



DARCHÉ NOAM דרכיה דרכי נועם

## INTRODUCTION

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Since 1983, Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya College of Jewish Studies for Women has provided intelligent, motivated students from around the world with expert instruction in studying classical Jewish literature and responsible guidance toward spiritual growth. Our programs cater to Jewishly-committed adults interested in putting Judaism at the center of their lives, homes and careers.

We pride ourselves on small class size, personalized instruction, a wide variety of course offerings, and an exceptional staff drawn from a broad range of ideological streams within the observant community. We focus on each student's individual strengths, and provide an open and supportive environment for intellectual inquiry and personal discovery.

We are an educational community committed to *deracheha darche noam*, “the ways of the Torah are ways of harmony”, and we are committed to you.

# FACULTY

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**The foundation of our educational success rests with talented and idealistic faculty members who transmit Torah in an authentic and personal way to our students, serving also as role models and inspiration. The variety in their styles, philosophies, and personalities truly represents the unique nature of Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and the Darché Noam Institutions. Presented here are brief biographical sketches of the people to whom our students owe so much of their intellectual and spiritual growth.**

## ■ Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin

Rabbi Shurin is the Rosh Midrasha of Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya College of Jewish Studies for Women and a senior faculty member at The David Shapell College / Yeshivat Darché Noam. Rabbi Shurin grew up in New York, and learned in the Chaim Berlin Yeshiva with Rav Yitzchak Hutner, *zt"l*. After receiving an advanced degree in Guidance and Counseling from Nova University, he moved to Israel in 1977, joining the Kollel and staff of the original Shapell College. A grandson of Reb Yaakov Kamenetsky, *zt"l*, he spent much time learning from his grandfather and absorbing his special approach to Tanach and Jewish History. Rabbi Shurin, his wife Esther, and their children live in Neve Yaakov, Jerusalem.

## ■ Rabbi Shaya Karlinsky

Rabbi Karlinsky, co-founder and Dean of the Darché Noam Institutions, is one of the Roshei Yeshiva of the David Shapell College/ Yeshivat Darché Noam, and a senior faculty member at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya College of Jewish Studies for Women. Rabbi Karlinsky, a Los Angeles native came to Israel in 1968, learning in Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh and the Mir Yeshiva, Jerusalem. He received semicha from the ITRI Kollel. After completing a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology at Temple University, he settled in Israel, combining teaching at the original Shapell College, BMT, and Aish HaTorah with work as a photojournalist published in Time, Newsweek, The New York Times and exhibited at the Israel Museum. Rabbi Karlinsky, his wife Ruthie, and their children live in Har Nof, Jerusalem.

## ■ Mrs. Lynn Finson

Mrs. Finson serves as the Educational Director of Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya. During her first visit to Israel from America in 1979, Mrs. Finson developed a close relationship with HaGaon Rav Yisroel Ze'ev Gustman, *zt"l*, which was maintained until his passing. His message to her in relation to teaching and counseling was to always draw her students in with closeness and acceptance. She graduated from Hunter College with an MS in Counseling, and worked as a guidance counselor and teacher at

Yeshiva University High School and guidance counselor at Bruriah High School in Elizabeth New Jersey. Mrs. Finson taught a broad range of classes at the Jewish Heritage Center in Queens, and at various seminaries in Israel. She, her husband Larry and their children, made Aliyah twelve years ago and live in Har Nof.

#### ■ **Rabbi Yehoshua Bienenfeld**

Rabbi Yehoshua Bienenfeld received his semicha from the Rabbi Issac Elchanan Theological Seminary and his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University. He has served as a pulpit Rabbi for the past 39 years in the United States. His teaching and lecturing experience are quite extensive, taking him to many yeshiva high school and university settings. As a talmid of Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik zt"l, Rabbi Bienenfeld is able to portray the Rav's teachings in a personal and informative way.

#### ■ **Mrs. Blimi Botwinick**

Mrs. Botwinick grew up in Staten Island. She studied at Bruriah High School, Michlala College for Women and Stern College. After getting married, she moved to Los Angeles, where she joined the faculty of YULA. Since her family made aliyah in 1994 she has taught in various seminaries in Jerusalem. Her sincerity and desire to help all her students shines through in her classes. Mrs. Botwinick resides in Ramat Beit Shemesh with her husband Rabbi Shraga Botwinick and her family.

#### ■ **Mrs. Menucha Chwat**

Mrs. Chwat was born and educated in New York. She attended the Beit Midrash Program at Stern College for Women, where she received a solid grounding in the methodology of textual study. She graduated with a degree in Jewish Studies and Political Science. Upon graduation, Mrs. Chwat made aliya and began teaching at the Ulpan Giyur in Kfar Etzion as well as at other Jewish women's learning programs. In addition to her Midrasha teaching, Menucha is a pregnancy and childbirth educator. She and her husband Ezra Chwat are founding members of the settlement Carmei Tzur, near Hebron, where they continue to live with their children.

#### ■ **Mrs. Dina Coopersmith**

Mrs. Coopersmith grew up in Jerusalem. She received her B.Ed. in Tanach from Michlala Jerusalem College for Women, and her M.A. in Jewish History from Touro College, Jerusalem. She taught Jewish Studies in numerous schools in Israel, as well as in Toronto, Canada, where she and her husband, Rabbi Nechemia Coopersmith, worked in education and outreach. Dina's development of the Jewish Woman's course has been exemplary. Dina, her husband, and their children live in Maalot Dafna, Jerusalem.

#### ■ **Rabbi Menachem Farber**

Before making aliya in 1970, Rabbi Farber lived in New York, where he learned in Chaim Berlin and studied

Political Science at Brooklyn College. Rabbi Farber was a close talmid of Rav Yitzchak Hutner, ז"ל, and is today a leading expert on Rav Hutner's monumental work the Pachad Yitzchak. Since joining the Darché Noam Institutions in 1990, he has gained a reputation as one of the pillars of the institution, continually radiating words of Torah and serving as a worthy role model for his students. His dedication to his students can be seen through his well-known and enthusiastic participation in the joyous events of the Darché Noam community. Rabbi Farber and his wife, Zohar, live in Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem.

#### ■ **Rabbi Avraham Fischer**

Rabbi Fischer has a B.A. in English Literature from Yeshiva University, semicha from RIETS, and an M.A. in English Literature from NYU. After serving as Rabbi and educator at a congregation in New Jersey, Rabbi Fischer made aliya in 1986. He was Director of Jewish Studies at the WUJS Institute in Arad, and continues to teach there, as well as at a number of other educational and outreach programs. Rabbi Fischer developed the Basics program at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and expertly supervises all new text teachers. Rabbi Fischer, his wife Cheryl, and their children live in Beit Shemesh.

#### ■ **Mrs. Osnat Goldman**

Mrs. Goldman, originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., made aliya in 1969, during a time of great idealism and spirituality in Israel. Mrs. Goldman

studied Special Education and Tanach at Michlala Jerusalem College for Women. She was also a student at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya for ten years. She has been extremely successful both in helping her students improve their textual skills and in training our tutors. Osnat has taught at the Aish Executive Learning Program and Tikva High School. She is a Project Director for the elderly at a senior day care center.

#### ■ **Mrs. Naomi Gordon**

Mrs. Naomi Gordon is originally from London, England. She studied at Seminar Yerushalayim and then did a BA in Jewish Studies followed by a P.G.C.E. She taught Jewish Studies at Immanuel College before making Aliyah. Naomi's textual basics Chumash class is both rigorous and enjoyable. Currently, Mrs. Gordon is involved in various educational initiatives and lives in Kiryat Moshe with her family.

#### ■ **Mrs. Ruth Karlinsky**

Mrs. Karlinsky has been on the Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya staff since 1985. She grew up in Philadelphia and studied at the Bais Yaakov Teachers' Seminary in New York. In 1971, she married Rabbi Shaya Karlinsky, and they made aliya soon afterward. Mrs. Karlinsky graduated from Michlala Jerusalem College for Women with a degree in Tanach and Counseling. She also works as a guidance counselor at a girls' high school near Beit Shemesh. Her positive and optimistic teaching style endears her

to the student body, as well as giving them the necessary background in skills and Jewish History. The Karlinsky family lives in Har Nof, Jerusalem.

■ **Mrs. Chana Kass**

Mrs. Chana Kass from Buffalo, NY, made Aliyah in 1968. For the last 25 years she has been teaching tefilla, Emunah/Bitachon and Shmiras Halashon. A devout student of Rav Shimshon Pincus זצ"ל, she has incorporated his message of Emunah and Bitachon into her classes. Mrs. Kass is notable for her inspiring trips to Kivrei Tzadkim, where she imbues her students with a real understanding of our greats from long ago. She lives in Ramot with her family.

■ **Mrs. Sarah Dena Katz**

Mrs. Sarah Dena Katz grew up in Providence Rhode Island. She came to Israel in 1986 where she studied at Michlala College for Women. Mrs. Katz has a Bachelors in Education from Empire State University and a Masters in Historical Jewish Thought from Touro College. She has taught at numerous seminaries in Jerusalem where many students have profited from her incisive teaching method. She lives in Har Nof with her husband Rabbi Aharon Katz, Rosh Yeshiva of Derech Etz Chaim, and their children.

■ **Rabbi Eli Lerner**

Rabbi Eli Lerner, originally from Brooklyn, NY now Ramat Beit Shemesh, holds degrees from Yeshiva College and The Bernard

Revel Graduate School in Jewish History. He learned at Yeshivat Har Etzion in the Gush, for several years and received Semicha from Yeshiva University RIETS Program. Rabbi Lerner has developed a style of teaching Halacha that is known for its clarity and depth. Rabbi Lerner is a teacher in several seminaries and yeshivot in Jerusalem alongside his work at MRC.

■ **Rabbi Yitzchak Lerner**

Rabbi Lerner, after completing his B.A. in International Relations from Concordia University, left his native Canada to begin his studies at Darché Noam/David Shapell College in 1992. Rabbi Lerner subsequently studied at Medrash Shmuel and received Rabbinic Ordination from Rabbi Zalman Nechemia Goldberg shlit"a. Rabbi Lerner lectures at other Jerusalem seminaries, and teaches both at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and the David Shapell College /Yeshivat Darché Noam. Rabbi Lerner's brand of enthusiasm lends itself well to his popular tefilla and Ein Yaakov classes. He, his wife, Michelle, and their children live in Beitar.

■ **Mrs. Rose Levine**

Mrs. Levine was born in Germany and moved to the United States as a small child. She holds a Hebrew Teacher's diploma from Yeshiva University Teachers' Institute, a B.A. in English and Hebrew Literature from Queens College, and an M.S. in Tanach from the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Yeshiva University. She also studied at the

Bogrot program at Michlala Jerusalem College for Women. Mrs. Levine taught in Dov Revel of Forest Hills, Yeshiva of Flatbush High School, Bais Yaakov of Kew Gardens and Michlala. Her analytical advanced Chumash shiur is unique and greatly beneficial to her students. She, her husband Dr. Philip Levine, and their daughters live in Har Nof, Jerusalem.

### ■ **Rabbi Anthony Manning**

Rabbi Anthony Manning moved to Israel from England in 2002, giving up a successful career as a Partner in a City of London law firm to become a Rabbi and teacher. He gained his Masters in Law from Oxford University and learned at Yeshivat Etz Chaim in London, Yeshivat Ateret Yisrael in Bayit Vegan, and at the Jerusalem Kollel of Rav Yitzchok Berkovits. He writes a regular column on contemporary Torah-related issues for a national Jewish newspaper in England, and teaches widely in Jerusalem on all aspects of Torah thought and practice. He lives with his wife Sarah and their children in Har Nof.

### ■ **Mrs. Chaya Passow**

Mrs. Chaya Passow received her BA from Stern College and did graduate work at the Bernard Revel School of Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University. For many years she was a Jewish Studies lecturer and teacher in New York and in Philadelphia. She taught at the Queens Heritage Center in New York, at Torah Academy in Philadelphia as well as for Aish HaTorah and Etz Chaim.

Mrs. Passow made aliya four years ago and has been teaching English in a Jerusalem high school as well as teaching a very interesting Five Megillot course at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya.

### ■ **Mrs. Shprintza Rappaport**

Mrs. Rappaport hails from the Upper West Side of Manhattan. She attended Breuer's Yeshiva and Teachers' Seminary completing a degree in Judaic Studies. She earned a B.S. in accounting and a B.A. in Economics from Hunter College before pursuing a career as a stock analyst on Wall Street for five years. Ms. Rappaport left Wall Street to come to Israel and join the teaching staff at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya. Her course reflects her natural exuberance and appeal.

### ■ **Mrs. Devora Rubin**

Mrs. Rubin is originally from Monsey, New York. She attended Bais Yaakov of Spring Valley and The Gateshead Teachers' Seminary. She also studied Education and Judaic Studies at Rockland Community College. Mrs. Rubin was the principal and co-founder of Congregation Ahavas Torah Hebrew School in Monroe, New York, and led the Bais Yaakov Live and Learn Tour for five years. She also taught in the Hebrew Day School of Orange County, Yavneh Academy in Paramus, New Jersey, and Breuer's High School. Devora's Chumash class challenges the students intellectually and religiously in a most positive way. Mrs. Rubin, her husband Rabbi Moshe Rubin, and

their children live in Mattersdorf, Jerusalem.

### ■ Rabbi David Sedley

Rabbi Sedley grew up in Wellington, New Zealand. He studied at the David Shapell College/Yeshivat Darché Noam and Yeshivat Hechal Torah, gaining the necessary foundation for the work he would do as a communal Rav in Edinburgh, Scotland and later in Leeds, England. He and his wife Alit and their children returned to Israel and are living in Har Nof. Rabbi Sedley holds a Masters in Education and is currently working on a Doctorate in Adult Education from Nottingham University.

### ■ Mrs. Esther Shurin

Mrs. Shurin has taught at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya since 1984. She grew up in Far Rockaway, New York, graduated from HILI Yeshiva High School and studied at Torah Academy for Girls Seminary and the Teachers' Institute for Women. She has B.A. degrees in both English and Education from Brooklyn College. She made aliya in 1977 with her husband, Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin, and has been teaching in Jerusalem for 30 years while raising her family. The Shurins live in Neve Yaakov, Jerusalem. Her expert teaching ability shines through in Navi and Bein Adam LeChavero classes.

### ■ Rabbi Fyvel Shuster

Rabbi Fyvel Shuster, serves as Menahel Ruchani at Yeshivat Darche Noam/Shapell's. His varied educational and vocational background - learning at Yeshivat Hakotel, Yeshivas Haim Berlin, and with the Talner Rebbe, shlita, working in high-tech, teaching at the Skokie Yeshiva and, for the last 11years, in Machon Lev's program for adult beginners – makes him uniquely suited to help MRC students in their spiritual growth. Rav Shuster, his wife Leah, and their 5 children live in Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem.

### ■ Mrs. Miriam Spitz

Mrs. Spitz, originally from Mexico City, grew up in Far Rockaway, NY. She studied in Gateshead Teacher Seminary in the U.K. An experienced educator of students of all ages, Mrs. Spitz's exuberant classroom atmosphere helps students find great meaning and enjoyment in their Judaism. Mrs. Spitz currently lives with her husband and children Maalot Dafna, Jerusalem.

### ■ Rabbi Aba Wagensberg

Rabbi Wagensberg's dynamic and inspirational classes cover a wide range of subjects. His Parshat HaShavua class is filled to capacity, as his message is both informative and uplifting to all. In addition to his manifold teaching duties, Rabbi Wagensberg is currently involved in preparing publication of his own novellae on Chumash and festivals. Rabbi Wagensberg has semicha from Harav Yitzchak Kolitz, Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem. He lives with his wife, Ariella, and their children in the Old City of Jerusalem.

### ■ Mrs. Golda Warhaftig

Mrs. Warhaftig was born in London, England, and came on aliya in 1968. She studied at Machon Gold and received her teacher's diploma there. She earned a B.Ed. in Tanach and Torah Sheb'al-peh from Michlala Jerusalem College for Women. She also studied counseling and works as a parent counselor, in addition to teaching classes at Michlelet Emunah and Yakar. Golda's special programming at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya is looked forward to by both staff and student body. Golda, her husband Rabbi Dr. Itamar Warhaftig, and their children live in Maale Adumim

# COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

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AREA ONE

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TANACH

AREA TWO

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HASHKAFAT

AREA THREE

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MUSSAR

AREA FOUR

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HALACHA

AREA FIVE

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SEMINARS

AREA SIX

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NIGHT SEDER

## AREA ONE

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### TANACH

#### ■ 1100

##### **Basics Chumash**

*Mrs. Naomi Gordon*

In this 6-week course, students are taught the fundamental skills needed to learn Chumash independently: reading, biblical grammar, dictionary skills, and translation. Students learn to read Rashi script and to understand his methodology. At the end of the course, students are ready to enter our Level One program.

*Chavruta: 3 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 3½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 1101

##### **Introductory Chumash**

*Rabbi Avraham Fischer*

In this Level One course, students are introduced to primary sources and the tools needed to translate and understand them. The aim is to prepare the student to appreciate the depth and scope of Torah as well as to develop independent learning skills. An additional goal of this course is to better understand both the aggadic and halachic Rashis.

*Chavruta: 3 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 3½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 1102

##### **Intermediate Chumash**

*Mrs. Devora Rubin*

The aim of this course is to inculcate close analysis and appreciation of

the many faces of Torah. Skill development is further pursued with a focus on the Medieval biblical commentaries, Ramban and Rashi. Particular attention is paid to the methodology of each commentator and the differences in their styles.

*Chavruta: 3 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 3½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 1103

##### **Advanced Chumash**

*Mrs. Rose Levine*

Students who have the ability to analyze text delve more deeply into commentaries with the goal of seeing a wide range of textual perspectives. In addition, students are taught to use Midrash to gain a deeper understanding of the Chumash and to further refine their textual skills.

*Chavruta: 3 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 3½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 1110

##### **Parshat HaShavua**

*Rabbi Aba Wagensberg and Rabbi A. Manning*

This course is offered at Introductory, Intermediate and Advanced levels to provide students with an appreciation of the living lessons offered to us in the weekly Torah portion. Classical and contemporary commentaries come alive as students delve into the lessons of Rashi, Ramban, Rav Hirsch, the Malbim and others.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

## ■ 1120

### **Parshanut**

*Rabbi Avraham Fischer*

This course provides Intermediate and Advanced students with a survey of the classic commentators of the Chumash from the medieval period until modern times. For each commentator, a biographical sketch is presented and a sample commentary pertaining to Parshat HaShavua is studied. The student becomes familiar with the style, approach and orientation of the major personalities in the canon of biblical scholarship.

*Seminar: 4 hours weekly*

## ■ 1200

### **Basics Navi/Prophets**

*Mrs. Osnat Goldman*

In this 6-week course, students are taught the fundamental skills needed to learn Navi independently: reading, biblical grammar, dictionary skills and translation. At the end of the course, students are ready to enter our Level One program.

*Chavruta: 2 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 2½ hours weekly*

## ■ 1201

### **Introductory Navi/Prophets**

*Mrs. Esther Shurin*

In this Level One course, students develop textual skills as they concentrate on the moral teachings of the Prophets. Integral to the course is analysis of the political, economic and spiritual climate of

the prophetic era as elucidated by Rashi, Metsudot and others.

*Chavruta: 2 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 2½ hours weekly*

## ■ 1202

### **Intermediate Navi/Prophets**

*Mrs. Ruth Karlinsky*

This course focuses on classical commentaries such as Rashi, the Radak, the Ralbag, Abarbanel, and the Malbim in order to comprehend the spiritual and ethical underpinnings of the Prophets.

*Chavruta: 2 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 2½ hours weekly*

## ■ 1203

### **Advanced Navi/Prophets**

*Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin*

In this course, students delve into later Prophets and commentaries including the Ibn Ezra. Special attention is placed on the relationship between the Prophets and the nation as a means of developing a better understanding of the Jewish people today.

*Chavruta: 2 hours weekly*

*Seminar: 2½ hours weekly*

## ■ 1204

### **Eshet Chayil/Mishlei**

*Mrs. Lynn Finson*

This course presents interpretations of Eshet Chayil as seen through the Midrash and commentary.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

■ 1205

**The Five Megillot**

*Mrs. Shprintza Rappaport and Mrs. Chaya Passow*

Throughout this course, each of the five megillot (Kohelet, Esther, Shir HaShirim, Ruth, and Eicha) are examined in detail. The course involves extensive use of commentaries to show how the lessons of these megillot are applicable today.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

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## AREA TWO

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### HASHKAFÁ

■ 2101

**Tefilla**

*Mrs. Chana Kass, Mrs. Miriam Spitz and Mrs. Blimi Botwinick*

This course considers the basic philosophical and technical structure of prayer, based on sources from the Talmud, Midrash, and Medieval philosophers. Students seek to gain a deeper understanding of prayer and techniques for approaching and communicating with G-d.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

■ 2102

**Sefer Tehillim**

*Staff*

King David's Book of Psalms is studied as a vehicle toward achieving a closer, more profound relationship with G-d.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

■ 2204

**Jewish Philosophical Issues**

*Staff*

In the modern era, Torah Judaism has endured many philosophical and ideological challenges. In this course, the texts of Rabbis Shimshon Rafael Hirsch, Moshe Chaim Luzatto, Yosef Dov Soloveitchik and Eliezer Berkovits are studied in order to understand how these masters have dealt with the challenges of the enlightenment period, the Reform movement, the Holocaust and Zionism.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

■ 2301

**The Kuzari**

*Staff*

The dialogue between a rabbi and the Khazar king in Rabbi Yehuda Halevy's Kuzari elucidates every major issue in Jewish thought from both the mystical and rational perspectives.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

■ 2302

**Chassidut**

*Staff*

Using texts written by the Chassidic masters, such as Rebbe Tzaddok HaCohen, the Sfas Emes, the Kedushas Levi and others, students begin to develop an appreciation for the practical application of Chassidic ideology in everyday life.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

■ 2401/2402

**Introductory Netivot Shalom/  
Advanced Netivot Shalom**

*Rabbi S. Karlinsky, Rabbi Yitzchak Lerner*

This work written by the previous Slonimer Rebbe is quickly becoming a hashkafa classic. Subjects discussed include faith and belief in G-d, character development, and love of Torah learning. The work was written for all Jews and regardless of the color of their kippot, students throughout the Torah World find this work inspiring and insightful. Hence it is called Netivot Shalom – the Path of Peace.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

■ 2403

**The Philosophy of Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik**

*Rabbi Yehoshua Bienenfeld*

Rav Soloveitchik's approach to Jewish life has had a monumental impact on contemporary Torah Jewry. The Rav's profound articles affect the minds and hearts of his readers, because they speak the readers' language and deal with his challenges. Topics include: 1) The Rav's unique approach to the State of Israel and what Zionism stands for, 2) articles from "Al HaTshuva" as a preparation for the High Holidays, 3) articles on the interrelationship between man and G-d, and writings on the challenges of contemporary society to Jewish life.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

■ 2404

**Derech HaShem/Mesilat Yescharim**

*Rabbi Menachem Farber, Mrs. Sara Dena Katz and Rabbi Shaya Karlinsky*

Rav Moshe Chaim Luzatto, author of "Mesilat Yescharim" and "Derech HaShem," presents us with one of the most organized systems of Jewish thought. In these classical works, he deals with concepts involving the refinement of the human character, as well as discussing major issues such as how G-d rules His world. The course is taught on both a beginner and an advanced level.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

## AREA THREE

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### MUSSAR

#### ■ 3101

##### **Introduction to Mussar**

*Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin*

This course familiarizes students with the Mussar movement founded by Rav Yisroel Salanter. It offers an in-depth discussion of the subject of personality refinement as expressed in Rambam's Eight Chapters of Ethics, the source of the "golden mean." In addition, it presents the Slobodka mussar approach based on the principle "man is created in the image of G-d".

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 3102

##### **Advanced Mussar**

*Rabbi Yitzchak Shurin*

A range of mussar texts, including the Ohr Yisrael, are examined to elucidate Rav Salanter's "mussar personality." Emphasis is placed on the historical background of the mussar movement and the practical application of mussar to our daily lives.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

## AREA FOUR

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### HALACHA

#### ■ 4101

##### **The Oral Law**

*Rabbi A. Manning*

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the inner workings of the halachic framework, enabling them to better understand the structure of the Oral Law. The class uses Rambam's introduction to his commentary on the Mishna as a source book to analyze such questions as: Which part of the Torah is from Sinai? What are the differences between Torah law, Rabbinic law, and minhag/custom? What is the role of the Prophets in Torah law? What was the process of the redaction of the Tanach?

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

#### ■ 4201

##### **Introductory Halacha**

*Rabbi Eli Lerner and, Rabbi David Sedley*

Through a practical and analytical approach using sources, students learn the halachot of Shabbat, Kashrut and Brachot.

*Seminar: 3 hours weekly*

#### ■ 4202

##### **Advanced Halacha**

*Rabbi Bienenfeld*

The classical texts of Shulchan Aruch, Mishna Brura and Chochmat Adam enhance the students'

understanding of Shabbat, Kashrut and Brachot. A practical, as well as analytical approach is employed to convey the beauty and realities of Jewish observance.

*Seminar: 3 hours weekly*

■ **4203**

**Daily Halachot for Women**

*Mrs. Menucha Chwat*

This course offers a practical and analytical guide of the daily mitzvot for the Torah-observant woman. Topics such as Tefila, morning Brachot, Limud Torah, and Hilchot Beit HaKnesset are covered.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

■ **4204**

**Introductory Bein Adam LeChavero**

*Mrs. Lynn Finson*

An analysis of mitzvot regulating the conduct of society through primary and secondary sources is featured in this course. The integration of textual skills and life skills is a critical component of the curriculum. It is both a Mussar and Halacha oriented course. We begin with the foundation mitzvah of “Walking in the Way of G-d” and continue to such classics as “Loving Thy Neighbor”, “Honoring Parents”, “Tzedakah”, and many others.

*Seminar: 3 hours weekly*

■ **4205**

**Advanced Bein Adam LeChavero**

*Mrs. Esther Shurin*

Students having greater facility with text examine less well-known mitzvot through original sources, gaining a sophisticated understanding of our interpersonal obligations. Examples of mitzvot covered include: the relationship between the secular and religious communities, unfair competition, and obligations toward special needs groups.

*Chavruta: 1 hour weekly*

*Seminar: 2 hours weekly*

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## AREA FIVE

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### SEMINARS

■ **5101**

**Introductory Ein Yaakov**

*Rabbi Fyvel Shuster*

This is the first in a series of courses based on the sections of the Talmud contained in Ein Yaakov. The student acquires the tools needed to translate and understand the aggadot and midrashim found in Rabbinic literature with an emphasis on learning the basic phrases and terminology used in Talmud study.

*Seminar: 3 hours weekly*

■ **5102**

**Advanced Ein Yaakov**

*Rabbi Yoel Lieberman*

Advanced students will gain a broader overview and clearer

understanding of the scope of aggadic material in Rabbinic literature, and its role in Jewish philosophy and ethics.

*Seminar: 3 hours weekly*

### ■ 5201

#### **Biblical Grammar**

*Rabbi Avraham Fischer*

This intensive course is for the beginner, and teaches the basics of Hebrew grammar. It focuses in particular on the skills needed for translation.

*Practicum: 1 hour weekly*

### ■ 5301

#### **Jewish Family**

*Mrs. Dina Coopersmith*

A series of discussions on topical issues exploring what the sources have to say about Jewish modesty, family, sexuality, feminism and other relevant issues.

*Seminar: 2 hours weekly*

### ■ 5401

#### **The Life Cycle in Judaism**

*Mrs. Menucha Chwat*

This course examines the events and ceremonies which mark the milestones in the Jewish life cycle. Through the study of classical texts, students arrive at a deeper understanding of the Jewish "hows" and "whys" of birth, brit mila, pidyon haben, Bar and Bat mitzvah, marriage, death and the after-life.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

### ■ 5501

#### **The Jew in Contemporary Society**

*Rabbi Anthony Manning*

The 20th century has brought about a radical transformation of society, both through technological innovation and social movements. These changes force the Jew who lives within the framework of Jewish tradition to apply the timeless truths of the Torah to the timely questions of modernity. The course examines contemporary issues through a careful analysis of classical texts including Tanach, Talmud, law codes, responsa and philosophical works.

*Seminar: 1½ hours weekly*

### ■ 5601

#### **Introduction to the Cycle of the Jewish Year**

*Rabbi Avraham Fischer*

This course follows the cycle of holidays in the Jewish year using primary sources in the Tanach, Talmud, and Midrash to understand the significance of various events and the structure of the Jewish calendar.

*Seminar: 2 hours weekly*

### ■ 5701

#### **History and Philosophy of Zionism**

*Rabbi Avraham Fischer*

Weekly lectures on the history and philosophy of Zionism: This course will discuss important personalities within the Zionist movement, their philosophies from Chovevei Zion, the rise of the State until

contemporary times. Particular emphasis will be put on examining the current state of Zionist ideology in a Post Zionist era. Text used for this course will be: The Zionist idea by Arthur Hertzberg. As it is an anthology of primary text writings, the following authors will be examined: The Rabbis of Chovevei Zion, Rav Kook, Ben Gurion, Chaim Weizman, Arlozoroff and others. Readings will also be taken from such works as “The Jew and the Modern World” by Rheinholtz.

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## AREA SIX

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### *NIGHT SEDER AND ULPAN*

#### ■ 6101

#### **Night Seder**

*Rabbi Aba Wagensberg*

In this night seder class, students are encouraged to navigate through famous Ramban pieces in the Chumash. Challenging questions of the Ramban are explored, such as free choice, the spiritual genetics of the Jewish People, and the meaning of loving G-d are covered. Outside sources are also used to enhance our understanding of this great Jewish sage.

*Seminar: 1 hour weekly*

#### ■ 6102

#### **Ulpan**

Our Ulpan meets twice weekly, introducing modern conversational Hebrew using standard accepted Ulpan methodology. Ulpan is a total

of 2 formal hours plus 2 hours of homework weekly. In addition to which, as part of our daily morning textual skills program, students are required to learn and practice translating biblical Hebrew texts. Complementing the morning program is a separate biblical grammar class offered twice weekly.

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## AREA SEVEN

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### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

#### ■ 7101

#### **Basics Program**

*Staff*

This is an introductory program for students who have not yet obtained the necessary skills required for serious textual study. This six-week intensive course, Basics, improves students' translation and reading abilities of Hebrew texts. The rigorous study of Chumash and Navi, along with biblical grammar, dictionary skills, and the learning of Rashi script, provide a basis for in-depth class discussion. For women who are newly observant, appropriate discussion groups on various philosophical and practical issues are conducted. At the end of six weeks, students are equipped to enter our regular Level One program.

#### ■ 7102

#### **Yemei Iyun**

*Staff and Guest Lecturers*

Every year, Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya hosts several seminars for

current students and the general community. Each of these Yemei Iyun, in advance of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur/Sukkot, Chanukah, Pesach, and Tisha B'Av, develops a specific theme through textual study. Presenters are the Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya faculty along with special lectures by leading scholars and educators.

### ■ 7103

#### **CommunityService/Chesed Program**

*Mrs. Debbie Goldberg*

One afternoon per week, Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya students put their learning into action by participating in their chosen community service projects. These projects range from working with children from disadvantaged families to answering phones on a crisis counseling hot line. Each student works with our community service/chesed coordinator to find a placement that is right for her. Periodic seminars on issues raised by these projects give the participants an opportunity to discuss and grow from their experiences.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

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**ADMISSIONS**

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**TUITION**

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**FACILITIES**

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

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## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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### ■ The Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya Program

Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya's program is designed to facilitate the development of independent learning skills and spiritual growth, while helping the student gain a deeper understanding of Jewish thought and observance. These goals are best achieved by completing the full one-year program. Classes are held during the day time hours between 9-5:30. We offer an ulpan night class twice weekly as well as a special night seder one time per week in which students get to work further on their in depth knowledge of the commentaries. Students have the option of attending five-week Elul and six-week summer programs. Ideally, students should make plans to arrive in Israel at the end of summer to begin their studies with the Elul program that precedes the High Holidays and stay for the full year course.

### ■ Annual Calendar

The 2007-8 academic year is divided into the following terms:

### ■ Dates for 2007-8 are:

#### **Elul Zman**

August 15 – September 22, 2007

#### **Fall Zman**

October 14– December 6, 2007

#### **Winter Zman**

December 12,2007 – April 3, 2008

#### **Spring Zman**

May 5 – June 25, 2008

### **Summer Zman**

June 30 – August 10, 2008

### ■ Tentative dates for 2008-9 are:

#### **Elul Zman**

September 1 – October 9, 2008

#### **Fall Zman**

October 29– December 24, 2009

#### **Winter Zman**

December 29– March 26, 2009

#### **Spring Zman**

April 26 – June 17, 2009

#### **Summer Zman**

June 21 – July 30, 2009

### ■ Intersession

Vacations are during Sukkot, three weeks during Pesach, and during the month of Av. A detailed calendar is available upon request.

### ■ Holidays and Special Events

Interspersed throughout the year are celebrations of the Jewish holidays, tours of the Land of Israel, Shabbatonim and other special programs, including all-day seminars preceding most holidays. The Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya community comes together to celebrate life cycle events and to support each other in times of need.

## ADMISSIONS

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### ■ Eligibility

Single and married women of all ages study at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya. The median age each year is generally in the mid-20's. Candidates usually have an academic or professional degree, or

the equivalent life experience. General prerequisites are a basic commitment to traditional Jewish observance and the ability to read Hebrew, although not necessarily to understand it.

### ■ Applications

Candidates for admission may apply online at [www.darchenoam.org](http://www.darchenoam.org). You may also request printed application materials from Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya or one of our offices abroad:

#### **Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya College Of Jewish Studies for Women**

23 Eliezer HaLevi  
PO Box 3151, Jerusalem 96343  
Israel  
Tel: 972-2-654-0622, Fax: 972-2-651-9183  
[mrachel@darchenoam.org](mailto:mrachel@darchenoam.org)

#### **American Friends of Darché Noam**

410 East 3rd Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11218  
USA  
Toll Free Tel: 888-233-6678, Fax: 516-706-1466  
[afdnd@darchenoam.org](mailto:afdnd@darchenoam.org)

#### **Canadian Friends of Darché Noam**

3-3865 Bathurst Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3H 3N4  
Canada  
Tel: 416-638-2419  
[cfdnd@darchenoam.org](mailto:cfdnd@darchenoam.org)

#### **British Friends of Darché Noam**

33 Holmfield Avenue,  
London, NW4 2LP  
England  
020-8203-7658  
[bfdnd@darchenoam.org](mailto:bfdnd@darchenoam.org)

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## TUITION

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### ■ Tuition

Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya's tuition for 2007-2008 is \$9,200 per academic year. The Summer Program is \$1,510. This includes a non-refundable fee of \$250 for registration and \$350 for student activities. This \$600 is due upon acceptance. (These fees are accurate through January 1, 2008 and are subject to change after that date.) Tuition includes payment for all classes, *tiyulim* (outings), special events and lunch each class day. Part-time options are also available. Payment may be made directly to the Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya office or through any one of our overseas offices. For up to date tuition information please check [http://www.darchenoam.org/mr/mr\\_tuition.htm](http://www.darchenoam.org/mr/mr_tuition.htm)

## ■ Financial Assistance

Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya makes every effort to help qualified students who need financial assistance. The students are advised to do their utmost to set aside the necessary funds before arriving in Israel. Note that assistance may be available from a student's synagogue, Federation, JCC or Hillel.

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## FACILITIES

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### ■ Educational Campus

The Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya facilities in Kiryat Moshe house classrooms, administrative offices, a kitchen and a library. The Kiryat Moshe neighborhood is easily accessible from most parts of the city. Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya's library contains approximately 1,000 volumes. English-language books may be borrowed; Hebrew volumes are all on reserve for reference purposes. Limited kitchen facilities are available to students throughout the day.

### ■ Accommodations

Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya has two furnished apartments for students in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Har Nof, adjacent to Givat Shaul. The cost to live in one of these apartments is \$290 per month, including all utilities except telephone. Linens and kitchen utensils are also provided. At the Yeshivat Darché Noam/David Shapell College campus, there are two self-contained apartments for married couples, who

are studying both at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and Yeshivat Darché Noam/Shapell's.

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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### ■ Passports and Visas

All foreign students are required to hold a valid foreign passport and a **student visa (not a tourist visa)**; and all students who are Israeli citizens are required to hold a valid Israeli identification card (teudat zehut or teudat oleh).

On arrival in Israel, you will automatically receive a three month tourist visa. Once you are here, we will help you get a student visa through the Ministry of the Interior (Misrad Hapnim) in Jerusalem.

### ■ Health Insurance

All students are required to have medical insurance coverage while studying at Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya. Comprehensive medical insurance from abroad satisfies this requirement, but under such policies students must pay directly for all services before being reimbursed. Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya is enrolled in a private health insurance plan, Harel, specially devised for overseas students, at a current cost of 85¢ per day. The comprehensive plan covers visits to doctors (both general and specialists registered with Harel), hospitalization, x-rays, laboratory tests, medication (up to \$200 a year), emergency dental

treatment (up to \$200 a year), and emergency room treatment (except for road accidents). All the above facilities are provided at no extra charge. The plan does not cover pre-existing health conditions, rehabilitation, pregnancy or childbirth. Failure to purchase some sort of health insurance will unfortunately result in a student's dismissal from school until such health insurance is purchased. Students who may be expecting must speak to the office to be advised individually regarding medical insurance.

### ■ **Shabbat Hospitality**

Each week, Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya places students, who have not made their own arrangements, with faculty, alumni, neighbors or friends for Shabbat meals. In this way, students share a wide variety of experiences with families of many different backgrounds.

### ■ **Counseling**

Several members of the Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and Yeshivat Darché Noam/Shapell's faculties are trained counselors, available to our students.

### ■ **Student Handbook**

Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya distributes a student handbook filled with practical information about life in Israel.

### ■ **For More Information**

You can apply online, listen to a *shiur*, and much more at:

[www.darchenoam.org](http://www.darchenoam.org)

Contact details for Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya and our overseas offices are listed in the Admissions section. We look forward to hearing from you!