

# Academic Syllabus

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Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>

## **Seminar Topic: Creation and Redemption**

Faculty                      Jon D. Levenson (*Harvard University Divinity School*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

### **Primary Sources:**

*The first seven passages below appear in The Jewish Study Bible (ed. Adele Berlin and Marc Zvi Brettler; New York: Oxford University Press, 2004). The order of the pages and passages reflects the order in which the texts will be discussed in our session. (The annotations in this book are optional but often helpful).*

- Psalm 74, pp. 1363-64
- Isaiah 51, pp. 887-89
- Job 40:25-41:3, pp. 1559-60
- Psalm 104, pp. 1397-98
- Isaiah 27:1, pp. 835
- Psalm 93, pp. 1387-88
- Genesis 1:1-2:3, pp. 12-14 (*The notes and diagram for this passage in The Jewish Study Bible may be especially helpful to you*)
- Genesis Rabbah 1:5 in *The Midrash Rabbah*, translated under the editorship of Freedman H. and Maurice Simon, (1977), pp. 2-3.

### **Secondary Sources:**

- Richard J. Clifford, "The Hebrew Scriptures and the Theology of Creation," *Theological Studies* 46 (1985): 507-23.
- Jon D. Levenson, *Creation and the Persistence of Evil: The Jewish Drama of Divine Omnipotence* (2nd edition; Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), pp. 14-46, 100-120.

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Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

## **Seminar Topic: Love and Death**

Faculty                      Michael Morgan (*Indiana University*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

- Franz Rosenzweig, *The Star of Redemption*, translated by William Hallo (New York, Chicago and San Francisco: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970,1971), pp. 156-164, 167-171, 173-185, 198-206.
  - Emmanuel Levinas, “Philosophy, Justice and Love” in *Entre Nous: Thinking of the Other* (Columbia, 1998), pp. 103-121, 242-243.
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Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar Topic: Justice and Injustice**

Faculty                      Michael Walzer (*Institute for Advanced Study*)

- Michael Walzer, *Spheres of Justice: A Defense of Pluralism and Equality* (New York: Basic Books Inc., 1983), pp. 3-30, 68-74, 190-196, 201-204.
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Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar Topic: Law and Authority**

Faculty                      David Novak (*University of Toronto*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

- Maimonides, *Mishne Torah*, “Hilkhhot Mamrim” in *Sefer Shoftim* (Mossad Harav Kook: Israel, 1962), chapters 1-2.
  - Maimonides, “Rebels” in *The Code of Maimonides: The Book of Judges*, translated by Abraham Hershman (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1949), pp. 137-143.
  - Maimonides, *Mishne Torah*, “Hilkhhot Melakhim” in *Sefer Shoftim* (Mossad Harav Kook: Israel, 1962), chapters 8-9.
  - Maimonides, “Kings and Wars” in *The Code of Maimonides: The Book of Judges*, translated by Abraham Hershman (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1949), pp. 228-235.
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Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar Topic: God and Politics**

Faculty                      Steven Smith (*Yale University*)

Day 1 and Day 2:

- Spinoza, *Theological-Political Treatise*, translated by Samuel Shirley (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1998), Chpts. 1,3,4,7,17,20.
  - “Preface,” pp. 1-8.

- “Of Prophecy.” (Chapter 1), pp. 9-21.
- “Of the vocation of the Hebrews, and whether the gift of prophecy was peculiar to them” (Chapter 3), pp. 36-48.
- “Of the Divine Law” (Chapter 4), pp. 49-59.
- “Of the Interpretation of Scripture” (Chapter 7), pp. 86-104.
- “It is demonstrated that nobody can, or need, transfer all his rights to the sovereign power...” (Chapter 17), pp. 185-204.
- “It is shown that in a free commonwealth every man may think as he pleases, and say what he thinks” (Chapter 20), pp. 222-230.
- Leo Strauss, “Progress or Return? The Contemporary Crisis in Western Civilization,” *Modern Judaism, Vol.1, No.1*: (May, 1981), pp. 17-45.
- Isaac Bashevis Singer, “The Spinoza of Market Street” in *The Spinoza of Market Street* (New York: H. Wolff, 1961), pp. 1-24.