

PREVIOUS OROT WEEKLY CLASSES

Turning Towards Love: Exploring Song of Songs Winter 2019

Weekly class taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman.

In this class, we will study this remarkable book of love and sensuality, bring it into conversation with our own lives and try to understand its place in the body of Jewish wisdom. This class will bring warmth to these winter months and carry us towards a new relationship with the holiday of Passover.

What is Real: Learning to Love what is True through the Book of Ecclesiastes Fall 2018

A 6-class series with Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman.

The Book of Ecclesiastes, read each year on the holiday of Sukkot, is an enigmatic and provocative exploration of what is true and real about our human lives. In this class, we will use the questions and wisdom found in this text as a doorway to explore the most central questions of life: who are we? Why are we here? How do we shape the lives we want? The class will use the Book of Ecclesiastes as the centerpiece and also incorporate other sources of complementary wisdom, both Jewish and secular.

Kavannah 5779: Loving with Heart, Soul and Might in the Weekly Torah Reading Fall 2018

Weekly Class taught by Jane Shapiro.

In this class we will examine love in all its forms throughout the year: love of nature, of others, of self, of family, of God. Love of the journey, of challenge, of sadness and distress. We will focus on a select passage in the weekly parsha cycle and consider how to take the message of the week back into our lives. You do not need prior experience with Torah study to be part of this group.

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Returning Home: Preparing for the High Holidays Summer 2018

3 Part Series. Taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman.

The High Holiday season is a time for introspection and discovery, for turning towards ourselves and the lives we are living with honesty and compassion. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are days of heightened teshuva - returning to what is most central and reclaiming what is whole. In this 3-class series, we will explore traditional Jewish texts, as well as contemporary ones, and using discussion and reflective exercises, begin the difficult spiritual work of readying ourselves for the Yamim Noraim.

Spring Session: Weekly Wisdom on Thursdays Spring 2018

Taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman.

Join us each week for a chance to step away from the busyness of our lives and explore the questions and ideas that animate our lives. Each week, we will open up one idea from the weekly Torah portion and use it as a tool to examine who we are, where we stand, and where we hope to be going.

Winter Session: Weekly Wisdom on Thursdays Winter 2018

Taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman

Join us each week for a chance to step away from the busyness of our lives and explore the questions and ideas that animate our lives. Each week, we will open up one idea from the weekly Torah portion and use it as a tool to examine who we are, where we stand, and where we hope to be going. The winter session of this class will focus on 2 themes: Seeding Change and Nurturing Growth, and Building a Home

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Dipping into the Well: weekly wisdom from the Torah Fall 2017

Weekly Class taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman.

Each week, we will explore one central teaching from the weekly Torah portion and interweave commentary, poetry, and teachings from other traditions to discover new meaning that can add richness to our daily lives.

Weekly Kavannah: Exploring Relationships Fall 2017

Taught by Jane Shapiro.

The Torah is framed as a series of narratives, songs, and laws, that revolve around relationships. In Hebrew there are at least four different terms for a relationship. How does the Torah understand what a relationship is? Who is involved in the building of a relationship? What happens when they are disrupted? Who can be in a relationship? How does all of it relate to the larger messages of the Torah and even more, how do we take the Torah in and make it part of our own lived experience? As in all Kavanah classes, we will pick one relationship and try to go deeply into the matter. We will continue to follow the weekly Torah cycle; the ongoing biorhythm of Jewish time and Jewish life. From time to time we will also add the perspective of some midrashim, poems, or other thoughtful texts.

Roots and Branches: The Spirituality of Trees in the Jewish Tradition Summer 2017

Taught by Rebecca Minkus-Lieberman

It's summer and the outside natural world invites us to step out and look around. In this class, we will look to the trees that fill our world as openings to exploration of what it means to be Jewish and human today. Exploring the many texts and images of trees in our Jewish body of wisdom, we will look to the tree to examine how connecting with this natural piece of our world can root us, nourish us, and help us reach up and out. We will use various texts from the Jewish and secular tradition.

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