

**What  
will you  
learn this  
summer?**

# For over 160 years, the London School of Jewish Studies (formerly known as Jews' College) has been at the forefront of developing educational leaders for the Jewish community.

We provide a range of teacher training courses and degrees in Jewish Education, as well as our stimulating adult education programmes, which are open to all. Our vision is for an engaged, inspired and educated Jewish community, nourished by a lifelong love of teaching and learning.

Stay up to date with LSJS news and be the first to find out about special offers by visiting our website at [www.lsjs.ac.uk](http://www.lsjs.ac.uk), [subscribing to our newsletter](#) and [joining one of our WhatsApp groups](#). You can also follow us on social media.



*"To defend a land, you need an army. But to defend freedom, you need education. You need families and schools to ensure that your ideals are passed on to the next generation and never lost, or despaired of, or obscured. The citadels of liberty are houses of study. Its heroes are teachers, its passion is education and the life of the mind."*

## Rabbi Sacks zt"l

*A LETTER IN THE SCROLL: UNDERSTANDING OUR JEWISH IDENTITY AND EXPLORING THE LEGACY OF THE WORLD'S OLDEST RELIGION*

FORMER LSJS PRESIDENT, PRINCIPAL, LECTURER AND STUDENT

## EVENTS

|                                                                |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Israel at 75: In the room<br>where it happens                  | 11 |
| Who Needs The Crown?                                           | 12 |
| Unsolicited Advice: What role<br>did Yitro play in Revelation? | 12 |
| Pre-Nuptial Agreement in Halacha                               | 13 |
| The Most Misunderstood Monarch                                 | 14 |

## COURSES

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Jews & Gentiles                                  | 16 |
| Book of Job                                      | 16 |
| Modern Jewish Literature                         | 17 |
| Covenant & Continuity                            | 18 |
| 'If I Am Not For Myself,<br>Who Will Be For Me?' | 19 |
| At Face Value: How literal is the Torah          | 19 |
| An Introduction to Kabbalah                      | 20 |
| Shakespeare & Talmudic Thought                   | 20 |

## WOMEN'S LEARNING

|                                                   |    |
|---------------------------------------------------|----|
| Sefer Bamidbar: Crisis, resolutions<br>and growth | 21 |
|---------------------------------------------------|----|

## TOURS

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Yom HaShoah Tour    | 23 |
| Science Museum Tour | 23 |
| Tisha B'Av Tour     | 24 |
| Oxford Day Tour     | 25 |

## ULPAN

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| The LSJS Ulpán | 28 |
|----------------|----|



All **events** and **courses**  
will be online. This  
icon means the  
session will also be  
taking place  
**IN PERSON**

For more information  
and to book:

[www.lsj.ac.uk](http://www.lsj.ac.uk)

020 8203 6427

[lsjadmin@lsjs.ac.uk](mailto:lsjadmin@lsjs.ac.uk)

**50%**  
**reduction**  
**for students**  
Please email  
for details

London School  
of Jewish Studies

Wohl Campus for Jewish  
Education, 44a Albert Road,  
London NW4 2SJ

Reg charity no: 1131850. For full T&C's  
please visit our website. We accept  
payment by card only. LSJS reserves  
the right to move classes to 'Online  
only', 'In person only' or to cancel them  
subject to numbers. All information is  
correct at time of going to print and  
may be subject to change.

Design:  
Natalie Friedemann-Weinberg



Joanne  
**Greenaway**  
Chief Executive, LSJS

*"The need to keep moving, to allow oneself to be changed by the propulsion of a journey, is integral to the Jewish soul and spirit."*

— Dr Erica Brown, *Leadership in the Wilderness*

---

I am excited to present to you our new range of learning opportunities for the Summer term!

As we move through the cycle of the Jewish year, we have moved from nation building through the construction of the mishkan (tabernacle) in the book of Shemot, to learning to become a moral and holy people through the laws of Vayikra. We will soon move into the book of Bamidbar, which will provide the backdrop to our learning for most of this term. Bamidbar has few laws: it focuses on the journey, not the destination. It is a travel guide that takes place in the midbar, the wilderness, an environment that challenges us but that forces us to slow our pace, to linger, to become part of the place, to be humbled by its vastness and awed by its beauty. In the words of the political philosopher Michael Walzer, "the wilderness had to be a new school of the soul".

Travel is the first act of the first Jew, as Abraham is commanded to "lech lecha" to an unknown land. Our people's journey in the midbar is circuitous, not linear. It passes through Sinai, focuses in on the area of the Tzin desert and then progresses up to Mount Nevo on the Jordan River. Our learning journey should be one that takes detours according to our interest and traverses into unknown territory as we challenge ourselves and challenge our teachers with our questions that sharpen our understanding. It should lead to new and surprising perspectives.

One of our core values at LSJS is that learning should make a profound impression such that it becomes an intrinsic part of our lives and a lifelong journey. It should enable us to question and grow, to develop ever deeper understandings of our Jewish texts and ideas, and to share them with others.

I hope you enjoy and are enriched by your journey this term. We love to hear your feedback, ideas and requests... Do send us a postcard!



Michael  
Rainsbury

Head of Adult Education, LSJS

”אִם-אֵין אֶתָּה שֹׁמֵעַ-לִי הִרְשָׁ וְאַל-פֶּךָ חֲכָמָה:”

*“But if not, you will listen to me. Be silent, and I will teach you wisdom.”*

— Job 33:33

---

There is an ancient tradition for children to start learning Torah from the book of Vayikra, Leviticus. The Cli Yakar\* connects this idea to the Torah’s small letter Aleph in the word וִיקְרָא, the first word of the book. He also notices that the book of Job reveals the meaning of the word Aleph (אֵלֶף) as ‘teaching’, from the word וְאֶנְלֶכֶךָ in the verse above (‘I will teach you’). Based on these observations, he explains that one can only learn by thinking of oneself as small, like a child eager to learn - a small letter Aleph.

And so, with the eagerness of a child seeking knowledge, we present this term’s offering. Why not start your learning at the very beginning with Rabbi Dweck’s keynote course on the biblical imperative to care for oneself? Or to ask the most basic, yet complex, question of the Torah: Is it possible to translate it literally? World expert Rabbi Professor Martin Lockshin will guide you through different approaches.

We are delighted to be bringing to the UK Rabbi Dr Meir Soloveichik, one of US Jewry’s most influential and gifted teachers, who will present a fascinating and novel understanding of King David’s leadership. To celebrate Israel’s 75th birthday, Keren Hajioff will share her insights from her time working with Prime Ministers Bennett and Lapid.

And since it’s summer, we are once again setting off on a day trip, this time to Oxford. With a walking tour of medieval Jewish Oxford, a look at the incredible Jewish manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, and a catered meal, I hope you’ll come – I look forward to seeing you there!

\*Rabbi Shlomo Ephraim of Luntschitz, Poland, writing in 1602; he later served as Chief Rabbi of Prague

# This term's teachers...



**Liat  
Aharonovich**  
p.28, 29

Experienced Ivrit teacher in both the UK and the US with various organisations. She has a degree from Bar Ilan University and has completed many courses and trained extensively with The Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization. She has been teaching students from around the world in person and online.



**Dr Stewart J  
Brookes**  
p.25

Tolkien Trust cataloguer of medieval manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. He was the Lyell Fellow in Medieval Manuscript Studies and a Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. He is a co-designer of Archetype, an integrated suite of open-source, web-based tools for the study of medieval handwriting, art and iconography.



**Rabbi Dr Harvey  
Belovski**  
p.20

Rabbi of Golders Green Synagogue, senior rabbinic advisor at LSJS, and rabbinic head of Jewish Chaplaincy. He studied at Oxford University and received his PhD from the UoL. He is an author and regular contributor on BBC radio.



**Dr Aviva  
Dautch**  
p.12, 17

Executive Director of Jewish Renaissance arts magazine. An award-winning poet, she is the Chair of Judges for the Wingate Prize. She contributes to programmes for the British Library, the British Museum and BBC Radio 4.



**Rabbi Glenn  
Bezalel**  
p.16

Director of Teaching & Learning at St Helen's School. A rabbinic scholar with the Montefiore Endowment and PhD student at Cambridge University, he has published widely on pedagogy, theology and epistemology.



**Rabbi Joseph  
Dweck**

p.19

Senior Rabbi of the S&P Sephardi Community of the UK and Deputy President of LSJS. He served as Rabbi of Congregation Shaare Shalom in New York and was Headteacher of Barkai Yeshivah Day School in Brooklyn.

---



**Simon  
Goulden**

p.24

Educational and management consultant, writer and international lecturer. He received an MA in Jewish Education from LSJS. He has authored, edited and consulted on books about Jewish prayer, history and Israel.

---



**Joanne  
Greenaway**

p.13

Chief Executive of LSJS. Experienced International Arbitration lawyer and formerly Director of Get cases for the London Beth Din. A graduate of Cambridge University, she is part of Ohr Torah Stone's International Halakha Scholars Program and is a member of the inaugural Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks Scholars Programme.



**Rina  
Gurvitz**

p.28, 29

Ivrit teacher for over 35 years and an Ulpan teacher for 15 years. In her teaching, she aims to simplify the experience of learning colloquial Hebrew for her students and enable them to practise it in a friendly, fun and as authentic a way as possible.

---



**Major (res.) Keren  
Hajioff**

p.11

Senior advisor on Middle East affairs and strategic communications at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. She previously served as International Spokeswoman for Prime Ministers Naftali Bennett and Yair Lapid.

---



**Rabbanit Leah  
Herzog**

p.21

Educator, writer, psychologist, tour guide and instructional coach. She chaired the Tanach Department at Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School in New Jersey. Since making Aliyah, she teaches at Matan and various midrashot in Israel.



**Rabbi Barry  
Kleinberg**

p.16

Osteopath, PhD student and Jewish educator. His current areas of research include Jewish Universalism, the thought of Rabbi Sacks and the nature of Jewish law.

---



**Rebbetzin  
Lauren  
Levin**

p.21

Yoetzet Halacha (Woman Advisor in Jewish Law) and Rebbetzin at South Hampstead Synagogue. She is a graduate of the Nishmat Centre for Advanced Torah Study for Women in Jerusalem.

---



**Rabbi Shaul  
Robinson**

p.18

Senior Rabbi at Lincoln Square Synagogue, New York, where he has overseen the move of the synagogue to its new building and the rapid growth and revitalisation of the community. Born in Scotland, he is a former rabbi of Barnet Synagogue.

---



**Rabbi Professor  
Martin  
Lockshin**

p.19

University Professor Emeritus at York University (Toronto) and lives in Jerusalem. He has written a four-volume translation and annotation of Rashbam's commentary on the Torah.

---



**Rabbanit Surale  
Rosen**

p.21

Founder of Matan Women's online Halakhic Responsa project, 'Shayla', and a certified Rabbinical Arbitrator. She is a graduate of Matan's five-year Halakha programme and Advanced Gemarah Institute. She teaches Midrash, Talmud and Halacha widely and headed Metivta - Matan's advanced Gemara track.

---



**Michael  
Rainsbury**

p.11, 23, 24

Head of Adult Education at LSJS and a member of the inaugural Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks Scholars Programme. He created the first dedicated English language tours of the President of Israel's Residence in Jerusalem and leads Jewish heritage tours to Poland with JRoots.



**Rabbi Michael  
Rosenfeld**

p.25

University Jewish Chaplain in Oxford. He has an MSc in Organisational Psychology and enjoys sharing his love of Jewish history with others.

---



**Rabbi Dr Meir  
Soloveichik**

p.14

Senior Rabbi of Congregation Shearith Israel in Manhattan and director of the Zahava and Moshael Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought at Yeshiva University. He is one of America's most influential religious leaders.

---



**Dr Shaina  
Trapedo**

p.20

Lecturer in English at Stern College and a resident scholar at the Zahava and Moshael Straus Centre for Torah and Western Thought at Yeshiva University.

---



**Dr Tanya  
White**

p.18

Senior Lecturer at Matan Institute for Jewish Studies and a sought-after educator in Israel and abroad. She received her doctorate in Jewish Philosophy from Bar Ilan University. She is a member of the inaugural Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks Scholars Programme.



**Daphna  
Witztum**

p.28, 29

Experienced teacher with a Masters in Hebrew Language from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She taught at the Hebrew University, Oxford University, University College London and SOAS.

---



**Rabbi  
Dr Raphael  
Zarum**

p.12, 18, 23

Dean of LSJS and the Rabbi Sacks Chair of Modern Jewish Thought, established by the Zandan family. He has a PhD in Physics from KCL and a MA in Education from UCL. He studied at Yeshivat HaKotel in Jerusalem and the Kollel of the Judith Lady Montefiore College in London where he received rabbinic ordination. He is a rabbinic leader, lecturer and author with a passion for teaching traditional Jewish texts and innovative educational programming.



# EVENTS

We are celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut, the King's Coronation and Shavuot, and learning from expert scholars and speakers.

# Israel at 75: In the room where it happens

**A conversation with Major (res.) Keren Hajioff, former Advisor to Israel's Prime Ministers, and Michael Rainsbury**

Born and raised in London, Major (res.) Keren Hajioff is one of Israel's most accomplished young women. At just 24, she commanded the IDF's Public Diplomacy effort, transformed the army's social media presence, and later became the Spokesperson of the IDF Northern Command, responsible for the operational communication vis-a-vis Hezbollah in Lebanon and Iranian militias in Syria.

After serving in the IDF for 13 years, Keren's remarkable career reached new heights when former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett asked her to come and be his International Spokeswoman and later, his Special Advisor for Foreign Affairs and Communications. At just 31, she became the youngest person to hold these esteemed positions, serving under two Prime Ministers and playing a crucial role in Israel's response to the war in Ukraine, the Abraham Accords and many other diplomatic initiatives.

In conversation with Michael Rainsbury, Keren will tell the extraordinary story of Israel's unprecedented 'Change Coalition', which brought together left, right and Arab parties. Reflecting on the remarkable transformations Israel is experiencing as it reaches 75 years, Keren's insights are sure to captivate and inspire.

**Thursday 27 April**  
**8–9:15pm**

---

**£12**  
**Online only**

## Who Needs The Crown?

with Dr Aviva Dautch

Who needs The Crown when you can read about the Royal Family in Modern Jewish Literature? In this special event marking the weekend of the coronation of King Charles III, we will look at how the Kings and Queens of Britain, from Elizabeth I to Elizabeth II, have been depicted in Jewish culture, for the good, the bad, and the mad.

From political pamphlets to poems, novels to biographies, we'll explore how Jewish writers have portrayed the monarchy - and their mistresses - in all their glory, and how Royalty has represented Jewishness in return.

**Tuesday 2 May**  
**8–9:15pm**

£12 (£10 before 25 April)

**Online only**

In partnership with  
Jewish Renaissance



## Unsolicited Advice: What role did Yitro play in Revelation?

Pre-Shavuot Lecture

with Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum

**Rabbi Sacks Chair of Modern Jewish Thought, established by the Zandan family**

Why does the father-in-law of Moses suddenly appear and start telling him what to do? What was Jethro's cultural background and how did this non-Israelite impact on the giving of the Torah?

In this special pre-Shavuot lecture, you will learn how this itinerant priest, believer, advisor and wanderer came to frame the Revelation at Mount Sinai. This will lead to a new perspective as to the nature and purpose of Torah in our lives.

 **Monday 22 May**  
**8–9:15pm**

£12 (£10 before 15 May)

**In person and online**

# The Pre-Nuptial Agreement in Halacha

with Joanne Greenaway

In the USA, the Pre-Nuptial Agreement of the Beth Din of America is held up as *the solution* to the Aguna crisis. And yet, around the world, Get refusal continues, blighting hundreds of lives.

What can we learn about the possibilities for pre-nuptial agreements in our sources? What formulations have been used historically around the world and on what basis? What are the current available options and how do they help?

Come and explore a critical issue facing our community today.

Joanne has several years' experience working on resolving difficult cases of Get refusal, as well as educating on the laws of gittin and the use of current pre-nuptial agreements. Her experience at the intersection of law and halacha, together with the critical urgency of this topic in the community, makes this area a particular passion.

## Part 1 – Wednesday 31 May 8–9:15pm

Perspectives on pre-nuptial agreements in the Talmud, Rishonim, Acharonim and modern responsa.

## Part 2 – Wednesday 7 June 8–9:15pm

Where are we now and what lies ahead?

---

**£24 (£20 before 24 May)**

**£12 per session**

**Online only**

# The Most Misunderstood Monarch

## David Melekh Yisrael and the Nature of Biblical Politics

with Rabbi Dr Meir Soloveichik, visiting LSJS scholar

Dedicated anonymously in honour of Romie and Esther Tager by a good friend.

King David is one of the most famous figures in the history of faith, art, and literature. His stand against Goliath has inspired interpretation from the Renaissance to modern writers, from Michelangelo to Malcolm Gladwell, and yet the most well-known biblical monarch remains profoundly misunderstood.

So many statesmen and public figures have sought to affiliate themselves with his fame, yet few have truly understood the lessons of his leadership.

Through exploring sources in Tanakh and the Talmud, art of the Renaissance and Rembrandt, and the stories of statesmen ancient and modern, we will rediscover the legacy of this great king - and learn what the life of David Melekh Yisrael still teaches us today.

 **Tuesday 13 June**  
**8–9:15pm**

---

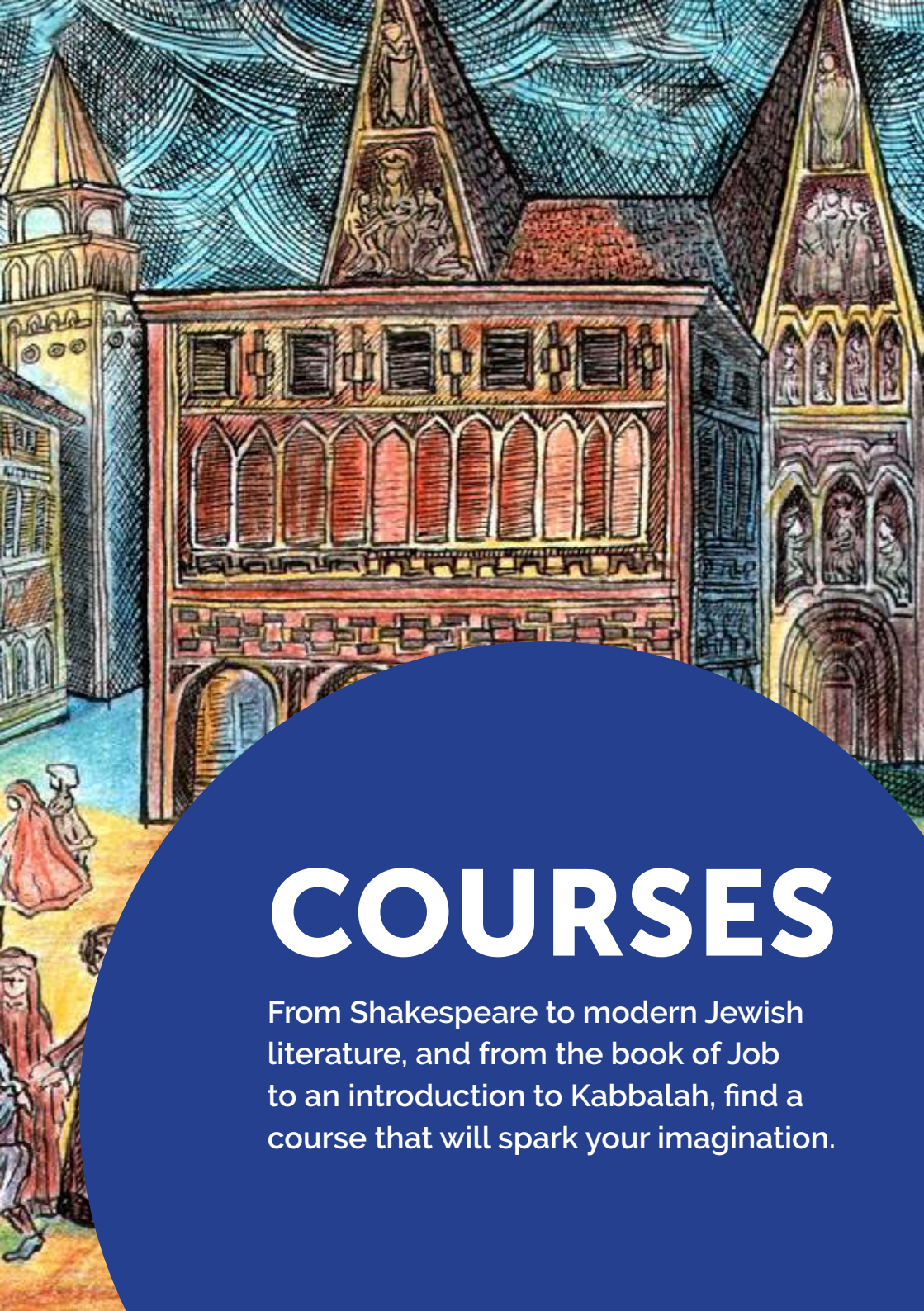
**£12 (£10 before 6 June)**  
**In person and online**

LSJS is proud to bring Rabbi Dr Meir Soloveichik, one of America's most influential religious leaders, to the UK as an LSJS visiting scholar.

A descendent of one of the Jewish world's great rabbinic dynasties, he graduated summa cum laude from Yeshiva University, received his rabbinic ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, studied at Yale Divinity School and received his doctorate in religion from Princeton University.

One of the most sought-after speakers in the Jewish world, Rabbi Dr Soloveichik lectures internationally, writes a monthly column in *Commentary* magazine, and his writing has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *Mosaic*, *First Things*, *Azure*, *Tradition*, the *Jewish Review of Books*, and many other outlets.

His new book, *Providence and Power: Ten Portraits in Jewish Statesmanship*, will be released in the USA in May.



# COURSES

From Shakespeare to modern Jewish literature, and from the book of Job to an introduction to Kabbalah, find a course that will spark your imagination.

## Jews and Gentiles

### Separation, respect and vision

with Rabbi Barry Kleinberg

For most of our history, Jews have been suspicious of the non-Jewish world – and centuries of persecution have not helped. Our tradition presents many fascinating, and radically different, paradigms of relationships between Jews and gentiles. We will explore some of the most challenging ideas about gentiles from the earliest rabbinic texts and conclude with a model and message of hope from the writings of Rabbi Sacks.

**Wednesdays 8–9:15pm**

---

- |             |                                                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>3.5</b>  | Biblical and rabbinic attitudes towards gentiles  |
| <b>10.5</b> | Separation: Cheese and wine parties               |
| <b>17.5</b> | Respect: The ways of peace                        |
| <b>24.5</b> | Vision: The Noachide laws and Rabbi Sacks' legacy |
- 

£44 (£40 before 26 April)

Per session: £12 | **Online only**

## Book of Job

### Making sense of suffering

with Rabbi Glenn Bezael

Job's timeless and universal story continues to resonate and trouble, with the dimensions of human suffering explored through fable, poetry, and philosophy.

We will see how Job sought to make sense of his suffering, debating with so-called friends, and coming to terms with the mystery of God. We will appreciate how this great work of 'protest theology' continues to shape our understanding of our place in God's precarious world.

**Tuesdays 8–9:30pm**

---

- |             |                                                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>9.5</b>  | Job: Setting the Scene                                |
| <b>16.5</b> | Job's Friends Part I                                  |
| <b>23.5</b> | Job's Friends Part II                                 |
| <b>30.5</b> | Elihu the Young Upstart                               |
| <b>6.6</b>  | Out of the Whirlwind: Job's encounter with the Divine |
| <b>13.6</b> | Making sense of Job in our time                       |
- 

£68 (£60 before 2 May)

Per session: £12 | **Online only**

# Modern Jewish Literature

with **Dr Aviva Dautch**

This course is dedicated to the memory of **Maureen Kendler z"l**

For all literature lovers to meet and share insights into books. Dealing with an internationally renowned and often recently published book of Jewish interest each week, fiction and non-fiction, we discuss extracts, characters and theories, thinking about 'how to read' as well as what we read.

This term, we will use contemporary literature to explore topical issues in current affairs: From sending refugees offshore to financial corruption, from hybrid identities and the influence of technology, to the instability of Israeli politics and the longevity of the British monarchy. We will end the term with a celebration of Jewish Bournemouth and discussion about how the landscape of Anglo-Jewry has changed over the last 50 years.

**Mondays 10:30am–12:30pm**

- 
- |             |                                                          |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>15.5</b> | The Only Daughter<br>by A B Yehoshua                     |
| <b>22.5</b> | Shavuot Special                                          |
| <b>5.6</b>  | The Prison Minyan<br>by John Stone                       |
| <b>12.6</b> | Maror by Lavie Tidhar (Part I)                           |
| <b>19.6</b> | Maror by Lavie Tidhar (Part II)                          |
| <b>26.6</b> | Tomorrow and Tomorrow and<br>Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin |
| <b>3.7</b>  | Jews By The Seaside<br>by Pam Fox                        |
| <b>10.7</b> | The Island of Extraordinary<br>Captives by Simon Parkin  |
- 

**£88 (£80 before 9 May)**

**Per session: £12 | Online only**

**No class on 29.5**

# Covenant & Continuity

## Sefer Bamidbar, the Book of Numbers

*"The book of Numbers is a key text for our time. It is among the most searching, self-critical books in all of literature about what Nelson Mandela called 'the long walk to freedom'."* RABBI SACKS, COVENANT AND CONVERSATION, NUMBERS

Join hundreds of people from around the world for our weekly exploration into the ideas of Rabbi Sacks on the weekly Torah portion. With expert teachers developing and applying his thoughts further, this course is truly building Rabbi Sacks' legacy, one parasha at a time.

**Wednesdays 7–7:45pm**

- 17.5**     **Bamidbar**  
To be Counted or to Count?  
**Dr Tanya White**
- 24.5**     **Shavuot**  
When the Torah Works Well  
**Rabbi Shaul Robinson**
- 31.5**     **Naso**  
The Priestly Blessing: It's a kind of magic  
**Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum**

- 7.6**     **Beha'alotecha**  
Meat, Spirit and the Crisis of a Leader  
**Dr Tanya White**

- 14.6**     **Shelach**  
Strong People Don't Need Walls  
**Rabbi Shaul Robinson**

- 21.6**     **Korach**  
Dying Twice: Korach's mysterious end  
**Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum**

- 28.6**     **Chukat-Balak**  
Dwelling Alone: Blessing or curse?  
**Rabbi Shaul Robinson**

- 5.7**     **Pinchas**  
Who is the God of the Spirits of all Flesh?  
**Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum**

- 12.7**     **Matot-Masei**  
The Imperative of Education  
**Dr Tanya White**

**Free, booking essential  
Online only**

In partnership with



## 'If I Am Not For Myself, Who Will Be For Me?'

### The Torah of self-care

with **S&P Sephardi Senior Rabbi Joseph Dweck**

Charity, community, and helping others is a cornerstone of Jewish life, but what about caring for yourself? What does it mean to focus on yourself without becoming selfish?

This groundbreaking new course will explore the Torah principles that charge us to focus on our own lives and wellbeing. Some of the practical ways this can be achieved will also be discussed.

 **Mondays 8–9:15pm**

- 
- 5.6** Who am I? The 'self' in Torah
  - 12.6** The command to care for yourself
  - 19.6** How might we put this into practice?
- 

£34 (£30 before 30 May)

Per session: £12

**In person and online**

the  
**S&P****SHARDI**  
community קהילה ספרדית



## At Face Value: How literal is the Torah?

with **Rabbi Professor Martin Lockshin**

Does the Torah mean exactly what it says? How should we read Torah meaningfully today? Until the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, Jews understood the Bible's meaning through the lens of ancient rabbinical interpretations. Yet these often diverged from the 'peshat', the plain meaning of the text.

As medieval Jews started to pay closer attention to the peshat, radically different, and sometimes controversial, understandings abounded. In this course we will examine how the greatest commentators balanced the traditional approach with the literal meaning of the biblical text.

**Tuesdays 1–2:15pm**

- 
- 6.6** Rashi: Hesitant beginnings
  - 13.6** Rashbam: Bold continuation
  - 20.6** Abraham Ibn Ezra: Conservative or radical?
  - 27.6** Ramban: Peshat and mysticism
- 

£44 (£40 before 30 May)

Per session: £12

**Online only**

## An Introduction to Kabbalah

with Rabbi Dr Harvey Belovski

Have you ever wondered what Kabbalah (the Jewish mystic tradition) is or where it comes from? Maybe you have noticed its impact on every aspect of Jewish life, from Seder to Sukkah, from ethics to eschatology? Or considered how Kabbalah rapidly gained influence across the Jewish world and whether it is even authentic? If so, this course is for you. Discover the origin of the Zohar, meet the Ari and learn how they have shaped contemporary Jewish life, belief and practice.

 **Wednesdays 8–9:30pm**

- 
- 21.6** Ein Sof, Sefirot and the Purpose of Existence
  - 28.6** The Authenticity of the Zohar
  - 5.7** Chassidic Classics
- 

£34 (£30 before 14 June)

Per session: £12

**In person and online**

## Shakespeare and Talmudic Thought

with Dr Shaina Trapedo

What's in a name? Hath not a Jew eyes? Heaven and earth, must I remember? To be or not to be? The rhetorical texture of Shakespeare's work is best understood in its 16th-century context when religious debates saturated the cultural consciousness and spurred creativity.

The bard borrowed and adapted widely from a range of texts, including Talmudic wit and wisdom. By following the expression of Jewish discourse into Shakespeare's canon, we will see how rabbinic tradition informed some of the most profound questions that have driven intellectual inquiry for over 400 years.

**Mondays 8–9:15pm**

- 
- 26.6** (Dis)honouring Parents and Children
  - 3.7** Love, Money, and the Rites of Marriage
  - 10.7** Paying Debts to the Dead
- 

£40 (£36 before 19 June)

Per session: £15

**Online only**

# Sefer Bamidbar: Crisis, resolutions and growth

Interactive, advanced, text-based learning for women

with **Rebbetzin Lauren Levin**  
and **Rabbanit Leah Herzog**

**Mondays 10:30am–12pm**

The Children of Israel are on their way towards the Promised Land. The desert experience is an evolution from infancy to adulthood as a nation, and there are hard lessons to learn along the way. Why did things go tragically wrong on so many levels? And what can we learn about ourselves as individuals and as a community?

To gain the most from this course we suggest an hour's preparation using source sheets provided in advance. Chevruta time is available beforehand, either on zoom or at the LSJS campus.

## Kashrut B'Iyun

**Advanced, text-based  
course for women**

This ongoing course, with **Rabbanit Surale Rosen**, is for women who are seeking to learn Gemara and Halacha at a high level, understanding how ideas and laws develop through the sources. To register interest and request an interview, please email [lsjsadmin@lsjs.ac.uk](mailto:lsjsadmin@lsjs.ac.uk)

In partnership with



### Classes with

#### Rebbetzin Lauren Levin:

- 15.5** Yom Yerushalayim Special: Jerusalem - Principles, peace and power
- 22.5** Shavuot Special: Megillat Rut - The power of a name

### Classes with Rabbanit Leah Herzog

- 5.6** Beha'alotecha: The trials of caretaking
- 12.6** Shelach: The power of perspective
- 19.6** Korach: Kedusha lost and regained
- 26.6** Chukat-Balak: Red cows, staffs and a new generation
- 3.7** Pinchas: Covenants of peace
- 10.7** Matot-Masei: Unity in individualism

**£90 (£80 before 9 May)**

**Per session: £12**

**Online only**

**This course is for women only**



# TOURS

Enjoy four exclusive tours, including a brand new tour of the Science Museum and a day out in scenic Oxford!

## Memorial Journey in Three Monuments

**Yom HaShoah tour**

**with Michael Rainsbury**

Three years after the Holocaust, amidst the ruins of the Warsaw Ghetto, Nathan Rapoport sculpted a monument remembering those who lost their lives and memorialising the fighters of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Recommissioned by Yad Vashem, an almost identical structure is the famous backdrop for Israel's national Yom HaShoah commemoration. What is less well-known is that Rapoport created a radically different Holocaust memorial, the Scrolls of Fire, in the Forest of the Martyrs in the Jerusalem Hills.

This architectural tour will compare and contrast these monuments, using them as a platform to explore how and why Israeli perceptions of victims, resistance and heroism shifted over time, and how these changes have shaped the nature of Yom HaShoah itself.

**Tuesday 18 April**  
**8–9:15pm**

**£18 (£15 before 10 April)**  
**Online tour**

## God, AI, Meaning and Technology

**Brand new tour of the Science Museum**

**with Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum**

Modern-day technological advances in food production, lifesaving medicines, artificial intelligence and hyper-efficient travel have transformed all our lives for the better. Do these amazing achievements diminish the importance of religion in today's world? Can science save us where faith fails?

Join Rabbi Dr Zarum, a student of both Torah and science, in exploring the Science Museum's world-class collection and what it means for living a life of wonder and exploration. Interact with the exhibits, explore new technology, and learn how scientific progress and Jewish living can be a great partnership rather than bitter bedfellows.

 **Sunday 11 June**  
**10:30am–1pm or 2–4:30pm**

**£22 (£18 before 5 June)**  
**In person tour, limited spaces**

# Not Just a Tale of Two Temples

## Tisha B'Av tour

with **Simon Goulden** and  
**Michael Rainsbury**

We often think of Tisha B'Av as a tale of two Temples, both destroyed at this inauspicious time. However, over the centuries, the litany of Tisha B'Av tragedies continued, giving the day renewed resonance.

From the capture of Betar, signalling the end of the Bar Kochba revolt, to the expulsion of Jews from England, France and Spain, and to the bombing of the AMIA Centre in Argentina, the Tisha B'Av story crosses continents and spans eras, from ancient to medieval to modern.

In this virtual tour, we will explore these five tragedies, see the places where they occurred and explain their significance in Jewish history, in order to truly see the Tisha B'Av story in its entirety.

**Thursday 27 July**  
**2–3:15pm**

---

**£18 (£15 before 20 July)**  
**Online tour**

# Oxford Day Tour

## Exploring medieval Jewish Oxford and Bodleian Library manuscripts

with Dr Stewart J Brookes and Rabbi Michael Rosenfeld

Join LSJS for an educational and enjoyable day out in scenic Oxford. From the oldest existing document of the city – a deed of sale written in Hebrew, establishing one of the university's first colleges – to an original handwritten version of Maimonides' Mishneh Torah, Oxford is a treasure trove of Jewish history.

We will embark on a walking tour of the old Jewish area of Oxford, stopping at the Castle, homes of Jews and the site of a recent archaeological dig, gaining perspective of what Jewish life was like in medieval England. We will visit the Ashmolean Museum and see artefacts of Jewish interest.

Our visit to the Bodleian Library will be part introductory lecture, part 'show and tell', giving you the rare opportunity to see a selection of treasures from the Bodleian's world-renowned collection of medieval Hebrew manuscripts. Amongst the items on show will be the golden splendours of illuminated bibles from medieval Spain; texts covering science, medicine and magic; volumes of poetry, theology and philosophy; and intriguing examples of the 'Jewish' art form, micrography.

 **Wednesday 12 July**  
**8:30am–6:30pm**

---

**Book your place: £90 (£80 before 7 June)**  
**In person tour, limited spaces**

### Tour will include:

- Walking tour of medieval Jewish Oxford.
- Jewish manuscript tour of the Bodleian Library.
- Catered hot lunch and refreshments.
- An immersive educational experience, including the coach journeys!

### INFORMATION:

- A coach will leave from LSJS at 8:30am and leave Oxford at 4:30pm (comfort breaks provided).
- If you wish to make your own way to Oxford, please contact the office.
- The walking tour is mostly flat and without steps.
- We will hold a Mincha service during one of the breaks (optional).



# ULPAN

Modern Hebrew at your level.  
Our expert teachers will help  
you develop your language skills  
through our interactive classes.

# The LSJS Ulpan

Modern Hebrew at the level that's right for you

with **Liat Aharonovich, Rina Gurvitz and Daphna Witztum**

With 16 years' experience and over 100 students each term, LSJS is the place to be if you want to learn Ivrit. Our expert teachers will develop your skills and confidence, regardless of your starting level. Many of our students move up the levels, progressing to using different tenses and using a wider range of vocabulary. Our interactive classes will immerse you in Israeli culture and focus on everyday experiences such as ordering food and going shopping. Most importantly, our lessons are fun and welcoming to all.

The LSJS library now contains a special Ulpan shelf. When attending a class, take a moment to peruse the resources: textbooks in case you forget yours at home, Hebrew newspapers and journal articles at various levels. And, of course, books!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Summer Ulpan

Intensive two-week Ulpan course, starting 24 July.

### Teen Ulpan

Brand new course that will give secondary school students the chance to boost their reading, writing and speaking skills. The course will be run by an experienced teacher who is familiar with the GCSE curriculum.

## One-year course (37 weeks)

**Year long price: £450**

**Early bird: £400 before 28 August**

Contact the LSJS office for termly payment options or if you would like to join after the course start date.

With thanks to the WZO for their continued support for the LSJS Ulpan.



We have a variety of levels at the LSJS Ulpan, from Beginners and Aleph classes focusing on the past tense, Bet classes focusing on the future tense, and Gimmel and Advanced Speakers group focusing on fluency.

To register, please be in touch with Liat at [liat@lsjs.ac.uk](mailto:liat@lsjs.ac.uk), who will assess your level and suggest an appropriate class.

## SUNDAY

Starting 23 April

---

9:30–11:30am

 **Bet 3** with Liat

**Online only**

## MONDAY

Starting 24 April

---

10am–12pm

 **Bet 3** with Daphna

**In person only**

1:30–3:30pm

**Bet 1** with Daphna

**Online only**

7–9pm

 **Aleph 1** with Rina

**In person only**

## TUESDAY

Starting 25 April

---

10am–12pm

 **Bet 1** with Rina

**In person only**

**Bet 3** with Daphna

**Online only**

 **Advanced Gimmel**  
with Liat

**In person only**

5:30–7pm

Teen Ulpan

 with Nurit

**In person only**

7:30–9:30pm

**Aleph 3** with Liat

**Online only**

8–10pm

 **Gimmel** with Rina

**In person only**

## WEDNESDAY

Starting 26 April

---

10am–12pm

 **Bet 4** with Daphna

**In person only**

 **Speakers** with Liat

**In person & online**

6:30–8:30pm

 **Beginners** with Reut

**In person only**

---

**Note:** Classes will run subject to sufficient numbers.



**Exciting FREE  
one year  
programme  
for young  
professionals**

## **THE RABBI SACKS LEARNING FELLOWSHIP**

**How can ancient and contemporary wisdom  
help us lead a meaningful Jewish life?**

**If you are looking for high quality Jewish learning  
that is authentic, big-picture, and infused by the  
world view of Rabbi Sacks zt"l,  
then this programme is for you.**

For more information and details on  
how to apply please contact  
[michael.rainsbury@lsjs.ac.uk](mailto:michael.rainsbury@lsjs.ac.uk)

**LSJS**  
London School  
of Jewish Studies

# Dates for your diary...

|                     |                                                                                              |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tues 18 Apr</b>  | <b>Yom HaShoah</b> <a href="#">Online tour</a>                                               |
| <b>Tues 25 Apr</b>  | <b>Yom HaZikaron</b>                                                                         |
| <b>Weds 26 Apr</b>  | <b>Yom Ha'atzmaut</b>                                                                        |
| <b>Thurs 27 Apr</b> | Israel at 75: In the room where it happens <a href="#">Special event</a>                     |
| <b>Tues 2 May</b>   | Who Needs The Crown? <a href="#">Special event</a>                                           |
| <b>Weds 3 May</b>   | Jews and Gentiles <a href="#">Course begins</a>                                              |
| <b>Tues 9 May</b>   | <b>Lag B'Omer</b>                                                                            |
| <b>Tues 9 May</b>   | Book of Job <a href="#">Course begins</a>                                                    |
| <b>Mon 15 May</b>   | Modern Jewish Literature <a href="#">Course begins</a>                                       |
| <b>Mon 15 May</b>   | Sefer Bamidbar:<br>Crisis, resolutions and growth <a href="#">Course begins</a>              |
| <b>Weds 17 May</b>  | Covenant & Continuity <a href="#">Course begins</a>                                          |
| <b>Fri 19 May</b>   | <b>Yom Yerushalayim</b>                                                                      |
| <b>Mon 22 May</b>   | Unsolicited Advice:<br>What role did Yitro play in Revelation? <a href="#">Special event</a> |
| <b>Fri 26 May</b>   | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Day Shavuot</b>                                                            |
| <b>Weds 31 May</b>  | The Pre-Nuptial Agreement in Halacha<br><a href="#">Special event: Part 1</a>                |
| <b>Mon 5 Jun</b>    | 'If I Am Not For Myself,<br>Who Will Be For Me?' <a href="#">Course begins</a>               |
| <b>Tues 6 Jun</b>   | At Face Value: How literal is the Torah? <a href="#">Course begins</a>                       |
| <b>Sun 11 Jun</b>   | Science Museum Tour <a href="#">In person tour</a>                                           |
| <b>Tues 13 Jun</b>  | The Most Misunderstood Monarch <a href="#">Special event</a>                                 |
| <b>Weds 21 Jun</b>  | An Introduction to Kabbalah <a href="#">Course begins</a>                                    |
| <b>Mon 26 Jun</b>   | Shakespeare and Talmudic Thought <a href="#">Course begins</a>                               |
| <b>Thurs 6 Jul</b>  | <b>Fast of Tammuz</b>                                                                        |
| <b>Weds 12 Jul</b>  | Oxford Day Tour <a href="#">In person tour</a>                                               |
| <b>Thurs 27 Jul</b> | <b>Tisha B'Av</b> <a href="#">Online tour</a>                                                |

**EVENTS | COURSES | TOURS | ULPAN**



London School  
of Jewish Studies