from parashat ha-shavua, midrash and Biblical commentary). Students will learn new grammar topics, develop strategies for reading comprehension and word recognition, and practice conveying ideas and opinions in both speech and writing.

COMPREHENSION AND COMMUNICATION (HEB 5221)
Nitza Krohn
M & W 8:40–9:55
This advanced Hebrew language course is designed for students who wish to further develop their comprehension and communication skills. Each student will select a topic in an area of her or his interest, explore its treatment in a variety of Hebrew-language texts, and prepare oral and written presentations integrating different facets of the topic. This course is for students who are exempt from HEB 5203 or have completed it with a grade of A- or higher.
ADVANCED HEBREW 1 (HEB 5301)
Naama Weiss
M–TH 11:40–12:55
This course focuses on learning Hebrew as the language of Jewish culture. Students will comprehend, critique, and comment (orally and in writing) on Hebrew texts of various genres and periods that deal with major issues in Jewish and Israeli history and culture. Attention will be given to vocabulary development and advanced grammar topics. Students will peer-teach topics from parashat ha-shavua.

ISRAEL-DIASPORA RELATIONS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (HIS 5311)
Hillel Gruenberg
M 2:45–5:25
An examination of the historical development of the Israel-Disapora relationship, its present state, and possible shapes it may take in the future. The course will be shared with HUC-JUR and will include students from both institutions.

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY (HIS 5406)
David E. Fishman
TH 11:40–12:55

SERMONS AND PREACHING IN EAST EUROPEAN JEWRY (HIS 7427)
David E. Fishman
M 10:10–12:55
Readings and analyses of select sermons and homiletic texts by some of the great modern and early modern preachers of Ashkenazic Jewry. The goal is to recognize different homiletic strategies and methods and to place each preacher in a historical-intellectual context. Texts will be studied in Hebrew.

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY (JTH 5130)
Alan Mittleman
M & W 2:45–4:00
This course focuses on living contemporary philosophers who meet a high standard of intellectual rigor and living contemporary theologians distinguished by their vision and erudition. Philosophers to be considered include Lenn Goodman, Kenneth Seeskin, David Novak, and Leora Batnitzky. Questions to be considered include: How do contemporary Jewish philosophers treat non-Jewish traditions such as analytic philosophy, pragmatism, and Kantianism? To what extent does contemporary Jewish philosophy build on modern precedents, such as German Jewish thought? To what extent does contemporary Jewish philosophy build on medieval precedents; in particular, how crucial is Maimonides to the contemporary discussion? Is contemporary Jewish philosophy a creature of the academy or can it have a resonance in the Jewish community?

JEWISH ETHICS AND TECHNOLOGY (JTH 5333)
Nadav Berman Shifman
W 6:00–8:40
This course examines the ethics of technology from a critical-humanist Jewish perspective, in three units: assumptions underlying ethical humanist approaches to technology; key humanist concepts in early Jewish tradition; and contemporary technological issues, such as social media, autonomous weapons, and humanoid robots, ethically addressed.
ZOHAR AS MYSTICAL POETRY (JTH 5499)
Eitan Fishbane
TH 10:10–12.55
The Zohar is the great masterpiece of Jewish mysticism, itself a composite literature of many hands that first emerged in late thirteenth century Castile. Among the features that most account for the Zohar’s immense hold on centuries of devoted readers is the lyricism and textured poetry of its mythic imagination and mystical theology. In this course we will explore this dimension of the Zohar’s literary craft, its unique rhetoric of mystical midrash, and the deep affinities between mysticism and poetry in representing divine mystery and religious experience.

REMEMBERING THE SHTETL (LIT 5109)
David Roskies
T 2:45–5:25
The image of the shtetl in Yiddish and Hebrew fiction

CROSSING DELANCY (LIT 5506)
David Roskies
TH 11:40–2:20
An exploration of Yiddish writing in America

ISRAELI THEATER AND DRAMA (LIT 5570)
Edna Nahshon
W 4:10–6:50
We will discuss major trends in Israel’s theatrical history by focusing on canonical plays and their performance history. Central themes and artistic strategies in the work of the country’s theatre practitioners will be analyzed within their socio-political context. Knowledge of Hebrew is desirable but not obligatory.

CONTEMPORARY WOMEN’S WRITING FROM ISRAEL (LIT 5752)
Barbara Mann
TH 4:10–5:25
Israeli women writers have adopted a variety of styles to address the complexities of Israel’s history as well as its equally confounding present reality. We will read prominent examples of prose genres and a selection of poetry by Jewish and Palestinian authors, with attention to their engagement with broader themes of national identity, gender, violence, urban life, ethnic relations, political strife, religious mores, and the Shoah.

INTRODUCTION TO LITURGY: THE WEEKDAY PRAYERBOOK (LTG 5031)
Robert Scheinberg
M 10:10–12.55
This course provides an introduction to the themes, theology, structure and development of Jewish liturgy, including the relationship between weekday and Shabbat/festival prayer. This course will also examine the experience of prayer, such as the nature of prayer, individual/communal prayer, praying “problematic” liturgy, different modalities of prayer, and the tension between keva and kavannah. Includes an additional e-learning component.

CLASSICS OF THE JEWISH TRADITION (MDS 5102)
Benjamin Gampel
M 2:45–5:25
A focus on the classics of the medieval and modern age, considering the social, religious, and historical significance of each of the works against the background of the period in which it was written.

INTRODUCTION TO RABBINIC NARRATIVE (AGGADAH) (MID 5022)
Burton Visotzky
W 10:10–12:55
This class introduces the student to the contours of rabbinic narrative aggadah and its role in classical midrash. Emphasis is on gaining skills in reading and translating rabbinic text, building vocabulary, understanding the poetics (mechanics) of rabbinic storytelling, the relationship of rabbinic literature to Late Antique history, and the fundamental role biblical exegesis plays in midrash aggadah.
EXILE AND DIASPORA IN JEWISH TRADITION  
(TAL 5220)  
David Kraemer  
M 8:40–11:25  
Despite the fact that Jews have, throughout history, longed for Zion, they have spent most of their years scattered in lands of other nations. Naturally, this experience has demanded that Jews develop ideologies of Exile/Diaspora, some quite unexpected. This course is devoted to recovering the history of Jewish understandings of the Diaspora experience, and asking how they relate to Zionism.

RISHONIM AND CONTEMPORARY SCHOLARSHIP (TAL 6150)  
Richard Kalmin  
TH 2:45–5:25 / 6 CREDITS  
This course examines selected sugyot of the Talmud that illustrate important issues focused on by modern Talmudic scholars. The course concentrates on the importance of the study of the Rishonim (and, occasionally, Aharonim) in sharpening the questions that scholars raise with respect to the sugya, and in helping them formulate answers to those questions, even though their answers usually differ from those of the traditional commentators. Another important goal of the course is to enhance the student’s ability to prepare the text of the Bavli and its commentators on his or her own. This course is for those with basic competency in studying Talmud in the original.

MISHNA, MEMORY AND MANUSCRIPT  
(TAL 7438)  
Jonathan Milgram  
T 10:10–12:55  
This course is an advanced graduate research seminar on the redaction history, dissemination, and textual development of the Mishnah. Students will be trained in methods for the study of the Mishnah as an ancient oral composition and its subsequent textual history as evidenced in medieval manuscripts (lower criticism). In addition, there will be an emphasis on issues pertaining to the Mishnah’s redaction including sessions on source criticism (higher criticism). The ability to read bibliography in modern Hebrew is assumed.