



## PREVIEW OF SPRING SEMESTER

*Classes beginning in January 2010*

### **The Book of Joshua: Entering the Land of Israel**

Aaron Family JCC	Cong. Shaare Tefilla
Wednesdays 9:30 AM	Thursdays after ma'ariv (1st class @ 6:30 PM)
Begins 1/20	Begins 1/21
	\$100/semester

*Wednesday class presented in the framework of the Geshet Program.*

### **Judaism's View of Christianity**

Aaron Family JCC	Aaron Family JCC
Wednesdays 10:30 AM	Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:45 PM
Begins 1/20	Begins 3/3

*Both classes presented in the framework of the Geshet Program. The evening class is a seven-part series.*

### **The Pope, the Pastor, and the Jews: Contemporary Christianity's Relationship with Judaism**

Aaron Family JCC  
 Wednesdays 7:00 PM  
 February 10, 17, 24

*Presented in the framework of the Geshet Program.*

Unless noted otherwise, classes meet for either one hour or one-and-a-half hours.

## Mission Statement

The Community Kollel of Dallas seeks to strengthen our Jewish community through the shared experience of Torah study in a non-judgmental environment. A unique combination of worldliness and Jewish scholarship characterizes the men and women of the Kollel, who are wonderful ambassadors of Jewish living and learning in our modern society.

The Community Kollel of Dallas is in partnership with Yeshiva University's Center for the Jewish Future. Both share a profound commitment to Torah learning and living in the modern world; a strong connection to the people and land of Israel, as expressed in the State of Israel, whose formation is viewed as the beginning of the ultimate redemption of the Jewish people; and a belief in the intrinsic value of secular learning as another manifestation of God's wisdom in the world.



### **Community Kollel of Dallas**

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# Community Education

Fall Semester  
2009-10

## JOURNEY INTO A WORLD OF DEEP SPIRITUAL MEANING

Join Community Rabbinic Scholar Rav Hanan Schlesinger in his multi-faceted journeys towards insight and inspiration through the study of classical Jewish texts. Learners from all backgrounds and affiliations will enjoy guided instruction and discussion with one of Dallas' leading teachers.



### Weekly Torah Portion

Temple Shalom	Cong. Beth Torah
Sundays 10:45 AM	Mondays 7:30 PM
Begins 9/13	Begins 8/24
\$75/semester (non-members)	\$100/semester

Aaron Family JCC  
Wednesdays 10:45 AM  
Begins 9/16 (First semester only)

*Wednesday class presented in the framework of the Geshar Program.*

In this survey of some of the fundamental themes of Jewish life, thought and law, we will analyze highlights from the weekly Torah portion as a framework and jumping off point, delving into the ideas suggested by the biblical texts in a manner passionately sympathetic both to tradition and to modern criticism and doubt. Participants will be given ample opportunity to struggle with the significance of the Bible in their own lives and to address all their questions touching on the interface of text, tradition and life as experienced in the 21st century.

### In-depth Mishna Study

Congregation Shaare Tefilla  
Sundays 9:00 AM (light breakfast served)  
Begins 8/23  
\$100/semester

An intensive study experience focusing on the acquisition of technical textual skills and literary techniques for unlocking the spiritual/ideological subtext of the Mishna and Gemara. Most sessions are divided into three: review of prior week's material; collective reading of the material for the session, with emphasis on grammar, syntax and morphology; and cooperative, guided study of the structure and meaning of the text. Basic Hebrew reading fluency is required.

## Deuteronomy: The Grand Finale

Aaron Family JCC	Cong. Shaare Tefilla
Wednesdays 9:30 AM	Thursdays after ma'ariv (1st class @ 8:15 PM)
Begins 9/16	Begins 8/27
	\$100/semester

*Wednesday class presented in the framework of the Geshar Program. Both classes meet during 1st semester only.*

This course will study the closing section of the Book of Deuteronomy, where Moses charges the nation to keep the faith and the covenant after his death. We will learn about his efforts to prepare our nation for both the imminent and distant future, as well as about his commissioning of Joshua as his successor, the writing down of the Torah, and Moses' own death and burial by the hand of God himself. We will simultaneously endeavor to be faithful to the original, simple meaning of the text, as well as to its modern Jewish and existential relevance. Participants will be given ample opportunity to struggle with the significance of the Bible in their own lives and to address all their questions touching on the interface of text, tradition and life as experienced in the 21st century.

## Introduction to Jewish Thought

### Pluralistic Truth and Dynamic Law: The Philosophy of Biblical Interpretation, Oral Law, and Halacha

Aaron Family JCC	Cong. Shaare Tefilla
Thursdays 10:00 AM	Sundays after ma'ariv (1st class @ 8:15 PM)
Begins 9/3	Begins 8/23
	\$100/semester

*Thursday class presented in the framework of the Geshar Program.*

This course will examine the classic Talmudic rabbis' own reflections on their intellectual and spiritual interactions with the Biblical texts, as expressed through the stories – agadot - that they told about their Torah study and their process of interpretation and decision-making. We will also delve into medieval and modern philosophical analyses of these rabbinic tales. This is a text-based class about ideas. Its approach is passionately sympathetic both to tradition and to modern criticism and doubt, and presents a model of mature, self-reflective faith. In essence, the students and the teacher embark upon a shared spiritual quest, delving into those issues suggested by the texts that most resonate with the participants. The texts and discussions of the course empower the students to enlist the sources of the rabbis and Jewish philosophers in their own personal efforts to live authentic, meaningful and rich Jewish lives in the post-modern era.

## Bereishit II: Stories of the First Jewish Family

Aaron Family JCC	Cong. Adat Chaverim
Mondays 9:30 - 11:30 AM	Tuesdays 9:30 - 11:30 AM
Begins 10/5	Begins 9/15

*A ten-session Scholars Curriculum Course designed by the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School Institute.*

Focusing our attention on some of the world's oldest and most profound stories, the Shiv'im Panim ("70 Faces") series highlights 70 text selections from through the Jewish Bible. Based on the tradition that the Torah has "70 faces" or ways of interpreting and understanding it, the curriculum features a multi-faceted approach to its study, including:

- Modern and classical commentary that represent a range of orientations
- Interpretations of the texts by rabbis, scholars, artists, and poets
- Opportunities to learn key Hebrew vocabulary in the context of the story
- Discussions on the real-life implications of the stories for us in our time

Bereishit II follows the development of the first Jewish family, from "The Birth of Two Nations" and "Stolen Blessings" to "Reunion in Egypt" and "Blessing the Grandchildren." These stories of sibling rivalry, wrestling with an angel, palace seduction, rape, and reconciliation provide some of the most dramatic and iconic images of our Biblical narrative.

**TO INQUIRE FURTHER ABOUT THESE AND OTHER STUDY OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT RAV HANAN SCHLESINGER:**

**214-789-7241 (MOBILE)**

*CLASSES PRESENTED THROUGH THE MELTON AND GESHER PROGRAMS ARE FEE-BASED. REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT CAN BE ARRANGED THROUGH THE AARON FAMILY JCC.*