

COURSE INFORMATION

DATE: September 2023
SCHOOL: Yeshiva High School of Ottawa
DEPARTMENT HEAD: Rabbi Michael Fine
TEACHER: Rabbi Michael Fine
DEPARTMENT: Judaic Studies



CURRICULUM POLICY DOCUMENT		N/A	
COURSE TITLE	Religious Studies	COURSE CODE	HRE43
PRE-REQUISITE	None	GRADE & TYPE	Grade 12 Open
FULL YEAR / SEMESTER	Full Year	CREDIT VALUE	1.0

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on chapters 44-50 of the Book of Genesis, and the first 6 chapters of the Book of Exodus, taught in the light of traditional Rabbinic commentaries and philosophers. Issues that will be discussed include the Exile of the Jewish People, Messiah and Future Redemption, Immigrants and Slaves, Jewish Leadership and Divine Revelation.

Through learning the classical text in the original Hebrew, students will learn about the stories that shape their Jewish identity and heritage. Attention will be given to the ethical issues and moral behaviour of the biblical personalities and the application of these behaviours to modern Jewish life.

This course will teach students to appreciate and partake in the history, culture and traditions of Jewish life. Religious study is basic to implementing the school's mission statement to "imbue our students with a love of Torah and learning and help them achieve the highest standards of Torah observance and ethical behaviour within the modern world."

Religious Studies, Grade 11, addresses the following four strands:

1. Reading and translating Biblical text from Hebrew to English
2. Rashi (commentary) text and conceptual analysis
3. Analysis of other commentaries
4. Philosophical, social and historical overview

UNITS OF STUDY

UNIT 1 — RECONCILIATION AND RETRIBUTION

TIME: 20 HOURS

The reconciliation between Esau and Jacob and appeasement of the latter to the former. Under what conditions do we stand our ground, and under which ones do we seek reconciliation?

UNIT 2 — ISRAEL VS. THE NATIONS

TIME: 20 HOURS

Jacob wrestles the Angel. The lessons derived therefrom for the eternal struggle with ourselves and between the Jews and those who seek to "wrestle" or oppress them. Jewish history in the diaspora in perspective of this struggle.

UNIT 3 — BETRAYAL AND REVENGE

TIME: 20 HOURS

Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery. What were their motivations and was Joseph at all at fault? What different examples of betrayal occurred in the above story, and which brothers were more culpable than others? Finally, was there any ethical justification for the betrayal?

UNIT 4 — STRUGGLE AND PERSEVERENCE **TIME: 15 HOURS**

Joseph's struggle to resist the temptation of Potiphar's wife. His struggle against wrongful imprisonment and what it says about our ability to withstand hardship for delayed success.

UNIT 5 — JEW IN A FOREIGN LAND **TIME: 15 HOURS**

The rise to power of Joseph in Egypt. How the story informs on a Jew's comportment in the modern world in positions of power and on our ethical responsibilities.

UNIT 6 — HUMANS AS AGENTS OF DIVINE RETRIBUTION **TIME: 20 HOURS**

To what extent can a human being act as an agent of God in dispensing retribution? Were Joseph's actions justified when he falsely accused his brothers of theft and thus enact their just desserts for his sale?

STUDENT EVALUATION CRITERIA					
TERM – 70%		FINAL – 30%		FINAL REPORT CARD GRADE CALCULATION	
Knowledge/Understanding	25%	Knowledge/Understanding	25%	TERM TOTAL + FINAL TOTAL = REPORT CARD MARK	
Inquiry/Thinking	25%	Inquiry/Thinking	25%		
Communication	25%	COMMUNICATION	25%		
Application	25%	Application	25%		

ASSESSMENT METHODS					
WRITTEN		PERFORMANCE		OTHER	
Multiple Choice	√	Reading / Translating	√	Teacher Observation	√
Short Answer	√	Class Discussion	√	Student Interviews	√
Reading / Translating	√	Group Work (deciphering text)	√	Rubrics	√
Research Presentation	√				

LEARNING SKILLS	
Report Cards will include a letter grade for the following Learning Skills:	
INDEPENDENT WORK	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ accomplishes tasks independently ▪ accepts responsibility for accomplishing tasks ▪ follows instructions ▪ regularly completes assignments on time and with care ▪ uses time effectively
COLLABORATION	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ works willingly and cooperatively with others ▪ listens attentively, without interrupting ▪ takes responsibility for his/her share of the work to be done ▪ helps to motivate others, encouraging them to participate ▪ shows respect for the ideas and opinions of others
ORGANIZATION	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ organizes work when faced with a number of tasks ▪ devises and follows a coherent plan to complete a task ▪ demonstrates ability to organize and manage information ▪ follows an effective process for inquiry and research
RESPONSIBILITY	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ completes homework on time and with care ▪ follows directions ▪ shows attention to detail

INITIATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ perseveres with complex projects that require sustained effort ▪ applies effective study practices
	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ seeks out new opportunities for learning ▪ seeks necessary and additional information ▪ requires little prompting to complete a task, ▪ approaches new learning situations with confidence and a positive attitude ▪ seeks assistance when needed
SELF-REGULATION	<p>The student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sets individual goals and monitors own progress ▪ seeks clarification or assistance when needed ▪ reflects and assesses critically own strengths, needs and interests ▪ perseveres and makes an effort when responding to challenges

NOTE: The above chart is a reformattting of the skills identified in the Ministry of Education's *Guide to the Provincial Report Card, Grades 9 – 12 : Appendix C: pages 27 to 29*.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
ATTENDANCE	<p>The Ontario Ministry of Education requires 110 hours of instruction for each course. As such, it is essential for the students to arrive punctually to each class.</p> <p>Students arriving more than ten minutes late will be marked “Late” on their report card.</p> <p>Students who are absent for an acceptable reason (see below) still have to make up the number of hours missed under the supervision of a teacher or the principal according to their availability. It is the student’s duty to determine and arrange this supervision, and YHSO does not guarantee teacher’s or principal’s availability.</p> <p><i>Students who are absent for non-acceptable reasons will forfeit their credit.</i></p> <p>ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR ABSENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical reason (may require a physician’s note) • Family trips or special occasions (up to four missed classes per course) <p>Regardless of reason for an absence, if a student misses more than 26 classroom hours they will forfeit their credit.</p>
ASSIGNMENTS	<p>Students are responsible to complete all their assignments and homework on time. Teachers will write all assignments, homework and tests on a classroom board, along with their due dates, but students are accountable to complete these assessments punctually. <i>Assignments handed in late may result in a deduction of marks.</i></p> <p>Teachers will post all assessments and assignments and their due dates on Google Classroom. Students and their parents will have access to the Google Classroom for their courses.</p>
BEHAVIOUR	<p>Students may not act in any manner that disrupts the education of another, or distracts a teacher. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive noise • Physical disruptions • Eating (unless granted individual permission) • Use of technology not for schoolwork purposes • Acts of disrespect such as name calling, abusive or offensive language or gestures <p>Failure to adhere to these rules will result in disciplinary action as described in the Student Handbook and Course Calendar.</p>

PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity and honesty is expected from every student in Yeshiva High School of Ottawa. We take all instances of suspected dishonesty, plagiarism, or any form of "cheating" very seriously. A student who submits work that is, in whole or in part, plagiarized, will be subject to academic penalties. Repeated infractions may result in the loss of a credit and further disciplinary action. A student who assists another student in academic dishonesty may face academic consequences, including revocation of a credit.