

Syllabus - Teaching Program for the Course

**Topics in the Torah (Parashah) Men’s**

**Level 1**

**סוגיות בתורה**

**Rabbi Eli Menaged הרב אלי מנגד**07-935-02| Topics in the Torah (Parashah) Men’s Level 1

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

**Course description and learning goals**

**Course Abstract**

An overview of the Torah portion from *Parashat Noah* until *Parashat Yitro*. The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the key events/statements that occur in each week’s portion. The secondary objective of the course is to examine how different commentators from the early commentators (*Rishonim)* to the later commentators (*Ahronim)* understand the narrative, with extra emphasis on Rashi’s approach.

**Learning objectives**

Class will be taught in discussion form, working through the topics in each torah portion. The primary focus is a clear understanding of the narrative through the different approaches of the commentators. Students will also begin to learn about the methods of exegesis used by the different commentators throughout the centuries.

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

**Detailed Lesson Plan:**

Lesson 1

**Topic:** *Parashat Noah*

**Primary source**: Genesis 6:9-11:32

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Rashi, Ramban, Ibn Ezra, Ohr Hahayim, Darash Moshe, Meam Loez, Sichot Musar, Professor Nechama Leibovitch, Rabbi Yaakov Medan, and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 2

**Topic**: *Parashat Lech Lechah*

**Primary source**: Genesis 12:1-17:27

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Moreh Nevuchim (3:24), Rashi, Ramban, Abarbanel, Meam Loez, Gan Rave, Rabbi Shimshon Refael Hirsch, Lev Eliyahu, and Leket Sichot Musar.

Lesson 3

**Topic**: *Parashat Vayerah*

**Primary source**: Genesis 18:1-22:24

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Sephorno, Leket Sichot Musar, and Sichot Musar.

Lesson 4

**Topic**: *Parashat Hayeh Sarah*

**Primary source:** Genesis 23:1-25:18

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Ben Ish Hai, and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 5

**Topic**: *Parashat Toledot*

**Primary source**: Genesis 25:19-28:9

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Hidah, and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 6

**Topic**: *Parashat Vayetzeh*

**Primary source**: Genesis 28:10-32:3

**Additional readings**:

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchuma, Rashi, Ramban, Emet Le-Yaakov and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 7

**Topic**: *Parashat Vayishlah*

**Primary source:** Genesis 32:4-36:43

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Rabbi Shlomo Wolbe and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 8

**Topic**: *Parashat Vayeshev* and *Miketz*

**Primary source**: Genesis 37:1-50:26

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Yalkut Shimoni, Rashi, Ramban, Beer Yosef, and Rabbi Ari Kahn,

Lesson 9

**Topic**: *Parashat Vayigash* and *Parashat Veyehi*

**Primary source**: Genesis 44:18-47:27

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Rabeinu Behaye, Kli Yakar, Sephorno, Hizkuni, Ohr Hahayim, Haemek Davar, Meam Loez, and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 10

**Topic**: *Parashat Shemot* and *Parasht Vaerah*

**Primary source:** Exodus 1:1-9:35

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Rambam and Rabbi Yaakov Medan,

Lesson 11

**Topic**: *Parashat Bo* and *Parashat Beshalah*

**Primary source**: Exodus 10:1-17:16

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, Professor Nechama Leibovitch, and Rabbi Ari Kahn.

Lesson 12

**Topic**: *Parashat Yitro*

**Primary source**: Exodus 18:1-20:23

**Additional readings:**

Selected readings from Midrash Rabbah, Midrash Tanchumah, Rashi, Ramban, and

Rabbi Ari Kahn.

To encourage active learning classes are discussion based. Use of digital tools and picture books will be used during the lectures.

\* 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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Arzan, Chanoch Henech, *Gan Rave*. Nofet Tzufim, Jerusalem, 2008. [Hebrew].

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Hirsch, Shimshon Refael, *Sefer Bereishit with Pirush Ha-Rav Hirsch*. Mossad Yitzhaq Breuer, Israel 1989. [Hebrew].

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Leibovitch, Nechama, *Iyunim Be-Sefer Bereshit.* Defus Meor Valoch, Israel. [Hebrew].

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Salant, Yosef Tzvi, *Beer Yosef.* Jerusalem, 1972. [Hebrew].

Sher, Yitzchak Isaac, *Leket Sichot Musar.* Yeshivat Kneset Yisrael Slabodka, Bnei Brak, 1995. [Hebrew].

Shmuelovitz, Chaim Leib, *Sichot Musar*. Jerusalem, 2004. [Hebrew].

*Talmud Bavli*. A. Bloom Brothers, Jerusalem, 2001. [Hebrew].

*Torat Chaim.* Mosad Harav Kook, Jerusalem 1993. [Hebrew].

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