 5777

אגדות חז"ל

Aggadot

Syllabus 2016/17

**סוג הקורס:** (שיעור, תרגיל, סמינר, סדנה וכד')

**שנת לימודים**: 5777 (2017) **סמסטר**: א 1 **היקף שעות**: 2

1. **מטרות הקורס (מטרות על / מטרות ספציפיות):**

**course objective**

An in depth study in the non-legal sections of the Talmud. The student will be introduced to the "Aggadic" sections of the Talmud in an attempt to understand the underlying philosophy of the Talmudic sages. Primary sources will be consulted, where necessary literary analysis will be employed.

1. **תוכן הקורס:**

**Students will be presented with primary texts and major commentaries. Texts will be studied and analyzed both in context, and within the larger literature.**

**מהלך השיעורים:**

**תכנית הוראה מפורטת לכל השיעורים:** (רשימה או טבלה כדוגמת המצ"ב)

1

**Topic:**

Moshe went up to heaven

Primary source:

Menachot 29b

**Additional readings:**

C. Eisen "Moshe Rabbeinu And Rabbi Akiva"

2

**Topic**:

Moshe went up to heaven- and the Death of Rabbi Akiva

**Primary source**: Talmud Bavli Brachot 61b, Avot d' Rebbi Natan chapter 6. Shulchan Oruch of Arizal page 50,51

**Additional readings:**

Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999 Theodicy and Torah 182ff

3

**Topic**: "These and these are the words of the living God"

**Primary source**: Eruvin 13b, Yerushalmi Yevamot end ch. 1

**Additional readings:**

Michael Rosensweig, “Elu Va-Elu Divre Elokim Hayyim: Halakhic Pluralism and Theories of Controversy.” Tradition 26:3, 1992.

Schimmel The Oral Law pg 1-3

Shut min haShamayim, Mosad Harav Kook edition, introduction by Rav Reuven Margoliot.

4

**Topic**: "These and these are the living words of God"

**Primary source: Eruvin 6b, Sanhedrin 88b**

**Additional readings:**

Leaves of Faith page 65f

Korman pg 121,122, 139,140

5

**Topic**: "It`s not in heaven"

**Primary source**: Bava Metzia 59b, Mishnah Keilim 5:10

Yerushalmi Moed Kattan 3:1 81,d

**Additional readings:**

Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999

Torah, Shame and the oven of Akhnai 34ff

Maharal in Netivat Olam, Netiv Ahavat Reiah, chapter 2

Marc Saperstein, Decoding the Rabbis (Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: Harvard University Press, 1980), p. 1-21,

Urbach "The Sages" 118,119

6

**Topic**: Early Life and Death of Rabbi Eliezer

**Primary source**:

Sukka 28a, Pirki d`R, Eliezer chapters 1-2, Sanhedrin 68a, Bereishit Rabbah 8:5

**Additional readings:**

Y.D. Gilat, R. Eliezer Ben Hyrcanus – A Scholar Outcast. Bar Ilan University Press, Ramat Gan 1984, especially pages 479-491

Rav Nissim Gaon’s Commentary to Talmud Bavli Brachot 19a, cited in Shita Mikubetzet Bava Metzia 59b. Ohr Sameach commentary on the Rambam Laws of Yesodai Hatorah 9:4,

Sefer Hachinuch Mitzva 496

Kol Eliyahu, commentary to Talmud Bavli Bava Metzia 59b

7

**Topic**: The "Disappearance" of Elazar ben Aruch

Primary source: Avot 2:8,9,14. Chagiga 14b Adrn chapter 6,14, Shabbat 147b, Kohelet R. ch.7, [Midrash Tanaim 26:13,]

**Additional readings:**

Alon Goshen Gottstein, "Rabbi Eleazar b. Arakh: Symbol and Reality," Gafni, Jews and Judaism in the Second Temple, Mishna and Talmud Period (Hebrew)

Alon Goshen Gottstein, The Sinner and the Amnesiac: The Rabbinic Invention of Elisha ben Abuya and Eleazar ben Arach 233-265 (English)

8

**Topic**: "Four who entered Pardes"

**Primary source**: Chagiga 14b

**Additional readings:**

Meditation & Kabbalah 24-27,A. Kaplan,

Alon Goshen Gottstein. "Four Entered Paradise Revisited." The Harvard Theological Review 88, no. 1 (1995): 69-133

A. van der Heide, 'PARDES: Methodological Reflections on the Theory of the Four Senses', Journal of Jewish Studies 35 (1983), pp. 147-159

9

Topic: Elisha ben Avuya

**Primary source**: Chagiga 15a

**Additional readings:**

Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999

Torah,

Elisha ben Abuya- Torah and the Sinful Sage 64ff

10

**Topic**: Elisha ben Avuya – The View from the Jerusalem Talmud

**Primary source**: Jerusalem Talmud Chagiga 2:1

**Additional readings:**

ALON GOSHEN-GOTTSTEIN, The Sinner and the Amnesiac: The Rabbinic Invention of Elisha ben Abuya and Eleazar ben Arach, pages 1-221

11

**Topic**: What is Chanukah?

**Primary source**: Shabbat 21a

**Additional readings:**

Alon, Gedalia. Did the Jewish People and Its Sages Cause the Hasmoneans to Be Forgotten? 1977, 1977.

12

**Topic**: Write on a Horn of a Bull

**Primary source**: Yerushalmi Shabbat 2:1, Talmud Avodah Zara 8a

**Additional readings:**

ספר יערות דבש חלק ראשון - דרוש ב (המשך)

ספר מגלה עמוקות - אופן רנב

ליקוטי מוהר"ן מהדורא קמא סימן לח אות ו

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| מס' השיעור | נושא השיעור | קריאה להרחבה  additional readings | הערות |
| 1 | Moshe went up to heaven | C. Eisen "Moshe Rabbeinu And Rabbi Akiva" | Menachot 29b |
| 2 | Moshe went up to heaven | Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999Theodicy and Torah 182ff | Menachot 29b |
| 3 | "These and these are the words of the living God" | Michael Rosensweig, “*Elu Va-Elu Divre Elokim Hayyim*: Halakhic Pluralism and Theories of Controversy.” Tradition26:3, 1992. | Eruvin 13b |
| 4 | "These and these are the words of the living God" | Leaves of Faith page 65ff | Eruvin 6b, Sanhedrin 88b |
| 5 | "It`s not in heaven" | Urbach "The Sages" 118,119 | Bava Metzia 59b |
| 6 | "It`s not in heaven" | Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999  Torah, Shame and the oven of Akhnai 34ff | Sanhedrin 68a |
| 7 | The "Disappearance" of Elazar ben Aruch | Goshen Gottstein A, "Rabbi Eleazar b. Arakh: Symbol and Reality," Gafni, Jews and Judaism in the Second Temple, Mishna and Talmud Period | Avot 2:8,9,14. Chagiga 14b Adrn chapter 6,14, Shabbat 147b,Kohelet R. ch.7, [Midrash Tanaim 26:13,] |
| 8 | "Four who entered Pardes" | Meditation & Kabbalah 24-27,A. Kaplan,  Gottstein, Alon Goshen. "Four Entered Paradise Revisited." The Harvard Theological Review 88, no. 1 (1995): 69-133  A. van der Heide, 'PARDES: Methodological Reflections on the Theory of the Four Senses', Journal of Jewish Studies 35 (1983), pp. 147-159 | Chagiga 14b, |
| 9 | Elisha ben Avuya | Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltmore 1999  Torah,  Elisha ben Abuya- Torah and the Sinful Sage 64ff | Chagiga 15a |
| 10 | Elisha ben Avuya | Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture, Baltimore 1999  Elisha ben Abuya- Torah and the Sinful Sage 64ff | Jerusalem Talmud Chagiga 2:1 |
| 11 | What is Chanukah? | Alon, Gedalia. Did the Jewish People and Its Sages Cause the Hasmoneans to Be Forgotten? 1977, 1977. | Shabbat 21a |
| 12 | Write on a Horn of a Bull |  | Yerushalmi Shabbat 2:1 |

**ג. חובות הקורס:**

**דרישות קדם:**

**Mastery of basic texts, including commentaries, understanding of ideas.**

**חובות / דרישות / מטלות:**

**מרכיבי הציון הסופי (ציון מספרי / ציון עובר)**:

**grade will be given in numbers**

**30% grade will be based on attendance and participation**

**70% of grade based upon the final exam**

**ד. ביבליוגרפיה:** (חובה/רשות)

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Alon, Gedalia. Jews, Judaism, and the classical world, Jerusalem, the Magnes Press, Jerusalem, 1977, p. 1-17

Bialik, H, N. Revealment And Concealment : Five Essays Translated by Zali Gurevitch Ibis Editions Jerusalem 2000

Braude, W.G., Pesikta Rabbati (Yale Judaica series 18), New Haven 1968

Freedman, H., & Simon M., Midrash Rabba (10 vols) London 1939

Epstein, I. The Babylonian Talmud Soncino press London

Gilat, Y.D. R. Eliezer Ben Hyrcanus – A Scholar Outcast. Bar Ilan University Press, Ramat Gan 1984,

Ginzberg L. The Legends of the Jews (Volumes 1-6) Philadelphia, 1913-1928

Goldin, J., Fathers according to Rabbi Nathan (Yale Judaica series 10), New Haven 1955

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Kahn, A, Emanations Targum Michigan, 2001

Kahn, A, Explorations Targum Michigan, 2002

Kahn,A, Echoes of Eden Gefen Jerusalem 2011

Kaplan, Aryeh, Immortality, Resurrection, And the age of the Universe; A Kabbalistic view Ktav Hobokin N.J. 1993

Kaplan, Aryeh Sefer Yetzirah, Weiser, Maine 1990

Korman, A. Deciphering Aggadot, Tel Aviv 1991 (Hebrew)

Lichtenstein, A, Leaves of Faith (volume one Ktav Publishing House 2003

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Feldman, A, The Juggler and the King, Feldheim, Jerusalem 1990

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Rubenstein, J. L,. Stories of the Babylonian Talmud Baltimore 2010

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**Articles:**

Aharon, Arend – “The Purim Meal of Rabbah and R. Zera - Explanation of Talmudic Commentators” BDD 8 1999(Hebrew)

[Edwards, Laurence L.](https://www.questia.com/searchglobal#!/?contributor=Edwards%2c%20Laurence%20L.) “Rabbi Akiba's Crowns Postmodern Discourse and the Cost of Rabbinic Reading” [Judaism: A Quarterly Journal of Jewish Life and Thought](https://www.questia.com/library/p439149/judaism-a-quarterly-journal-of-jewish-life-and-thought) [Vol. 49, No. 4](https://www.questia.com/library/p439149/judaism-a-quarterly-journal-of-jewish-life-and-thought/i2983525/vol-49-no-4-fall), Fall 2000

Goshen Gottstein, A, "Rabbi Eleazar b. Arakh: Symbol and Reality," Gafni, Jews and Judaism in the Second Temple, Mishna and Talmud Period

Gottstein, Alon Goshen. “Four Entered Paradise Revisited.” The Harvard Theological Review 88, no. 1 (1995): 69-133

Harvey, W.Z. “The Pupil, the Harlot and Fringe Benefits” Prooftexts 6 (1986) 259-264

Levine, N, “Reading Crowned Letters and Semiotic Silences in Menachot 29b” Journal of Jewish studies, vol. liii , no. 1, spring 2002

Lubitch R, “A feminist's look at Esther” Judaism: Vol. 42, No. 4, Fall 1993

Rosensweig, M, “*Elu Va-Elu Divre Elokim Hayyim*: Halakhic Pluralism and Theories of Controversy.” Tradition 26:3, 1992.

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**חומר מחייב למבחנים:**

**required material for the exam, all primary texts and commentaries, including material discussed in class.**

 5777

אגדות חז"ל

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Aggadot

Syllabus 2016/17

**סוג הקורס:** שיעור - Lecture

**שנת לימודים**: 5777 (2017) **סמסטר**: ב 2 **היקף שעות**: 2

1. **מטרות הקורס (מטרות על / מטרות ספציפיות):**

**course objective**

An in depth study in the non-legal sections of the Talmud. The student will be introduced to the "Aggadic" sections of the Talmud in an attempt to understand the underlying philosophy of the Talmudic sages. Primary sources will be consulted, where necessary literary analysis will be employed.

1. **תוכן הקורס:**

**Students will be presented with primary texts and major commentaries. Texts will be studied and analyzed both in context, and within the larger literature.**

**מהלך השיעורים:**

**תכנית הוראה מפורטת לכל השיעורים:** (רשימה או טבלה כדוגמת המצ"ב)

Topic: Interplay of Halacha and Aggada - Drinking on Purim

Primary source: Megila 7b

**Additional readings:**

Sanhedrin 65b, Shabbat 156b, Chulin 8a

Bialik "Halakhah and Aggadah," in Revealment And Concealment.

Aharon Arend - The Purim Meal of Rabbah and R. Zera - Explanation of Talmudic Commentators, BDD 8 1999 (Hebrew)

Topic: The Purim Story through the Prism of the Talmud

Primary source: Talmud Bavli Megila 10b, 12a,b

**Additional readings:**

Rivkah Lubitch, “A feminist's look at Esther” Judaism: Vol. 42, No. 4, Fall 1993

Topic: Is Esther Written in the Torah?

Primary source: Talmud Bavli Hullin 139b

**Additional readings:**

Tikunie Zohar 57b

Topic: The Four Sons in the Jerusalem Talmud

Primary source: Jerusalem Talmud Pesachim 10:4 (37d)

**Additional readings:**

Rabbi Ari Kahn, “The Wicked Son in the Passover Haggadah”, **Available** <http://arikahn.blogspot.co.il/2009/04/wicked-son-in-passover-haggadah.html>

Rabbi Mishael Zion, Wicked: 20th Century Lessons from the Art of the Wicked Child <http://textandcity.blogspot.co.il/2012/03/wicked-20th-century-lessons-from-art-of.html>

Topic: Tal, Dew and Resurrection

Primary source: Talmud - Megilah 31a, Rosh HaShana 10b

Sanhedrin 97b

**Additional readings:**

Rabbi Ari Kahn, “THESE BONES WILL LIVE!”

<http://arikahn.blogspot.co.il/search?q=these+bones>

Topic: THE STUDENTS OF RABBI AKIVA

Primary source: Yevamot 62b

**Additional readings:**

Sperber Minhagi Yisrael 101-111, Emanations 83-96

Redemption and repentance in Talmudic Judaism, Ephraim E. Urbach, Collected Writings in Jewish Studies 264-280

Topic: The "threat" of Rav Shimon bar Yochai

Primary source: Pesachim 112a,

**Additional readings:**

Yerushalmi Taanit 4:8, Rambam Milachim 11:3, San. 12a, Brachot 61b (Yerushalmi Brachot 9:7) Ben Yohoyoda Pesachim , אבני שוהם פרשת ואתחנן cited in Korman 179 note 18, Korman 172-183

Topic: Rav Shimon Bar Yochai

Primary source: Shabbat 33b

**Additional readings:**

Sukkah 28aSukka 45b

“The Education of R. Shimon bar Yohai” Rubenstein J. L, Talmudic Stories, 105-138

Topic: The First Man

Primary source: Chagiga 13b-14a

**Additional readings:**

Midrash Rabbah - Genesis II:5, Midrash Rabbah - Genesis III:7, Midrash Rabbah - Genesis XII:3, Guide for the Perplexed 1:7

Kaplan, Aryeh, Immortality, Resurrection, And the age of the Universe; A Kabbalistic view 1-15, 75-127

Topic: Jesus in the Talmud

Primary source: Sanhedrin 43a, Sanhedrin 107b Sota 47a,

**Additional readings:**

Herford "Christianity in Talmud & Midrash" 50-54, 83-86

Topic: "Rabbi" Eliezer ben Durdiya

Primary source: Avoda Zara 17a,

**Additional readings:**

Yoma 85b Mishna & Gemara,Rambam Comm. on the Mishna, Tosfot Yishanim "Teshuva",Rambam Yad,Teshuva 4:1; Yoma 29a (top line) Rashi, Rambam Guide sec. 3 chapter 8, Peli "On Repentance" (Soloveitchik)269-277

Topic: The Repentance of Resh Lakish

Primary source: Bava Metziah 84a

**Additional readings:**

“Rabbi Johanan and Resh-Lakish” Wiesel, Élie, Alei Shefer (1990) 175-194

**ג. חובות הקורס:**

**דרישות קדם:**

**Mastery of basic texts, including commentaries, understanding of ideas.**

**Attendance, participation, and final exam**

**חובות / דרישות / מטלות:**

**מרכיבי הציון הסופי (ציון מספרי / ציון עובר)**:

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**ד. ביבליוגרפיה:** (חובה/רשות)

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**required material for the exam, all primary texts and commentaries, including material discussed in class.**