



ACADEMIC PROGRAM COURSE GUIDE 2024-2025



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TENTH GRADE





CORE AND ELECTIVES 10 TH GRADE

Judaic Studies	General Studies Core	Electives
Judaic Studies Core	English	
Talmud	History	Computer Science
Tanach	Jewish History	
	Mathematics	World
Halacha / Machshava	Science	Languages
	Health	Engineering
Hebrew	Education	
Hebrew	Physical Education	Art
Language		

ALL SOPHOMORES ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE :

4 Judaic Studies classes

1 Talmud 1 Tanach 1 Halacha- Machshava or Beit Midrash 1 Hebrew Language

5 General Studies Core classes

- 1 European History class
- 1 Jewish History class
- 1 Mathematics class
- 1 English class
- 1 Science class

1 Health Education class

1 Physical Education class

1 Elective class





JUDAIC STUDIES



- TALMUD
- TANACH
- HALACHA / MACHSHAVA
- HEBREW LANGUAGE



JUDAIC STUDIES

All Students are required to take **4 Judaic Studies classes**

Students who choose *Beit Midrash* Program: take two daily periods dedicated to Talmud instead of one. This program replaces the Halacha/Machshava requirement.

Students who choose Beit Midrash take Double Talmud (2 periods a day) 1 Tanach 1 Hebrew Language

Students who do not choose Beit Midrash take: 1 Talmud 1 Tanach 1 Halacha / Machshava 1 Hebrew Language

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TALMUD

Through the course of their study, students develop a sophisticated understanding and appreciation for Talmud study – its principles, methodologies, and law. Beyond developing their reading and comprehension skills, students develop training in analytical reasoning and logical argumentation, and learn how to navigate and debate complex legal and philosophical matters.

BEIT MIDRASH PROGRAM

Instead of the standard single-period Talmud course offerings listed below, students have the option to apply for our intensive Beit Midrash program, which offers two daily periods dedicated to Talmud instead of one. The extra time of Talmud study provides students with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in an intellectually challenging, yet relaxed learning environment. It also allows students to learn other parts of the given masechet at a faster pace [בקיאות] to be exposed to many different topics and concepts within the pages of the Talmud. Our aim is to foster a serious and enjoyable atmosphere that not only facilitates in-depth Torah learning and spiritual growth, but also encourages chavruta study, the formation of genuine friendships within the group, and the cultivation of supportive and meaningful relationships between students and their rebbeim. Students are trained to read and analyze Rashi, Tosafot, and other Rishonim inside. The course engages in intensive textual analysis, legal reasoning, and conceptual analysis. Graduates of our program have gone on to the most prestigious yeshivot and seminaries.

MASECHET PESACHIM

This year, we will be learning the tenth chapter of *Pesachim* in great depth. These topics pertain to the mitzvot performed on Shabbat and *Yom* (קידוש) and Pesach in particular (הבדלה) and Pesach in particular (מצה, מרור, ד' כוסות, הסיבה). We will explore how these mitzvot highlights the special sanctity of these days. Our thorough analysis of the principles underlying הלכות will showcase the depth of Torah and lead to a greater appreciation of Jewish Law.



TANACH

Our Tanach curriculum is divided by semester: in the Fall, students study Chumash, and in the Spring, they study Navi/Ketuvim.

CHUMASH: SEFER BEREISHIT (FALL)

For the school year 2024-2025, we will be learning *Sefer Bereishit*, We will belearning many familiar texts we may have studied in our childhood, except now we have the opportunity to learn them anew with fresh eyes, new perspectives, and more mature and sophisticated academic and interdisciplinary approaches. Special focus will be on the literal interpretation of the text (peshat) enriched by analyses drawn from classic commentators and midrashim. Attention will also be given to the language and structure of the text, as well as "big ideas" that emerge from them, allowing students to uncover timeless life lessons from the stories of our Avot and Imahot and the gradual emergence of the Jewish people.

NEVI'IM: MELACHIM (SPRING)

Students will be studying the book of Melachim with an emphasis on the sections related to Eliyahu (מלכים א פרק יז - מלכים ב פרק ב) and Elisha (מלכים א פרק ב - פרק). The powerful and mysterious persona of Eliyahu HaNavi spans over some of the most tumultuous chapters in Nach. Eliyahu confronts corruption and repeatedly risks his own life. His approach of zealotry is intense and powerful. He takes initiative in performing miracles and is successful in bringing the people back to G-d. His successor Elisha has a different approach. We will contrast the different approaches of these nevi'im and study what Jewish leadership could look like.

HALACHA/ MACHSHAVA



All sophomores not in the Beit Midrash program are required to take Halacha/ Machshava. During the Fall semester, students will study the laws of Shabbat. In the Spring semester, students will study Religious Zionist Thought.

HILCHOT SHABBAT (FALL)

In this class, students will learn about the laws of Shabbat, analyzing relevant sources, from the Torah, Mishnah and Talmud, earlier and later *halakhic* authorities (*Rishonim and Aharonim*). Students will trace each *halakha* from the source through the latest practical applications and will gain critical knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of Shabbat observance in the modern world today.

RELIGIOUS ZIONIST THOUGHT (SPRING)

Students will study the writing of the great Religious Zionist thinkers. We will start with the *Rishonim* such as Rav Yehuda Halevi and the Ramban who write beautifully both in poetic and Halachik literature about Eretz Israel. Then we will focus on the Zionistic writings and actions of the Achronim from both the world of Sefard and Ashkenazi. A few of the great luminaries we will focus include: The Gra and the Ba'al Shem tov and their students, Rav Judah Alkalai, Rav Kook, Rav Ovadia Yosef, Rav Soloveitchik and Rav Aharon Lichtenstein.



HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

עברית וספרות

Four years of Hebrew language and literature is a requirement. Students in the ninth grade are initially placed by ability level measured by personal interviews and formal placement tests.

Once placed, students may advance according to the following standard sequence:

- Preparatory Level מכינה
- Intermediate Level
- Grade Level
- Advanced Level בחינה

A student may begin his or her Hebrew Language study in the beginner's level and proceed to the intermediate level during the course of the ninth grade. In every grade there are class sections to accommodate the varying needs of each student. Students are placed in homogeneous classes with their peers at the precise level that will ensure they will be challenged to improve their language skills.

GENERAL STUDIES



- ENGLISH
- EUROPEAN HISTORY
- JEWISH HISTORY
- MATHEMATHICS
- SCIENCE
- HEALTH EDUCATION
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION



All students are required to take four years of English. Placements are determined by the department.

LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND WRITING II

This second-year foundation course focuses on issues of self-identity through a study of novel, drama, memoir, poetry and short story. Students do an intensive unit on writing the academic research paper, learning techniques of topic formation, note taking, outlining, as well as organizing and writing the paper. The focus is on primary sources. Documentation issues are thoroughly addressed. Students write for self-expression as well, using different genres. Grammar and vocabulary study are integrated into the curriculum as weekly features of instruction. Based on teacher and administrative input, students may be placed in sections that are specialized in order to address their needs for enrichment or remediation.

HISTORY -SOCIAL SCIENCE

Enrollment in the AP European History course requires administrative approval. Four years of history is required.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT: EUROPEAN HISTORY

The advanced placement program is designed to allow students the opportunity to pursue college level courses in high school. This course focuses on the areas of European history from the Renaissance through the Cold War. Students will read text material as well as original sources. Students will also refine their skills in the process of creating a full historical research paper. Teacher recommendations are required for entry into this course. Departmental and administrative approval is required.

EUROPEAN HISTORY

This is the second half of the two-year program in global history with an emphasis on European History. Students begin with the period of Enlightenment and the effect it had on the development of modern politics. They will explore how it influenced the French Revolution, sparking nationalist liberation movements throughout European nations and their colonial attachments. Next, they will examine how the Industrial Revolution had a tremendous effect on the way people within different parts of the World lived and interacted. Students will explore how such influences caused the age of imperialism eventually culminating in World War I and World War II. Students will witness the devastating, World altering effects of these conflicts resulting in a cold war between the superpowers. In addition, students will take a closer look into different areas of concentration, such as genocides and the struggle for the rights of the people. This course exposes students to a diverse array of primary source materials -- comparing these historical events to current issues to make these topics much more relatable. There are many interactive, experiential activities meant to promote thought while challenging the students to fully analyze historical incidents. Students will be better able to evaluate where they stand on issues that helped shape the World we live within today. Based on teacher and administrative input, students may be placed in sections that are specialized in order to address their needs for enrichment and/or remediation.

HISTORY -SOCIAL SCIENCE

EUROPEAN HISTORY: FOUNDATIONS

This is the second year of the two-year program in global history. Beginning in the period of the Enlightenment, students will consider not only important cultural developments but also the emergence of modern political thinking. They will study the impact of Enlightenment thinkers and the story of the French Revolution. They will cover the following topics in the twentieth century: the story of mass democracy, feminism, the two world wars and the cold war, and national independence movements/decolonization. In this skills-level class students will continue to develop vital skills in reading, writing, note taking, and critical thinking. Teachers will place a strong focus on skill development and use modified assessments and classroom material. The goal will be to use differentiated methods of teaching to reflect each student's needs.

JEWISH HISTORY

JEWISH HISTORY

Tenth Grade Jewish History is a required course. We will coordinate our coverage with an eye towards our AP and general modern European History courses, starting from c. 1500 to the present. In Jewish History, however, we will begin by focusing on Jewish life in Spain before the Spanish expulsion of Jews in 1492 and explore why expelled Jews held so fiercely onto their Sephardic identities wherever they went thereafter. Following the Spanish (and Portuguese) expulsions we will focus on the extraordinary highlights of European Jewish history, including Columbus, the Jews, and the Marranos, the impact of the Protestant/Catholic split on the Jews of Europe, Shabbetai Zevi, Jacob Frank, and the search for a messianic leader in the 17th and 18th centuries, the impact of the Enlightenment, the continuation of antisemitism despite an increasing secularization of Europe, the impact of the French Revolution and Napoleon on the Jews, Hasidism and Mitnagdim, Jewish challenges to orthodoxy in the 19th century, the emergence of Modern Orthodoxy, the Jews in World War I and World War II, while also covering Jewish emigration from Europe to the Americas, the Middle East and North Africa, and ultimately establishing the Jewish state in Palestine and by 1948, Israel.



MATHEMATICS

All tenth graders are required to take math. Placements will be determined by the department. The following course descriptions follow the new sequence of mathematics instruction beginning in the ninth grade of the 2023-34 academic year.

ACCELERATED ALGEBRA II WITH TRIGONOMETRY

Students enhance their algebraic skills and develop an understanding and mastery of trigonometric concepts. Students extend their study of real numbers, equations and inequalities, functions, systems of equations, polynomials, rational expressions, complex numbers, quadratic equations, transformations, second degree equations, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, an in depth study of trigonometric functions, graphs, identities, and equations, probability, and statistics.

ALGEBRA

This foundation course is for students in the tenth grade. The course aims to provide students with the fundamental algebraic skills necessary for working with variable expressions, equations, and verbal problems. Students learn about integers, rational numbers, equations and inequalities, exponents and polynomials, graphs and systems of equations, rational and radical expressions, relations and functions, and are introduced to probability and statistics. Students are encouraged to develop mathematical skills and work habits that will last throughout their academic careers.

ALGEBRA: FOUNDATIONS

This foundation course is for students in the 10th grade who have had little or no experience with Algebra. The course aims to provide students with the fundamental algebraic skills necessary for working with variable expressions, equations, and verbal problems. Students learn about integers, rational numbers, equations and inequalities, exponents and polynomials, graphs and systems of equations, rational and radical expressions, relations and functions, and are introduced to probability and statistics. Students are encouraged to develop mathematical skills and work habits that will last throughout their academic careers. The goal for the Foundations students in the 10th grade is to gain knowledge and skills in order to progress to the grade level course.

SCIENCE



CHEMISTRY

The chemistry course presents a modern view of chemistry with major emphasis on physical concepts and understanding interactions of matter. The objectives of the chemistry course are to introduce tenth grade science students to the following topics: phase change and gas laws, thermodynamics, atomic structure, periodic properties, bonding and chemical reactions, chemical kinetics and equilibria, periodic properties, stoichiometry, acidbase interaction, redox electrochemistry, organic chemistry, and nuclear chemistry. The course is taught at a descriptive conceptual level using demonstration to convey concepts wherever possible. A sequence of formal laboratory activities reinforces each topic and chemistry students are expected to become proficient in safely executing a lab protocol and eventually designing one of their own to test a given hypothesis. Sections will be differentiated to enable students to achieve the curricular goals of the course.

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Health Education encourages the student to examine, develop, maintain, and promote a healthy lifestyle. Healthy lifestyle choices with regards: to nutrition and physical activity; behavioral health; psychoactive drug use; and human life cycle/relational health will be explored and discussed. The curriculum areas of Health Education concentrate on all aspects of health: the mental, physical, social, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the individual.

Each student will examine individual values, self-esteem, and goals for the future. Students will have the opportunity to experientially develop their social and emotional skills, while creating a knowledge base of health vs disease, and the effects that genetics; environment; access to health care and choice of health behaviors, have on their overall well-being and longevity. Students are evaluated through tests, projects, and class participation.



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All sophomores are required to take physical education.

Mr. Malis / Ms. Arjang

Students are encouraged to meet their physical, emotional, and competitive needs through games, teams, and sports. Instruction will include units covering physical fitness, health, nutrition, flag football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball, and team handball.



ELECTIVES

- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- WORLD LANGUAGES
- ENGINEERING
- ART



All courses in the computer science department are electives. Teacher recommendation and administrative approval are required.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

This course is equivalent to a semester-long, college-level course in computer science. The course continues to teach students about computer science focused around seven big ideas: creativity, abstraction, data & information, algorithms, programming, the Internet and global impact. The course will use MIT App Inventor and the Blockly programming language to teach students about programming concepts in the context of mobile application development. The AP Computer Science Principles course includes a performance based task where students creatively design their own unique programming app. Collaboration will also be a key component in the class.



Students are encouraged to pursue their study of foreign language if they have completed advanced levels in previous years. Teacher recommendation and administrative approval are required.

SPANISH II

All students who have successfully completed Spanish I are eligible to take this course which is designed to reflect the main thrust of foreign language instruction: communication. This is effectuated by the continued concentration on the four areas of Spanish language mastery: reading, writing, speaking and listening. The teaching of Spanish II is thematic: vocabulary is introduced in manageable amounts and in meaningful contexts. In addition, one of the foremost goals of students enrolled in this course is to be able to function effectively with the spoken language and to hone their listening comprehension skills. The students further develop their knowledge of the culture and civilization of the Spanish-speaking world.

FRENCH II

The students continue to develop the four basic language proficiencies in a communicative setting. Emphasis continues to be on the acquisition of an extensive active vocabulary that will enable them to communicate in a wide variety of real-life situations. French language skills are enhanced by written application and reading and writing abilities are polished. Maximum communicative practice is afforded the student with additional concentration on listening skills. French newspapers, short stories and films are presented to stimulate discussion and reading comprehension.



All courses in the engineering department are electives. Teacher recommendation and administrative approval are required.

ENGINEERING DESIGN AND 3D MODELING

This course is an introduction to engineering design principles. Students will learn how to utilize Autodesk Fusion 360, a professional 3D design software used by engineers in the industry. Students will create a portfolio of models that showcase major mechanical and geometric relationships that are key design considerations. Design topics include: An introduction to the technical design process and key terminology, Geometric Constraints, Mechanical Advantage, Ergonomics, Power Transmission and Gear Ratios, Prototyping, Stress Concentration, Aerodynamics, and 3D Printer Operation. Students will learn how to convert their models to printable designs to be prototyped on the 3D Printer. The course will culminate in a project that showcases some of the design principles learned throughout the course. This course is a prerequisite for the 11th Grade Mechanical Engineering Course.



STUDIO ART I

Ms. Folk

This is the basic art course in which students will acquire knowledge that is intended to lead to a mastery of skills related to the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. In this course students will maintain an active sketchbook and journal and learn how to use a variety of media and illustrative materials. They will gain a historical knowledge of art by studying facets of art history and exploring artistic reference. Current trends and inspiration of the art world will be included in their studies. Museum and Gallery trips are planned.



FASHION I

Ms. Dammacco

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the world of fashion design. They will acquire knowledge and skills related to the principles of fashion illustration and design by utilizing a range of media and a variety of techniques to create versatility in their work. Students will learn the proportions of the fashion (croquis) figure. They will learn through the elements and principles of design as they pertain to fashion, design terminology for apparel and recognition of design styles are also included as components of the course. Students will be required to demonstrate creative use of inspiration and design experimentation through various projects and a design journal and will be assessed on their knowledge of terminology, styles and applicability of the elements and principles. Museum and fashion show trips are planned.

Architecture





ARCHITECTURE I

Ms. Dammacco

This is a course in which basic fundamentals of architecture are examined and perfected. While design will be the main emphasis for this level and the student should have a good background in basic mathematics. Students will learn about the design process and explore the architectural concepts of space, form, function, and technology. Students will learn how to create mechanical and freehand drawings, draw in 1, 2 and 3pt perspective, interpret and create floor plans, create orthographic and isometric drawings, understand drawing to scale and read blueprints, construct scale models, consult with groups on various approaches to design problems, address environmental concerns and conservation efforts, learn to render architectural styles, explore the history of architecture, reference the internet for architectural sources and create computer renderings using CAD. Trips to or visits by working architects are anticipated.

