

Course Catalog

2013-2014
תשע"ד



Introduction to the Course Catalog

Yeshivat Yesodei HaTorah prides itself on providing the finest Torah education available for post high students in Israel.

Our goal is to expose each student to essential Torah topics as well as to issues and ideas that are important to him as an individual.

Our core curriculum ensures that each talmid will develop the ability to approach any Torah topic with confidence wherever he may be, whether preparing for shiur in Yeshiva University, learning with his chavruta in a secular college, or delivering a shiur at his local shul as a baal habayit. Additionally, our elective courses allow our students to explore a large array of topics that they find to be personally meaningful. In fact, many of these courses were developed specifically at the request of our students.



We are most famous for our morning shiurim, during which our students achieve the ability to learn Gemara independently and in depth, while developing a genuine love for learning. Our afternoon and evening shiurim are equally important parts of our broad and holistic curriculum. Our core shiurim, electives, options for independent study, and opportunities to learn one-on-one with rabbeim give our students an unparalleled learning experience.

Daily Schedule: Shacharit thru Mincha

SHANA ALEPH AND SHANA BET

7:30	Shacharit, Followed by Breakfast
9:00	Morning Seder and Shiur I <small>RABBI KAHN, RABBI ARRAN, RABBI HERCZEG, RABBI KROHN, RABBI LICHTMAN</small>
11:00	Break
11:10	Morning Seder and Shiur II <small>RABBI KAHN, RABBI ARRAN, RABBI HERCZEG, RABBI KROHN, RABBI LICHTMAN</small>
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Break
3:00	Mincha

Shana Aleph Late Afternoon & Evening

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
3:15			Bekiut I and Bekiut II		
4:15	Chumash with Ramban RABBI WOLICKI Chumash with Rashi RABBI HERCZEG	Halachah I – Hilchot Tefillah RABBI WOLICKI Halachah II – Contemporary Halachic Issues RABBI KROHN	Chumash with Ramban RABBI WOLICKI Chumash with Rashi RABBI HERCZEG	Chumash with Ramban RABBI WOLICKI Chumash with Rashi RABBI HERCZEG	Halachah I – Hilchot Tefillah RABBI WOLICKI Halachah II – Contemporary Halachic Issues RABBI KROHN
5:15	Jewish Philosophy RABBI WOLICKI	Nach I RABBI GREENBERG Nach II RABBI LICHTMAN	Jewish Philosophy RABBI WOLICKI	Jewish Philosophy RABBI WOLICKI	Nach I RABBI GREENBERG Nach II RABBI LICHTMAN
6:30	Dinner and Break				Dinner and Break
7:30	Maariv				Night Seder With Optional Shiurim RABBI BERGMAN, RABBI C. COHEN A Nation in its Land RABBI KROHN (8:00) Jewish-Christian Polemics MRS. TAYLOR (8:00) Sicha Ruchanit RABBI KAHN RABBI WOLICKI (9:30-10:15)
7:45	Torah Research Skills I RABBI WOLICKI (7:45-9:15) Torah Research Skills II RABBI KROHN (7:45-9:15) Open Seder With Optional Shiurim RABBI KROHN (9:15-10:15) Rav Kook RABBI WOLICKI (9:15) Biurei HaTefillah RABBI ARRAM (9:15)	Night Seder With Optional Shiurim פלפול בסוגיות נבחרות RABBI CHANAN (7:45) Kitzur Shulchan Aruch RABBI KAHN (7:45) Talmudic Misogyny in Context RABBI U. COHEN (8:30) שב שמעתתא RABBI BERGMAN (8:30) Michtav MeEliyahu RABBI C. COHEN (9:15) Chassidut RABBI KAHN (9:30)	Night Seder With Optional Shiurim RABBI BERGMAN Rambam Mishneh Torah RABBI ARRAM (7:45) נקודות לומדות בפרשה RABBI CHANAN (7:45) Jewish Thought RABBI U. COHEN (8:30) Advanced Bekiut RABBI ASHER (9:15)	Maariv, followed by Dinner & Break	
10:15-11:00 (optional)		Ulpan RABBI CHANAN	Ulpan RABBI CHANAN		Maariv (10:15) Mishmar RABBI KAHN, RABBI WOLICKI, RABBI ARRAM (10:30)

Shana Bet Late Afternoon & Evening

3:15	←	Bekiut and Individual Learning Projects	RABBI SIMKOVICH	option to join shana aleph shiurim in Bekiut, Chumash, and Halachah		→
5:30	Topics in Hashkafa RABBI HERCZEG	Biographies of Gedolim RABBI WOLICKI	The Thought of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov RABBI ARRAM	Machshava: How We Think About Unthinkables RABBI SIMKOVICH	Nefesh HaChaim RABBI KAHN	
6:30	←	Dinner and Break	→	Maariv, followed by Dinner & Break	Dinner and Break	
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10:15-11:00 (optional)		Ulpan RABBI CHANAN	Ulpan RABBI CHANAN		Maariv Mishmar RABBI KAHN, RABBI WOLICKI, RABBI ARRAM (10:30)	

Gemara

Morning Seder and Shiur – Gemara B’lyun

DAILY 9:00 AM

Yesodei HaTorah’s Gemara B’lyun shiurim are renowned as the most effective shiurim in shana ba’aretz programs for helping students gain the ability to learn Gemara independently and in depth. Each of our five levels is tailored to help students – no matter how advanced or limited their backgrounds – achieve new levels of proficiency and mastery. All five levels include significant portions of time for independent preparation and study.

Gemara B’lyun I

RABBI ARRAM

This shiur focuses upon the basic Gemara text with Rashi, and emphasizes core reading and translating skills. As students acquire greater abilities, the shiur will progress toward more in-depth analysis of the Gemara.

Gemara B’lyun II

RABBI KROHN

This shiur focuses upon Gemara, Rashi, and Tosafot, with an emphasis on precise translation as a means of understanding the text on a deeper level.

Gemara B’lyun III

RABBI LICHTMAN

This shiur concentrates primarily upon Gemara, Rashi, and Tosafot, and enables students to understand and analyze the precise meaning of these and other Rishonim.

Gemara B’lyun IV

RABBI KAHN

This advanced shiur is a Rishonim shiur, concentrating on Rashi, Tosafot, Rambam, Ritva, Rashba, as well as other commentaries. Students will learn how a precise reading of each Rishon brings out its true meaning, and discover how the Rishonim can be used as a means to better understand the textual issues in the Gemara.

Gemara B’lyun V

RABBI HERCZEG

The highest level morning shiur furthers the skills acquired in the other shiurim, and teaches students to analyze the Gemara and Rishonim on a very deep level. The shiur particularly concentrates upon utilizing the Maharam Shif and Maharshah to grasp the true meaning of Rashi and Tosafot.

Gemara Bekiut I

RABBI WOLICKI

This Gemara shiur focuses upon content and vocabulary, as well as the halachic and hashkafic issues presented by the Gemara. By the end of the year, students will have finished an entire masechet.

DAILY 3:15 PM

Gemara Bekiut II

RABBI KROHN

In this shiur, students have the opportunity to study a complete masechet, through independent preparation and review. There are also daily chazara sessions, allowing participants to review that which they learned, ensuring that they understand the Gemara correctly.

DAILY 3:15 PM

Gemara Bekiut- Advanced

RABBI ASHER

This shiur will provide a framework for those students who want to study an additional masechet in addition to those that we learn as part of the regular yeshiva curriculum. Students will learn a certain amount every day, and this weekly shiur will allow them to investigate a given sugya in greater depth.

TUESDAY 9:15 PM

Torah Research Skills

RABBI WOLICKI, RABBI ARRAM, RABBI KROHN

Students will acquire the ability to research Torah topics, in order to deliver meaningful and interesting divrei Torah, compose Torah articles, develop shiurim, and better understand the interplay between Chazal, the Rishonim, and the Acharonim. The course also includes a public speaking component where students deliver divrei Torah and/or chaburot which are then critiqued and discussed.

SUNDAY 7:45 PM

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Yesodei HaTorah was the first yeshiva named a Gold Member of the S. Daniel Abraham Israel Program of Yeshiva University.



Tanach

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

One of our recent alumni who was accepted to the prestigious Masmidim Honors Program of Yeshiva University chose Yesodei HaTorah specifically because he knew our program would prepare him best to receive this honor.

Chumash with Rashi

RABBI HERCZEG

The aim of this course is to impart to the students an approach to the study of Rashi based on the methods of the classical commentators such as Mizrachi, Gur Aryeh, and Maskil LeDavid. The format will be a combination of lectures on various aspects of Rashi, and working through Rashi's commentary on selected passages of the Torah.

SUNDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 4:15 PM

Chumash with Ramban

RABBI WOLICKI

Ramban was one of the most brilliant and prolific Rishonim, a unique scholar equally at home in Talmudic and philosophical discussions. His Torah commentary is perhaps the greatest expression of his genius, combining classic textual exegesis with tremendous insights into Jewish thought. This course teaches students how to properly study the Ramban's commentary, and will investigate the deep ideas contained therein.

SUNDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 4:15 PM

Jewish-Christian Polemics

MRS. PENINA TAYLOR

A course in Tanach, with a twist. By the end of this course, students will have a new and unique understanding of missionary Christianity and why Jews are their biggest target. We will explore all of the major Christian proof-texts from the Tanach and gain a clear understanding of what the texts really mean and how Judaism answers Christianity's claims.

THURSDAY 8:00 PM

Mishmar Shiurim

RABBI KAHN, RABBI WOLICKI, RABBI ARRAM

Every week, Rabbi Kahn, Rabbi Wolicki, and Rabbi Arram give shiurim on various subjects, ranging from topics as diverse as "The End of Days" to "Akeidat Yitzchak: The Real Story" to "Who was Og Melech HaBashan?" These late-night shiurim, accompanied by cholent, rogelach, and other snacks, are among the highlights of the week for many students.

THURSDAY 10:30 PM

Nach I

RABBI GREENBERG

Yesodei's Nach course is a unique, in-depth textual analysis of selected perakim throughout Tanach designed to teach students how to study Tanach in a thorough and deep manner. Utilizing the methodologies of Chazal, the Rishonim and contemporary Tanach scholars, students amass a full toolkit of analytical skills for approaching Tanach and uncovering the timeless hidden ideas and messages it contains.

MONDAY, THURSDAY 5:15 PM

Nach II

RABBI LICHTMAN

This alternate Nach course offers students the opportunity to see a wide swath of Nevi'im and Ketuvim, by studying a large amount of material in a "bekiut" manner. Students will prepare on their own, and class time will be dedicated to review and to investigating certain perakim in greater depth.

MONDAY, THURSDAY 5:15 PM

Nach III

RABBI GREENBERG

Building on the skills learned in shana aleph, this shana bet course is a frontal shiur focusing on a single sefer, Sefer Shmuel. Moving perek by perek, each self-contained shiur focuses on the key questions and issues in the perek and uses the methodologies already taught to provide both answers and a deeper understanding of the sefer's main messages.

THURSDAY 6:40 PM

A Nation in its Land

RABBI KROHN

This shiur will use pashtut hamikra as a basis for discussing how the Chumash is a guidebook not only for each of us as individuals, but for Am Yisrael as a whole to dwell successfully in Eretz Yisrael. We will delve into stories as well as particular mitzvot to glean meaningful messages and, more importantly, practical lessons for creating a holistic Torah society.

THURSDAY 8:00 PM





Halachah

Biurei HaTefillah

RABBI ARRAM

This shiur will offer a new approach to tefillah so that students will gain a greater appreciation for tefillah in general, and the specific tefillot we say in particular. Although the shiur primarily deals with the daily and Shabbat tefillot, we will also analyze the tefillot of the various chagim in anticipation of those days.

SUNDAY 9:15 PM

Halachah I – Hilchot Tefillah

RABBI WOLICKI

This shiur will systematically investigate Hilchot tefillah, using the Mishnah Berurah as a primary source, with supplemental material from modern poskim. Students will acquire the ability to learn through classic halachic sources on their own, as well as attain a strong knowledge of the laws of tefillah.

MONDAY, THURSDAY 4:15 PM

Halachah II – Contemporary Halachic Issues

RABBI KROHN

In this course we will explore halachic topics that are particularly relevant to us in contemporary times. How should the concepts found in the Gemara and classical commentaries be applied to new situations? Join this stimulating class to explore halachic challenges presented by innovations in the field of medicine, Medinat Yisrael, industrial kashrut, and much more.

MONDAY, THURSDAY 4:15 PM

Kitzur Shulchan Aruch

RABBI KAHN

This weekly chaburah gives students the opportunity to study the entire Kitzur Shulchan Aruch over the course of the yeshiva year. We will have a weekly meeting to review our progress, and specific assignments will be given for each day of the upcoming week so that by year's end students will have learned the entire work, and will have gained a real understanding of basic halachic concepts.

MONDAY 7:45 PM

Philosophy, Hashkafa, and Mussar

Biographies of Gedolim

RABBI WOLICKI

Each week, Rabbi Wolicki presents the biography of one of the great thinkers of recent Jewish history, thereby enabling students to better appreciate the thought of these giants, and the personalities that underlie the Torah world of the past 150 years.

MONDAY 5:30 PM

Jewish Philosophy

RABBI WOLICKI

Yesodei HaTorah's philosophy curriculum enables students to acquire a sophisticated and deep understanding of the classic issues of Jewish thought. Using the Rambam's thirteen principles of faith as a starting point, we will investigate the core problems and questions that underlie Jewish thinking, seeing classic texts from the Gemara, Rishonim, and Acharonim, and applying modern approaches as well, from thinkers like Rabbi Soloveitchik, Rav Kook, and others.

SUNDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 5:15 PM

Jewish Thought

RABBI URI COHEN

Each week Rabbi Cohen offers a different topic in Jewish philosophy and thought, often determined weekly by the students themselves.

TUESDAY 8:30 PM

Machshava: How We Think About Unthinkables

RABBI SIMKOVICH

Some people understand the Shoah as the critical event in Jewish history – seeing the last century through its prism, as well as our relationship to G-d. This shiur will develop how Torah thinkers have examined shattering events in Jewish history, the Holocaust being the primary entry into the subject.

WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Our teaching methodology is so highly regarded that yeshivot and high schools have invited our Roshei Yeshiva to teach their educators how to implement these methods in their own classrooms.



Philosophy, Hashkafa, and Mussar

Nefesh HaChaim

RABBI KAHN

The theology, philosophy, and culture that underlie the Modern Torah community is largely based upon the work of Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin, the founder of the famed Volozhin yeshiva. We will carefully analyze his most important work, Nefesh HaChaim, in order to understand its philosophical and Kabbalistic components, as well as the many ways that it has affected and shaped Orthodox Judaism today.

THURSDAY 5:30 PM

Rabbi Dessler's Michtav MeEliyahu

RABBI CHAIM COHEN

We will discuss the practical application of mussar ideas in today's world. Topics will include the definition of free will, defining authentic giving, and the place of Torah learning in the modern world.

MONDAY 9:15

Rav Kook's Nevuchei HaDor: A Guide to Torah Thought and Theology in the Modern World

RABBI WOLICKI

Rav Kook is most well-known as the avatar of religious Zionism, but his writings also deal with some of the greatest challenges facing religion in general and Torah in particular. This course investigates some of Rav Kook's most radical ideas, in the newly-published and much-debated manuscript "Pinkas Boisk".

SUNDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 1:30 PM

Rambam Mishneh Torah

RABBI ARRAM

We will study some of the most philosophically important and influential chapters of the Rambam's classic Mishneh Torah, with an eye toward acquiring a deeper understanding of his approach to Torah and the Jewish People. Students will study the Rambam on their own; this chaburah will offer the deeper insights into that which they prepared.

TUESDAY 7:45 PM

Sicha Ruchanit

RABBI KAHN, RABBI WOLICKI

Every week, Rabbi Kahn or Rabbi Wolicki give this yeshiva-wide talk, which focuses upon personal spiritual growth, and key Hashkafic issues affecting our students and the Jewish world.

THURSDAY 9:30 PM

Talmudic Misogyny in Context

RABBI URI COHEN

At first glance, many statements of Chazal seem to reflect misogyny, or hatred of women. We attempt to resolve these issues by viewing each text in context. Whether this involves examining the Gemara's words before and after the statement, parallel discussions elsewhere, or historical perspective, the context can reveal pshat and shed new light on the subject.

MONDAY 8:30 PM

The Theology of Ramchal

RABBI KAHN

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto, one of the greatest Kabbalists of the eighteenth century, was the author of numerous classic works of Jewish thought and ethics. We will explore his thought and theology by studying one of his most important works, Daat Tevunot. We will also note the philosophical and Kabbalistic messages that he imparts in this book and elsewhere.

SUNDAY, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 2:40 PM

The Thought of Rav Kook

RABBI WOLICKI

Apart from his well-known approval of Religious Zionism, Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaCohen Kook had a tremendous grasp of modern philosophical trends, and he used this knowledge to confront some of the most pressing theological issues facing the Jewish People in the modern world. Each week, Rabbi Wolicki will study a self-contained idea of Rav Kook's, drawn from the vast corpus of Rav Kook's writings.

SUNDAY 9:15 PM

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Many of our shiurim are available at www.yesodei.org as well as on our facebook page.



Philosophy, Hashkafa, and Mussar

The Thought of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

RABBI ARRAM

A systematic overview of Rebbe Nachman’s Torah with a view to applying it in our avodah. We will be studying selections from Likutei Moharan, Likutei Halachot and, of course, his stories and parables.

TUESDAY 5:30 PM

Topics in Chassidut

RABBI KAHN

The founders of the Chassidic movement were not only charismatic leaders, but also profound religious thinkers who developed new – and often radical – approaches toward the worship of G-d. This course will analyze some of the classics of Chassidic thought, with a special emphasis on the thought of the Baal HaTanya.

MONDAY 9:30 PM

Topics in Hashkafa

RABBI HERCZEG

This shiur involves an investigation of traditional texts discussing issues in hashkafa such as the importance of learning Torah and especially Gemara, approaches to the study of aggadeta, theodicy, free will, and others.

SUNDAY 5:30 PM

Hebrew Language

Ulpan

RABBI CHANAN

We will work on conversational Hebrew, with the goal being reasonable fluency in the Hebrew language.

MONDAY, TUESDAY 10:15 PM

נקודות לומדות בפרשה

RABBI CHANAN

אין סוף לעומק שבתורה. נצלול יחדיו לעמקי הפרשה, ובאסוף מרגליות ואוצרות. מומלץ לאוהבי החידוד והחידוש.

There is infinite depth to the Torah. Together we will dive into the depths of the parashah, and gather the treasures contained within. This shiur is highly recommended for those who enjoy sharp thinking and fascinating chiddushim.

TUESDAY 7:45 PM

פלפול בסוגיות נבחרות בש"ס

RABBI CHANAN

סוגיות פיקנטיות בש"ס, וכן שאלות הגיון תלמודיות, מגדולי הראשונים והאחרונים. טוויסט נפלא לשעות הערב.

We will study some of the classic “sharp” sugyot in Shas, as well as various questions predicated upon Talmudic logic, raised by the great Rishonim and Acharonim. Join us for an intellectually stimulating adventure.

MONDAY 7:45 PM

שב שמעתתא

RABBI BERGMAN

שב שמעתתא בארמית פירושו “שבע סוגיות” מכיון שהוא מחולק לשבעה נושאים. השיעור יהיה לפי סדר של הספר ובעז"ה נתחיל בשמעתתא א - שמדבר על מחלוקת הראשונים בספק דאורייתא שפוסקים לחומרא, האם זה מדרבנן או מדאורייתא, ובענין ספק טומאה ברשות היחיד, ספק טומאה ברשות הרבים, ספק ספיקא.

“Shev Shmaytta” is Aramaic for “Seven Sugyot,” as it is divided into seven topics. This shiur, which will progress systematically through the book, will begin with Part 1, dealing with the argument of the Rishonim regarding whether “safek d’Orayta l’chumra” is a Torah or Rabbinic law, the concept of “safek tumah”, and “safek sfeika.”

MONDAY 8:30 PM

Please note that although some courses are designated for shana aleph or shana bet, in certain circumstances students will be permitted to join a course even if it is designated for a different group.



Our Faculty

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

We have distributed over 75,000 of our famous bookmarks to people living on five continents.

The faculty members at Yesodei HaTorah are known not only for giving fantastic shiurim, but also for their warm, dynamic personalities. While our students certainly love attending classes, they also enjoy many shabbat meals at faculty homes, giving Yesodei HaTorah a true family feel.



Rabbi Scott Kahn

ROSH YESHIVA

Rabbi Kahn studied at Yeshivat Hakotel, Darche Noam/Shapell's, and Midrash Shmuel, was a fellow of the Darche Noam Kollel, and received semicha from HaRav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg and Darche Noam. He is a summa cum laude graduate of Brandeis University, and was a graduate student at Oxford University in the Oriental Studies Department. He developed a skill-based approach to Talmud while teaching at Reishit Yerushalayim. Rabbi Kahn is currently writing several articles in the area of Jewish thought, and is planning to develop them into a book on Modern Traditionalist Approaches to Hashkafa.



Rabbi Pesach Wolicki

ROSH YESHIVA

Rabbi Wolicki studied at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, was a fellow of the Darche Noam Kollel, and received semicha from the Chief Rabbinate of Jerusalem. A noted educator and lecturer, he served as a pulpit rabbi in Virginia, and as Development Director of Hillel Academy in Fairfield, Connecticut. He also worked as a political activist in several organizations, including service as Executive Director of the Campaign for Missing Israeli Soldiers. He is well known for his dynamic speaking and teaching, and his expertise in the thought and writings of Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaCohen Kook.



Rabbi Yaakov Arram

RA" M

Rabbi Arram is originally from London, UK. He read History at Cambridge, and subsequently learned at a number of different Yeshivot in Israel, including Darche Noam/Shapell's and Kollel Meretz, where he received semicha. He has taught in numerous schools both in Israel and in Canada. Rabbi Arram has been teaching at Yesodei HaTorah since 2006, and has a well-earned reputation as a master educator. He is also currently training to be a tour guide in Israel, and leads Yesodei HaTorah's tiyulim.



Rabbi Moshe Bergman

NIGHT SEDER FACULTY

Rabbi Bergman was born in Bnei Brak, and studied in Yeshivat Kol Torah under Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach zt"l and at Ponovezh. He studied for semicha in the Old City of Jerusalem, and later served as the rabbi of a congregation in Budapest, Hungary. A great-grandson of Rabbi Elazar Menachem Man Shach zt"l, Rabbi Bergman has taught our students for the past three years during night seder, helping them improve their learning and their Hebrew through his unique perspective and tremendous base of knowledge.



Rabbi Elazar Chanan

ULPAN, NIGHT SEDER FACULTY

Rabbi Chanan is a graduate of Yeshivat Nachalat David and Yeshivat Beit Shmuel. Licensed by the Israeli Ministry of Education, Rabbi Chanan did national service in Kiryat Chinuch in Beit Shemesh. In addition to his teaching at Yesodei HaTorah, he is a much-beloved teacher at the Darche Noam Elementary School in Ramat Beit Shemesh.



Rabbi Chaim Cohen

NIGHT SEDER FACULTY

Rabbi Cohen studied at Machon Shlomo, Yeshivat Ateret Israel, and Yeshivat HaGra Kollel. He graduated from Purdue University, and was a start-up salesperson at several successful companies. He developed his approach to mussar from a combination of coaching football and learning under the mussar great Rabbi Chaim Walkin at Ateret Israel in Bayit Vagan, Jerusalem.



Our Faculty



Rabbi Uri Cohen

NIGHT SEDER FACULTY

Rabbi Cohen, who teaches Hashkafa, received semicha from Yeshivat Hamivtar and Yeshiva University, where he also completed masters degrees in Medieval Jewish History and Education. He and his wife participated in the Jewish Experience of Central New York, and they were the educational directors of the Center for Jewish Life at Princeton University. Rabbi Cohen has also taught at Midreshet Moriah, Nishmat, Emunah V'Omanut, Pardes, and Netivot Australia.



Rabbi Ariel Greenberg

DIRECTOR OF NACH DEPARTMENT

Rabbi Greenberg holds a BA in Jewish History from Columbia University and a JD from Harvard Law School. He studied for four years at Yeshivat Sha'alvim as a Matmidim Scholar and is a graduate of their Sha'al program. Rabbi Greenberg was instrumental in founding the Beit Midrash Program at Columbia, helped run YUSSR in its incipience, and taught extensively in the greater Boston area, as well as for the past ten years at Yesodei HaTorah.



Rabbi Yisrael Herczeg

SENIOR RA" M

Rabbi Herczeg, who teaches the shana bet advanced Gemara shiur, Chumash, and Hashkafa, is the translator of the ArtScroll Rashi, and the author and translator of several other books. He is a student of Rabbi Aryeh Leib Bakst zt"l and a musmach of Yeshivat Itri. Rabbi Herczeg has also taught at Yeshivat Darche Noam, Aish HaTorah, Yeshivat Lev HaTorah, and Mesilos Bais Yaakov.



Rabbi Adi Krohn

RA" M, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

Rabbi Krohn studied at Yeshiva University, receiving degrees from the Sy Syms School of Business and the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education, as well as semicha from RIETS. Before making aliya with his family, he taught for many years at the Fuchs Mizrahi School in Cleveland where he served as chair of the Talmud Department. He was also the Assistant Rabbi of the Beachwood Kehilla in Beachwood, Ohio. At Yesodei HaTorah, Rabbi Krohn teaches Gemara, both B'lyun and Bekiut, as well as Halachah. However, he may be best-known for his work on the annual Purim shpiel, his rap videos gathering a cult following on his youtube channel.



Rabbi Moshe Lichtman

RA" M

Rabbi Lichtman, who teaches Gemara and Nach, is the translator of several books, including the classic work Eim HaBanim Semeichah, and Simcha Raz's biography of Rav Kook, zt"l, An Angel Among Men. He recently authored the well-received book, Eretz Yisrael in the Parashah. He received semicha from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and from Yeshiva University, and has taught at Shaarei Mevaseret Zion, MMY, Machon Gold, and B'not Chayil.



Rabbi Moshe Simkovich

DIRECTOR OF SHANA BET

Rabbi Simkovich was the Founding Head of School and Dean of Judaic Studies at Stern Hebrew High School in Philadelphia (now Kohelet YHS), and taught for many years at Maimonides School in Boston. He also served as a congregational Rabbi in Newton, MA, and was the Orthodox advisor at Brandeis University. A graduate of the University of Chicago, Rabbi Simkovich received his semicha under the direction of Rabbi Moshe Meiselman, and also studied under Rabbi Yisrael Gustman zt"l, Rabbi Dr. Yizchak Twesky zt"l, and Rabbi Chaim Zimmerman zt"l.



Penina Taylor

SENIOR LECTURER

Mrs. Taylor, author, speaker and yeshiva and seminary lecturer, is best known for her dynamic style and personal warmth which allow her audiences to connect with her on a profound level. This, combined with her expertise in Jewish-Christian polemics, the Tanach, and Jewish Spirituality, makes any course she teaches engaging and inspirational. She received a Bible certificate from Trinity University and has studied at Maalot Baltimore, Nishmat and Naaleh. She is the founder of the Shomrei Emet Institute for Counter-Missionary Studies and Teshuvah!, an outreach organization designed to inspire Jews of all backgrounds and persuasions.

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