



ACADEMY  
for JEWISH  
RELIGION

ORDAINING RABBIS AND CANTORS  
FOR ALL JEWISH COMMUNITIES

# ZOOM INTO OUR OPEN HOUSE

## Tuesday, July 9th

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

### AJR'S PROGRAMS

- ✓ Rabbinical Ordination
- ✓ Cantorial Ordination
- ✓ Cantors to Rabbis Track (for ordained or invested cantors)
- ✓ Kol-Bo Program (dual rabbinical and cantorial ordination)
- ✓ Master of Arts in Jewish Studies



### ABOUT US

- ✓ Flexible distance learning with academic rigor
- ✓ Accredited by the Association of Theological Schools
- ✓ Pluralistic Jewish seminary training and ordaining rabbis and cantors as equal partners

**CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER FOR  
OPEN HOUSE**

Visit [ajr.edu](http://ajr.edu) for more information

For questions:  
[open-house@ajr.edu](mailto:open-house@ajr.edu)





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## Tuesday, July 9th

**Welcome to AJR!** We are delighted you are joining us for Open House.

Feel free to spend your day sitting in on classes, speaking with our faculty and administration, and getting to know our students.

All sessions are on Zoom. Please note that times indicated below are ET.

### Schedule for the day:

9:15 – 10:55 am

***Israel Post October 7***

Dr. Yakir Englander

11:05 – 11:50 am

***Informational FAQs***

Learn more about our programs of study, curriculum, distance learning and the AJR application process.

12:00 – 12:45 pm

***Getting to Know AJR / Meeting with Students***

Meet with current students.

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

12:55 – 2:00 pm - 3 course options

***Introduction to Codes***

Rabbi David Almog

***Introduction to Liturgy***

Rabbi Jeff Hoffman, DHL

*This session is exclusively  
for Open House attendees.*

***The Place of Nusah in***

***Contemporary Davenning***

Cantor Sol Zim

2:10 – 3:20 pm

***Pluralism at AJR and Pluralistic Leadership in Today's Jewish Community***

Dr. Ora Horn Prouser, CEO and Academic Dean

*This session is exclusively for Open House attendees.*

3:30 – 3:50 pm

***Minhah***

Experience our spirited *tefillot*.

3:55 – 6:20 pm

***Leadership Lessons in Numbers: Holiness, Soulcraft, and Transformation of Peoplehood***

Dr. Job Jindo

5:15 – 6:20 pm *This session is exclusively for Open House attendees.*

***AJR's Cantorial Program and Your Place in It***

Cantor Michael Kasper

## Course Descriptions

### ***HIS 355 Israel Post 10/7***

*Dr. Yakir Englander*

In the aftermath of October 7th, this course aims to examine the diverse reactions and transformations within Israeli society and their implications for American Jewish life, focusing on leadership, ethical, cultural, and societal changes. The exploration will be conducted through an in-depth acquaintance with the questions and challenges arising from the conflict, engaging in dialogue with leaders featured in the course. Furthermore, participants will acquire leadership tools essential for Jewish-American leaders in the aftermath of the war. By addressing a broad spectrum of topics—from the ethical dilemmas of warfare and power dynamics, to sharing complex narratives and combating Antisemitism—participants will gain a deep understanding of the contemporary Israeli and Jewish American contexts.

Additionally, in each session, participants will be introduced to a project created in response to the war, examining the understanding of the need for the project, getting acquainted with the initiators, and how it operated.

### ***HAL 401 Introduction to Codes***

*Rabbi David Almog*

This course will introduce students to the literature of the *halakhic* codes, with a focus on Maimonides' *Mishneh Torah*. We will explore several facets of the text: its internal dynamics and unique features; the way in which it sets the standard for Jewish legal codification, and the ways in which it is faithful to its earlier sources and how it reshapes them. Emphasis will be placed on precise and accurate reading of the text, with commentaries consulted as necessary.

### ***LIT 101 Introduction to Liturgy***

*Rabbi Jeff Hoffman, DHL*

Foundations in the academic study of Jewish liturgy including questions of history, textual sources, and literary meaning. Added to that will be inquiries into spiritual meaning for today's Jews. Portions of the weekday service will be used as examples for developing an understanding of the basic liturgical units: *Birkhot HaShahar*, *Pesukei DeZimrah*, *Keri'at Shema U'Virkhoteha*, *Amidah*, *Tahanun*, and the Torah Service. Approaches of the varied streams of contemporary Judaism will be taken into consideration.

### ***BIB 348 Leadership Lessons in Numbers: Holiness, Soulcraft, and Transformation of Peoplehood***

*Dr. Job Jindo*

This course entails a critical examination of the book of Numbers, focusing on themes of leadership (and its failures), holiness, soulcraft, and peoplehood. By the end of the course, students will gain an understanding of: (1) the structure, purposes, and theological outlook of Numbers; (2) the intricate nature of leadership responsibilities, holiness, community dynamics, peoplehood, and soulcraft as depicted in Numbers; and (3) effective strategies for teaching the book of Numbers to contemporary audiences with AJR values, including critical rigor, inclusivity, and a commitment to the pluralistic nature of the contemporary Jewish and broader communities.

**Have a great day!**

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