CG-CANTR 530 FALL 2013
CANTILLATION 2: HAFTARAH, ESTHER AND LAMENTATIONS
Prof. Joshua Jacobson <jjacobson@hebrewcollege.edu>
Tuesday, 11:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m. (Sep. 17; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26; Dec. 10, 17)
Prerequisite: CANTR529 (The Theory and Practice of Torah Cantillation) or permission from the instructor.

Students are taught a common Ashkenazi tradition for the chanting of the book of Lamentations (Eicha), the Haftarot and the scroll of Esther. Students prepare significant portions of text to be chanted and are critiqued by the instructor and their fellow students. Emphasis is on the three functions of the Masoretic cantillation signs: syllabic stress, syntactic structure and melodic organization.

Before the first class meeting, students should review the syntactic parsing system as taught in Cantillation 1.

Required Textbook:

Students should bring the textbook and a Koren Tanakh (or a photocopy of the relevant pages or an electronic version) to each class. Students are expected to be able to translate and comment on the history and structure of the texts they are chanting.

Optional Supplementary CDs
A two-CD set ($15 for the set) containing a detailed performance of the te’amim used in this class can be ordered from Larry Sandberg l.sandberg@comcast.net.

Grade will be based on:
- Preparedness and participation in class
- Quality of performance throughout the semester
  - Knowledge of the te’amim
  - Meticulous pronunciation
  - Smoothness, expressivity of text, tonal and rhythmic accuracy
  - Comprehension of text structure and various level of meaning
  - Memorization, when required
- Written final exams.
- Oral exams. Each student will be prepared to chant:
  - a complete haftarah, plus demonstrate mastery of the “detours”
  - selected verses from Lamentations, including chapter three
  - one complete chapter of Esther from a scroll or from the unpunctuated column of a tikkun, plus demonstrated mastery of the exceptional verses.
  - Students also prepare and deliver a devar torah on each of their selected readings.

Recommended Optional Reading


More details will be available on the course website at Schoology.