 **Date: Fall – Winter 2021-22**

Course Name and Number:

***Introduction to the Jewish Experience - Meir Balofsky***

**Year of Studies: Semester: Hours/credits**

**The courses objectives:**

*Participants will gain a strong familiarity and understanding of major figures, texts and aspects of ritual observance.*

**Course Description:**

*Content will include*

*\* Selections of the Torah narrative*

*\* Selections of the Joshua, Judges, Kings narrative*

*\* First, Second and post Second Temple eras*

**The Process of the Course:**

**Semester 1**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Comment | Topic of the Lesson | Lesson |
| *Age of the universe* | Age of the Universe – Creation. The Jewish Year and timeline. | 1 |
| *Relative Morality* | From Adam to Abraham – The Flood | 2 |
| *Understanding the “Tent” of Avraham* | The Patriarchs and Matriarchs | 3 |
| *Relationships* | Patriarchs and Matriarchs II | 4 |
| *The Kippa debate* | Joseph Narrative | 5 |
| *The Nazi Playbook* | Slavery of Egypt | 6 |
| *How & why we celebrate* | The 10 Plagues | 7 |
| *Purpose of Mass Revelation* | Revelation at Sinai – 10 commandments | 8 |
| *What are the 5 books of the Torah?* | Spies – 40 Years. End of the Torah. | 9 |
| *Tribal lands – Role of King* | Joshua – Judges – King David | 10 |
| *A world with the Temple* | First Temple – Aliyah L’Regel | 11 |
|  | Review | 12 |

**Course requirements**

*Semester 1: Final exam. 50%*

*Written one-page assignment on a Biblical figure of their choice. 25%*

*Participation/ Attendance: 25%*

**Grade Components (Number grade or pass/fail) .** Number Grade.

**Required textbooks, other textbooks -** all content will be provided

**Required material for the final** – all content will be provided