

Academic Syllabus

Monday, August 2nd and Tuesday, August 3rd

Seminar Topic: Creation and Redemption

Faculty Moshe Halbertal (*Hebrew University/New York University School of Law*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

- Maimonides, *Mishneh Torah*, “Hilchot Melachim U’Milchamoteihem: The Laws of Kings and Their Wars” translated by Rabbi Eliyahu Touger (New York, Jerusalem: Maznaim Publishing, 1990), pp. 222-253.
- Maimonides, *Mishneh Torah*, “Hilchot Teshuvah: The Laws of Repentance” translated by Rabbi Eliyahu Touger (New York, Jerusalem: Maznaim Publishing, 1990), pp. 174-231.
- Nachmanides, *Ramban: Commentary on the Torah, Genesis*, trans. Charles B. Chavel (New York, N.Y.: Shilo Publishing House, 1976), vol. 1, 5 pp. 59-80, 132-143.
- Nachmanides, *Perushe Ha-Torah, Bereshit*, (Jerusalem, Israel.: Mossad Harav Kook, 1962), vol. 1, pp. 30-40, 62-67.
- Nachmanides, *Ramban: Commentary on the Torah, Leviticus*, trans. Charles B. Chavel, (New York, N.Y.: Shilo Publishing House, 1976), vol. 5, pp. 59-73, 454-477.
- Nachmanides, *Perushe Ha-Torah, Vayikrah*, (Jerusalem, Israel.: Mossad Harav Kook, 1962), vol. 1, pp. 27-31, 182-192.
- Nachmanides, *Ramban: Commentary on the Torah, Deuteronomy*, trans. Charles B. Chavel (New York, N.Y.: Shilo Publishing House, 1976), vol. 3, pp. 74-90, 339-343.
- Nachmanides, *Perushe Ha-Torah, Devarim*, (Jerusalem, Israel.: Mossad Harav Kook, 1962), vol. 1, pp. 370-377, 478-481.
- Gershom Scholem, “Toward an Understanding of the Messianic Idea in Judaism” in *The Messianic Idea in Judaism and Other Essays on Jewish Spirituality*, (New York: Schocken Books, 1971), pp. 1-36.

Wednesday, August 4th and Thursday, August 5th

Seminar Topic: Love and Death

Faculty Abe Socher (*Oberlin College*)

Day 1: Lecture

- Alexander Altmann, “Maimonides’s Four Perfections” in *Essays in Jewish Intellectual History* (Hanover, NH and London, England: University Press of New England, 1981), pp. 65 – 76.
- Gershom Scholem, “Devekut, or Communion with God” in *The Messianic Idea in Judaism and other essays on Jewish Spirituality* (New York: Schocken Books, 1971), pp. 203-227.

Day 2: Text Study

- *Zohar: The Book of Enlightenment*, translated by Daniel Chanan Matt (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1983), pp. 121-127, 248-255.
- Maimonides, *Guide of the Perplexed*, translated by Shlomo Pines (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1963), pp. 618-638.

Friday, August 6th

Seminar Topic: Justice and Injustice

Faculty David Novak (*University of Toronto*)

- Genesis, chapter 18 in *The JPS Torah Commentary: Genesis*, translated by Nahum M. Sarna (Philadelphia, New York, Jerusalem: Jewish Publication Society, 1989) (Hebrew / English edition), pp. 128-134.
- Plato, *Euthyphro*, translated by Thomas G. West and Grace Starry West, in *Plato and Aristophanes: Four Texts on Socrates*, (Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1984), pp. 41 – 61.

Sunday, August 8th and Monday, August 9th

Seminar Topic: Law and Authority

Faculty Suzanne Stone (*Cardozo School of Law*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

- Rabbinic Sources (compiled by Suzanne Stone from the Bible, Talmud Bavli, and Maimonides’ “Mishneh Torah”)

- Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Oxford University Press: 1996), pp. 466-469
- Kahn, *The Cultural Study of Law* (University of Chicago, 2000), pp. 42-55, 66-77.

Tuesday, August 10th and Wednesday, August 11th

Seminar Topic: God and Politics

Faculty

Leon R. Kass (*University of Chicago*)

Day 1: Lecture – “Founding Civil Society: The Noahide Code and Covenant”

- Genesis, chapters 1-11. *Especially focus on Chapter 8:17 -9:17*
- Leon R. Kass, “Chapter Four: Fratricide and Founding: The Twisted Roots of Civilization” in *The Beginning of Wisdom: Reading Genesis* (New York: Free Press, 2003), pp. 123-150.
- Leon R. Kass, “Chapter Five: Death, Beautiful Women, and The Heroic Temptation: The Return of Chaos and the Flood” in *The Beginning of Wisdom: Reading Genesis* (New York: Free Press, 2003), pp. 151-167.

Day 2: Text Study – “Founding the Israelite Nation: The Ten Commandments”

- Exodus, chapters 1-24. *Especially focus on Chapters 19 and 20, most especially Chapter 20: vv.1-17.*
- Leon R. Kass, “Chapter Eight: Babel: The Failures of Civilization” in *The Beginning of Wisdom: Reading Genesis* (New York: Free Press, 2003), pp. 217-243.