



ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RELIGION

Accredited by the Association of Theological Schools

Join AJR's Global Student Body

Real-time distance learning options

Virtual Open House

Tuesday, November 30

Sample classes, meet with students and faculty, and have an authentic AJR experience through special programming and sessions.

- **Rabbinical Ordination**
- **Cantorial Ordination**
- **Master of Arts in Jewish Studies**
Step into a robust curriculum from wherever you stand in the community
- **Cantors to Rabbis**
For currently ordained or invested cantors who would like to earn rabbinical ordination
- **Kol-Bo**
AJR's newest program for those interested in simultaneous rabbinical and cantorial ordinations

*“We are as great as
the challenges we
have the courage to
undertake.”*

*~ Rabbi Lord Jonathan
Sacks z"l*





OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Welcome to AJR! We are pleased you are joining us for our Virtual Open House. All sessions will be available on Zoom. Feel free to spend your day sitting in on classes, speaking with our faculty and administration, and getting to know our students. Links to the Virtual Open House will be sent out shortly.

9:15 – 10:30AM

Architecture of Ritual

Rabbi Jill Hammer

Bioethics

Rabbi Jill Hackell

Musical Skills III

Stanley Dorn

Intermediate Codes

Rabbi David Almog

10:45 – 11:40AM

Informational FAQs

Learn about AJR's programs of study, curricula, distance learning opportunities, and the application process.

11:45AM – 12:45PM

Getting to Know AJR

Meet with current students, faculty, and members of the administration.

Please feel free to use this time enjoying your lunch during these conversations.

Note: Visitors are welcome to join the second half of one of the classes below at 2:05 PM.

12:55 – 3:20PM

The Psalms that Clergy Use: Their Meaning and Power

Rabbi Jeffrey Segelman

Judaism and the Earth

Rabbi Jill Hammer

12:55 – 2:05PM

Advanced Nusah: Shalosh Regalim

Cantor Sol Zim

3:30 – 3:50PM

Minhah

Experience our spirited *tefillot*

4:00 – 5:00PM

Understanding Pluralism*

Dr. Ora Horn Prouser
CEO and Academic Dean

**Sample Class session exclusively for open house attendees*

5:10 – 6:20PM

Advanced Nusah: Shalosh Regalim

Cantor Lisa Klinger-Kantor

Advanced Talmud

Rabbi Matt Goldstone

Enjoy Your Day!

- **Architecture of Ritual** — *Rabbi Jill Hammer*

The Architecture of Ritual is a course that allows Jewish leaders to consciously explore what ritual is, what ritual does within the life of individuals and communities, what their role is in creating and performing ritual, and how ritual can be effective in the lives of modern Jews. The course will cover ritual as a phenomenon (what it is, why it exists, how it is structured) as well as explore individual ritual topics with an eye toward determining how ritual works, clarifying ritual structures, and considering the function of clergy as ritual leaders.

- **Bioethics** — *Rabbi Jill Hackell, M.D.*

Technological advancements in medicine have brought with them bioethical issues of increasing complexity. This course will examine issues pertinent to today's bioethical dialogue from a Jewish point of view, including issues such as organ donation, end-of-life, assisted reproduction, genetic screening and gene therapy, disease prevention, physician-assisted death, and the many issues raised by COVID. How does the Jewish way of looking at these issues compare and contrast with the general societal discussion? What are the governing principles of bioethical argument in each of these, across the spectrum of Jewish thought? How are ancient Jewish sources reconciled with modern technology in guiding thinking about these issues?

- **Musical Skills III** — *Stanley Dorn*

Music Skills III is the culminating course in an intensive three semester program designed to establish in cantors the rudiments they will need to teach to, and perform with, their congregations. In this trimester we will concentrate on sight singing modal and tonal melodies, writing melodies for use in the service, harmonizing these and other melodies for accompaniment by instrumental ensemble and/or choir, and conducting such an ensemble.

- **Intermediate Codes** — *Rabbi David Almog*

This course will focus on Joseph Karo's *Shulhan Arukh*, the canonical early modern code of Jewish law, which continues to inform contemporary practice for many Jews. Together, we will study classic laws related to the observances of Shabbat and Holidays. Additionally, our exploration will be enriched by readings and discussions reflecting upon the ways these traditional forms of observance might continue to inspire our diverse Jewish communities as sources of normative practice, spiritual nourishment, and ethical reflection.

- **The Psalms that Clergy Use: Their Meaning and Power** — *Rabbi Jeffrey Segelman*

Psalms are an important element in the toolbox of the clergy. They are part of our liturgy, our life cycle rituals, and they often set the tone for moments of commemoration and introspection. In this class, we will take an in-depth look at many of the psalms that regularly find their way into our work and our prayers. Our goal will be not only to learn how to use them more effectively, but also how we may use them to further our professional and personal spiritual growth.

- **Judaism and the Earth** — *Rabbi Jill Hammer*

This course is a survey of Jewish texts, practices, rituals, and concepts related to environmentalism and ecology. We will encounter the wide variety of ways Jews have thought of, and are thinking about, their responsibility for the earth, and we will consider the implications for our own life choices, leadership choices, and community values. There will be an opportunity to design practical projects for addressing the environment within Jewish contexts.

- **Nusah: Shalosh Regalim** — *Cantors Sol Zim and Lisa Klinger-Kantor*

This course provides an in-depth and extensive study of the vast components of the unique *Regalim* motifs, various *nushaot*, and prayer modes. Students will develop a deep understanding of the different *Misinai* motifs that make up the *Shalosh Regalim* services. Special emphasis will be placed on the *S'firat Ha'omer*, *Hakafot*, *Hallel*, *Na'anu'im* (shaking of Lulav and Etrog), *Tal*, *Geshem*, *Shaharit Amidah*, *Hoshanot*, *Ata Horeita Lada'at* and *Musaf Amidah*. Students will learn to master and lead the entire *Shalosh Regalim* service using both traditional *nusah* and participatory melodies.

- **Advanced Talmud** — *Dr. Matt Goldstone*

This course will hone students' abilities to critically read, parse, and understand Talmudic material that is relevant for understanding contemporary Judaism. This semester will focus on *sugyot* related to *kashrut*, which will provide students with a historical and literary understanding of the underpinnings of contemporary *kashrut* observances.