

Louisville Melton Course Catalog



the florence melton school
of adult jewish learning

Louisville

2019 / 2020



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FACULTY BIOS

Deborah Slosberg has been director and teacher of Louisville Melton since 2013. Purposes of Jewish Living classes are the highlight of her week, but best of all are Rachel Wasserman Scholars Curriculum courses on individual books of the Torah.

Of the many communal and congregational activities **Cantor David Lipp** engages in, few are as rewarding as teaching Melton, both Core curricula (of which he's taught three of four and *subbed* for all) and graduate courses, both those created by Melton itself and those on music compiled through extensive listening and study. He's been teaching Melton since it was first brought to Louisville by the Federation and is delighted to continue under the aegis of AJ.

Rabbi Laura Metzger says she can teach pretty much anything to pretty much anyone. She especially loves to teach Jewish ideas to people who thrive on learning. Because the more she teaches, the more she learns. And not much is more fun than that. Except cooking and making art and she does a lot of those too.

Rabbi Stanley Miles has taught a total of 15 years in both the former Federation Melton program and the current Louisville Melton at Adath Jeshurun. He focuses his teaching on the Core course, Rhythms of Jewish Living and the graduate course, Jews in America. This year Rabbi Miles is also teaching the graduate course on the Holocaust. After 38 years as rabbi of Temple Shalom, Stan retired and has become active on the Board of Centerstage, the theater company of the J of Louisville.

Before retiring as a professor of sociology and in the administration at Indiana University Southeast, new Louisville Melton teacher **Dr. Marcia Texler Segal** taught courses related to social justice from a secular perspective. She looks forward to bringing Jewish theory and practice to bear on the subject in her Melton course.

Rabbi Robert Slosberg has been a rabbi at Adath Jeshurun since 1981. One of his great joys as a rabbi is teaching for Louisville Melton. He has also led three international Melton Travel Seminars to Israel which he describes as the most stimulating and fun trips he has taken. In his spare time he is active on the Masorti Foundation Board having been its most recent Chairman.

New Louisville Melton teacher, **Dr. Melanie-Prejean Sullivan** has been a lifelong student of Judaism and the origins of her own religion, Catholicism. She is retired after nearly twenty years in campus ministry and teaching at the university level. In retirement, she serves as a Research Associate with the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge, England. Melanie holds graduate degrees in history, educational psychology, and practical theology, and is a proud Melton graduate.

A native of New York, **Rabbi Michael Wolk** moved to Louisville in 2012 to become the rabbi of Keneseth Israel. He is a graduate of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary's List College and was ordained by the Rabbinical School at JTS. Rabbi Wolk has enjoyed teaching in Melton's core curriculum about Jewish beliefs and Jewish ethics because they serve to introduce students to important texts like the Talmud. Rabbi Wolk is passionate about Jewish music and Hazzanut and will present special music classes. He is married to Heidi and is the father of Klara Rose and Julia.

Core Curriculum Schedule 2019/2020

Tuesday Schedule (October 29, 2019 – June 2, 2020)		Thursday Schedule (October 31, 2019 – June 4, 2020)	
Year 1 6:30-9:15 p.m. (break 7:45 – 8:00)		Year 1 9:30a.m.-12:15 p.m. (break 10:45-11)	
Purposes of Jewish Living	Deborah Slosberg	Rhythms of Jewish Living	Rabbi Laura Metzger
Rhythms of Jewish Living	Rabbi Stanley Miles	Purposes of Jewish Living	Deborah Slosberg
Year 2 6:30-9:15 p.m. (break 7:45 – 8:00)		Year 2 9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (break 10:45-11)	
Ethics of Jewish Living	Rabbi Robert Slosberg	Ethics of Jewish Living	Rabbi Michael Wolk
Crossroads of Jewish History	Cantor David Lipp	Crossroads of Jewish History	Cantor David Lipp

Year 1 Course Descriptions

The Purposes of Jewish Living

Why do Jews believe what they do? What are the big questions of life and how do Jewish thinkers answer these questions? This course explores both ancient and modern responses.

The Rhythms of Jewish Living

What's the point of living Jewishly? What ideas, beliefs, and practices are involved? This course examines a variety of significant classic and contemporary sources that reveal the breadth and depth of meaning to be found in Jewish holiday and lifecycle practices.

Year 2 Course Descriptions

Ethics of Jewish Living

How do Jewish teachings shed light on contemporary issues such as the environment, interpersonal relationships, end of life decisions, and stem cell research? This course sheds light on how Jewish scholars and thinkers with multiple approaches, consider contemporary issues that affect us individually and as a community.

Crossroads of Jewish History

Emphasizing the richness of Jewish memory, this chronological exploration focuses on the significant crossroads where Jews made decisions that shaped our identity and destiny.

Advanced/Scholars Curriculum Trimester 1 Tuesday Schedule (September 3 – December 10, 2019)		Trimester 1 Thursday Schedule (September 5 – December 12, 2019)	
6:30-7:45 p.m.* (M) Jews in America	Rabbi Stanley Miles	9:30-10:45 a.m. Branches: Rabbinic Judaism and Nascent Christianity, 33-400 CE	Dr. Melanie-Prejean Sullivan
6:30 – 7:45 p.m.* Modern Midrash	Rabbi Laura Metzger	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (M) Jews in America	Rabbi Stanley Miles

*students choose one of two courses offered

(M) Rachel Wasserman Melton School Scholars Curriculum

TRIMESTER 1 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(M) Jews in America II: Insiders and Outsiders

This course considers the American Jewish experience from many angles including challenges of anti-Semitism and acculturation, as well as, success in civil society and flourishing Jewish life.

Modern Midrash

If you come out of the movies wondering, What happened next? ... If you like stories ... If you find discussion a great way to find deeper understanding ... Then you'll want to join us in Modern Midrash. We'll look at Biblical characters in new ways, through stories, poems, and art. We'll see the familiar in unfamiliar ways, some welcome and some surprising. Then we'll talk about it all, comparing interpretations and quite possibly adding some of our own.

Branches: Rabbinic Judaism and Nascent Christianity, 33 - 400 CE

Our study will explore the various theologies and philosophies in Judaea in the early decades of the Common Era. We will analyze how the Roman destruction of the Second Temple shifted the practice of ancient Judaism as it emerged into the Rabbinic Age, alongside an early Jewish sect, which eventually became many different types of Christianity.

Advanced/Scholars Curriculum Trimester 2 Tuesday schedule (January 7 – March 10, 2020)		Trimester 2 Thursday Schedule (January 9 – March 12, 2020)	
6:30 – 7:45 p.m.*		9:30 – 10:45 a.m.	
(M) Social Justice: The Heart of Judaism in Theory & Practice	Dr. Marcia Texler Segal	Sounds & Stories of the American Jewish Experience	Cantor David Lipp (course dates 1/16 – 3/12)
6:30 – 7:45 p.m.*		11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	
Sounds and Stories of the American Jewish Experience	Cantor David Lipp (course dates: 1/14 – 3/10)	(M) Bereshit (Genesis) I: Creation to Abraham & Sarah	Deborah Slosberg

*students choose one of two classes offered

(M) Rachel Wasserman Melton School Scholars Curriculum

TRIMESTER 2 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(M) Social Justice: The Heart of Judaism in Theory and Practice

This new Melton course aims to engage students on a journey of Jewish discovery through studying ancient and contemporary texts. The course is designed to educate and stimulate discussion, encouraging class participants to translate their learning into action.

Sounds and Stories of the American Jewish Experience

A pilot curriculum developed by the Lowell Milken Fund for American Jewish Music at The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. ‘Stories’ engages the narrative of the students as they interact with the history and music of the American Jewish Experience.

(M) Bereshit (Genesis) Creation to Abraham and Sarah

Written commentary and visual artwork guide us through the first half of the book of Bereshit (Genesis). This course is an interactive conversation with the Torah, ancient and contemporary interpretation, and the personal meaning of the texts we find.

Advanced/Scholars Curriculum Trimester 3 Tuesday schedule (March 17 – June 2, 2020)		Trimester 3 Thursday Schedule (March 19 – June 4, 2020)	
6:30 – 7:45 p.m.*		9:30 – 10:45 a.m.	
(M) The Holocaust as Reflected in Diaries and Memoirs	Rabbi Stanley Miles	The Poetry of Psalms	Rabbi Laura Metzger
6:30 – 7:45 p.m.*		11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	
The Poetry of Psalms	Rabbi Laura Metzger	(M) The Holocaust as Reflected in Diaries and Memoirs	Rabbi Stanley Miles

*students choose one of two courses offered

(M) Rachel Wasserman Melton School Scholars Curriculum

TRIMESTER 3 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(M) The Holocaust as Reflected in Diaries and Memoirs

First person accounts uncovered since the Holocaust describe this dark period with details of daily life and profound accounts of the struggle for survival

The Poetry of Psalms

We know the Psalms as part of the prayer service, and sometimes we turn to them for comfort in dark times. The Psalms give voice to the deepest of human emotions. How they have that effect on us is the subject of this course. What is it about Psalms that can both soothe and challenge us, broaden our wisdom and see us as children seeking the safety of a parent's arms? I don't come with answers, but with questions, and I anticipate discussions that will open new ways of understanding and appreciating the Psalms.



COURSE PRICES

Core Curriculum Year 1	\$280 (\$230 if you paid for Modern Living)
Core Curriculum Year 2	\$280 (\$230 if you paid for Modern Living)
Jews in America II	\$165 (\$125 if you have the textbook)
Modern Midrash	\$165
Branches	\$165
Social Justice	\$165
Sounds and Stories	\$150 (only 9 weeks)
Bereshit (Genesis) I	\$165 (\$125 if you have the textbook)
The Holocaust	\$165
The Poetry of Psalms	\$165

Registration Louisville Melton

Registrant Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I am registering for the following courses:

Class: _____ Evening/Daytime Cost: \$ _____

Class: _____ Evening/Daytime Cost: \$ _____

Class: _____ Evening/Daytime Cost: \$ _____

Tuition: _____

Total: \$ _____

Payment Information

Check _____

Credit Card on file in Synagogue Office _____

Mastercard ___ Visa ___ Amex ___ Discover ___

Card #: _____

Ex. Date: ___/___

Mail Registration & Payment to: Adath Jeshurun, Attn: Melton 2401 Woodbourne Ave., Louisville, KY 40205 For scholarship and course information email Deborah Slosberg:
dslosberg@adathjeshurun.com or call: 502-458-5359.

