Theology of the Jewish Year

RB-JTHT-230

Fall 2014
5774-5775

Shanah Bet
The Rabbinical School of Hebrew College

Instructor:
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Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students with a context for in-depth reflection on the theological motifs imbedded in, and emerging from, the various rituals and customs of the annual liturgical calendar. We will situate this discussion within a broader exploration of the nature of time in various Jewish theological sources. Our studies will be dedicated to the examination of 4 major topics: (1) Day & Night, (2) Shabbat, (3) Hanukkah & Purim, and (4) the Shalosh Regalim. We will analyze a variety of classical and modern Jewish texts and other cultural creations as well as relevant materials from other religious and secular traditions.

Required Books:

-Irving Greenberg, *The Jewish Way*

Please also bring a Hebrew/English *Tanakh* and a *siddur* to all class meetings.

*All other sources will be posted on Schoology and distributed in class.

Class Requirements:

- Regular class preparation, attendance, and discussion
- Weekly online havruta exchanges
- D’var Torah (midterm assignment; instructions below)
- Lesson plan (final assignment; instructions below)

Class Meetings (12 total):

- September 8, 15 / October 6, 20, 27 / November 3, 10, 17, 24 / December 1, 8