FOR THOSE SEEKING
A MORE MEANINGFUL JEWISH LIFE

FALL /WINTER 2022-2023

Enjoy Great Conversation. Make Meaningful Connections.

Jewish Mysticism: Tracing the History of the Kabbalah

This course provides a deep and intellectually honest understanding of the historical development of Kabbalah. Examine how centuries of societal and cultural changes shaped Jewish mysticism, including its cryptic nature and its controversies. Enjoy the opportunity to explore the rich source material itself on a rigorous, scholarly level, and to discuss the timeless mysteries of human existence and the laws of the universe.

Zionism and Its Critics - Where Do We Go From Here?

A thought-provoking mosaic of documents, conversations, news reports, pop culture, political analyses, and social commentary will help us unpack and understand Zionism and its critics in the last 50 years. We will wrestle with tough questions of origins and original sins, unpack complex dynamics impacting Israel's relationship with Jews and non-Jews in Israel and around the world, and examine possible responses to critics. This course is designed by local faculty.

NEW! Melton Core 1: Purposes and Rhythms in Jewish Living. Includes two Melton readers

Come face-to-face with Jewish texts and discover the profound intentions that have been a part of Judaism and Jewish living from ancient times to the present day. This Melton course studies the moments that have shaped our collective experience, defining who we are as a people. Journey into the heart of Jewish thought and listen to the influential voices of our ancestors, modern philosophers, theologians, and rabbis throughout the generations.

JEWISH WISDOM HAS TRAVELED LONG AND FAR TO TELL YOU SOMETHING

Click here to register for classes
https://tec.shulcloud.com/form/Melton-Registration

Click here to learn more
https://www.meltonwestvalley.org/course-descriptions

Angels and Demons In Judaism & Art

Utilizing investigative study, this course will explore angels and demons in Judaism throughout the ages. We will engage the Bible, the Talmud, medieval scholars, and commentary in modern times, as we discover the role and nature, anatomy, and lore of angels and demons in myth, theology, faith, doctrine, liturgy, pop culture, and related visual arts. This course is designed by local faculty.

10 WEDNESDAY MORNINGS, 9:30-11:30AM
WITH REVITAL GOLDRreich
SEPT 7, 14, 21, OCT 26, NOV 2, 9, 16, 30, DEC 7, 14
$360

Beyond Borders: The History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Study the roots of the conflict between Jews and Arabs over the modern State of Israel. Analyzing newspaper articles, speeches, poems, photographs, and maps, we will re-trace history on a path from 1948-today, examining each war and attempt at peace. The material is designed to encourage discussion and debate about religion, culture, politics, economics, identity, and survival, challenging learners to appreciate the basis of the claims made by all sides. Together, we’ll leap into these complex topics, probing why a lasting peace between Israel and the Arab world has been so elusive and what developments might be next.

20 THURSDAY MORNINGS, 9:30-11:30AM
WITH BENZY KOGEN
SEPT 8, 15, 22, OCT 20, 27, NOV 3, 17, DEC 1, 8, 15
JAN 12, 19, 26, FEB 2, 9, 16, 23, MAR 2, 16,23
$720 INCLUDES MELTON READER

Who Wrote the Bible?

This course is designed for students who are interested in learning the answer to this great and oft asked question: Who wrote the Bible? Using Biblical, extrabiblical, and contemporary sources we will work together to find a cohesive answer. Richard Friedman’s book, Who Wrote the Bible will be our guiding text, however other sources will be studied as well. Students are asked to bring a copy of “Who Wrote the Bible” by Richard Friedman. This course is designed by local faculty.

10 THURSDAY MORNINGS, 9:30-11:30AM
WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU
SEPT 8, 15, 22, OCT 27, NOV 3, 10, 17, DEC 1, 8, 15
$360

Have more questions? Need assistance with payment?
Email Conejo West Valley Melton Director pamela@templeetzchaim.org

Paying by check? Register online for class(es) first, then send check to TEC 1080 E. Janss Rd, Thousand Oaks CA 91360
Join the GREAT Jewish Conversation

Click here to register for classes
https://tec.shulcloud.com/form/Melton-Registration

Click here to learn more
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Press Pause: Rest Assured and the Pageantry of Shabbat Through the Ages

10 THURSDAY EVENINGS, 7:00-9:00 PM
WITH BENZY KOGEN
SEPT 8, 15, 22, OCT 20, 27, NOV 3, 17, DEC 1, 8, 15
$360 INCLUDES MELTON READER

The Jewish approach to mindfulness and self-care traces back to the roots of creation. For six days each week, we actively interact with the world. On the seventh, we reflect on our actions, pause and reboot. Explore Shabbat and the role of time in Judaism, along with other prescribed Jewish practices that ask us to refrain from business as usual. This 6-week Melton course is followed by 4-weeks of The Pageantry of Shabbat Through the Ages designed by local faculty.

The Book of Ezekiel

10 SUNDAY MORNINGS, 9:30-11:30AM
WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU
SEPT 11, 18, OCT 2, 23, 30, NOV 6, 13, 20, DEC 4, 11
$360

In this book we will meet one of the most enigmatic prophets of the entire Tanakh: Ezekiel. He is a part of the Babylonian exile and speaks about the plight of the Jews in a foreign land hoping and praying to return to their land, the land of Israel. His visions are intriguing and have engendered discussions for millennia. We will delve deeply into his prophecies and look at what other commentators have said about this intriguing man. Students are asked to bring any Bible of their choice; Robert Alter’s translation will be our main text. This course is designed by local faculty.

Biblical In-Sites, Israel

NOVEMBER 7-17, 2022
TAKING PLACE IN ISRAEL, THIS SEMINAR WILL BE LED BY HAIM ARONOVITZ AND PAMELA ROOKS. THE SEMINAR IS OPEN TO ADULTS WHO ENJOY IN-DEPTH JEWISH EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL. FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE HTTPS://MELTONSCHOOL.ORG/TRAVEL-SEMINARS/BIBLICAL-INSITES

An onsite encounter with patriarchs, matriarchs, kings, and common folk, this textual journey brings the Land and Bible to life using ancient and modern-day sources as the context and backdrop to the millennia of Jewish learning.

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