

Syllabus - Teaching Program for the Course

**Topics in Jewish Law (Halakhah) Men’s Level 1**

**סוגיות בהלכה**

**Rabbi Eli Menaged הרב אלי מנגד**07-956-03| Topics in Jewish Law (Halakhah) Men’s Level 1

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| **Course Type:** | Lecture  |
| **Scope of credits:** | 1 |
| **Year of study:** | 2025-2026 |
| **Semester:** | Spring Semester |
| **Day & Time:** | Mondays, 10:30 a.m – 12:00 p.m. |
| **Reception Time:** | By appointment only |
| **Lecturer Email:** | RabbiMenaged@israelxp.com |
| **Moodle Site:** | Sign in through Lemida portal |

**Course description and learning goals**

**Course Abstract**

An overview of Jewish law on the topics of *Kashrut, Berachot, Purim,* and  *Pesach* based primarily on various *simanim in Shulchan Aruch Yoreh Deah* and in *Ohr Hahayim simanim* 172-215, *429-480,* and785-796. The objective of this course is to discuss the practical daily laws in which a person is obligated. Each topic will include the textual source, rabbinic philosophy, and practical mechanics of observance. Discussion is highly encouraged.

**Learning objectives**

The primary focus of the course is familiarity with the practical implementation (*halakhah* *lema’aseh*) of daily halakhah. Students will be given an English source book that includes the main laws in each *siman*, followed by various later commentaries (*Ahronim*) on each *halakhah*. The range of views on each law within Orthodoxy will be addressed, from strict to lenient, including the Ashkenazi and Sepharadi perspectives.

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

**Detailed Lesson Plan:**

1

**Topic:** Intro to the Laws of *Kashrut*

This lecture will give a brief overview of the laws of *Kashrut*. Focus will be placed on the primary reasons given by the *Rishonim* for this obligation.

**Primary source**:

Guide to the Perplexed 3:48, Ramban Vayikra 11:13, Abarbanel Vayikra Chapter 11, Yoma 39a, Mesilas Yesharim chapter 11, Rambam Hilchot Maachalot Asurot 7:32, Nodah Biyehudah Yoreh Deah 10, Rabbeinu Bachyei Vayikra 11:13.

**Additional readings:**

Tosafot Avodah Zara (10b ד"ה אמר), Bedikat Mazon vol. 1 chapter 1, Horeb pages 314-331, Chatam Sofer Torat Moshe end of parshat kedoshim. , Nechama Leibovitch Parashat Shemini pages 119-128, Yeshayahu Leibovitch Parashat Shemini pages 476-478.2

**Topic**: Laws of *Kashrut* of Meat and Poultry.

The lecture will discuss the basics of the slaughter process, checking for blemishes, and the differences between the different standards of meat sold today under different kosher certifications.

**Primary source**:

Vayikrah 11:3-7, 11:47, 17:13, 20:25, 22:28

**Additional readings:**

Rambam Hilchot Maachalot Asurot 1:1, Hullin 59a and 134b, Shulchan Aruch Yore Deah 13:1, 16:1-2, 61:1-2,8, 62:1 82:2, Yalkut Yosef Isur Veheter volume 1 page 118-119, Sefer Hachinuch Mitzvah 294, Devarim 12:23, Sanhedrin 56a, Rambam Hilchot Melachim 9:1, Taz 62:1, Shach 62:2, Siftei Daat 62:2.

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**Topic**: Laws of *Kashrut* of Milk, Eggs, Honey, C*halav Yisrael* and *Chalav Stam*

**Primary source**:

Shulchan Aruch Yore Deah 115:1

**Additional readings:**

Bechorot 5b-7b, Avodah Zarah 35b, 39b, Pri Chadash 115:6, Shut Radavaz siman 75, Pri Toar 115:1, Shut Chatam Sofer yoreh deah 107, Aruch Hashulchan 115: 5-6, Hida in Shiurei Beracha siman 115, Yechave Daat helek 4 siman 42, Sdei Chemed chelek 8, Yalkut Yosef Isur Veheter volume 2 siman 81:10-11, Igrot Moshe Yore Deah 1:47, Sefer Hakashrut page 217 note 39, Minchat Yitzhak chelek 10 siman 21 ot 15, Chelkat Yaakov chelek 2 siman 37, tziz eliezer chelek 16 siman 25

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**Topic**: Laws of *Kashrut* of Blood, Fish, Insects, and Humans

**Primary source:**

Shulchan Aruch Yore Deah 66

**Additional readings:**

Vayikra 7:26-27, Igros Moshe Y.D. 1:36, Vayikra 11:12, 21-22, Hullin 59a, Rama Y.D. 66:10, 79:1, Rambam Hilchot Maachalot Asurot 2:3, Ramban Vayikra 11:4, Darkei Teshuva Y.D. 66:69-72, Kaf Hahayim Y.D. 66:47,50, Yalkut Yosef Y.D. 66:19, Darkei Teshuva Y.D. 66:68, Kaf Hahayim Y.D. 66:48, Yad Avraham Y.D. 66, Shulchan Aruch Y.D. 81:7, 87:4.

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**Topic**: Laws of Gelatin and Mixing Meat and Milk

**Primary source**:

Igrot Moshe Y.D. 2:23, 27, Yabia Omer Volume 6 Y.D. 11, Shemot 23:19, Shemot 34:26, Devarim 14:21 and Shulchan Aruch 87.

**Additional readings:**

Minchat Yitzhak 5:5, Shut Har Tzvi Y.D. 83, Sefer Maasei Hashem on Parashat Ki Tissa, Ramban Devarim 14:21, Siftei Hachamim Devarim 14:21 note 8, Chullin 113b-116a, Tur 87, Rashi Shemot 23:19, Ramban 14:21 Rambam Hilchot Maachlot Asurot 9:2, Yalkut Yosef Isur Veheter vol 3 87:56, Siftei Daat 87:16, Zivhei Tzedek 87:6, Mahazik Beracha 87:15, Dagul Mirvava 87:3, Piskei Teshuvot 87:6, Maadnei Hashulchan opening to Basar Bechalav ot 41 and 87:43. Tziz Eliezer volume 17 siman 33, Shulchan Aruch 89:4, Badei HaShulchan 89:99, Essay by Rabbi Menachem Genack, "Basar Bechalav Bevasar Neveilah" Mesorah III, pp. 92-96 at https://oukosher.org/content/uploads/2012/12/mes-3.pdf.

6

**Topic**: *Hilchot Sakanah* – Fish and Meat

**Primary source**: Pesachim 76b

**Additional readings**:

Laws of Kashrus page 356-357, Yalkut Yosef Otzar dinim leisha page 612, 622, Magen Avraham 173:1, Derasha in the Ben Ish Hai Shana Bet Parashat Pinhas, Yabia Omer Volume 1 Siman 8, Shulchan Aruch Yoreh Deah Siman 116:2-3, Yalkut Yosef Yore Deah siman 116:20-22, 26, Sefer Hakashurut page 312, 424-426, 436, Shemirat Haguf Vehanefesh 1:1-10, 15-16, 19, Piskei Teshuvot Siman 173:2, Ben Ish Hai Shana Bet Parshat Pinhas halacha 8 Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim 173:2, Kaf Hahayim 173, Shevet Halevi volume 3, question 111, Rama Yore Deah 116:3, Yalkut Yosef Ohr Hachaim 173:2-4,Sefer Kashrut Hashulchan Siman 3 halacha 4, Davar Harif 15:1-3,6, Halichot Olam volume 7 Parshat Pinchas halacha 6, Yabia Omer chelek 1 Yore Deah 8, Taz 116:2 , Pitchei Teshuva 116:3.

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**Topic**: *Hilchot Sakanah* - Fish and Milk; Eggs, Onions and Garlic

**Primary source:** Beit Yosef Yoreh Deah Siman 87, Niddah 17a

**Additional readings:**

Darkei Moshe Yoreh Deah Siman 87, Taz 87:3, Shach 87:5, Magen Avraham Ohr Hachaim 173, and the Pri Hadash 87:6. Yalkut Yosef Siman 87 halacha 82 note 82. Hida Machazik Bereacha Chelek Bet Yoreh Deah 87, Pitchei Teshuva 87:9, Aruch Hashulchan 87:15, Shemesh Umagen volume 4 yore deah siman 12, Rabeinu Bechaye Parashat Mishpatim, Yechave Daat volume 6 Siman 48, Ben Ish Hai Shana Bet Parashat Behalotecha Halacha 15, Rav Mordechai Eliyahu on his note on the Kitzur Shulchan Aruch Siman 33 Halacha 1 note 1, Kaf Hahayim 87:24, Piskei Teshuvot siman 173 halacha 3, Shemirat Haguf Vehanefesh 2:1, 3:1-2. Kaf Hahayim Ohr Hachaim 170:3, Kashrut Hashulchan Siman 4 halacha 3, Pri Chadash 116:9, Aruch Hashulchan Yoreh Deah 116:22, Beit Shlomo Yoreh Deah vol. 1 siman 189, Yabia Omer vol. 2 Yoreh Deah 7, Igrot Moshe Yoreh Deah vol. 3 siman 20, Ben Ish Hai Shana Bet Parashat Pinhas halacha 14.

8

**Topic**: Laws of the 4 *Parshiot,* the Month of *Adar,* and *Purim* – הלכות פורים

**Primary source**:

Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim Simanim 785-796.

**Additional readings:**

Taanit 29a-b, Mishnah berurah 580:15, 785:15-16, 786:8, 797:1-4, Chayei Adam Klal 155 halacha 1, Hazon Ovadia Purim page 3-10, 16-18, 31-34, 102, Piskei Teshuvot 580:4, 685:9 786:5, Pninei Halacha Zemanim 14:2-7, Torat Hamoadim Purim 1:4,7, 17, Bnei Banim 2:1, Moadim UZmanim vol 2, siman 167, Kitzur Shukchan Aruch 88:22, Halichot Shlomo 18:2.

9

**Topic:** Laws of *Pesach* - הלכות פסח

The lecture will discuss the laws of the month of Nisan, *bedikat hametz, biur hametz, mechirat hametz, chametz umatzah*, basics of *hilchot yom tov, hol hamoed* and *sefirat haomer*.

**Primary source**:

Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim 429-480.

**Additional readings:**

Pesachim 6a-b, Pninei Halacha Pesach 1:8, 4:11, 9:5, Hazon Ovadia hilchot Pesach pg 5-7, 32-33, 40, 49, 82, Mishna Brurah 263:27, 430:1, 470:2, 471:12, Piskei Teshuvot 431:2, 433:3-7, 437:1, 445:1, Kaf Hahayim 263:4, 433:89, Halichot Shlomo 5:6-11, 17, 19 Chazon Ish 116:18, Neta Gavriel pesach vol 1 perek 27 halacha 1, Teshuvot VeHanhagot 1:287, Yalkut Yosef Moadim page 353, Torat Hamoadim page 231.

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**Topic**: Laws of the *Seder* – הלכות הסדר

**Primary source**: Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim Simanim 472-481

**Additional readings:** Mishnah berurah Chazon Ovadia and Peninei Halacha on the *Halachot*

11

**Topic**: Laws of *Berachot*  – הלכות ברכות

This lecture will give an overview on *Berachot* on food.

**Primary source:**

*Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim simanim* 172-215

**Additional readings:**

Mishnah berurah simanim 172:1-5, 185:1, 193:5, 196:4, 202:84, 413:19, 414:1-4, 204:40-48, 210:14-19, Yalkut Yosef 172:1, 210:7-8,196:1-2, 204:10-13, Chayei Adam 49:1-10, 50:1, 51:15, Yabia Omer 7:33, Ohr Letzion vol 2 14:8, Piskei Teshuvot 172:2, 196:3, 202:34, Pninei Halacha Berachot 1:4-5, 9:1-2, 12:10, Birkat Hashem vol. 1 3:5-6, vol. 2 1:12, Hazon Ovadia Berachot page 155, 158-163, 306-307, Berachot 35a, 51a, Kitzur Shulchan Aruch 50:1-2, 60:10, Shulchan Aruch 414:1, Devarim 8:10, Rambam Hilchot Melachim 6:10.

12

**Topic**: Laws of *Berachot* – הלכות ברכות

This lecture will discuss saying Hashem’s name in vain and laws of food mixtures.

**Primary source**:

*Shulchan Aruch Ohr Hachaim simanim* 172-215

**Additional readings:**

Piskei Teshuvot 215:8-12, 18, 216:10 note 57, Mishnah berurah 203:4, 206:3, 215:14-15, 20, Igrot Moshe Ohr Hachaim vol. 2 Siman 22 and 56, Yalkut Yosef 54:38, 101:6 215:7 , 10-14, Ohr Letzion vol. 2: 7:39, 14:33-35, Tevuat Shemesh Yoreh Deah siman 74, Hazon Ovadia Berachot page 513, Chayei Adam 5:2, Aruch Hashulchan 215:2, Siach Yitzhak siman 284, Magen Avraham 188:11 Pninei Halacha Berachot 4:8, Igrot Moshe Yore Deah vol. 1 siman 172, Vezot haberacha page 68

To encourage active learning classes are discussion based. Use of digital tools and picture books will be used during the lectures as well as hands on materials that relate to the specific halakhah discussed to demonstrate the nuances in practice.

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

**Final grade**

**Components of the score:**

**Grade will be given in numbers:**

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

**70% of grade will be based on the final exam**

**Course** requirements

* **Attendance** – students are allowed to miss two classes before their grade is impacted.
* **Class Whatsapp Group** – students are required to join the class whatsapp group.

 **Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

**Bibliography:**

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Messas, Shalom, *Tevuot Shemesh*. [Hebrew].

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