

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