Goals, expectations and requirements of this course:

The mastery of the scales/modes and motivic patterns of Ashkenazi weekday services through the study of various European and American published sources. This mastery involves both theoretical and practical applications.

Final Oral Exam.


Preparing portions of מנה and מעריב to be performed in class.

Creating “planned improvisations” to be performed in class; students must bring multiple photocopies for class-wide study.

10/4: Introduction: ממא נסח - What is Nusah?

Dictionary definitions, Maimonides, Encyclopedia Judaica, Werner (מנחא אשכנז), Wohlberg, Slobin, Levine, Kalib, Mayer.

מנה - overview of the necessary scales/modes, natural minor or “Weekday Minor” and “Jewish Pentatonic.”

Spiro - pp. 147-151; Avery handout for congregational unison chanting

**ASSIGNMENT:** prepare to chant מנה with at least a קדושה קדושה; begin working toward a חזרת, Spiro pp. 64-78 (in שחרית section);

**ASSIGNMENT:** read handouts on Nusah definitions.

ASSIGNMENT: prepare passages using Kalib’s sources, Spiro, including a portion with the Hassidic variant (Spiro p.152, and Davidson/Wohlberg p.40).

10/18: Student presentations of מנה - השׁחזרת 'ץ. Develop “planned improvisations.”

ASSIGNMENT: complete preparations of מנה - השׁחזרת 'ץ.
ASSIGNMENT: prepare passages in Weekday Minor; create your own nusah improvisation for אבות/אמהות.

10/25: Student presentations of מנה - Weekday Minor passages; present “planned improvisations” in Jewish Pentatonic.

ASSIGNMENT: prepare וּברכוֹתיה שָמע using Spiro, 167-181 and Kalib’s sources.

11/1: Student presentations of special additions for שָמע וּברכוֹתיה; develop “planned improvisations” in Weekday Minor for חצ קדישׁי during class.

ASSIGNMENT: complete “planned improvisations” in Weekday Minor for חצ קדישׁי.
ASSIGNMENT: create “planned improvisations” in אֲהַבַּה רְבָּה for חצ קדישׁי.

11/8: Student presentations of “planned improvisations” in Weekday Minor and אֲהַבַּה רְבָּה for חצ קדישׁי.

ASSIGNMENT: prepare special additions for שָמע וּברכוֹתיה, Wohlberg’s and a setting of מַסֶּקָה שבת for ספואатур השומר.

11/15: Student presentations of special additions for שָמע וּברכוֹתיה, Wohlberg’s and a setting of מַסֶּקָה שבת for ספואאור השומר.

ASSIGNMENT: prepare special additions for EQUIVALENT SABBATH evening/PSALMS (SPIRO pp. 120-122), SPECIAL TEXTS FOR Evening (SPIRO FROM 3 FESTIVALS BOOK) (SPIRO PP. 122-125); morning (SPIRO PP. 79-86).

11/29: NO CLASS

12/6: CATCHING UP ON STUDENT PRESENTATIONS;
Torah Service - Spiro pp. 87-95, Frankfurt sources and connections with HH *troplernen steiger*; Ми שבור (Baer) and מלא רחמים (Wohlberg).

ASSIGNMENT: prepare all parts of Torah Service

12/13: Student presentations of all parts of Torah Service.
Concluding prayers (הנוכה) Spiro pp. 97-118; candle lighting for חנוכה; introduction to ההלל (Spiro pp. 127-138).

ASSIGNMENT: prepare opening blessing of ההלל.

MAKE UP CLASS - TBA: Student presentations of opening blessing of ההלל. Further study of ההלל.

ASSIGNMENT: prepare for EXAMS!

12/20: FINAL ORAL EXAM.