

Date: Aug. 2025

Syllabus - Teaching Program for the Course

**Survey of Biblical Women**

**Dr. Chana Tannenbaum|** **Midrasha  
05-306-81**

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Type:** | Lecture |
| **Scope of credits:** | 1 |
| **Year of study:** | 2025- 2026 |
| **Semester:** | Spring |
| **Day & Time:** | Thursday 9:00-10:15 |
| **Reception Time:** | Thursday 12:00-13:00 |
| **Lecturer Email:** | DrCTann@gmail.com |

**Course description and learning goals**

**Course Abstract**

This course offers an in-depth examination of the women in the Bible, exploring their roles, stories, and significance within the religious, cultural, and historical contexts of the biblical texts. Students will engage with a variety of sources, The written Torah and Oral Torah, to uncover the diverse representations of women and their impact on religious traditions and contemporary thought. Through critical analysis, discussion, and comparative study, students will gain a deeper understanding of the complex portrayals and contributions of biblical women.

**Learning objectives**

This course aims to provide a comprehensive survey of biblical women, fostering a nuanced understanding of their roles and significance while encouraging critical engagement with the texts and their contemporary implications.

**Knowledge**

1. Learners will identify and describe key female figures in the Bible, their stories, and their significance within the narrative structure of biblical texts.

**Skills**

1. Learners will analyze the biblical texts to understand the roles and representations of women and their ramifications.
2. Learners will critically evaluate the literary depictions of biblical women, considering themes such as power, agency, morality, and faith.
3. The learners will develop skills in close textual analysis, focusing on key passages that highlight the experiences and roles of women in the biblical narrative.

**Values (if applicable)**

The learners will discuss the theological implications of the portrayals of women in the Bible and how these have influenced religious beliefs and practices.

The learners will reflect on the relevance of biblical women's stories in contemporary discussions about gender, religion, and society, and the applications when relevant to their lives.

**Active learning –** **lessons plan:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lesson No. | Topic | Active learning | Required reading | Assessment |
| 1 | Chava | Cooperative learning | Bereshit 1-3 |  |
| 2 | Imahot | Cooperative learning | Various chapters in Bereshit |  |
| 3 | Miriam | Cooperative learning | Various chapters in shemot and bamidbar |  |
| 4 | Midwives | Cooperative learning | Shemot Chapter 1 |  |
| 5 | Tzipporah | Cooperative learning | Various chapters |  |
| 6 | Vashti | Cooperative learning | Esther 1 |  |
| 7 | Avigayle | Cooperative learning | 1 Shmuel 25 |  |
| 8 | Chulda | Cooperative learning | 2 Kings 22 |  |
| 9 | Witch of Endor | Cooperative learning | 1 Shmuel 28 |  |
| 10 | Jezebel | Cooperative learning | 1 Kings 21 |  |
| 11 | Ataliah | Cooperative learning | 2 Kings 11 |  |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |

(In a course that lasts a whole year, the additional sessions should be added)

\* There may be changes in the syllabus depending on learning progress and effectiveness

**Final grade**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description of the learning product | Weight in the final score |
| Midterm | Will account for 25% of the final grade |
| Final | 50% of final grade |
| Class Participation | 25% |
|  |  |

**Course** requirements

* **Assignments** – assigned to the student as part of the course, such as: exercises, written work, reports, presentations.
* **Attendance** – if there is a requirement – it must be explicitly stated and defined. Usually 80-85% attendance is required. In laboratories, workshops, etc., higher attendance may be required.

 **Prerequisites**

**Students should have a working knowledge of Biblical Stories and a true desire to learn.**



**Bibliography: Up-to-date** **reading, viewing, and listening content items**

* Recommended content – enrichment reading.

Tzillponit:

Bamidbar Rabba 1-:5

Divrie Hayamin 1:4:1-3

Baba Batra 91a

Eruvim 18b

Sota 10a

Aggadah Bereshit: Buber;53

Abarbenel

Rambam Hil Nizirut 3:13

Chana:

Rosh Hashana 10b/11b

Brachot 29a/31

Yalkut Shimoni 77

Baba Batra 16a

Malbim Shmuel 1:1:9

Rambam Hil Yesodie hatorah 6:1-2

Radak Shmuel 1:1:11

Nefesh Hachaim 2:10

Shunamit:

Rashi/Radak 2 Kings 4:8

Rashi 2 Kings 4:15/4:29

Devarim Rabbah 7/10

Kol Dodi Dofek p 70/75

Ritzpeh

Yevomot 78:

Rashi Shmuel 2:21

Yehoshua 9

Bamidbar Rabba 8:4

2 Shmuel 3:7

Isiah 6:6

1 Kings 5:29

Michal

1 Shmuel 25

2 Shmuel 3

2 Shmuel 6

Sanhedrin 19b/20

Radak 2 Shmuel 18:20/21

Bereshit 31:19 Ramban eben ezra

Malbim 2 Shmuel 3:13

Radak 1 Shmuel 25?43

Titz Eliezer 5:22

Bamidbar Rabba 4:21

Medrash Shmuel 25

Rambam Hil Lulav 8:15

Batya

1 Divrie Hayamim 4:18

Megillah 13a

Shemot Rabba 1/23

Medrash Tanchuma 8

Pisikta Drav Kahanna p129

The Righteous by Hayim Hefer

Bnot Lot:

Seforno Bereshit 19:8/31

Sanhedrin 109a

Ramban Bereshit 19:8/32

Rashi Ibid

Nazir 23a

Iggrot Moshe Even Haezer 4:64

Medrash Aggadah Bershit 20:1

Pilegeh Pgivah

Rambam Hil milachim 4:4

Hil Ishiot 1:4

Gittin 6b

Rashi Shoftim 19:2/22/28

Radak Shoftim 19:2/3

Iggrot Moshe Yoreh deah 2:150

Tamar

Rashi Bershit 38;1/2/11/14/26

Sota 10b

Shemot Rabba 30:19

Or Hachaim Bershit 49:9

Seforno Bershit 38:10/16/26

Bershit Rabba 85

Nazir 23b

Goan MBreshev

Rut

Bamidbar 25

Devarim 23

Rebbi Mkotsk-shem mishmuel

Rut Rabba 2:5,12,16/7/19

Yevamot 99

Yoma 22b

Baba Batra 91a

Tamar

Sanhedrin 21

Tosofot ad loco

Avot 5:15

Rambam Hil Biah 22:3

On Repentance. Rav Soloveitchik 216-2118