

Sunday High School Schedule 2021 - 2022

Sunday			
Grades	9:30 – 10:30	10:30 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:30
8-12	Rabbinics Mr. Schmidt Open to 8-12 Classroom 7	Rabbi Spitzer's HS Class Open to 8-12 Room 7	Cooking with Rise' Open to 8-12 On Zoom

Rabbi Spitzer Class:

Drawing on current events, his own experiences, and the wonderful resources and curricular materials from the Shalom Hartman Institute, Rabbi Spitzer's class this year (Sundays 10:30-11:25a) will challenge our teens to explore their own relationship with Zionism and the State of Israel; address the complex features of Jewish peoplehood and the contemporary challenges to the Jewish people in an era in which we have moved from having no home to having two different, vibrant, homes in Israel and in North America; and explore the ideas and values that animate different attitudes toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Historical context, Jewish text study, competing narratives, antisemitism, and many other themes will run through the course. Rabbi Spitzer hopes to create a brave space with our teens, where they (and he) will be comfortable trying out ideas in a nonjudgmental and open way. Come learn and explore together!

Weekly 10:30am – 11:30pm In person

Jews in Entertainment: Rabbi Amiel Monson

COURSE TITLE: "I didn't know that they were Jewish"

So many times in life we and our parents have responded to a news article, social media post, or t.v report about a famous person in sports and entertainment saying, "Wow, I didn't know that they were Jewish?"

This course will introduce you to and help you forge your own opinions and ideas about some of the best Jewish Athletes and Entertainers in Jewish history. You will be presented with insight into the biographies of some of the most famous people combined with analyzing their moral and ethical behavior as role models. We will use Jewish text to help bring light to the question of how being Jewish makes these athletes and entertainers different from secular athletes and entertainers?

We will be looking at Professional, amateur, collegiate, and perhaps even high school upcoming athletes as well as entertainers over the last 50+ years.

Thursdays weekly on Zoom 7pm – 8pm

Hot Topics: Ely Wohl

In this class we will explore the issues that affect today's society and look at them through a Jewish lens. We will look at ancient and recent text as well as discuss what different Rabbis and Jewish folk are saying about these topics. We will also look at different stories from the Torah and try to apply today's logic to see how they hold up.

Wednesdays 4:30pm weekly on Zoom

Kulam: Ely Wohl

This class will take a deeper look into your Jewish values and identities regarding how you interact with them on a daily basis. We will explore topics that you encounter often and see how they shape the person you are. We will also investigate you as a person and see how that shapes you and your values as a Jew and in general. Some of these topics include Jewish peoplehood, anti-Semitism today, implicit bias, identity, justice, friendship and much more.

Wednesday 7:30pm – 8:30pm On Zoom

Book Club: Leora Spitzer

Overview: This will be a monthly book club conducted over Zoom focused on modern Jewish books of a variety of genres. Through the lens offered by each of the books, we will explore themes of identity, belonging, coming-of-age, and what it means to be Jewish. Each session will be designed as standalone, so teens can choose based on their schedules or their level of interest in the genre. While I will have questions specific to the individual books, we will also discuss a few central questions for every book to create continuity and deepen exploration for regular attendees.

Central Questions:

- What does this book have to say about being Jewish?
- Did anything in this book challenge your understanding of Judaism or your own Jewish identity?
- How do Jewish values inform the characters' world and choices? How do they inform yours?

Book List (Subject to Change):

- *Little & Lion*, by Brandy Colbert. Contemporary YA, featuring a Black Jewish teenager and her relationship with her bipolar brother.

- *Spinning Silver*, by Naomi Novick. Fantasy, featuring a young Jewish woman determined to protect her family from anything—whether that is poverty, antisemitic neighbors, or the ice fairies bent on prolonging winter.
- *People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks. Contemporary/Historical Fiction, about the history of the Sarajevo Haggadah, providing snapshots of historical Jewish communities across centuries and countries.
- *The City Beautiful*, by Aden Polydoros. Historical Fantasy YA, featuring a gay Jewish teenager haunted by a dybbuk during the Chicago World's Fair.
- *Recommended for You*, by Laura Silverman. YA Romance, featuring two Jewish teens working in a bookstore.
- *It's a Whole Spiel*, by Katherine Locke. Short Story Anthology, featuring a diverse cast of Jewish teenagers.
- *A Bintel Brief*, by Liana Finck. Graphic Nonfiction, drawn from letters to the Forward's advice column in early twentieth century New York.
- *Magical Princess Harriet*, by Leiah Moser. Middle Grade Fantasy, featuring a trans Jewish teenager struggling in middle school discovering a magical destiny.
- *Stir: My Broken Brain and the Meals That Brought Me Home*, by Jessica Fechter. Memoir, about a Jewish woman's recovery from an aneurysm through cooking and family.

Dates: The second Thursday of the month, from October- May. 5:45-7:15p On Zoom

(Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan.13, Feb. 10, Mar.10, Apr. 14, May 12.)

Rabbinics: Steve Schmidt

Jews do a lot of things that don't seem to be explicitly written in the Torah. Why do we them? In the rabbinics class, we will look at the Jewish tradition of interpreting the Torah through its key texts - the Mishnah and the Talmud, the midrash, commentaries on the Torah, compilations of law - and the approaches of various movements, including mysticism, Hasidism, and of course the modern Conservative movement. All texts will be studied in English, though students will gain some familiarity with some Hebrew words and Jewish concepts.

Weekly in school 9:30am – 10:30pm In person