



Winter 2022

Conejo West Valley Melton Courses via Zoom



The Long Goodbye (Deuteronomy / Devarim)

WITH RABBI YEHUDA HAUSMAN
JAN 4, 11, 18, 25, FEB 1, 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 8
10 TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:00 AM
\$74 / \$72 CASH DISCOUNT. THIS CLASS IS
SUBSIDIZED BY MELTON INTERNATIONAL'S ROUND
TABLE LEARNING INITIATIVE
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

In our study of Devarim, the fifth book of Torah, we join Moses in his final address to the nation. Standing on the edge of Canaan, we are poignantly reminded it is a land he will never enter. It is here that Moses reflects on his journey through the wilderness, encouraging the people to live with foresight as they make their preparations to enter the Promised Land without him.



From Slavery to Sinai (Exodus / Shemot Part I) From Revelation to Revolution (Exodus / Shemot Part II)

WITH RABBI DALIA SAMANSKY
JAN 4, 11, 18, 25, FEB 1, 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 8
MAR 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
20 TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM
\$742 / \$720 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES TWO MELTON BOOKS

Tales of oppression, slavery, bravery--Together, we'll explore the defining stories of Jewish existence, leadership, and perseverance. Before becoming the greatest leader of the Jewish people, Moses was the adopted son of the pharaoh's daughter. The story of his unlikely rise to power is filled with twists and turns, miracles and treachery. This course provides context for understanding the ideal Jewish leader, the traditions of our annual seder ritual, the origins of the phrase "Manna from Heaven" and more.



Baruch Spinoza and the Birth of Modern Theology

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU
JAN 5, 12, 19, 26, FEB 2, 9, 16, 23, MAR 2, 9
10 WEDNESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MATERIALS

Baruch Spinoza was one of the most influential philosophers between the renaissance and the modern age. His thoughts on God, Nature, reality, community, and existence continue to influence us to this day. His thought processes are complex and intricate but also beautiful and inspirational. Join us in the new Melton course as we explore someone whose influence has reached well beyond his humble Dutch beginnings and will continue to do so for quite some time.

Melton. Where You Come for the Learning
and Stay for the Community.





Have questions? Want to learn more?

Contact Melton Director Pamela Rooks at pamela@templeetzchaim.org



The Star and the Crescent: The Long Relationship of Judaism and Islam

WITH BENZY KOGEN
JAN. 6, 13, 21, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 17, 24, MAR. 3, 10
10 THURSDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

The current friction often felt between Muslims and Jews was not always the norm throughout history. Following the emergence of Islam, it was far better to be Jewish in a Muslim country than in a Christian one, and often, people of both faiths have found ways to coexist peacefully and productively. In this course, we'll delve into this history and prior periods of enmity to gain a more nuanced perspective. We will examine the commonalities between Jewish and Islamic culture, as well as the sources of tension between these two monotheistic communities, challenging our assumptions and broadening our understanding.



Biblical Women: Emerging from the Margins through Midrash

WITH REVITAL GOLDREICH
JAN. 6, 13, 21, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 17, 24, MAR. 3, 10
10 THURSDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM OR
10 THURSDAY EVENINGS | 7:00-9:00 PM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

Delve into classical and modern midrash exploring some of the major female figures of the Bible, gaining multiple perspectives on their characters, relationships, and choices. Utilizing the midrash's strategy that reads texts closely, the "behind the scenes" will be uncovered—clarifying issues that seem unaddressed in the biblical text but can be found when looking for textual hints. Discover how the form and content of midrash changes as contemporary writers and artists add their interpretations to ancient traditions.



The Book of Samuel

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU
JAN. 9, 16, 23, 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13
10 SUNDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MATERIALS

After the time of the Judges, the people of Israel were leaderless and fighting amongst themselves while beginning to give in to the temptations of the nations around them. The prophet Samuel is God's chosen representative to bring a message of unity. Then the people want a king. In this 20 week course we will go through the two Books of Samuel. We will see their perspective on leadership and their relationship with God go through significant changes. This course will use Robert Alter's Hebrew Bible.

FOR THOSE SEEKING A MORE MEANINGFUL JEWISH LIFE





Never Stop Learning, Never Stop Growing

Experience the adventure of non-denominational Jewish text-study with great conversations and meaningful connections. No homework/No prep/No Hebrew required



Living Wisdom Core 2: Ethics of Jewish Living

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU
FEB 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24
15 TUESDAY EVENINGS | 7:00-8:30 PM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

From the wisdom of our ancient sages to the words of contemporary rabbis, scholars, and thinkers, examine how the moral compass of the Jewish people has evolved throughout the ages. In this journey, explore challenging topics, enduring questions, and ethical dilemmas as they relate to interpersonal relationships, technology, charity, animals, our environment and more. Through a Jewish lens, discover the multifaceted ways of ethically conducting our lives as individuals and as a community.



Living Wisdom Core 1: Rhythms of Jewish Living

WITH LANA MARCUS
FEB 9, 16, 23, MAR 2, 9, 23, 30, APR 6, 13, 27, MAY 4, 11, 18, 25
15 WEDNESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:00AM
\$371 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

What's the point of living Jewishly? Rhythms of Jewish Living examines a wide variety of Jewish sources to discover the deeper meanings underlying Jewish holidays, lifecycle observances, and Jewish practice. There is a syncopation in Jewish life that marks the passing of time for the Jewish people as a community, as families, and as individuals. Discover the meaning and importance of these rituals, practices, and moments as you journey through the traditions and practices that bind us together.



For assistance with registration or tuition, contact Pamela Rooks, Conejo West Valley Melton Director, at Pamela@templeetzchaim.org

To register for classes, Click here: [Register for Classes](#)

Paying by check? Make your check payable to: Temple Etz Chaim
Mail to: 1080 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

To pay by Credit Card, Click here: [Class Payment and Donation](#)

Thank you for your participation in the ageless pursuit of Jewish wisdom.



To register for classes, visit
meltonwestvalley.org/registration