

Adult Education



**Join our vibrant
community of learners
and participate in our adult
education program.**



SAR
HIGH SCHOOL

Daytime Classes

Come to SAR and learn with our dynamic and engaging Judaic and General Studies faculty.

Classes are free of charge and take place in the second floor Machon Siach conference room.

No registration is required.

If you are unable to attend in person, classes will be live streamed, recorded and posted online at: [youtube.com/user/sarhschool](https://www.youtube.com/user/sarhschool)



Machon Siach

Dedicated to the memory of
Belda Kaufman Lindenbaum z”l

As part of SAR High School’s Machon Siach, we are offering an Adult Education class which will focus on the application of Modern Orthodox theology and the way in which we live our lives.



Honoring the memory of Belda K. Lindenbaum z”l

Mon 2-3:00 | Dec 2 | Dec 9 | Dec 16 | Dec 23



The Killer Apps of Civilization: From the Rise of Agriculture to the Fall of Rome

Dr. Judith Ballan

Authors from Jean Jacques Rousseau to Yuval Noah Harari have insisted that the rise of civilization was the beginning of mankind’s misfortune. Nonetheless, few of us would opt to live at any other time than the present. Is civilization a blessing or a curse? We will look at its origins in Mesopotamia, where social hierarchy and specialization opened up new horizons for human endeavor. From there, we will move to the flowering of religious creativity during the Axial Age. We will then explore Hellenistic contributions to philosophy and culture, and we will end by considering Rome’s approach to governance and its legacy in the development of the West.



Daytime Classes

We are excited to offer a variety of adult education opportunities taught by SAR faculty for parents, grandparents and the broader community. We look forward to learning with you.

BEE INSPIRED. BEE KNOWLEDGEABLE. IT'S WHO YOU BECOME.



Mon 10-11:00 | Oct 28 | Nov 11 | Nov 18 | Nov 25

Messianism in Halakhic, Philosophical & Political Thought

Rabbi Jonathan Kroll

What are we supposed to believe in when we believe in the coming of mashiach? In this class, we will explore how Jewish thinkers have variously understood the messianic idea and how those different versions of messianism have shaped Jewish history and the contemporary Jewish world.



Tues 11-12:00 | Jan 7 | Jan 14 | Jan 21 | Jan 28

What Was Given at Sinai: Theories of Revelation in the Tradition

Rabbi Nati Helfgot

This class will explore traditional theories and texts as to what the Jewish people actually heard and received at Sinai, as outlined in the Bible and rabbinic literature. The first two classes will focus on the reception of what we know as the Written Torah, and the latter two classes will focus on theories of revelation of the Torah SheBaal Peh - the Oral law.



Thurs 1-2:00 | Feb 20 | Feb 27 | March 5

Metacognition: What We Think About Thinking

Dr. Randi Shane

Cognition is the branch of psychology concerned with mental processes. In each of the three sessions, we will explore a higher order brain process. In the first class, we will consider memory and how the brain receives, processes and stores information. In the second class, we will turn our attention to thinking, problem solving and decision making, and analyze common thought blunders. In the third class, we will examine language and ask the age-old, chicken and egg question of which comes first - words or thoughts? Thinking about and challenging our own thinking is at the heart of many different types of therapies. We will consider ways in which metacognition is being used to help people lead more fulfilled lives.



Mon 10-11:00 | Mar 9 | Mar 16 | Mar 23 | Mar 30

Parables, Literature and History: Understanding Famous Talmudic Stories

Rabbi Dovi Nadel

In this series, we will explore Talmudic stories through both traditional and academic lenses in search of their eternal meaning. Each class will focus on a new story, allowing us to develop an approach to unlocking the values contained therein. Examples of stories we will study are the classic conflict between Rabbi Elazar and the rabbis surrounding the "Tanur Shel Achnai," and Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai's flight from society and reemergence into Judaism. We will pay attention to how the rabbis used both literary techniques and biblical allusions to craft everlasting treasures of our tradition.



Wed 10-11:00 | Apr 22 | Apr 29 | May 6 | May 13

Intentional Ambiguity in Chumash: The Characters We Think We Know

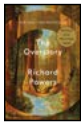
Ms. Elianna Mitnick

We are often taught to look at biblical characters as either heroes or villains. Through an in-depth study of pshat and the commentaries of Rashbam and Ramban, we will consider famous biblical characters such as Cain, Yishmael, Yosef and Moshe in a new light. What motivated their actions? How does the Torah want us to understand their legacy? Is it possible to view Cain's actions in a positive light and to consider Yishmael a brilliant businessman? By studying individual characters, we will develop an understanding of how and why the Torah is intentionally ambiguous in its portrayal of personality.

Evening Book Clubs

Join other parents and community members for a fascinating discussion of important works of literature. Classes meet 7:30-9:00pm, in the high school library. To run the program we require a minimum number of participants to pre-register for the entire 7 book series.*

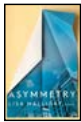
2019-20 Book Club Dates



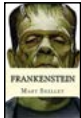
Tuesday October 29 | Mr. Marshall Messer
The Overstory
by Richard Powers



Tuesday December 10 | Ms. Sarah Medved
A Place For Us
by Fatima Farheen Mirzas



Tuesday January 14 | Ms. Molly Pollak
Asymmetry
by Lisa Halliday



Tuesday February 4 | Dr. Gillian Steinberg
Frankenstein
by Mary Shelley



Tuesday March 3 | Ms. Ariela Robinson
My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner
by Meir Shalev



Tuesday March 31 | Ms. Molly Pollak
Marjorie Morningstar
by Herman Wouk



Tuesday May 19 | Ms. Ora Meier
Ordinary People
by Judith Guest

Cost: \$120 for the 7 book series, \$20 at the door

Register Online: sarhighschool.org/adulted

Please make checks payable to SAR High School, note on check that it is for the book club and mail to:
503 West 259th Street, Riverdale, NY 10471,
Attention: Nava Cohen.

*Note: We will not deposit any checks until we meet the minimum number of participants.