

## **Electives for Class of 2017 (A, B1 slot)**

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in A slot meet for 4 single periods in a cycle; electives in B1 slot meet for three single periods per cycle*

### **Arts: Craft Materials and Processes** Trimester 3; A slot (Stern)

Students work in a variety of craft media such as glass, wood & fabric. Technical processes as well as historic associations are discussed. Some concept drawing is required.

### **Arts: Create-A-Drama** Trimester 2; A slot (Oriente)

Writing, producing, directing and performing a one-act play in different acting styles, i.e. parody, farce, melodrama, etc.

### **Arts: Creating Art** Trimesters 2 & 3; B1 slot (Stern)

Projects most often center around the study of a specific artist or particular materials or work process. Both two and three dimensional media are covered. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: Public Speaking** Trimester 3; A slot (Oriente)

Teaching and practicing the basic elements of good speaking and instilling a sense of confidence as students communicate orally with others.

### **Arts: 3D Art** Trimesters 1; A slot (Stern)

Design problem-solving utilizing plaster, clay, wood and found objects is the basis of this course. Some concept sketching is required. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: 2D Art** Trimester 2: A slot(Stern)

Observational drawing, two point perspective drawing, "accidental" mark making and collage are a few of the processes that are covered in this course. Experimentation is encouraged.

### **Graphics** Trimester 1; A slot (Rudolph)

Discover the secrets of manipulating and managing digital images. Explore the world of computer graphics on paper and the web. Learn to create, fix, enhance, merge, and change images. Try out fun filters and use them to create digital collages, art creations, and funky images on the computer.

## **Growing Up: It's a Girl Thing!** Trimester 3; A slot (Waxman)

As you make your way through middle school, how are you going to stay healthy, safe and in charge? Come bond with your fellow middle school girlfriends in this course as we explore these topics through art, dance, song, media, discussions and literature.

## **Health** Trimester 1 (Gillio)

*(This course is required in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.)*

Puberty, diseases, and disorders, body systems, self esteem, self identity, personal hygiene, and decision making are investigated and discussed in this course.

## **Introduction to Technology** Trimester 2; A slot (McHugh)

*(This course is required for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who do not pass the Technology Placement Test.)*

This is a basic course designed to bring all students up to a minimum computer literacy as defined by the academic course requirements of Barrack Hebrew Academy. It covers: network use, shared and private folders; our email system including storage, sharing documents, sites and calendar; MS Office 2007 applications of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher including styles, tables, charts and general proficiency, keyboarding proficiency and Photoshop Elements.

## **Judaica: American Jewish History** Trimester 2; A slot (Pugach)

The history of Jews in America spans over 350 years and includes some incredible stories of gunfighters, pioneers, courageous women, political radicals, and ordinary people who sometimes chose to fight for the "wrong" side. The growth of Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative and the modern Orthodox movements often parallel periods in American history. Plus, a study of your own, personal roots may turn up surprises.

## **Judaica: Foundations for Talmud Study (Gemara) and Close Reading Skills** Trimester 3; B1 slot (Philip/Farrell)

An enthusiastic introduction to Talmud/Gemara with the addition of a review and practice of close reading skills that are necessary for mastering Talmud and other types of reading.

## **Judaica: Judaism 101** Trimester 1: A slot (Waxman)

*(Required for students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade who are new to day school.)*

This is your opportunity to get caught up on some of the material you may have missed about the life cycle, the Jewish calendar, and basic Jewish practices. This is a hands-on elective.

**Kashrut and Cooking Around the Jewish Calendar** trimester 2; B1 slot  
(Linietsky)

In this elective, we study the basic laws of Kashrut through handouts and through audiovisual materials. We look at the procedures for setting up a kosher kitchen. In addition, we prepare and sample a variety of culinary masterpieces centered on the Jewish calendar. Recipes are given out during each cooking session.

**Oceanography** Trimester 3; A slot (DeMuro)

Examine the ocean from the beach and bays to the deep oceans. Explore both the living and non-living parts of oceanography. Construct various environmental dioramas, go on a microscopic safari searching for the elusive micro invertebrates, get up close and personal with blood sucking worms, clams, oysters, squid, fish and put your hand in a real shark's jaw, construct biological models of the types of marine organisms, create model tsunami waves, make a racing boat and be able to read a marine chart and use it to get back to your home port without using a GPS. Trip to the NJ Aquarium.

**Planetary Science** Trimester 1; A slot (Dougherty)

What does a scale model of the solar system really look like? Is it right that Pluto is no longer considered to be a planet? Can we make a comet in the lab? What does the sun sound like? The course analyzes the planets in the solar system and examines the probes that we have sent out to each of the planets. This would include the Pathfinder mission to Mars, the Galileo mission to Jupiter and the Cassini mission to Saturn. We also examine the sun and the moons different planets as well as meteors, comets, asteroids and the newly named dwarf planets.

**Relaxation equals success!!!** Trimester 3; B1 slot (Gillio)

If you are running from class to class, dealing with homework, tests, projects and tight due dates, you need learn how to de-stress your life. Practicing relaxation techniques can improve the quality of your life. People who use relaxation technique have better mental, emotional and physical health. They have less anxiety, depression, anger, sadness and fear. You can develop healthier relationships, better concentration, intuition and creativity!

**World Language Exploratory: French** Trimester 2; A slot (TBA)

The goal of this course is to: Build skills in basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing; Expose students to a variety of words, expressions, and structures; Provide students a taste of the art, music, and literature of French-speaking countries through reality-based activities; Motivate students to speak and participate beginning with the first lesson; Generates enthusiasm for language-learning through a friendly, visual approach; and help students understand the culture of French-speaking countries while developing an appreciation of their own culture.

**World Language Exploratory: Latin** Trimester 3; A slot (McMichael)

Discover the Latin language and the world where it was spoken. Learn how to express many things in Latin, such as how to greet people, how to count, what to call many animals and objects, and how to make and wear a toga. Learn some songs in Latin, and stories about the gods and goddesses of the ancient Romans.

**World Language Exploratory: Spanish** Trimester 1; A slot (Schwartz)

The goal of this course is to: Build skills in basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing; Expose students to a variety of words, expressions, and structures; Provide students a taste of the art, music, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries through reality-based activities; Motivate students to speak and participate beginning with the first lesson; Generates enthusiasm for language-learning through a friendly, visual approach; and help students understand the culture of Spanish-speaking countries while developing an appreciation of their own culture.

**Wrestlemania: Taming the Homework Monster** Trimester 1; A slot (McMichael)

Julius Caesar conquered the world; you can conquer your homework.

**Writing Center (available at lunch; a “drop-in”, not an elective)**

The Writing Center provides major support for Writing Across the Curriculum and is open to every student. Trained peer tutors (usually 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders) and faculty from the Humanities Department will work with students on papers from every academic discipline. In some cases, students will be required to attend the Writing Center by their teachers so that they are able to work on aspects of the writing process—outlines, rough drafts, final drafts.

**Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective)(Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

**Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective (Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## **Electives for Class of 2016 (A, B1 and B2 slots)**

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in A slot meet for 4 single periods in a cycle; electives in B1 slot or B2 slot meet for three single periods per cycle*

### **Arts: Craft Materials and Processes** Trimester 3; A slot (Stern)

Students work in a variety of craft media such as glass, wood & fabric. Technical processes as well as historic associations are discussed. Some concept drawing is required.

### **Arts: Create-A-Drama** Trimester 2; A slot (Oriente)

Writing, producing, directing and performing a one-act play in different acting styles, i.e. parody, farce, melodrama, etc.

### **Arts: Creating Art** Trimesters 1 & 3; B1 & B2 slots (Stern)

Projects most often center around the study of a specific artist or particular materials or work process. Both two and three dimensional media are covered. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: Everything About Theatre** Trimester 1; B1 & B2 slots (Oriente)

A complete overview of all aspects of theatre including, but not limited to, set design, acting, improvisation, stage lighting, theatre history, and puppetry.

### **Arts: Public Speaking** Trimester 3; A slot (Oriente)

Teaching and practicing the basic elements of good speaking and instilling a sense of confidence as students communicate orally with others.

### **Arts: 3D Art** Trimesters 1; A slot (Stern)

Design problem-solving utilizing plaster, clay, wood and found objects is the basis of this course. Some concept sketching is required. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: 2D Art** Trimester 1; A slot (Stern)

Observational drawing, two point perspective drawing, "accidental" mark making and collage are a few of the processes that are covered in this course. Experimentation is encouraged.

### **Arts: Vocal Ensemble** Trimester 1; B1 & B2 slots (Orenstein)

Students learn the basis of correct vocal training as well as study sight-reading, solfege and art songs.

### **Graphics** Trimester 1; A slot (Rudolph)

Discover the secrets of manipulating and managing digital images. Explore the world of computer graphics on paper and the web. Learn to create, fix, enhance, merge, and change images. Try out fun filters and use them to create digital collages, art creations, and funky images on the computer.

### **Growing Up: It's a Girl Thing!** Trimester 3; A slot (Waxman)

As you make your way through middle school, how are you going to stay healthy, safe and in charge? Come bond with your fellow middle school girlfriends in this course as we explore these topics through art, dance, song, media, discussions and literature.

### **Health** Trimester 2; B1 & B2 slots (Gillio)

*Health is required for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*

This course focuses primarily on social, mental and physical health. Nutrition, stress, first aid and safety, an anti-bullying workshop and drug education units are parts of our curriculum.

### **Introduction to Technology** Trimester 2; A slot (McHugh)

*(This course is required for new 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who do not pass the Technology Placement Test.)* This is a basic course designed to bring all students up to a minimum computer literacy as defined by the academic course requirements of Barrack Hebrew Academy. It covers: network use, shared and private folders; our email system including storage, sharing documents, sites and calendar; MS Office 2007 applications of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher including styles, tables, charts and general proficiency, keyboarding proficiency and Photoshop Elements.

### **Judaica: American Jewish History** Trimester 2; A slot (Pugach)

The history of Jews in America spans over 350 years and includes some incredible stories of gunfighters, pioneers, courageous women, political radicals, and ordinary people who sometimes chose to fight for the "wrong" side. The growth of Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative and the modern Orthodox movements often parallel periods in American history. Plus, a study of your own, personal roots may turn up surprises.

## **Judaica: Foundations for Talmud Study (Gemara) and Close Reading**

**Skills** Trimester 3; B1 & B2 slots (Philip/Farrell)

An enthusiastic introduction to Talmud/Gemara with the addition of a review and practice of close reading skills that are necessary for mastering Talmud and other types of reading.

**Judaica: Judaism 101** Trimester 1: A slot (Waxman)

*(Required for students in grade 7 who are new to day school.)*

This is your opportunity to get caught up on some of the material you may have missed about the life cycle, the Jewish calendar, and basic Jewish practices. This is a hands-on elective.

**Oceanography** Trimester 3; A slot (DeMuro)

Examine the ocean from the beach and bays to the deep oceans. Explore both the living and non-living parts of oceanography. Construct various environmental dioramas, go on a microscopic safari searching for the elusive micro invertebrates, get up close and personal with blood sucking worms, clams, oysters, squid, fish and put your hand in a real shark's jaw, construct biological models of the types of marine organisms, create model tsunami waves, make a racing boat and be able to read a marine chart and use it to get back to your home port without using a GPS. Trip to the NJ Aquarium.

**Planetary Science** Trimester 1; A slot (Dougherty)

What does a scale model of the solar system really look like? Is it right that Pluto is no longer considered to be a planet? Can we make a comet in the lab? What does the sun sound like? The course analyzes the planets in the solar system and examines the probes that we have sent out to each of the planets. This would include the Pathfinder mission to Mars, the Galileo mission to Jupiter and the Cassini mission to Saturn. We also examine the sun and the moons different planets as well as meteors, comets, asteroids and the newly named dwarf planets.

**Relaxation equals success!!!** Trimester 3; B1 & B2 slots (Gillio)

If you are running from class to class, dealing with homework, tests, projects and tight due dates, you need learn how to de-stress your life. Practicing relaxation techniques can improve the quality of your life. People who use relaxation technique have better mental, emotional and physical health. They have less anxiety, depression, anger, sadness and fear. You can develop healthier relationships, better concentration, intuition and creativity!

### **World Language Exploratory: French** Trimester 2; A slot (TBA)

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### **World Language Exploratory: Latin** Trimester 3; A slot (McMichael)

Discover the Latin language and the world where it was spoken. learn how to express many things in Latin, such as how to greet people, how to count, what to call many animals and objects, and how to make and wear a toga. Learn some songs in Latin, and stories about the gods and goddesses of the ancient Romans.

### **World Language Exploratory: Spanish** Trimester 1; A slot (Schwartz)

The goal of this course is to: Build skills in basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing; Expose students to a variety of words, expressions, and structures; Provide students a taste of the art, music, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries through reality-based activities; Motivate students to speak and participate beginning with the first lesson; Generates enthusiasm for language-learning through a friendly, visual approach; and help students understand the culture of Spanish-speaking countries while developing an appreciation of their own culture.

### **Writing Center (available at lunch; a “drop-in”, not an elective**

The Writing Center provides major support for Writing Across the Curriculum and is open to every student, every department and every type of writing assignment. It meets each day at lunch and is staffed by an English teacher and a team of trained peer tutors. The Writing Center is geared towards grades 6 through 10, since older students are often the peer tutors. In some cases, student attendance would be a requirement, such as in advance of a paper or draft or in between the initial and final drafts of a paper. Writing Center professionals thoroughly train the peer tutors, work with classroom teachers on assignments with Writing Across the Curriculum in mind. Writing Center faculty also act as support for publications.

### **Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective)(Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

### **Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective (Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## **Electives for Class of 2015 (B 2 slot)**

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
  - *Electives in B2 slot meet for three single periods per cycle*

### **Arts: Creating Art** Trimesters 1, 2 & 3; B2 slot (Stern)

Projects most often center around the study of a specific artist or particular materials or work process. Both two and three dimensional media are covered. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: Everything About Theatre** Trimester 13; B2 slot (Oriente)

A complete overview of all aspects of theatre including, but not limited to, set design, acting, improvisation, stage lighting, theatre history, and puppetry.

### **Arts: Vocal Ensemble** Trimester 1; B1 & B2 slots (Orenstein)

Students learn the basis of correct vocal training as well as study sight-reading, solfege and art songs.

### **Judaica: Foundations for Talmud Study (Gemara) and Close Reading Skills** Trimester 3; B2 slot (Philip/Farrell)

An enthusiastic introduction to Talmud/Gemara with the addition of a review and practice of close reading skills that are necessary for mastering Talmud and other types of reading.

### **Kashrut and Cooking Around the Jewish Calendar** trimester 2; B2 slot (Linietsky)

In this elective, we study the basic laws of Kashrut through handouts and through audiovisual materials. We look at the procedures for setting up a kosher kitchen. In addition, we prepare and sample a variety of culinary masterpieces centered on the Jewish calendar. Recipes are given out during each cooking session.

### **Relaxation equals success!!!** Trimester 3; B2 slot (Gillio)

If you are running from class to class, dealing with homework, tests, projects and tight due dates, you need learn how to de-stress your life. Practicing relaxation techniques can improve the quality of your life. People who use relaxation technique have better mental, emotional and physical health. They have less anxiety, depression, anger, sadness and fear. You can develop healthier relationships, better concentration, intuition and creativity!

## **Writing Center (available at lunch; a “drop-in”, not an elective)**

The Writing Center provides major support for Writing Across the Curriculum and is open to every student. Trained peer tutors (usually 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders) and faculty from the Humanities Department will work with students on papers from every academic discipline. In some cases, students will be required to attend the Writing Center by their teachers so that they are able to work on aspects of the writing process—outlines, rough drafts, final drafts.

## **Vocal Ensemble (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective)(Orenstein)**

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

## **Instrumental Ensemble (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective (Orenstein)**

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## **Electives for Class of 2014 (C & D slots)**

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in Slot C are three single periods per cycle; electives in slot D are one double period per cycle*

### **Arabic** Trimester 2; C slot (Rabeeya)

Salam, Ahlan Wasahlan. This course introduces the student to basic expressions used when greeting people and engaging in brief conversations. Students also learn how to order in a restaurant, get tickets, and talk about sports, movies and transportation. Songs from popular artists about peace, family, and culture are presented. Finally, students learn the script for short, useable sentences.

### **Arts: Acting 101** Trimester 3; D slot (Oriente)

Basic acting skills are taught using monologues and scene study. No experience necessary.

### **Arts: Art Skills** Trimesters 1; D slot Trimesters 2 and 3; C slot (Stern)

This course introduces and builds on basic art skills both two and three dimensional. Most projects center around the study of a particular artist or material/work process. Course may be repeated as content changes each trimester.

### **Arts: Craft Materials and Processes** Trimester2; D slot (Stern)

Students work in a variety of craft media such as glass, wood and fabric. Technical processes as well as historic associations are discussed. Some concept drawing is required.

### **Arts: Digital Photography** Trimester 1; C slot (Stern)

This course includes the taking and manipulating of digital photographs as its starting point. During the class, both aesthetic and technical photographic issues are discussed. Students must have their own digital camera (not a cell phone camera) with USB connection and appropriate camera card with them for each class. There is out of class time required to shoot photographic images that are used during class time.

### **Arts: History and Appreciation of Jazz** Trimester 1; C slot (Orenstein)

Through a study of musical trends, both cultural and historical, students are exposed to the evolution of jazz. Focusing on the primary innovators of the craft, students study not merely the development of the art form, but terms, concepts, performance practices, and instruments which are pertinent to jazz's evolution.

**Arts: History of Rock and Roll** Trimester 3; C slot (Orenstein)

Beginning with early country and blues through today's rock and hip-hop music, students study the historical as well as social framework which has defined "rock styles." In depth study is focused on the defining characteristics which connect popular music of yesterday and today.

**Arts: Improvisation** Trimester 1; D slot; Trimester 2; C slot (Oriente)

In this class, students learn the basics of improvisation and sketch comedy. No experience necessary.

**Arts:** Trimester 1; C slot (Oriente)

Explore the origins and development of this American art form, from the early days of vaudeville, operetta, and the Ziegfeld Follies to modern day musical extravaganzas.

**Arts: Play Reading** Trimester 3; C slot (Oriente)

Direct and present scenes from classic and contemporary plays. No experience necessary.

**Arts: Play Reading the Classics** Trimester 2; D slot (Oriente)

Enjoy performing and directing plays that are part of the classic pantheon.

**Arts: Print Making** Trimester 3; D slot (Stern)

Students explore a variety of different printmaking processes including monotypes, gelatin prints, block prints and reduction prints. Printing will be done on paper, fabric and plaster surfaces. Some concept drawing is required.

**Arts: Pulitzer Prize Winning Musical Comedies** Trimester 1 C slot (Oriente)

Next to winning a Tony Award, Pulitzer Prizes are the highest distinction given to the written word. This class examines the very few musical comedies that have been worthy of this award.

**Arts: Songwriting** Trimester 3; D slot (Orenstein)

Everyone has a song in his/her heart. Find out how to put words to music or music to words.

**Arts: Theory and Composition I** Trimester 1; D slot (Orenstein)

How is music written? What are the musical principles that composers use? You don't need to be able to play an instrument in order to take this course, but you should know how to read music.

### **Arts: Theory and Composition II** Trimester 2; D slot (Orenstein)

A continuation of Theory and Composition I that was offered in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester. If you did not take Theory and Composition I in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, a student needs to demonstrate mastery of the concepts taught in the first level of this course.

### **Arts: Upper School Vocal Ensemble** Trimester 2; C slot (Orenstein)

Students learn the basis of correct vocal training as well as study sight-reading, solfege and art songs.

### **Do We Still Need Feminism?** Trimester 3; C slot (Ziskind)

With Hillary Clinton, Katie Couric and Beyonce`blazing new paths for American women, have American women achieved equality? Are Barbies more feminist than Bratz? This class looks at how gender and sexuality in America have developed over time. Students discuss the relative power of men and women in politics, economics, and popular culture. This class is graded based on class participation.

### **Great Jewish Films from Hollywood** Trimester 2; D slot (Razin)

View and discuss some of the greatest Jewish movies ever made in Hollywood! Learn about the history, the characters, and the "buzz". Enjoy some of the following: *The Chosen*, *Gentleman's Agreement*, *The Jazz Singer*, *Exodus*, *The Ten Commandments*, *Chariots of Fire*, *School Ties*, *Marathon Man*, *Yentl*.

### **Graphics** Trimester 1; C slot (Rudolph)

Discover the secrets of manipulating and managing digital images. Explore the world of computer graphics on paper and the web. Learn to create, fix, enhance, merge, and change images. Try out fun filters and use them to create digital collages, art creations, and funky images on the computer.

### **Hardball: The Game of Politics** Trimesters 1 & 2; D slot (Ziskind)

This elective will discuss current political issues. We will examine current events from multiple perspectives. How does the "game" influence actual governing and policy and our lives? Is there such a thing as too much politics? What does it mean to "win." This class is graded pass/fail, based upon class participation.

## **Health** Trimesters 1,2, & 3; C slot (Gillio)

*This course is required for all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students for one trimester.*

In this course, students will have lessons in mental health, nutrition, and drug education. For the mental health unit, the class will focus on self esteem, body image, mental well being, and depression. During the nutrition unit, the class will learn about all nutrients, balance of diet and exercise, food guide, and eating disorders. For drug education, the students will discuss why people use drugs, how to handle pressure, side effects, drug classifications, and laws.

## **Introduction to Programming** Trimester 1; D slot (McHugh)

This is an introductory level course in computer programming aimed at students with little or no programming experience, using C#, a visual programming tool. Students learn the basics of programming form and function using a venue which allows for quick results using visual programming techniques and modifying C# GUIs. The course introduces students to defining classes and using objects, laying a solid foundation for future programming courses (i.e., Object Oriented Programming.)

## **Israel: Heart and Soul** Trimester 3; D slot (Toledano)

This course will feature all the beautiful and amazing facts and aspects of Israel. Students discuss issues, see movies, and experience everything interesting about the special sites and people that make Israel such a wonderful and unique country. Among other things, we learn about Israel's many contributions to improving the quality of life around the world and examine the arts, culture and special Israeli sense of humor—so we can enjoy and be proud of what our People in Israel have accomplished.

## **Judaica: American Jewish History** Trimester 1; C slot (Pugach)

The history of Jews in America spans over 350 years and includes some incredible stories of gunfighters, pioneers, courageous women, political radicals, and ordinary people who sometimes chose to fight for the "wrong" side. The growth of Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative and the modern Orthodox movements often parallel periods in American history. Plus, a study of your own, personal roots may turn up surprises.

## **Judaica: Church & State: The Intersection Between Religion and Law**

Trimester 2; C slot (Levingston)

What, if anything, do the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States say about separating religion and religious practices from functions of the State? We will look at an array of cases involving Christmas displays, school prayer, and military uniforms that challenge the wall that is supposed to stand between church and state.

### **Judaica: Images and Reflections of Eve** Trimester 2; C slot (Waxman)

Much has been written about the biblical matriarchs, but what, apart from a few verses in Genesis, has been written about our ultimate mother, the mother of us all, Adam's helpmate, Eve? A great deal, as it turns out. This course will deal with everything about Eve as we study "images" of this exciting character in the TanaKh, in Midrash and rabbinic literature, and in modern poetry, art, and media. In the process, we will learn much about the story of creation as interpreted and discussed over the centuries. All genders welcome!

### **Judaica: Introduction to Gemara** Trimester 2; C slot (Philip)

This mini-course in Talmud will explore laws related to financial and economic issues. The lessons will be conducted on the basis of traditional legalistic principles according to the order in the selected tractate. Students gain insight by reading and analyzing the original text and acquire appreciation of the great Jewish minds of all time. Hebrew Level V or above is required.

### **Judaica: Jewish Law in Practice** Trimester 3; D slot (Razin)

Have you ever wondered where Jewish laws that we practice today come from? Here is an opportunity to look at the *Shulhan Arukh*, one of the best known collections of Jewish law.

### **Judaica: Jewish Philosophy** Trimester 3; C slot (Kamen)

In this course, we will examine the major concepts of Jewish philosophy by studying selections from the Guide for the Perplexed by Maimonides.

### **Judaica: Judaism 101** Trimester 1; D slot (Razin)

For those of us who need to go over Judaism Light –that is, the basics of the calendar, holidays and observances and basic Jewish living vocabulary, this is your course. This is required for all high school students new to Day School learning and can be chosen as a refresher course for those who need to go "back to the basics".

### **Judaica: Judaism and the Environment** Trimesters 2 & 3; C slot (Epstein)

Caring for our environment is a Jewish responsibility. There are texts and precedents that establish this obligation to balance our care and use of the environment and its resources. Learn how we can exercise our responsibilities as Jews, Americans and as human beings.

### **Judaica: Judaism and Vegetarianism** Trimester 1; D slot (Stein)

This course explores Jewish perspectives on our relationship towards the animal kingdom, focusing on the most common human-animal interaction of all: we eat them! We consider the place of vegetarianism in the life of a committed Jew from numerous vantage points, including the Torah's concern for human health, animal welfare, maintaining ecological balance, eliminating hunger, and advancing the cause of world peace. As part of our survey, we also tackle the issues of wearing fur and the use of animals for experimentation. There is no dietary prerequisite for this course (translation: omnivores are welcome!.)

### **Judaica: Keeping the Faith or Losing My Religion** Trimester 3; D slot (Leisman)

In this course, we will discuss and come to understand significant intra-faith concerns in modern Judaism while also looking at interfaith interactions when Judaism encounters other religions.

### **Judaica: Shabbat: What Is It?** Trimester 3; D slot (Stein)

We all think of Shabbat as a 'day of rest,' but what can we say about this most important of Jewish holy days beyond such a simple definition? Using a variety of media—film, text, and music—and a variety of perspectives (e.g. prohibited labors, the Jewish idea of 'work', poetic depictions, etc.) we will explore the meaning of 'rest' in order to better understand the essence of Shabbat.

### **Learning to Play Bridge** Trimester 2; D slot (Leven)

Bridge is one of the toughest card games to master but players of this intellectual game are rewarded with personal satisfaction. In this elective you will learn the basics in bidding and in competitive play. Requirements: good card sense and a better-than-average memory.

### **Math: When Will I Ever Use This?** Trimester 1; D slot (Tow)

This course offers a look at some practical and amusing applications of math in the real world.

### **Mind Games: A Walk Through Psychology** Trimester 1; C slot (Vigoda)

What is psychology? What are psychological disorders? What are delusions? What is schizophrenia? Who are sociopaths? Take this elective and find out.

### **Physical Education: Olympic Sports** Trimester 1; D slot (Gillio)

In this course, participants will learn rules and skills for a variety of Olympic sports. Students will actively participate in badminton, basketball, football, handball, hockey, tennis, and volleyball. A few former Olympic sports will be played as well.

### **Physical Education: Strength and Conditioning** Trimester 2; D slot (Gillio)

During this course, participants will work on their personal fitness through resistance training, weight lifting, stretching, and cardiovascular exercise. The students will work on flexibility, upper and lower body strength, and raising their heart rates based on the intensity and duration of the exercise.

### **Physical Education: Yoga/Dance** Trimester 3; D slot (Gillio)

In this course, participants will learn various styles of dance, such as ballroom, hip hop, country, and social forms. Yoga will take place once per cycle, focusing on body movement and breathing. Students will also have floor and step aerobics and Tae-Bo classes.

### **Rocketry** Trimester 3; D slot (Saltz)

Ever wanted to launch large objects into space or make things go zip and whoosh? If so, this is the course for you! We will design, build and launch several different types of rockets as we explore aerospace engineering concepts. In addition this course would prepare students for the Team America Rocketry Challenge and the Science Olympiad. No experience with rocketry is necessary to participate in this course.

### **SAT II Prep: Biology** Trimester 3; C slot (Saltz)

College admissions can be a stressful process. Help make the process easier by learning how to study and prepare for the SAT II exam in Biology. If you are a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, you will be taking a full year biology course. This course will include topics not included in the regular course, and review study techniques for standardized testing. The College Board has instituted score choice so that you do not have to send your scores to college unless you choose to send them. This course is open to all levels of students in biology and also any 10<sup>th</sup> grader who wants to prepare for the biology exam.

### **Social Media** Trimester 2; C slot (McHugh)

What is good, what is bad, what is scary. Learn the new twists and tricks that the Internet has to offer. Voice your own opinions, explore the possibilities. The future is only bound by your own imagination.

### **Web Construction** Trimester 2; D slot (McHugh)

Learn about websites and how to create them. Learn the basics of html, to use JavaScript to create interest on your pages, and to use Dreamweaver to create, change and maintain sites as the professionals do.

## **Writing Center (available at lunch; a “drop-in”, not an elective)**

The Writing Center provides major support for Writing Across the Curriculum and is open to every student. Trained peer tutors (usually 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders) and faculty from the Humanities Department will work with students on papers from every academic discipline. In some cases, students will be required to attend the Writing Center by their teachers so that they are able to work on aspects of the writing process—outlines, rough drafts, final drafts.

## **Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective) (Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

## **Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective) (Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## **Electives for Class of 2013 (C & D slots)**

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in Slot C are three single periods per cycle; electives in slot D are 1 double period per cycle*

### **Arabic** Trimester 2; C slot (Rabeeya)

Salam, Ahlan Wasahlan. This course introduces the student to basic expressions used when greeting people and engaging in brief conversations. Students also learn how to order in a restaurant, get tickets, and talk about sports, movies and transportation. Songs from popular artists about peace, family, and culture are presented. Finally, students learn the script for short, useable sentences.

### **Arts: Acting 101** Trimester 3; D slot (Oriente)

Basic acting skills are taught using monologues and scene study. No experience necessary.

### **Arts: Acting in Musical Theatre** Trimester 2; D slot (Oriente)

The basic principles of acting and singing for the musical theatre are examined culminating in a performance final. Students rehearse and learn scenes from classic and contemporary musicals.

### **Arts: Art Skills** Trimesters 1; C slot Trimesters 2 and 3; C slot (Stern)

This course introduces and builds on basic Art skills both 2 and 3 dimensional. Most projects center around the study of a particular artist or material/work process. Course may be repeated as content changes each trimester.

### **Arts: Craft Materials and Processes** Trimester 2; D slot (Stern)

Students work in a variety of craft media such as glass, wood and fabric. Technical processes as well as historic associations are discussed. Some concept drawing is required.

### **Arts: Digital Photography** Trimester 1; C slot (Stern)

This course will include the taking and manipulating of digital photographs as its starting point. During the class, both aesthetic and technical photographic issues will be discussed. Students must have their own digital camera (not a cell phone camera) with USB connection and appropriate camera card with them for each class. There will be out of class time required to shoot photographic images that will be used during class time.

**Arts: History and Appreciation of Jazz** Trimester 1; C slot (Orenstein)

Through a study of musical trends, both cultural and historical, students are exposed to the evolution of jazz. Focusing on the primary innovators of the craft, students study not merely the development of the art form, but terms, concepts, performance practices, and instruments which are pertinent to jazz's evolution.

**Arts: History of Rock and Roll** Trimester 3; C slot (Orenstein)

Beginning with early country and blues through today's rock and hip-hop music, students study the historical as well as social framework which has defined "rock styles." In depth study is focused on the defining characteristics which connect popular music of yesterday and today.

**Arts: Improvisation** Trimester 1; D slot; Trimester 2; C slot (Oriente)

In this class, students learn the basics of improvisation and sketch comedy. No experience necessary.

**Arts: Play Reading** Trimester 3; C slot (Oriente)

Direct and present scenes from classic and contemporary plays. No experience necessary.

**Arts: Play Reading the Classics** Trimester 2; D slot (Oriente)

Enjoy performing and directing plays that are part of the classic pantheon.

**Arts: Print Making** Trimester 3; D slot (Stern)

Students explore a variety of different printmaking processes including monotypes, gelatin prints, block prints and reduction prints. Printing will be done on paper, fabric and plaster surfaces. Some concept drawing is required.

**Arts: Pulitzer Prize Winning Musical Comedies** Trimester 1 C slot (Oriente)

Next to winning a Tony Award, Pulitzer Prizes are the highest distinction given to the written word. This class examines the very few musical comedies that have been worthy of this award.

**Arts: Songwriting** Trimester 3; D slot (Orenstein)

Everyone has a song in his/her heart. Find out how to put words to music or music to words.

**Arts: Theory and Composition I** Trimester 1; D slot (Orenstein)

How is music written? What are the musical principles that composers use? You don't need to be able to play an instrument in order to take this course, but you should know how to read music.

## **Arts: Theory and Composition II** Trimester 2; D slot (Orenstein)

A continuation of Theory and Composition I that was offered in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester. If you did not take Theory and Composition I in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, a student needs to demonstrate mastery of the concepts taught in the first level of this course.

## **Arts: Upper School Vocal Ensemble** Trimester 2; C slot (Orenstein)

Students learn the basis of correct vocal training as well as study sight-reading, solfege and art songs.

## **Do We Still Need Feminism?** Trimester 3; C slot (Ziskind)

With Hillary Clinton, Katie Couric and Beyonce`blazing new paths for American women, have American women achieved equality? Are Barbies more feminist than Bratz? This class looks at how gender and sexuality in America have developed over time. Students discuss the relative power of men and women in politics, economics, and popular culture. This class is graded based on class participation.

## **Graphics** Trimester 1; C slot

Discover the secrets of manipulating and managing digital images. Explore the world of computer graphics on paper and the web. Learn to create, fix, enhance, merge, and change images. Try out fun filters and use them to create digital collages, art creations, and funky images on the computer.

## **Great Jewish Films from Hollywood** Trimester 2; D slot (Razin)

View and discuss some of the greatest Jewish movies ever made in Hollywood! Learn about the history, the characters, and the "buzz". Enjoy some of the following: *The Chosen*, *Gentleman's Agreement*, *The Jazz Singer*, *Exodus*, *The Ten Commandments*, *Chariots of Fire*, *School Ties*, *Marathon Man*, *Yentl*.

## **Hardball: The Game of Politics** Trimesters 1 & 2; D slot (Ziskind)

This elective will discuss current political issues. We will examine current events from multiple perspectives. How does the "game" influence actual governing and policy and our lives? Is there such a thing as too much politics? What does it mean to "win." This class is graded pass/fail, based upon class participation.

## **Introduction to Programming** Trimester 1; D slot

This is an introductory level course in computer programming aimed at students with little or no programming experience, using C#, a visual programming tool. Studnes learn the basics of programming form and function using a venue which allows for quick results using visual programming techniques and modifying C# GUIs. The course introduces students to defining classes and using objects, laying a solid foundation for future programming courses (i.e., Object Oriented Programming.)

### **Israel: Heart and Soul** Trimester 3; D slot (Toledano)

This course will feature all the beautiful and amazing facts and aspects of Israel. Students discuss issues, see movies, and experience everything interesting about the special sites and people that make Israel such a wonderful and unique country. Among other things, we learn about Israel's many contributions to improving the quality of life around the world and examine the arts, culture and special Israeli sense of humor—so we can enjoy and be proud of what our People in Israel have accomplished.

### **Judaica: American Jewish History** Trimester 1; C slot (Pugach)

The history of Jews in America spans over 350 years and includes some incredible stories of gunfighters, pioneers, courageous women, political radicals, and ordinary people who sometimes chose to fight for the “wrong” side. The growth of Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative and the modern Orthodox movements often parallel periods in American history. Plus, a study of your own, personal roots may turn up surprises.

### **Judaica: Church & State: The Intersection Between Religion and Law**

Trimester 1; C slot (Levingston)

What, if anything, do the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States say about separating religion and religious practices from functions of the State? We will look at an array of cases involving Christmas displays, school prayer, and military uniforms that challenge the wall that is supposed to stand between church and state.

### **Judaica: Images and Reflections of Eve** Trimester 2; C slot (Waxman)

Much has been written about the biblical matriarchs, but what, apart from a few verses in Genesis, has been written about our ultimate mother, the mother of us all, Adam's helpmate, Eve? A great deal, as it turns out. This course will deal with everything about Eve as we study “images” of this exciting character in the TanaKh, in Midrash and rabbinic literature, and in modern poetry, art, and media. In the process, we will learn much about the story of creation as interpreted and discussed over the centuries. All genders welcome!

### **Judaica: Introduction to Gemara** Trimester 2; C slot (Philip)

This mini-course in Talmud will explore laws related to financial and economic issues. The lessons will be conducted on the basis of traditional legalistic principles according to the order in the selected tractate. Students gain insight by reading and analyzing the original text and acquire appreciation of the great Jewish minds of all time. Hebrew Level V or above is required.

### **Judaica: Jewish Law in Practice** Trimester 3; D slot (Razin)

Have you ever wondered where Jewish laws that we practice today come from? Here is an opportunity to look at the *Shulhan Arukh*, one of the best known collections of Jewish law.

### **Judaica: Jewish Philosophy** Trimester 3; C slot (Kamen)

In this course, we will examine the major concepts of Jewish philosophy by studying selections from the *Guide for the Perplexed* by Maimonides.

### **Judaica: Judaism and the Environment** Trimesters 2 & 3; C slot (Epstein)

Caring for our environment is a Jewish responsibility. There are texts and precedents that establish this obligation to balance our care and use of the environment and its resources. Learn how we can exercise our responsibilities as Jews, Americans and as human beings.

### **Judaica: Judaism and Vegetarianism** Trimester 1; D slot (Stein)

This course explores Jewish perspectives on our relationship towards the animal kingdom, focusing on the most common human-animal interaction of all: we eat them! We consider the place of vegetarianism in the life of a committed Jew from numerous vantage points, including the Torah's concern for human health, animal welfare, maintaining ecological balance, eliminating hunger, and advancing the cause of world peace. As part of our survey, we also tackle the issues of wearing fur and the use of animals for experimentation. There is no dietary prerequisite for this course (translation: omnivores are welcome!.)

### **Judaica: Keeping the Faith or Losing My Religion** Trimester 3; D slot (Leisman)

In this course, we will discuss and come to understand significant intra-faith concerns in modern Judaism while also looking at interfaith interactions when Judaism encounters other religions.

### **Judaica: Shabbat: What Is It?** Trimester 3; D slot (Stein)

We all think of Shabbat as a 'day of rest,' but what can we say about this most important of Jewish holy days beyond such a simple definition? Using a variety of media—film, text, and music—and a variety of perspectives (e.g. prohibited labors, the Jewish idea of 'work', poetic depictions, etc.) we will explore the meaning of 'rest' in order to better understand the essence of Shabbat.

### **Learning to Play Bridge** Trimester 2; D slot (Leven)

Bridge is one of the toughest card games to master but players of this intellectual game are rewarded with personal satisfaction. In this elective you will learn the basics in bidding and in competitive play. Requirements: good card sense and a better-than-average memory.

### **Math: When Will I Ever Use This?** Trimester 1; D slot (Tow)

This course offers a look at some practical and amusing applications of math in the real world.

### **Mind Games: A Walk Through Psychology** Trimester 1; C slot (Vigoda)

What is psychology? What are psychological disorders? What are delusions? What is schizophrenia? Who are sociopaths? Take this elective and find out.

### **Must 4 Muss** Trimesters 2 & 3; D slot (Markovitz)

Students learn basic conversation skills that enable them to converse at stores, restaurants, while traveling in Israel. They also learn about Israeli culture and how to behave in Israel, including important information about safety and communication. There is a web site with all this information that they can log onto at any time. The major student project is the creation of small, pocket sized booklets that contain the most important information and keeps it at their fingertips.

### **Physical Education: Olympic Sports** Trimester 1; D slot (Gillio)

In this course, participants will learn rules and skills for a variety of Olympic sports. Students will actively participate in badminton, basketball, football, handball, hockey, tennis, and volleyball. A few former Olympic sports will be played as well.

### **Physical Education: Strength and Conditioning** Trimester 2; D slot (Gillio)

During this course, participants will work on their personal fitness through resistance training, weight lifting, stretching, and cardiovascular exercise. The students will work on flexibility, upper and lower body strength, and raising their heart rates based on the intensity and duration of the exercise.

### **Physical Education: Yoga/Dance** Trimester 3; D slot (Gillio)

In this course, participants will learn various styles of dance, such as ballroom, hip hop, country, and social forms. Yoga will take place once per cycle, focusing on body movement and breathing. Students will also have floor and step aerobics and Tae-Bo classes.

### **Rocketry** Trimester 3; D slot (Saltz)

Ever wanted to launch large objects into space or make things go zip and whoosh? If so, this is the course for you! We will design, build and launch several different types of rockets as we explore aerospace engineering concepts. In addition this course would prepare students for the Team America Rocketry Challenge and the Science Olympiad. No experience with rocketry is necessary to participate in this course.

### **SAT II Prep: Biology** Trimester 3; C slot (Saltz)

College admissions can be a stressful process. Help make the process easier by learning how to study and prepare for the SAT II exam in Biology. If you are a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, you will be taking a full year biology course. This course will include topics not included in the regular course, and review study techniques for standardized testing. The College Board has instituted score choice so that you do not have to send your scores to college unless you choose to send them. This course is open to all levels of students in biology **and also any 10<sup>th</sup> grader who wants to prepare for the biology exam.**

### **SAT II Prep: Math** Trimester 3; D slot

This elective will help prepare for the SAT II (Level 2) for students who have completed or are currently taking Elementary Functions.

### **Social Media** Trimester 2; C slot (McHugh)

What is good, what is bad, what is scary. Learn the new twists and tricks that the Internet has to offer. Voice your own opinions, explore the possibilities. The future is only bound by your own imagination.

### **Web Construction** Trimester 2; D slot (McHugh)

Learn about websites and how to create them. Learn the basics of html, to use JavaScript to create interest on your pages, and to use Dreamweaver to create, change and maintain sites as the professionals do.

### **Writing Center (available at lunch; a “drop-in”, not an elective**

The Writing Center provides major support for Writing Across the Curriculum and is open to every student, every department and every type of writing assignment. It meets each day at lunch and is staffed by an English teacher and a team of trained peer tutors. The Writing Center is geared towards grades 6 through 10, since older students are often the peer tutors. In some cases, student attendance would be a requirement, such as in advance of a paper or draft or in between the initial and final drafts of a paper. Writing Center professionals thoroughly train the peer tutors, work with classroom teachers on assignments with Writing Across the Curriculum in mind. Writing Center faculty also act as support for publications.

**Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective) (Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

**Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective) (Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## Electives for Class of 2012

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in Slot E meet five periods per cycle or four periods plus a study hall; electives in Slot F meet two single periods per cycle; electives in slot G meet 2 single periods per cycle; electives in Slot F/G meet four periods per cycle*

### Arabic Trimester 1; Slots F &G (Rabeeya)

Salam, Ahlan Wasahlan. The course will introduce the student to basic expressions used when greeting people and engaging in brief conversations. They will also learn how to order in a restaurant, get tickets, and talk about sports, movies and transportation. Songs from popular artists about peace, family and culture will be presented. Finally, students will learn the script for short, useable sentences.

### Arts: Digital Photography Trimester 2; F slot (Stern)

This course will include the taking and manipulating of digital photographs as its starting point. During the class, both aesthetic and technical photographic issues will be discussed. Students must have their own digital camera (not a cell phone camera) with USB connection and appropriate camera card with them for each class. There will be out of class time required to shoot photographic images that will be used during class time.

### Arts: History and Appreciation of Western Music Trimester 3; Slot F (Orenstein)

This course includes a basic outline of music history through the ages, encompassing the Renaissance through 20<sup>th</sup> century classical. While focusing on Western music traditions, students engage in active listening while focusing on the social and historical aspects of western music.

### Arts: Musical Comedy Tonight! Trimester 2; F slot (Oriente)

Explore the origins and development of this American art form, from the early days of vaudeville, operetta, and the Ziegfeld Follies to modern day musical extravaganzas.

### Arts: Painting Trimesters 1; E slot and F/G slot (Stern)

Students work from observation to develop painting skills in watercolor and acrylic paints. Still life and portraiture are areas of study. Some knowledge of drawing is desirable.

### **Arts: 3D Art** Trimester 3; E slot or F slot (Stern)

Design problem solving using plaster, clay, wood and found objects is the basis of this course. Some concept sketching is required. Course may be repeated as projects change each trimester.

### **Arts: 2D Art** Trimester 2; E slot (Stern)

Observational drawing, two point perspective, "accidental" mark making and collage are a few of the processes that are covered in this course. Experimentation is encouraged.

### **Crossfire: Political Roundtable** Trimester 3; F slot (Ziskind)

This elective will discuss current political issues. We will examine current events from multiple perspectives. How does the "game" influence actual governing and policy and our lives? Is there such a thing as too much politics? What does it mean to "win." This class is graded pass/fail, based upon class participation.

### **Death and Dying in World Religions** Trimester 2; E slot (Levingston)

An exploration of traditions and beliefs around death and dying in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and also in African religions and Eastern religions. We use literature and film (when available) along with hard copy readings to learn how different traditions view death, taking care of the dying and remembering those who have died.

### **Debate** Trimester 2; F slot (Anderson)

The students who take debate are attracted to the highly refined discourse demanded by the Lincoln-Douglas format, and spend their time brainstorming, dialoging, drafting speeches, and performing them in competition. The class demands a certain amount of sophistication of logic, helpful and consistent participation and commitment to preparation for tournament play.

### **Digital Photography** Trimester 2; F slot (Stern)

This course covers the taking and manipulating of digital photographs as its starting point. During class, both aesthetic and technical photographic issues are discussed. Students must have their own digital cameras (not a cell phone camera) with USB connection and appropriate camera card with them for each class. There is out of class time required to shoot photographic images that are used during class time.

### **Economics: Getting a Financial Life** Trimester 2; E slot (Ziskind)

The economy touches your life daily: what you buy, where you buy, how you buy, even what your college major is. Do you wish you understood more about it? This course will explore major concepts in economics and finance. You will gain a greater understanding of current issues in economics and learn information about credit cards, banking, and other personal finance matters. **This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

## **Economics: The Politics of Economics** Trimesters 1 & 3; E slot (Ziskind)

The recent big political battles have centered on economic issues: health care reform, bailouts of banks and Wall Street, deficits, even climate change. Analysts predict that the November 2010 Congressional elections will hinge on these issues. This course examines how politics shapes economics and vice versa. Would we be better off if economists ran the country rather than politicians? We will keep tabs on the election, its results, and current government actions and debate them. **This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

## **Electricity: Go Fly a Kite!** Trimester 1; E slot (Dougherty)

Ever wonder what happens when you flip on the light switch in the kitchen or plug in your electric guitar? There is a rich legacy that has been left to us by men like Ben Franklin. He got things started with his famous kite experiments. The course places emphasis on understanding the nature of electrostatics through experimentation and also development of skills in the building of electric circuits. **This is a graded course with importance placed on the student's laboratory notebook and lab reports. No previous exposure to physics is necessary.**

## **The Female Voices of the TanaKh** Trimester 2; E slot (Waxman)

Ever wondered where the voices of the women in the TanaKh have gone? This course looks beyond the dominant male figures of our sacred text as we bring the voices of the women in the text to life. The class deals with a detailed study of women in the TanaKh, both major and minor, and Israelite and non-Israelite figures. The course focuses on portrayals of women as daughter, wife, mother, prostitute, trickster, savior and wise woman. The course focuses on readings of original text, rabbinic commentaries and literature, modern day poetry, literature, art and media on the subject. Required reading for this course: *The Red Tent*.

## **Film and Identity** Trimester 3; F slot (Anderson)

"You talkin' to me?" Who is this "me" you speak of? Students in *Film and Identity* will watch films whose main theme is the self, including bonds with family, friends, lovers, and maybe most importantly, culture. How do all of those connections come to define us? Students will learn how to watch a film as a piece of artwork that makes a statement about identity and the narrative of the self, linked together by such cinematic devices as mise en scene, camera angle, lighting, transitions and sound effects and their contributions to film and character.

## **Gemara** Trimester 2 F slot (Philip)

This mini-course in Talmud will explore laws related to financial and economic issues. The lessons will be conducted on the basis of traditional legalistic principles according to the order in the selected tractate. Students gain insight by reading and analyzing the original text and acquire appreciation of the great Jewish minds of all time. Hebrew Level V or above is required.

### **Israel: Heart and Soul** Trimester 2; F slot (Toledano)

This course will feature all the beautiful and amazing facts and aspects of Israel. Students discuss issues, see movies, and experience everything interesting about the special sites and people that make Israel such a wonderful and unique country. Among other things, we learn about Israel's many contributions to improving the quality of life around the world and examine the arts, culture and special Israeli sense of humor—so we can enjoy and be proud of what our People in Israel have accomplished.

### **Jewish Philosophy** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Kamen)

In this course, we will examine the major concepts of Jewish philosophy by studying selections from the Guide for the Perplexed by Maimonides.

### **Learning to Play Bridge** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Leven)

Bridge is one of the toughest card games to master but players of this intellectual game are rewarded with personal satisfaction. In this elective you will learn the basics in bidding and in competitive play. Requirements: good card sense and a better-than-average memory.

### **Making Prayer Meaningful** Trimester 2; F slot (Brown)

In this elective, we explore what makes prayer meaningful for others and for ourselves.

### **Pirkei Avot: Ethical Sayings of the Rabbis** Trimester 3; F slot (Razin)

Pirkei Avot is a compilation of the ethical teachings and maxims of the Rabbis of the Mishnaic period. Pirkei Avot is unique in that it is the only tractate of the Talmud dealing solely with ethical and moral principles, such as "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" and "The day is short and the work is overwhelming." Come and learn!

### **Psychology** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Waxman)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

This introduction to Psychology, we will ask, "Why do people act the way that they do in specific situations?" and "How can people change their behaviors?" Other topics include psychology as a discipline and a science, research methods, developmental psychology, intelligence, learning and testing, neuroscience, motivation, emotion and theories of personality, social psychology and abnormal psychology and treatments.

### **Resource** Trimesters 1, 2 & 3; E slot (Ferber, Albert) Two times per cyclejll

### **SAT II Prep: Math** Trimester 3; F slot (Perez)

This elective will help prepare for the SAT II (Level 2) for students who have completed or are currently taking Elementary Functions

**Talmud** Trimester 1; E slot (Yondorf)  
Selected studies of Talmud texts

**World Language: French III** Trimesters 1,2 & 3; E slot (all trimesters required)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

**World Language: Latin III** Trimesters 1,2, & 3; E slot (all trimesters required)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

**World Language: Spanish III** Trimesters 1,2, & 3; E slot (all trimesters required)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

**World Language: Spanish IV** Trimester1; F/G slot; Trimesters 2 & 3; E slot (all trimesters required)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

**Writers' Workshop** Trimester 1; Slots F/G

Writers' Workshop concentrates on the personal narrative and college essay. Students read the work of professional authors, write their own essays and peer-edit one another's work for clarity, fluidity and significance. Working with these essays through a rigorous drafting process is the focus of the first trimester and will be supplemented by a concentration on word choice, variation of sentence structure and attention to the writerly details of setting/mood. This is a graded course.

**Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective)(Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

**Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective  
(Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## Electives for Class of 2011

- *Some electives may not be offered or the title may change*
  - *The teacher offering the elective also may change*
- *Electives in Slot E meet five periods per cycle or four periods plus a study hall; electives in Slot F meet one double period per cycle; electives in slot G meet 2 single periods per cycle; electives in Slot F/G meet four periods per cycle (1 double period and two single periods)*

**AP Literature and Composition** Trimesters 1 & 2 (both required) F/G slots (Schuman) *This is a graded course with the prerequisite of A- or better in 4 out of 6 semesters of 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade English and Department Chair approval.*

This course is a seminar-style writing and literature course comparable to one a college freshman might take. Short works of literature -- poems, novellas, short stories -- are studied with very close reading and analysis, and then used as models for writing about literature. Students will also be responsible for reading critical essays about the works. The culmination of the course is an Independent Study, a year-long project in which each student reads the major works of one author during the year, presenting results to the class and writing a paper on the works. Thus, depth is emphasized more than breadth in this supplement to the regular 12<sup>th</sup> grade English course.

**AP United States Government and Politics** Trimesters 1 & 2 (both required);

E slot (Levin) *This is a graded elective for seniors that has a prerequisite of an A- or better in 4 out of 6 semesters of 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> grade history, and department chair approval.*

This course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with and / or interest in the different institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up U.S. political reality. There is a major emphasis on current affairs and a close look at electoral politics in the United States.

**Arabic** Trimester 1; F & G slots (Rabeeya)

Salam, Ahlan Wasahlan. The course will introduce the student to basic expressions used when greeting people and engaging in brief conversations. They will also learn how to order in a restaurant, get tickets, and talk about sports, movies and transportation. Songs from popular artists about peace, family and culture will be presented. Finally, students will learn the script for short, useable sentences.

### **Arts: Digital Photography** Trimester 2; F slot (Stern)

This course will include the taking and manipulating of digital photographs as its starting point. During the class, both aesthetic and technical photographic issues will be discussed. Students must have their own digital camera (not a cell phone camera) with USB connection and appropriate camera card with them for each class. There will be out of class time required to shoot photographic images that will be used during class time.

### **Arts: History and Appreciation of Jazz** Trimester 2; G slot (Orenstein)

Through a study of musical trends, both cultural and historical, students are exposed to the evolution of jazz. Focusing on the primary innovators of the craft students study not merely the development of the art form but terms, concepts, performance practices, and instruments which are pertinent to jazz's evolution.

### **Arts: Musical Comedy Tonight!** Trimester 2; F slot (Oriente)

Explore the origins and development of this American art form, from the early days of vaudeville, operetta, and the Ziegfeld Follies to modern day musical extravaganzas.

### **Arts: Painting** Trimester 1; E slot (Stern)

Students work from observation to develop painting skills in watercolor and acrylic paints. Still life and portraiture are areas of study. Some knowledge of drawing is desirable.

### **Arts: 2D Art** Trimester 2; E slot; Trimester 2; G slot (Stern)

Observational drawing, two point perspective, "accidental" mark making and collage are a few of the processes that are covered in this course. Experimentation is encouraged.

### **Debate** Trimester 2; F slot (Anderson)

The students who take debate are attracted to the highly refined discourse demanded by the Lincoln-Douglas format, and spend their time brainstorming, dialoging, drafting speeches, and performing them in competition. The class demands a certain amount of sophistication of logic, helpful and consistent participation and commitment to preparation for tournament play.

### **Death and Dying in World Religions** Trimester 2; E slot (Levingston)

An exploration of traditions and beliefs around death and dying in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and also in African religions and Eastern religions. We use literature and film (when available) along with hard copy readings to learn how different traditions view death, taking care of the dying and remembering those who have died.

### **Economics: Getting a Financial Life** Trimester 2; E slot (Ziskind)

The economy touches your life daily: what you buy, where you buy, how you buy, even what your college major is. Do you wish you understood more about it? This course will explore major concepts in economics and finance. You will gain a greater understanding of current issues in economics and learn information about credit cards, banking, and other personal finance matters. **This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

### **Economics: The Politics of Economics** Trimesters 1 & 3; E slot (Ziskind)

The recent big political battles have centered on economic issues: health care reform, bailouts of banks and Wall Street, deficits, even climate change. Analysts predict that the November 2010 Congressional elections will hinge on these issues. This course examines how politics shapes economics and vice versa. Would we be better off if economists ran the country rather than politicians? We will keep tabs on the election, its results, and current government actions and debate them. **This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

### **Electricity: Go Fly a Kite!** Trimester 1; E slot (Dougherty)

Ever wonder what happens when you flip on the light switch in the kitchen or plug in your electric guitar? There is a rich legacy that has been left to us by men like Ben Franklin. He got things started with his famous kite experiments. This course will focus on the nature of electricity and how it has become the basis for our industrialized society. It will deal with setting up and analyzing simple electrical circuits. We will explore the relationship between magnetism and electricity. The course will be lab oriented. Open to all 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from all levels of Physics. **This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

### **The Female Voices of the TanaKh** Trimester 2; E slot (Waxman)

Ever wondered where the voices of the women in the TanaKh have gone? This course looks beyond the dominant male figures of our sacred text as we bring the voices of the women in the text to life. The class deals with a detailed study of women in the TanaKh, both major and minor, and Israelite and non-Israelite figures. The course focuses on portrayals of women as daughter, wife, mother, prostitute, trickster, savior and wise woman. The course focuses on readings of original text, rabbinic commentaries and literature, modern day poetry, literature, art and media on the subject. Required reading for this course: *The Red Tent*.

### **Gemara** Trimester 2 F slot (Philip)

This mini-course in Talmud will explore laws related to financial and economic issues. The lessons will be conducted on the basis of traditional legalistic principles according to the order in the selected tractate. Students gain insight by reading and analyzing the original text and acquire appreciation of the great Jewish minds of all time. Hebrew Level V or above is required.

### **Israel: Heart and Soul** Trimester 2; F slot (Toledano)

This course will feature all the beautiful and amazing facts and aspects of Israel. Students discuss issues, see movies, and experience everything interesting about the special sites and people that make Israel such a wonderful and unique country. Among other things, we learn about Israel's many contributions to improving the quality of life around the world and examine the arts, culture and special Israeli sense of humor—so we can enjoy and be proud of what our People in Israel have accomplished.

### **Jewish Philosophy** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Kamen)

In this course, we will examine the major concepts of Jewish philosophy by studying selections from the Guide for the Perplexed by Maimonides.

### **Learning to Play Bridge** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Leven)

Bridge is one of the toughest card games to master but players of this intellectual game are rewarded with personal satisfaction. In this elective you will learn the basics in bidding and in competitive play. Requirements: good card sense and a better-than-average memory.

### **Making Prayer Meaningful** Trimester 2; F slot (Brown)

In this elective, we explore what makes prayer meaningful for others and for ourselves.

### **Psychology** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Waxman)

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

This introduction to Psychology, we will ask, “Why do people act the way that they do in specific situations?” and “How can people change their behaviors?” Other topics include psychology as a discipline and a science, research methods, developmental psychology, intelligence, learning and testing, neuroscience, motivation, emotion and theories of personality, social psychology and abnormal psychology and treatments.

### **Resource** Trimesters 1, 2 and 3; F/G slot (Ferber, Albert) Meet twice per cycle.

### **Talmud** Trimester 1; E slot (Yondorf)

Selected studies of Talmud texts.

### **World Language: French 4**

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

This course broadens and strengthens the student's knowledge of French, emphasizing cultural understanding via conversation, literature, history, geography and art. Students will perfect their skills through review and expansion of linguistic skills, combined with an introduction to the reading of literary and cultural texts.

### **World Language: Latin 4**

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

Students read a broad selection of prose and poetry, including the work of Catullus, Ovid, Martial, Horace, Cicero, Vergil, Livy, and Plautus. This includes careful attention to meter, literary figures, word nuance, imagery and cultural context. This is an in-depth exploration of Roman Literature of the classical age.

### **World Language: Spanish 4**

**This course is for a grade and will require homework and other projects, as well as class participation.**

Students will enjoy Spanish and Latin American literature, current events, movies, pop culture and history. They will create commercials, write and perform skits, discuss a variety of topics and play popular games entirely in Spanish. Active participation and preparation are the keys to success in this course.

### **Writers Workshop** Trimester 1; F/G slot (Anderson)

Writers' Workshop concentrates on the personal narrative and college essay. Students read the work of professional authors, write their own essays and peer-edit one another's work for clarity, fluidity and significance. Working with these essays through a rigorous drafting process is the focus of the first trimester and will be supplemented by a concentration on word choice, variation of sentence structure and attention to the writerly details of setting/mood. **This is a graded course.**

### **Yearbook** both trimesters 1 and 2 required; meets at lunch (Miller)

**Editors and Staff are chosen by the advisor through an application and recommendation process. This is a graded course.**

This class works on creating, producing, writing and raising money for the yearbook. Positions include editor-in-chief, copy editor, layout editor, photography editor, art editor, and staff for copy, layout and photography. The staff also includes business managers who oversee fundraising and accounts.

## **Vocal Ensemble** (three lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective)(Orenstein)

Students learn a variety of musical styles and genres with the opportunity to perform in a number of venues. Students study the basics of proper vocalization and musicalization while working as a collective group to achieve excellence.

## **Instrumental Ensemble** (two lunch meetings per cycle—not an elective (Orenstein)

String students (violin, viola, cello) study the proper techniques involved in working in an ensemble and studying classical music. Students perform for various events throughout the school year.

## **Math and Science Selections**

- ***Science and Math courses are in separate blocks and do not interfere with the Elective choices.***
- ***All courses in Math and Science are graded.***

Seniors must take either one course of Math or one course of Science but are encouraged to take both. These courses do not conflict with any other courses on the elective sheets. Students must speak to the Chairs of the department for their approval for all Math and Science courses. All science and math courses are graded.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **AP CALCULUS BC** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (GFTER)

*Prerequisites: Honors Calculus with a grade of B or better. If grade is less than B, Department Chair's approval is required.*

This is a college level calculus course which includes: techniques of integration, applications of integration, polynomial approximations, series and Taylor series. Students will prepare to take the AP Calculus BC examination. Summer assignments are required. This class meets 7 times per cycle

### **AP CALCULUS AB** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (TOW)

*Prerequisites: Elementary Functions Honors with a grade of B+ or better or Elementary Functions Intensive with a grade of A.*

This is a college level calculus course which includes: limits, derivatives, applications of derivatives, integration, application of integrals, logarithm and exponential functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students will prepare to take the AP Calculus AB examination. Summer assignments are required. This class meets 7 times per cycle

### **AP Statistics** Trimesters 1 and 2 (Lachenmayer)

*Prerequisites: Permission of Math Department chair*

The AP Statistics course provides an introductory college course in statistics. The purpose of the AP Stat course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. It is strongly recommended that all students enrolled in the AP State course take the AP Stat exam in May.

### **TRIGONOMETRY** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (LEISMAN)

*Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of B- or better or Algebra II basics with a grade of A or better.*

This course is the study of trigonometric functions and their applications. The following topics will be covered: the algebra of the trigonometric functions, graphs of trigonometric functions, trigonometric identities, law of sines and law of cosines, and radian measure. *This class meets 6 times per cycle.*

### **TOPICS IN ALGEBRA III/TRIGONOMETRY** Trimesters 1 and 2 (Perez)

*Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a grade of C- or better. (Students with grades in the C range may need tutors in place).*

This course covers topics in algebra: conic sections, counting principles and probability, series and patterns, and statistics. Trigonometry topics include; functions, radian measure, graphing, inverses and identities. The students will use graphing calculators throughout the course. *This class meets 6 times per cycle.*

## **SCIENCE**

### **AP BIOLOGY** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (AUGUST)

*Prerequisites: A minimum grade of B- in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry, or a minimum grade of B+ in Intensive Biology and Intensive Chemistry, or an A- in Academic Biology and Academic Chemistry. Not more than one Science or Math grades C+ or below. Students who are in or have taken Basic Algebra, or Basic Science are not eligible for AP Biology. Requires Department Chair approval.*

This is an intensive college level course which is equivalent to a first year biology course. Topics include Molecular Biology, Genetics and Evolution, and Physiology. The laboratory investigations complement the topics covered in class. Students who are planning to major in science or a related field, or are interested in learning more about biology, should strongly consider taking this course. Placement is awarded by the individual colleges and may result in up to a year's credit in science. This class meets 7.5 times including one break.

## **AP CHEMISTRY** TRIMESTERS 1 and 2 (Borgmann-Winter)

*Prerequisites: A minimum grade of B- in Honors Chemistry and Honors Physics or a minimum grade of a B+ in Intensive Chemistry and Intensive Physics, or an A- in Academic Chemistry and Academic Physics. Not more than one Science or Math grades C+ or below. A minimum grade of a B- in Honors Algebra I and II or an A- in regular Algebra I and II. Students who are in or have taken Basic Algebra or Science are not eligible for AP Chemistry. Requires Department Chair approval.*

This is an intensive chemistry course, equivalent to a first year college chemistry course. As such it will have a larger mathematical component than your first course in Chemistry. Students planning to major in science should consider taking this course. We will take an in-depth look at atomic theory; chemical bonding and intermolecular forces; molecular geometry; nuclear chemistry; solid, liquid and gas chemistry and kinetic-molecular theory; electrochemistry; equilibrium and reaction rates; kinetics and thermodynamics. Laboratories will emphasize advanced technique, including statistical analysis. This class meets 7.5 times per cycle including one break.

## **AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (DEMURO)

*Prerequisites: A minimum grade of B- in four (4) semesters of Honors Science course, or a B+ in four (4) semesters of Intensive Science, or an A- in four (4) semesters of Regular Science. Not more than one Science or Math grades C+ or below. Students who are in or have taken Basic Algebra or Science are not eligible for AP Environmental Science. Requires Department Chair's Approval.*

This is a college level interdisciplinary course which studies the environment and the impact that humankind has made. Topics include the Ecosystem, Population Growth, Air and Water Pollution, Pests and Pest Control, Agriculture, and Energy Resources. The course integrates biology, chemistry and earth science principles into possible solutions for achieving sustainable development. Placement is awarded by the individual colleges and may result in up to a year's credit in science. This class meets 7.5 times per cycle including one break.

## **ASTRONOMY** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (Dougherty)

*Prerequisites: Requires Department Chair's Approval.*

This course will begin with an orientation to the sky and then focus on two major themes. The first is "What is the nature of a star?" This will entail a study of the life cycle of a star as it goes from birth as a proto-star to death as a white dwarf, neutron star, or black hole. The second theme is, "What are the new findings about the structure of the solar system?" This will involve a study of the planets and the recent findings of space probes. This class meets 6 times per cycle.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING** TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 (SALTZ)

*Prerequisites: Requires Department Chair's Approval.*

This course is a survey of how civil, electrical, biomedical, mechanical and aeronautical engineers solve real world problems. Using your imagination and the engineering design approach you will design and build bridges, airfoils, toys, electronic devices and other technologies while learning engineering principles and the underlying scientific concepts. This class meets 6 times per cycle.

**JACK M. BARRACK**  
**HEBREW ACADEMY**

**ELECTIVES**  
**2010-2011**