COMMUNITY EDUCATION COURSES

These courses are open to the general community as non-credit (audit) courses at a considerable tuition discount. Only the Community Education Discount will apply to these courses. The course number used when registering must end in AU.

HISTORY

History and Memory: Medieval and Modern Periods
Ilan Fuchs
CG-HIST-534-AU
Online
Non-Credit Only

Working within a chronological framework, this course will trace the creative transformation of Judaism in the medieval period and the profound challenges posed by modernity. Students will have the opportunity to critically engage with primary sources. Major events and personalities of these two historical periods will be considered.

INTERDISCIPLINARY

Responsibilities for the Vulnerable in Jewish Tradition and Practice
Solomon Schimmel
CG-INTD-581-AU
Thursdays 11:15 am – 1:00 pm
On Campus
Non-Credit Only

Jewish tradition has numerous teachings on how one should feel about and behave towards vulnerable members of society such as the poor, the widowed, the orphan, the sick, the elderly, converts and the disabled. In this course we will study and evaluate some of these teachings from the Bible, rabbinic and medieval Jewish literature and reflect upon them in light of modern sensibilities. We will briefly examine modern Jewish organizations such as Boston’s CJP whose mission in part is to provide for the vulnerable. Some comparisons with Christian teachings will be made.

By the end of the course students should be able to: Identify key biblical, rabbinic and medieval texts that address the question of responsibilities towards the vulnerable members of society; Understand the rationales for caring for vulnerable members of society; and Understand
the limitations on addressing the needs of the vulnerable in the absence of communal or governmental institutions that focus on caring for them.

**Jewish & Muslim Mystical Figures: A Comparative Exploration**

Or Rose & Celene Ibrahim  
**CG-INTD-645-AU**  
Wednesday 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
On Campus  
Non-Credit Only

In this team-taught course, we will examine the textual works of various Jewish and Muslim mystics from different time periods, exploring both commonalities and differences. This will include discussion of such subjects as: conceptions of the Divine; the purposes of prayer and ritual; the nature of language; and the relationship of the individual to community and the world as a whole. In framing the course, we will also analyze the term “mysticism” and other key terms used by religious writers and academics. All of the sources will be available in English and in the original languages in which they were written.