



From Genesis to Siddur Lev Shalem: A History of Judaism through its Books

with Jeffrey Spitzer

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Congregation Agudat Achim's Adult Education Committee



Jews are known as the People of the Book, but Jews have lots of books. What do those books say? What questions do they ask (and answer), how do they relate to (or talk past) each other, and how do they reflect (and influence) the times in which they were written? We will explore the basics of Jewish history by investigating the emergence of Jewish books and “book culture.” This course will provide a useful survey of Jewish history as well as a survey of the Jewish library. Resources and suggestions for deeper exploration of both topics will be provided.

Jeffrey Spitzer is a Jewish educator with broad experience in teaching adults. He is currently working as a distance educator and curriculum consultant. More information about Mr. Spitzer is available at his website, conversationaltorah.com.

Six Thursday Evenings from 7:30p – 9:00p

- 3 Dec: **Torah as Constitution and the Bible as Anthology**
(1300-165 BCE)
- 10 Dec: **Books that Didn't Make It, and the “Oral Book” That Did**
(300 BCE-220 CE)
- 17 Dec: **Why One of the Two Talmuds is *THE* Talmud**
(200-700 CE)
- 7 Jan: **The Siddur, the Guide, and the Zohar**
(700-1492 CE)
- 14 Jan: **I Don't Want Your Set Table (Shulchan Arukh)**
(1492-1789 CE)
- 21 Jan: **Histories, Cookbooks, ArtScroll, and Sefaria**
(1789-2021 CE)

Immediately preceded by *Maariv*/Evening Minyan
[Zoom Link](#)

Join by phone: 929 436 2866; Meeting ID: 970 211
663; Password: 918024



Congregation Agudat Achim

Over 120 years of Conservative Judaism