

***MESIVTHA TIFERETH  
JERUSALEM***

***STUDENT CATALOG  
2025-2026***

145 EAST BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10002

212-964-2830

## **Table of Contents**

Introduction .....	4
Mission Statement .....	4
State Authorization and Accreditation.....	4
NY State Disclaimer.....	4
Accreditation.....	4
Board of Directors .....	4
Administration.....	5
Faculty .....	5
Title IX .....	5
Non-Discrimination Policy .....	6
Academic Calendar 2025-2026 .....	7
Admissions Policy and Procedures .....	7
Undergraduate Division .....	7
Graduate Division.....	7
Transfer Credit Policy.....	7
Campus .....	8
In-Town Center .....	8
The Resident Campus.....	8
Student Services .....	10
Health Services .....	10
Tutoring.....	10
Guidance and Counseling.....	10
Gemachim.....	10
Library.....	10
Kashrus Research Program .....	11
Availability of Full Time Employee .....	11
Textbook Information .....	11
Grade Point System.....	11
Cost of Attendance .....	12
Complaint Procedures .....	12
Internal Complaint Procedure .....	12
AARTS Complaint Procedure.....	13
NY State Complaint Procedure .....	13
Financial Aid .....	15
Title IV Federal Financial Aid.....	15
Applying For Title IV Aid.....	16
Title IV Aid Need .....	16
Updated FAFSA Information.....	17
Professional Judgment .....	17
Title IV Application Deadline.....	19
Title IV Aid Programs .....	20
Federal Pell Grant Program .....	20
The Campus-Based Programs .....	20
Tuition Waivers.....	22
Withdrawal, Institutional Refund, and Return to Title IV Policies .....	22

Leaves of Absence .....	22
Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy .....	23
When SAP Is Not Met.....	24
Warning.....	24
Federal Financial Aid Warning.....	24
Appeals Process .....	25
Academic Probation .....	25
Academic Probation With a Study Plan.....	26
Reevaluation After a Probationary Period .....	26
Reestablishing Aid Eligibility .....	26
Incompletes .....	27
Withdrawals.....	27
Transfer Credits .....	27
Repetitions .....	27
Change of Major .....	27
Remedial Courses.....	27
Attendance Requirements .....	28
Grounds for Dismissal.....	28
Academic Programs.....	29
The Undergraduate Program.....	29
Frequency of Course Offerings.....	30
Textbooks and Required Materials.....	30
Explanation of the Numbering System.....	30
Introduction - The Study of Talmud .....	30
Department of Codes (Halacha) .....	42
Department of Ethics (Mussar) .....	43
Undergraduate Program Sample Curriculum.....	43
The Graduate Program .....	46
First Rabbinic Degree .....	47
Semicha .....	58
Graduate Course Map – First Rabbinic Degree.....	59
Second Rabbinic Degree.....	61
Graduate Course Map – Second Rabbinic Degree.....	76
First Professional Degree .....	79
Graduate Course Map – First Professional Degree.....	91
Notification of Rights Under FERPA.....	94
Copyright Infringement Policy .....	97
Map.....	99
In-Town Campus.....	99
Resident Campus .....	99

## **INTRODUCTION**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem (MTJ), established in 1907, is one of the oldest yeshivos in America. It is recognized both nationally and internationally for its high academic standards and esteemed faculty.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem is to provide education of the highest standards of scholarship. We aim to prepare our students to become productive citizens characterized by firm principles, the highest ethical standards, and character traits.

## **STATE AUTHORIZATION AND ACCREDITATION**

### ***NY State Disclaimer***

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem does not offer college credits or degrees that require authorization by the New York State Board of Regents. Under New York State Law, a non-profit corporation formed for religious and educational purposes does not require New York State Education Department or New York State Board of Regents authorization to perform its postsecondary education functions in New York State. Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem falls into this category.

### ***Accreditation***

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem is accredited by the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools (AARTS) and approved to offer First Talmudic, First Rabbinic, Second Rabbinic and First Professional Degrees.

The AARTS Handbook is available upon request by contacting the organization via mail: 2329 Nostrand Ave., M-200, Brooklyn, NY 11210, email: [office@aarts-schools.org](mailto:office@aarts-schools.org), or telephone: (212) 363-1991.

Copies of the NY State exemption letter and letter of accreditation can be viewed in the office during regular business hours.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Presidium**

Ezra Beyman

Norman Schmutter

Rabbi Arye Dunn (Lenny) Greher, Vice President

Nachman Kramer, Chairman, Finance Committee

Rabbi Gedaliah Zlotowitz, Chairman of the Board

Moshe Aryeh

Ezra Beyman  
Rabbi Berel Feinstein  
Rabbi Reuven Feinstein  
Harvey Feldschreiber  
Jack Forgash  
Rabbi Leonard Greher  
Burton Jaffa  
Rabbi Nachman Kramer  
Chaim Lazar  
Norman Schmutter  
Judah Septimus  
Harvey Wrubel  
Rabbi Gedaliah Zlotowitz  
Ira Zlotowitz  
Michael Zuckerman

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Rabbi Dovid Rabinowitz, Administrator  
Rabbi Yehoshua Millworm, Administrator  
Rabbi Eliezer Gold, Financial Aid Officer  
Chana Yampolsky, Registrar  
Feigy Riegler, Bursar

## **FACULTY**

Rabbi Reuven Feinstein, Rosh Hayeshiva  
Rabbi Dovid Beinish Feinstein, Rosh Hayeshiva  
Rabbi Berel Feinstein, Rosh Hayeshiva  
Rabbi Hayim Y. Ganzweig, Mashgiach  
Rabbi Chaim Mintz, Mashgiach  
Rabbi Chaim Yitzchok Weiss, Menahel Ruchni, Maggid Shiur  
Rabbi Yisroel Ginsburg, Maggid Shiur  
Rabbi Menachem Goldman, Posek  
Rabbi Aryeh Zabrowsky, Shoel U'Meishiv

## **TITLE IX**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, in compliance with all applications under Title IX. This requirement not to discriminate extends to employment. Inquiries about the application of Title IX may be referred to

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

Title IX Coordinator

Name: Rabbi Dovid Rabinowitz

Office Address: 145 East Broadway, New York, NY 10002

Email Address: dov717@mtj.edu

Phone Number: (212) 964-2830

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Qualified men of the Orthodox Jewish faith are eligible for admission to Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem. The institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Rabbi Dovid Rabinowitz

145 East Broadway, New York, NY 10002

(212) 964-2830

The institution is also an equal opportunity employer and is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disability Act of 1992.

Beyond equal access, opportunity and accommodation, the school is committed to the understanding, sensitivity, patience, encouragement and support that are essential in guaranteeing to all qualified students the same educational experience and environment as well as the equal opportunity to learn and study at the institution.

While the Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem campuses are not fully accessible to handicapped students, the institution will make special arrangements, within reason, to accommodate any qualified handicapped student.

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem does not have a program for students with intellectual disabilities. Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem provides reasonable academic accommodations for students with intellectual disabilities.

## **ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026**

*For the current academic calendar, please refer to the yearly supplement to the catalog.*

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

### ***Undergraduate Division***

Applicants to Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's undergraduate program must be beyond the age of compulsory attendance in the State of New York, and are generally expected to have completed high-school, including a preparatory program of Talmudic study that has prepared them for college-level study. Applicants should meet the following minimum qualifications:

- A commitment to develop in the personal growth of character traits, and ethical and moral obligations
- An interview and oral exam administered by Rabbi Dovid Beinish Feinstein and Rabbi Chaim Yitzchok Weiss.

Students are admitted based on their ability to meet the standards of the program of study. Once an application is submitted, the student schedules an interview, during which a written or oral entrance examination may be administered. If accepted for enrollment, the applicant will then be asked to complete an admission form.

### ***Graduate Division***

1. A student entering from the Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem Undergraduate Division must have received an undergraduate degree.
2. Applicants from other institutions are required to appear for a personal interview.

In order to initiate the application process, qualified students are encouraged to contact:

Rabb Chaim Yitzchok Weiss  
Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem  
145 East Broadway  
New York, NY 10002  
212-964-2830

## **TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY**

Credits may be granted, at the discretion of the Yeshiva, for study and courses taken at another postsecondary institution of Talmudic Studies providing the following conditions are met:

- The credits transferred must be based on course work similar in content, style and academic rigor to the one offered at the Yeshiva.

- The student must have achieved a grade that would have enabled him to pass a similar course at the Yeshiva.
- All credits must be properly documented.
- Transfer credits accepted are counted toward both the number of attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem will grant a maximum of 90 transfer credits towards Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's undergraduate degree, and 45 transfer credits towards Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's graduate level degrees, or a combination thereof.

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem does not have any articulation agreements with regard to whether the Yeshiva will accept credits from other institutions nor with regard to whether other institutions accept the Yeshiva's credits. Before enrolling in the institution, students should be sure that their attendance will help them reach their educational goals.

Please be advised that the transferability of credits and acceptance of the degrees earned at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem are at the complete discretion of an institution to which a student may seek to transfer. If the credits or the degrees earned at this institution are not accepted at the institution to which a student seeks to transfer, they may be required to repeat some or all of the coursework at that institution.

## **CAMPUS**

### ***In-Town Center***

The In-Town Center of Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem, located at 145 East Broadway, New York, NY 10002, on the historic Lower East Side, consists of two connected buildings. The five-story main facility houses the Undergraduate and Graduate Divisions and includes classrooms, a study hall, a well-stocked library, the Dean's office, and a dining hall. The school's administrative offices are located in the adjoining building.

### ***The Resident Campus***

The resident campus of Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem is located at 1870 Drumgoole Road East, Staten Island, NY 10309, on a beautiful 9-acre property along the south shore of Staten Island. The Main Building houses classrooms, a study hall, a library, dormitory facilities, a kitchen, and a dining hall. Nutritious and flavorful meals are provided to all students throughout the week and on Shabbos.

Students have designated a special space known as the Binding Room, which offers maintenance and repair services for the Seforim used in their studies. Recreational sports facilities are available on

campus, and its location near public transportation and shopping centers adds to the convenience and accessibility for students.

To meet everyday needs, a full-service canteen offers a wide variety of goods, including sodas, candies, snacks, ice cream, and a full line of bakery items. This service is especially vital, as there is no kosher bakery or grocery store in the immediate vicinity. Fresh challahs, bread, and other baked goods are brought in weekly to serve students, married graduate students, and their families.

There are regular laundry facilities on campus, and arrangements have been made with a local dry cleaning service for weekly pickup and delivery.

### *The Dormitory*

Dormitory rooms accommodate three to four students each, providing shared living space. Facilities include a laundry room and a coffee room for student use. Residents are provided with nourishing meals per day.

### *Married Graduate Student Life*

In addition to its academic programs and dormitory accommodations, the campus is home to a vibrant community of married graduate students and faculty. The school currently provides 40 housing units for married graduate students, all located on campus. These units are essential, as affordable housing in the surrounding area is extremely limited. Housing is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with exceptions made in cases where a student's previous living conditions are deemed untenable.

Faculty housing is also available on campus. The Rosh Hayeshiva, Rabbi Reuven Feinstein, and the Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Dovid Beinish Feinstein, currently reside on campus.

Due to the lack of readily available childcare in the area, wives of graduate students offer low-cost babysitting services to fellow students. This arrangement provides vital support for student families. Additionally, married graduate students deliver a series of Shiurim (lectures) for the Kollel wives, enriching the campus environment and fostering continued learning and community engagement.

Many students on the resident campus are from out of town. For some, it is too far to travel home during Purim or Chanukah vacation, and others return for Simchas Torah. Although the school is not officially in session during these times, faculty members living nearby graciously open their homes and host the students who remain on campus. These informal gatherings foster meaningful interactions between students and faculty, and the warm, welcoming atmosphere has made these holiday Chagigos a cherished part of campus life.

Another beloved aspect of campus life is the hospitality extended by married graduate students, who regularly invite resident students to join them for Shabbos and other festive occasions. These gatherings provide a nurturing environment that supports social and emotional growth.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### ***Health Services***

The school has established arrangements with local doctors to address the medical needs of its students. First aid supplies are available on the premises, and emergency cases are referred to city hospitals located near each campus.

### ***Tutoring***

Tutorial assistance is available to all students upon recommendation by the instructional staff. Tutors provide academic support and offer a receptive ear for students facing general challenges.

### ***Guidance and Counseling***

Guidance and counseling services are provided by the Rosh HaYeshiva, Rabbi Dovid Beinish Feinstein, Rabbi Chaim Mintz and Rabbi Chaim Yitzchok Weiss. There are designated hours each day reserved exclusively for student use, as needed. Counseling is considered an integral part of the program and is often initiated by faculty members. Much of the guidance takes place informally—in classrooms and the Beis Medrash, in the dormitory, and within the warm atmosphere of faculty members' homes. The faculty regularly discusses the adjustment of individual students and develops personalized guidance plans as needed. If professional assistance is deemed necessary, the faculty will refer the student to an appropriate outside professional.

Older students are encouraged to form “big brother” mentorship relationships with younger students. They study together, walk and talk together, and serve as a source of support for newer students adjusting to the school environment.

### ***Gemachim***

Students with financial needs not met by other sources may avail themselves of six different Gemachim (Free Loan Societies) administered by the school. These loans are interest-free, and repayment is typically scheduled according to the student's financial means.

### ***Library***

The library's collection consists primarily of volumes in Hebrew and Aramaic, including Talmudic commentaries, responsa, and other halachic works. Also represented are commentaries on the Bible, as well as texts on ethics, philosophy, homiletics, medieval Jewish thought, and Jewish history.

The library at the In-Town Center was recently updated, with many heavily used volumes and entire sets replaced. It is open daily for student use.

### ***Kashrus Research Program***

In response to numerous Kashrus-related questions—particularly concerning previously unsupervised items such as liquor and beer—graduate students established the Kashrus Research Program. This initiative conducts thorough investigations into food and beverage products that raise halachic concerns. The resulting advisories are widely utilized by students, faculty, and the broader community. In addition to serving a vital communal role, the program provides students with valuable hands-on experience and practical training in the field of Kashrus.

### **AVAILABILITY OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEE**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem has designated Rabbi Eliezer Gold or Mrs. Chana Yampolsky as the full time employee available to assist enrolled or prospective students in obtaining information on the school, financial assistance, graduation and completion rates, security policies, and crime statistics, and any other required disclosures or information, as required by Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sections 668.42, 668.43, 668.45 and 668.46. They can be reached in the office during regular business hours or by calling (212) 964-2830.

### **TEXTBOOK INFORMATION**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem offers a highly specialized program of study in Talmud and related subjects. All textbooks are readily available for use on open stacks in the study hall and school library. Students who wish to purchase their own copies of the texts studied may purchase them on their own. A book list is sent to the students before the start of each semester for this purpose.

Many students prefer to have their own Gemara and Kovetz Miforshim, which cost between \$35 and \$55 each, depending on the publisher and edition. Most texts used in the program are reprints of the Talmud and other classical texts that do not have ISBN numbers.

### **GRADE POINT SYSTEM**

The grading system followed at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem is based on a combination of criteria. These include an evaluation by instructors of the student's classroom participation and performance, oral and written examinations, and diligence in individual study.

Rather than deriving grades from a precise numerical average, Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem employs a grading system that is used by other institutions of higher education. Essentially, this system provides for the following course grades:

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D	1.0
B	3.0	I (Incomplete)	not included in calculation of GPA
B-	2.7	W (Withdrawn)	not included in calculation of GPA
C+	2.3	F (Fail)	0.0

The grade point average (GPA) is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course with a valid grade by the number of credits that course yields. The products are then added together, and the sum is divided by the total number of credits from all the courses.

Courses with a grade of incomplete or withdrawn do not affect the GPA. However, courses with a grade of fail, whether earned or unearned, are included in the GPA calculation. If a student receives failing grades for all of their courses, they will generally be considered as having unofficially withdrawn unless there is evidence that they completed the semester.

Sample GPA Calculation:

A-	6 (credits)	x	3.7	= 22.2
B+	4 (credits)	x	3.3	= 13.2
C	1 (credits)	x	2	= 2
A	1 (credits)	x	4	= 4
	12 (credits)		41.4	

Divided by 12 credits for the semester = 3.45 GPA

### **COST OF ATTENDANCE**

*For the current schedule of the cost of attendance, please refer to the yearly supplement to the catalog.*

### **COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

#### ***Internal Complaint Procedure***

Any student who has a complaint may submit it in writing to one of the Roshei Hayeshiva. The complaint will be investigated, and the student will be informed in writing within 30 days of the resolution of his complaint. No person directly involved in the complaint issue will make the final determination.

### ***AARTS Complaint Procedure***

Complaints can be filed with the office of the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools (AARTS), the agency that accredits Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem, by writing to 2329 Nostrand Ave, M-200, Brooklyn, NY 11210, with the title: Student Complaint – Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem. AARTS can also be contacted by phone at (212) 363-1991 or by email at [office@aarts.org](mailto:office@aarts.org).

### ***NY State Complaint Procedure***

For all types of complaints concerning colleges and universities in New York State, the first course of action must be to try to resolve the complaint directly with the administration of the college or university involved. The Office of College and University Evaluation will not review a complaint until all grievance procedures at the institution have been followed and all avenues of appeal exhausted and documentation provided that such procedures have been exhausted. Please note: Every New York State college and university is required to establish, publish, and enforce explicit policies related to redress of grievances.

Please do not send a complaint to the Office of College and University Evaluation until you have read all of the information below. This will assure that you are sending your complaint to the appropriate agency/office.

The Office of College and University Evaluation handles only those complaints that concern educational programs or practices of degree-granting institutions subject to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, with the exceptions noted below.

- The Office does not handle anonymous complaints.
- The Office does not intervene in matters concerning an individual's grades or examination results, as these are the prerogative of the college's faculty.
- The Office does not handle complaints concerning actions that occurred more than five years ago.
- The Office does not intervene in matters that are or have been in litigation.
- Complaints concerning **programs in fields leading to professional licensure** (e.g., nursing) should be directed to:

Office of the Professions  
Professional Education Program Review  
Education Building, 2 West  
Albany, NY 12234

- A complaint against a college in the **State University system** should be sent to:

State University of New York  
Central Administration  
State University Plaza  
Albany, NY 12246

- A complaint against a college in the **City University system** should be sent to:

City University of New York  
Office of the General Counsel  
205 East 42nd Street, 11th Floor  
New York, NY 10017

- **Civil rights:** a complaint involving discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex, including sexual harassment, should be filed with the U.S. Office for Civil Rights:

Office for Civil Rights (OCR) – Enforcement Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
32 Old Slip, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10005-2500  
Telephone: 646-428-3900  
FAX: 646-428-3843  
TDD: 877-521-2172  
Email: [OCR.NewYork@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.NewYork@ed.gov)

Or with:

**NYS Division of Human Rights**

<https://dhr.ny.gov/complaint>

- A complaint of **consumer fraud** on the part of the institution should be directed to the Office of the New York State Attorney General, Justice Building, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223.
- For a complaint about **state student financial aid matters**, contact the Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) Customer Communications Center at 1-888-NYS-HESC.

Complainants should be aware that the Office of College and University Evaluation does not conduct a judicial investigation and has no legal authority to require a college or university to comply with a complainant's request.

If your complaint does not fall into one of the exceptions noted above, click [here](#) for the Office of College and University Evaluation Complaint Form.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem utilizes the services of Higher Education Solutions, a financial aid consulting firm with many years of experience in the field. The institution offers a variety of federal financial aid programs to its students. Higher Education Solutions assists with their administration.

Students who have difficulty meeting their educational costs at the institution may contact the Financial Aid Administrator (FAA), Rabbi Eliezer Gold at the financial aid office. The FAA is available during regular business hours and can provide information about the available financial aid options.

These options may include a financial aid package comprised of federal grants, tuition waivers and work-study programs. The package reflects the total amount offered to eligible students by the institution to help pay for their education. Additionally, the institution may offer a deferred payment plan, allowing students to spread out tuition payments over a period of time.

Federal grants are need based and do not require repayment. The Federal Work-Study Program funds part-time employment for eligible students. Detailed information on these programs can be found below.

#### ***Title IV Federal Financial Aid***

In order to qualify for Title IV aid programs, the student must:

- demonstrate financial need for need-based federal student aid programs;
- be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
- have a valid Social Security number (with the exception of students from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau);
- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress in college or career school;
- provide consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred directly onto their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form;

- sign the certification statement on the FAFSA form stating that they are not in default on a federal student loan, do not owe money on a federal student grant, and will only use federal student aid for educational purposes; and
- show they are qualified to obtain a college or career school education by:
  - having a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a General Educational Development (GED) certificate;
  - completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law (or—if state law does not require a homeschooled student to obtain a completion credential—completing a high school education in a homeschool setting that qualifies as an exemption from compulsory attendance requirements under state law); or
  - enrolling in an eligible career pathway program and meeting one of the "ability-to-benefit" alternatives.

### ***Applying For Title IV Aid***

To apply for Title IV aid, prospective recipients should complete a FAFSA form, available at the financial aid office. The completed form can be completed online through FAFSA on the Web at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. Alternatively, the completed form can be mailed to the designated address.

In addition to completing the FAFSA form and providing consent, students may be required to submit additional documentation, such as a Verification Worksheet, W2 forms, and/or Tax Returns/IRS Tax Transcripts, to verify the information reported on the FAFSA.

Title IV aid awards are offered for one award year at a time, and are not automatically renewed. Students must reapply each year before the application deadline listed below.

### ***Title IV Aid Need***

Eligibility for Title IV programs is determined through a process called need analysis, which assesses the amount of financial assistance a student requires to supplement the resources expected to be available from the student and, if applicable, their parents.

A student's financial need is calculated based on the formulas developed by the Department of Education. It is determined by subtracting the contributions expected from the student and, if applicable, their parents, from the total Cost of Attendance (COA). Generally, the total financial aid awarded to a student cannot exceed their financial need.

To calculate need, a student's dependency status - whether they are dependent or independent of their parents - is determined based on their answers to specific questions and other details provided

on the FAFSA. Students should carefully review the instructions on the FAFSA form before answering any questions and consult with the institution's financial aid staff as needed.

Once dependency status is determined, the student's financial contribution is assessed. For independent students, this is based on their income, and, if applicable, their spouse's income, as reported on their tax return, along with any counted assets, as applicable. Certain allowances, such as the Employment Allowance, Payroll Tax Allowance and Income Protection Allowance (IPA), are factored in to offset income. The IPA is a living allowance based on family size and considers food, housing, and other relevant factors.

For dependent students, their financial contribution is based on their income, as reported on their tax return, and applicable assets, with previously described allowances applied to offset earnings. A separate parental contribution is assessed, based on their parents' income, as reported on their tax return, and their counted assets, as applicable. Specific allowances are also allocated against their parents' income, as detailed above

The student's contribution is combined with the parental contribution, when applicable, to calculate the Student Aid Index (SAI). The student's COA includes tuition, fees, books, transportation, personal expenses, and a standard allowance for living expenses. The living expense allowance varies depending on whether the student lives on campus, off-campus or with their parents. The SAI is subtracted from the student's COA with the remaining amount known as the student's financial need.

Under certain circumstances, based on poverty guidelines, a student may automatically be eligible for either a Maximum or Minimum Pell grant (Max or Min Pell).

#### **Updated FAFSA Information**

Students may update, or be required to update, certain information on their FAFSA application, such as dependency status or household size, only under specific circumstances. These updates should be discussed with the financial aid office.

#### **Professional Judgment**

In addition to the process used to calculate financial aid need, there are unique situations where the financial aid administrator (FAA) may use professional judgment (PJ) to modify data used to calculate the SAI, adjust the student's cost of attendance, and/or perform dependency overrides. Students may pursue a PJ adjustment based on special circumstances and unusual circumstances.

### *Professional Judgment for Special Circumstances*

Special Circumstances are financial situations that may prompt an FAA to do a PJ leading to an adjustment of the COA or an element of the SAI calculation.

To initiate a PJ request for special circumstances, a student and/or their parent must submit documentation of these circumstances to the financial aid office. Among other circumstances that might affect the student's or their parents' ability to pay for college, special circumstances may include a change in employment status, income or assets, medical expenses not covered by insurance, or severe disability of the student or other member of their household. These factors may be taken into account by the financial aid staff to adjust the data elements in the COA or in the SAI calculation. The PJ process may be initiated at the parent's or student's request after the student's initial eligibility has been determined, and, if applicable, verification has been completed.

### *Professional Judgment During a Disaster, Emergency, or Economic Downturn*

During a qualifying emergency, an FAA can determine that a contributor's income from work is zero, provided appropriate documentation is submitted. The FAA may also make additional adjustments to the reported income of the student, parent, parent's spouse or student's spouse, as applicable, based on the household's overall financial situation, including unemployment benefits.

### *Professional Judgment for Unusual Circumstances*

Unusual circumstances refer to conditions that justify an FAA adjusting a student's dependency status based on a unique situation - more commonly referred to as a dependency override. These circumstances may include, but are not limited to, human trafficking, refugee or asylee status, parental abandonment or estrangement, or incarceration of the student or parent, as defined in the regulations.

When a student indicates on their FAFSA form that they have an unusual circumstance, the FAFSA Processing System (FPS) processes their application as provisionally independent, allowing them to complete the application without parental information. The student must then submit supporting documentation of the unusual circumstances to the institution.

The institution will review all requests for a determination of independence as soon as practicable, but no later than 60 days after the student enrolls. If the request is made later in the term, the institution will review it as quickly as possible, but no later than 60 days after the student submits the request and required documentation. The FAA will then make a final determination regarding the student's independent status.

A student who has obtained an adjustment for unusual circumstances and a final determination of independence will be presumed to be independent for each subsequent award year at the same institution, unless the student informs the institution that their circumstances have changed or the institution has conflicting information about the student's independence.

Students may have both a special circumstance and an unusual circumstance. Financial aid administrators may make adjustments that are appropriate to each student's situation with appropriate documentation.

#### *Unaccompanied Homeless Youth*

For the 2025-2026 award year, a student is independent if, at any time on or after July 1, 2024, the student was determined to be an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or is self-supporting and at risk of being homeless. A student may self-report their independence due to homelessness by indicating on the FAFSA form that they have a determination from one of the following entities:

- a local educational agency homeless liaison (or designee), as designated by the *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act* (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));
- the director (or designee) of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving individuals who are experiencing homelessness;
- the director (or designee) of a Federal TRIO program or a Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate program (GEAR UP) grant; or
- an FAA at another institution who documented the student's circumstance in the same or a prior award year.

If a student indicates on their FAFSA form that they are unaccompanied and homeless, or at risk of being homeless without a designation from a specified entity, the FPS allows them to submit the application without parental information. The institution's FAA will review the student's circumstances and make a case-by-case determination of homeless youth status based upon a written statement from, or a documented interview with, the student.

A student who is determined to be independent due to their unaccompanied homeless youth status, will be presumed to be independent by the institution for each subsequent award year at the same institution, unless the student informs the school that their circumstances have changed, or the school has conflicting information.

#### ***Title IV Application Deadline***

While FAFSA applications may be submitted until June 30, 2026, students should be aware that an earlier submission may be required as the application must be processed, and a valid SAI received,

while the student is still enrolled. Students are urged to submit their applications as early as possible to avoid delays in processing. More importantly, some programs have limited funding and priority consideration is given to students who submit their applications earlier in the cycle.

#### ***Title IV Aid Programs***

##### **Federal Pell Grant Program**

The Federal Pell Grant Program awards grants to undergraduate students who meet federal eligibility criteria. These grants do not have to be repaid. As an entitlement program, any student whose ISIR reflects Pell grant eligibility, attends a participating institution, and applies on time may receive a Federal Pell Grant. The maximum grant for a fully eligible student is \$7395 per award year, which is 100% of the scheduled award. The amount that each student may receive is based on the SAI, which is calculated using a federally mandated formula, as explained above.

As part of Additional Eligibility, students may receive up to 150% of their Pell Grant Scheduled Award within a single award year. An eligible student may receive additional Federal Pell Grant funds for the additional semester, even if they received 100% of their scheduled Federal Pell Grant award during the preceding semesters in that award year.

Financial aid disbursements under the Federal Pell Grant Program are scheduled at the beginning of each semester, provided all paperwork has been submitted and is complete. A student generally receives half of their scheduled award during the first semester and the other half during the second semester. If the student qualifies for Additional Eligibility, an additional disbursement may be made at the beginning of the third semester. Students whose paperwork is completed during the second or third semester may be paid retroactively for previous semesters in the same academic year.

Under federal law, the total amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over their lifetime is capped at 600%. Once a student's Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) reaches this limit, they are no longer eligible to receive additional Pell Grant funding.

Federal Pell Grant payments are made either by applying a credit to the student's tuition account or by direct disbursement to the student. Students will be informed in writing of the expected amount of these payments. Tuition records may be reviewed by the student during regular business hours at the business office.

##### **The Campus-Based Programs**

The Campus-Based Programs are a group of programs funded under Title IV. The institution participates in the following:

- FSEOG - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants
- FWS - Federal Work Study

Each year, fixed sums are allocated to participating schools based on the Federal formula. The school analyzes the need of all eligible financial aid applicants whose paperwork is completed in a timely manner, and determines an equitable distribution of the funds available through the packaging process. Students who apply after the posted deadlines may no longer be considered for funding from these programs.

The FSEOG is a campus-based grant program available to eligible undergraduate students. Awards, when available, may range from \$100 to \$4,000 per award year.

FSEOG disbursements are scheduled at the beginning of each semester, provided all paperwork has been submitted and is complete. A student generally receives one half of their scheduled award during the first semester and the other half during the second semester. Students who complete their paperwork during the second semester may be eligible for retroactive payment for the first semester. However, they should be aware of the strong likelihood that FSEOG funds may be limited or no longer available at that time. FSEOG must be packaged and disbursed while the student is enrolled. Payments are applied as credit to the student's tuition account.

Generally, FSEOG funds are awarded on a 75% federal to 25% non-federal matching basis. However, if the institution receives a waiver of the non-federal share requirement for a given academic year, it may opt not to provide the non-federal match. Students will be notified in writing of the expected amounts of these payments, and may review their tuition records during regular hours at the business office.

The Federal Work Study Program is a need based employment program funded through the campus-based aid allocation described above. Eligible students are offered part-time employment, which is generally scheduled outside of school hours. The financial aid office, in consultation with the faculty as appropriate, determines a student's eligibility for employment based on their financial need, academic standing, and ability to balance work with academic responsibilities. Final placement also depends on the student's qualifications and the availability of suitable positions.

Disbursements from the FWS program are issued as monthly payroll payments. These payments are distributed according to the student's work schedule and are paid directly to the student no more than 30 days after the end of the payroll period. Students who wish to apply their FWS earnings towards educational expenses may complete an authorization form at the financial aid office.

Typically, FWS funds are awarded on a 75% federal to 25% non-federal matching basis. However, as with FSEOG funds, if the institution is granted a waiver of the nonfederal share requirement for a particular academic year, it may choose not to provide the nonfederal match.

### ***Tuition Waivers***

Tuition waivers may be available to students who have exhausted all other forms of assistance and are still unable to pay their direct educational charges. Students and, if applicable, their parents are expected to contribute toward the cost of education, based upon their ability to pay, as determined by formulas described above.

The application for tuition waivers for students who apply for federal and state financial aid is based on the FAFSA, although a separate tuition waiver application may be required. Students who do not file a FAFSA use the tuition waiver application to apply for a tuition waiver.

### **WITHDRAWAL, INSTITUTIONAL REFUND, AND RETURN TO TITLE IV POLICIES**

*For the current refund and withdrawal policies, please refer to the yearly supplement to the catalog.*

### **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Under specific circumstances, a student may be granted an approved leave of absence for Title IV purposes. To request a leave of absence, the student must follow the procedures listed below.

The student must submit a request for a leave of absence in writing to Rabbi Chaim Yitzchok Weiss. The request must include the reason for which the student is requesting a leave of absence, and must be signed and dated. The request will be reviewed by Rabbi Weiss within ten days of submission. The request and the determination will be forwarded to the registrar's office and placed in the student's academic file. Notification will also be sent to the student and the financial aid office.

The student must submit the request and receive approval prior to beginning the leave of absence. The exception would be unusual circumstances when it is impossible for the student to do so, i.e. if the student was in a car accident or other unforeseen emergency/disaster. If unforeseen circumstances prevent a student from providing a prior written request, the institution may grant the student's request for a leave of absence. In this case, the institution will document its decision and collect the written request at a later date.

A student will only be granted a leave of absence if it can be reasonably expected that they will return from the leave of absence on time. The leave of absence, together with any additional leaves of absence, must not exceed a total of 180 days in a 12 month period. Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem will not assess the student any additional institutional charges or award the student any additional Title

IV aid during this time period. Upon the student's return from the leave of absence, the student must resume their coursework at the same point in the academic program that they began prior to the leave of absence.

Students on an approved leave of absence will not be considered withdrawn from the institution and no refund calculations will be made for Title IV financial aid received. Students who do not resume attendance at the institution at or before the end of a leave of absence will be considered withdrawn from the institution as of the initial start date of the leave of absence and refunds will be calculated accordingly.

### **SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) POLICY**

All matriculated students pursuing an approved program at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress, which is defined below by the institution.

SAP standards are the same for all matriculated students, regardless of whether they receive federal financial aid. Satisfactory academic progress consists of two principal components: a qualitative standard and a quantitative standard. The institution uses standard rounding procedures when evaluating both standards. Satisfactory academic progress is always evaluated on a cumulative basis, and at the end of each semester, both standards are reviewed. A report is generated to indicate whether the student is meeting SAP requirements. If a student is readmitted, their academic file is evaluated to determine whether they are meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements.

Below is a comprehensive explanation of the qualitative and quantitative standards at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem.

- Qualitative Standard**

A student is required to maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (the equivalent of a "C" average) or better. Every student is evaluated at the end of each semester to ensure that they are maintaining this minimum cumulative GPA.

Grade point averages are calculated according to the following numerical equivalents:

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D	1.0
B	3.0	I (Incomplete)	not included in calculation of GPA

B-	2.7	W(Withdrawn)	not included in calculation of GPA
C+	2.3	F (Fail)	0.0

Courses with a grade of Incomplete or Withdrawn do not impact the GPA. However, courses with a grade of Fail - whether earned or unearned - are included in the GPA calculation. If a student receives failing grades for all of their courses, they will generally be considered as having unofficially withdrawn unless there is evidence showing they completed the semester.

- **Quantitative Standard**

- **Maximum Timeframe - measured in credit hours**

A student must make sufficient progress through the academic program to complete the program with a maximum attempted credit ceiling equivalent to 150% of the published length of the program in credit hours.

- **Pace of Completion**

A student must earn at least 67% of the cumulative credits they attempt. Progress is assessed by dividing the total cumulative credits earned by the total cumulative credits attempted. If this percentage is 67% or greater, the student is determined to be meeting the pace element.

### ***WHEN SAP IS NOT MET***

#### **Warning**

If a student fails to meet the SAP standards, they will be notified by email or mail and granted a one-semester warning period. They will also be notified that they may appeal the lack of satisfactory academic progress at any point in the process. During this warning period, a designated faculty member may counsel the student and assist them in improving their academic performance. Additionally, the student may receive various student services including tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance. If SAP standards are still not met after this warning period, the student will be subject to academic discipline which may include suspension, or expulsion from the institution.

#### **Federal Financial Aid Warning**

If a student falls below the satisfactory academic progress standards, they will be notified by mail or email and granted a one-semester federal financial aid warning period, during which time they will remain eligible for federal financial aid. Additionally, they will be notified

of their option to appeal their SAP status in order to be granted a federal financial aid probationary period. During the warning period, the student may receive academic counseling and student services as described above. If satisfactory academic progress standards are still not met after this period, the student will be notified by mail or email that they are no longer eligible for federal financial aid.

### **Appeals Process**

A student may appeal the institution's determination that they are not making satisfactory academic progress. Bases for an appeal include a student's injury or illness, the death of a relative, or other special circumstances. In the appeal, the student must describe why they failed to make satisfactory academic progress, and what changed in their situation that will allow them to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation. The appeal, along with any relevant documentation, must be submitted in writing to the registrar's office. A senior faculty member will review the information provided by the student and, if necessary, consult with other faculty members, before reaching a decision.

If the appeal is accepted, the senior faculty member will determine whether the student can meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of a one-semester probationary period. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after the probationary period, they will be placed on academic probation as outlined below. However, if it is determined that the student will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements by the end of the probationary period, they will be placed on academic probation with a customized study plan, as described below. A student on academic probation, with or without a study plan, will continue to be eligible for federal financial aid.

If the appeal is not accepted, the student will be subject to academic discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion from the institution. They will also be ineligible for federal financial aid until they reestablish eligibility, as described below in the section entitled "Reestablishing Aid Eligibility". The final decision - academic probation with or without a study plan, or denial of the appeal - will be conveyed to the student by mail or email.

### **Academic Probation**

If a student successfully appeals the lack of satisfactory academic progress, and it is determined that they can meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, they will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation is a one-semester probationary period, at the end of which the student must meet the SAP standards of the institution. Upon request, the institution may provide various student services including academic counseling, tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or

other academic assistance. A student on academic probation will continue to be eligible for federal financial aid.

### **Academic Probation With a Study Plan**

If a student successfully appeals the lack of satisfactory academic progress, and it is determined that they will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a one-semester probationary period, they will be placed on academic probation with a study plan. This study plan will include customized SAP standards designed to help the student meet these requirements, as well as other academic provisions to assist them in meeting those standards. The plan will ensure that the student can meet the school's satisfactory progress standards by a specific time, though an academic plan could take the student all the way through successful program completion. A senior faculty member will develop the study plan in conjunction with the student and other faculty members, as needed. A student on academic probation with a study plan or a student with a study plan will continue to be eligible for federal financial aid.

A student must appeal to change their plan. They must explain what has happened to make the change necessary and how they will be able to make satisfactory academic progress.

### **Reevaluation After a Probationary Period**

At the end of the one-semester probationary period, the institution will reevaluate the student's satisfactory academic progress. If the student meets either the institution's standard SAP requirements or the satisfactory academic progress standards outlined in their study plan, they will be considered to be meeting SAP.

If the student's academic performance fails to meet the satisfactory academic progress standards of the institution, or the provisions of their study plan, they will be notified by mail or email that they no longer meet SAP standards. As a result, the student will be ineligible to receive federal financial aid, and will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution.

### **Reestablishing Aid Eligibility**

A student who becomes ineligible for federal financial aid due to not meeting satisfactory academic progress standards may reestablish eligibility by meeting those standards. Each student's satisfactory academic progress status is evaluated at the end of every semester. If a student who was previously not meeting SAP standards is now meeting them, they will be notified by mail or email that they have regained eligibility for federal financial aid.

### ***Incompletes***

A student who has not completed all the required coursework for a particular course may, at the discretion of the instructor, receive additional time (up to six months) to complete the work. During this period, a temporary grade of Incomplete will be assigned.

Courses with a grade of Incomplete will be counted toward the student's number of credits attempted but not completed. While the Incomplete grade remains on the transcript, it will not factor into the student's GPA. At the conclusion of the extension period, the Incomplete grade will be replaced with the student's earned grade. If the required work is not completed within the allotted time, the student will receive a final grade based on the coursework previously completed.

### ***Withdrawals***

A student who withdraws from a course will have the course grade recorded as Withdrawn. This grade will not be included in their GPA; however, the course will still be counted towards the number of credits attempted but not those completed.

### ***Transfer Credits***

Transfer credits are not included in the GPA calculation; however, they are counted toward both the number of credits attempted and credits earned by the student.

### ***Repetitions***

All repeated courses are counted in the number of the student's attempted credits, and are included in the student's GPA, including failing grades. A student repeating a course must remain within the time frame required for SAP standards.

A repeated course in which the student has already received a passing grade is counted towards the student's enrollment status only the first time the course is retaken. However, a repeated course in which the student received a failing grade is always counted towards their enrollment, regardless of how many times they repeat that course in an attempt to pass.

### ***Change of Major***

When a student switches their major, only the credits and grades that are applicable to the new program of study will be considered when evaluating SAP.

### ***Remedial Courses***

The institution does not offer any remedial or English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

## **ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled classes. Excessive unexcused absences may be grounds for grade reductions, loss of course credit, dismissal, or other disciplinary action.

## **GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL**

Students are expected to keep the hours of the school's course and study schedule and attend all lectures. They must also complete regular oral and written exams.

Students who fail to adhere to the school's regulations may be placed on probation. If improvement is not seen, the Rabbi Dovid Beinish Feinstein or Rabbi Chaim Yitzchok Weiss will notify the student that they may be dismissed from the school.

Students who persistently violate the school's rules of conduct and discipline, or who have been found to conduct themselves in a manner that constitutes a breach of character, dress, or moral conduct as defined by the Shulchan Aruch, may also be dismissed from the school.

It should be noted that dismissals are extremely rare as every effort is made to accept students of high character and diligence.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

### ***The Undergraduate Program***

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem offers a five-year 150-credit undergraduate program of study leading to the First Talmudic Degree. To graduate, students must achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. There is only one major available, Talmud.

The following is a breakdown of the courses offered by level and semester:

#### **Level 1**

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Talmud Intensive	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Talmud Research	4 credits	4 credits	
Talmud Survey	2 credits	2 credits	
Sub Total:	12 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Total:	12 credits	24 credits	30 credits

#### **Level 2**

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Talmud Intensive	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Talmud Research	4 credits	4 credits	
Talmud Survey	2 credits	2 credits	
Sub Total:	12 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Total:	42 credits	54 credits	60 credits

#### **Level 3**

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Talmud Intensive	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Talmud Research	4 credits	4 credits	
Talmud Survey	2 credits	2 credits	
Sub Total:	12 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Total:	72 credits	84 credits	90 credits

#### **Level 4**

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Talmud Intensive	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Talmud Research	4 credits	4 credits	

Talmud Survey	2 credits	2 credits	
Sub Total:	12 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Total:	102 credits	114 credits	120 credits

### **Level 5**

	<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Summer Semester</u>
Talmud Intensive	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Talmud Research	4 credits	4 credits	
Talmud Survey	2 credits	2 credits	
Sub Total:	12 credits	12 credits	6 credits
Total:	132 credits	144 credits	150 credits

The First Talmudic Degree is awarded for the successful completion of 150 credits.

### **Frequency of Course Offerings**

Students enrolled at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem generally take the maximum number of courses offered each term at their grade level and progress toward their degrees in the timeframe outlined in the sample curriculum. Course offerings for each semester take into account the needs of all the students, and courses are offered with enough frequency to enable students to graduate within the normal timeframes.

### **Textbooks and Required Materials**

All required texts can be found in the library and are available at all times for student use. However, students may acquire personal copies if they wish. No other materials are required.

### **Explanation of the Numbering System**

Courses are given code designations which may be understood using the following system:

- The first letter (T) refers to Talmud.
- The first digit refers to the year of study (1-5).
- The second digit indicates whether a course is intensive (1), research (2) or survey (3).
- The third and fourth digits refer to the Tractate of study (represented by two hashtags in the course descriptions).
- The letters following the digits refer to the semester of study: FA indicates the fall semester, SP indicates the spring semester, and SU indicates the summer semester.

### **Introduction - The Study of Talmud**

For those unfamiliar with the study of Talmud, we present here a brief introduction. In the year 1312 BCE G-d gave the Torah to the Jewish nation at Mt. Sinai. The Torah was given in both a written (the

Bible) and oral form. The study of Oral Law, which includes both the Mishna and Talmud, was transmitted by memorization from teacher to student. During the second century, due to the difficult conditions and foreign power subjugation, Rabbi Judah HaNasi (the prince) codified the Oral Law into the six books of the Mishna. In the academies, the forerunner of today's Yeshivas, the scholars of the day discussed and expounded upon the concise text of the Mishna; these discussions became the basis of the Talmud.

With the continued dispersion of the Jewish people, the necessity of editing and publishing these discussions became apparent. Thus, the transcripts of the proceedings of the various academies of Jerusalem and Babylon were recorded in written form. This process, under the direction of Rabbi (Rabbi) Yochanan and Mar bar Rav Ashi, was completed in the fifth century BCE. Since its final redaction the Talmudic text, serves as the source of all Orthodox Jewish jurisprudence. Notwithstanding the necessity to transcribe the oral Torah it was intentionally written in a cryptic ambiguous way. Thus, essentially there will still be a need for an oral transmission teacher to student. Consequently, the oral Torah remains oral as generation after generation studies from their teachers how to analyze and clarify the difficult concepts.

The Talmud itself is a difficult text, mastery of even sections of it is a task that taxes the greatest minds. It is comprised of sixty-three Tractates, and each one consists of its own unique set of laws, which often differ greatly in language and style. In its broader sweep, it provides vistas of scholarship that make for a lifetime of study. The Talmud is famed for its esoteric style, designed to provide the ultimate challenge for its students. Over the centuries, thousands of companion volumes have been authored, to elucidate and elaborate upon the basic text. A great deal of time must be devoted to fully appreciating its complexity and sophisticated levels. The Talmudic scholar, known as a Talmud Chochom, is an expert in the Babylonian Talmud. This includes both the text as well as its commentaries.

Studying the Talmud the foundation of Jewish scholarship; develops important study skills including the ability to analyze texts, the interrelation of different areas of knowledge, and the application of general principles and concepts to new and unfamiliar bodies of knowledge. In addition, communication skills are cultivated which are used in presentation and defense of dissertations of original thought and interpretations. The areas of logic and reasoning include the analysis of statements, learning to check for internal consistency in a system of ideas, practice problem solving skills, and developing the ability to formulate hypotheses. It is important to note the Talmud, and ensuing commentaries encompass a wide-ranging, almost encyclopedic treatment of various disciplines including law, philosophy, psychology, economics and education.

Covering the entire Talmud is obviously beyond the scope of an undergraduate program of study. Therefore, the goal of the Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's undergraduate program is to give students the skills they need for independent higher-level study of any Tractate of the Talmud. The students will be exposed to the languages of Hebrew, and Aramaic in oral and written uses and will acquire over the course of the program a strong information base of Talmudic concepts. As well as knowledge of the numerous subjects and/or case studies that drive the discourse in each of the Tractates covered in the curriculum.

To facilitate greater interaction and sharing of learning skills among the students, the entire student body studies the same Tractate. The course of study is loosely cyclical; students entering the Yeshiva at different years will study different Tractates over the course of the program. Despite the differences in material covered, the skills presented and acquired are essentially similar, and the graduating students are expected to demonstrate mastery of all stated study objectives.

While lectures are an important element in the curriculum, they are not the sole element in Talmudic study. Throughout the millennia, the Talmud has been traditionally studied utilizing the Chavrusa – a study partner system. Under the chavrusa system, students study in pairs so they may progress at their own pace, engage in insightful discussion, and together review all aspects of the subject under scrutiny. They amend, elaborate on, crystallize and clarify each other's insights. Each semester, the faculty makes certain every student has an appropriate chavrusa, bearing in mind the students' academic level and abilities. The collective experience of centuries of Talmudic scholarship has shown this method effectively sharpens study skills and encourages the integration of new ideas. Over time the student will become more skilled in the study of Talmud. This will enable him to advance to the graduate level of study and ultimately prepare him for an independent, lifelong study of Talmud.

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's undergraduate academic program consists of three sequences of Talmud courses: Talmud Intensive, Talmud Research and Talmud Survey.

The lecture-based Talmud Intensive courses are an in-depth analysis of each portion of text, with the study of the Rishonim (lit. the “early” commentators, 10th through 15th century) and the Achronim (lit. the “later” commentators; circa 1500 to the present). The students prepare with their chavrusa, the assigned texts prior to the daily lecture. The instructor delineates during the shiur - lecture the concepts needed to properly understand the assigned text. The shiur is not intended to just transmit information, but rather to guide the student to a proper interpretation of previously prepared text. As such the students compare the instructor's presentation with their own understanding of the original and secondary source materials. The students are welcome and encouraged to challenge the

instructor's line of reasoning based on their own understanding of the texts studied. The skills necessary for "learning how to learn" are imparted mainly during the Talmud Intensive courses.

The second sequence of courses Talmud Research is another approach to intensive Talmudic study. Like the Talmud Intensive courses, these courses are rigorous and thorough. These courses are studied using the traditional chavrusa method guided and under close supervision of faculty members. When students require assistance, they consult a faculty member, who are readily available to offer guidance. Generally, faculty members will refer students to relevant commentaries in the library that address the question or difficulty they have encountered. This not only helps resolve the issue but also introduces students to the breadth of Talmudic literature and teaches them how to navigate and access knowledge through the rich array of commentaries. The purpose of the Talmud Research courses is to hone the analytic and textual skills the student acquired in the Talmud Intensive sessions. In this sense, Talmud Intensive and Talmud Research are complementary in nature.

There is a nuanced difference between Talmud Intensive and Talmud Research. The Talmud Intensive study sessions are climaxed by daily lectures, while Talmud Research courses have weekly lectures. Rather than focusing on every nuance of a given passage, the students are taught to identify questions or difficulties as they arise and gain a clear understanding of the basic premises without becoming overwhelmed by the intellectual challenges.

The third sequence of courses Talmud Survey is a different method of Talmudic study. This method of study emphasizes quicker-paced learning compared to "intensive" study. The goal of the Talmud Survey course is to give the students a broad background in the Talmud. The Rosh Yeshiva assigns chapters of the Tractate being studied which differ from those studied in the other sequences. Studying in chavrusa pairs, the students focus exclusively on the Talmudic text and its primary commentary, Rashi, (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki, preeminent Talmudic commentary) aiming to cover as much material as possible. The goal of this course is to provide students with a broad foundation in Talmudic literature, which proves valuable when comparing texts or applying Talmudic sources in related areas of study. Taken as a whole, each sequence of courses forms a distinct series, with a different academic objective.

While the Talmud Survey courses allow students to explore a wider range of material than is possible in the Intensive and Research sessions, it should be noted that the Yeshiva's curriculum places its principal emphasis on the intensive, in-depth study of the Talmud.

### ***Talmud Text Listings***

The specific Tractate to be studied is assigned before the beginning of each term. The following summaries are provided as a way of identifying the subject matter of the Talmudic tractates. While the descriptions are not comprehensive, they give some of the major topics found in the given tractates. It should be understood; however, these brief descriptions hardly reflect the depth and complexity of the subjects treated in these tractates. The Tractates are not listed in order of study rather in Talmudic sequence.

(01) Brochos - Blessings, daily liturgy for prayers. Laws of prayers, laws of blessing for food, and occasions. Also, Aggadic discussions concerning dreams.

(02) Shabbos - Laws of proper observance, the 39 categories of prohibited work, also positive ritual requirements biblical and rabbinic, also many aggadic statements.

(03) Eruvin - Domains. Transfer of individual or object from one place to another; use of devices to expand bounds of domains.

(04) Pesachim - Laws of Passover concerning how to deal with chometz before and after the holiday. The second part of the tractate deals with the sacrificial Pascal service in the Temple. The third part deals with the mitzvos of the Seder and general applications of the laws of kiddush and havdalah for Shabbos and Yom Tov.

(05) Sukkoth - Laws of the Festival of Booths, construction of Booths and their requirements. The four symbolic species (Lulov, Esrog, Hadassim, Arovos).

(06) Beiza - Activities prohibited on festivals, differing from the Sabbath. Also, laws of Eruv Tavshilin and the 39 categories of Melacha, work, as they apply to Yom Tov.

(07) Yevomoth - The tractate deals with permitted and forbidden marriages and relationships. Also, the laws of Yivum marriages and the resolutions of situations of Agunah.

(08) Kesuboth - Marriage contracts. Also includes sections dealing with concepts of ownership and relinquishment of rights; responsibilities for removal of leaven as related to status; tenant, landlord, homeowner, and watchmen.

(09) Nedorim - Laws of vows their implications; personal commitments; commitments of property. The wording of vows, annulment and deferment of vows.

(10) Gitten - Divorce laws with specific emphasis on the Get document itself and using it to effectuate a divorce. The tractate also contains aggadic material concerning the destruction of the Temple.

(11) Kedushin - Laws whereby women become betrothed. Also, extensive discussions concerning kinyonim and conditional kinyonim and also lineage.

(12) Baba Kama - Talmudic civil law, Part I. Compensation for injury or loss, redress and liability through injury or misappropriation, damages incurred by defendant. Claims and rights of partners, neighbors, purchasers, vendors and heirs. Sellers liability for value of his wares and deeds in terms of protecting the consumer.

(13) Baba Metzia - Talmudic civil law Part II. Deals primarily with claims to joint transactions, from finding lost object to wage agreements. Also, the laws monetary policy and usury and the laws of custodianship.

(14) Baba Basra - Talmudic Civil Law Part III. Claims of right of way. Laws of ownership of real property, validation of documents and laws of inheritance.

(15) Sanhadrin - Laws of a court system and the judicial process itself including the acceptance of various categories of people to testify diverse methods of testimony itself.

(16) Makkos - Severe judicial punishments and transgressions resulting therein. False and contradictory testimony and the treatment of affected witnesses in such proceedings. Incarceration in Arei Miklat for involuntary manslaughter.

(17) Chulin - Study of the ritual slaughter of animals. Includes principal dietary laws.

(18) Nidah - Ritual impurity associated with reproductive cycle, childbirth and related topics.

(19) Mikvaos - Detailed discussions of architectural requirements for ritual baths, dimensions and other specifications.

## **Talmud Intensive Course Descriptions**

T11##FA

Talmud Intensive I -FA

6 Credits

The focus of this course is on developing student skills in approaching a Talmud text. These skills include translation of Aramaic and Hebrew text material, mastering the basic content, becoming familiar with the methodology of analytic Talmudic discourse, and developing a facility for critical readings of the commentary material.

*Prerequisite: None*

T11##SP

Talmud Intensive I -SP

6 Credits

In this course the students continue to develop their translation skills as well as their ability to apply basic Talmud analytic skills. The students make preliminary preparations of the assigned passage for the shiur. There is an emphasis on using the classical commentaries of Rashi and Tosfos to help understand obscure Talmudic terms, concepts and principles.

*Prerequisite: T11##FA      Talmud Intensive I -FA*

T11##SU

Talmud Intensive I -SU

6 Credits

In this course the students focus on the Talmud case studies being discussed and debated. They come to the shiur conversant with the differing stances and are aware of some of the apparent difficulties presented by the text. The shiur focuses on the fine interpretive points of the primary material and on explicating the interpretive commentary.

*Prerequisite: T11##SP      Talmud Intensive I -SP*

T21##FA

Talmud Intensive II -FA

6 Credits

On this level, the students advance their ability to read and analyze the primary Talmudic text while developing fluency in Rashi and Tosafos. They study Rashi with an eye toward recognizing his interpretive method and identifying significant inferences within the commentary. The objective of the shiur is to explicate the interpretive stances of Rashi and Tosfos.

*Prerequisite: T11##SU      Talmud Intensive I -SU*

T21##SP

Talmud Intensive II -SP

6 Credits

In this course the emphasis is on honing Talmud research skills, organizational abilities and analytic techniques. The students learn to deepen the case analysis and the learned discourse by expanding their research to study the works of some of the classic Rishonim (lit. the “early” commentators, the medieval period).

*Prerequisites: T21##FA      Talmud Intensive II -FA*

T21##SU

Talmud Intensive II -SU

6 Credits

In this course the students strengthen their skills in textual analysis and are introduced to a broader range of commentaries. They learn to consider context, structure and nuance in analyzing the arguments advanced in both primary and secondary texts. The lectures are devoted to exploring the array of Rishonim interpretations.

*Prerequisite: T21##SP      Talmud Intensive II -SP*

T31##FA

Talmud Intensive III -FA

6 Credits

On this level, the students advance their ability to read and analyze the primary Talmudic text with precision. They learn to clarify and trace the development of ideas through the primary sources, and to integrate multiple perspectives into their understanding. The emphasis is on applying their insights in a consistent, structured manner.

*Prerequisite: T21##SU      Talmud Intensive II -SU*

T31##SP

Talmud Intensive III -SP

6 Credits

In this course the students analyze the texts and reconstruct and evaluate the hypotheses addressed—and ultimately rejected—by other commentaries. They are guided to differentiate between the proofs and begin to offer their own hypotheses and proofs as well. Students emerge with a heightened awareness of the layers of reasoning embedded in the text.

*Prerequisite: T31##FA      Talmud Intensive III -FA*

T31##SU

Talmud Intensive III -SU

6 Credits

In this course the students are introduced to the bibliography of Talmudic literature that explores the sevarah—the underlying logic—behind the case law. Since the Talmud often presents conclusions without explicit reasoning, uncovering the sevarah becomes a central analytical task. The lecture offers possible suggestions to best explain these concepts.

*Prerequisite: T31##SP      Talmud Intensive III -SP*

T41##FA

Talmud Intensive IV -FA

6 Credits

On this level, the aim is to guide the students how to implement rules, principles, information and assumptions pertaining to their Talmudic studies. Additionally, the students are taught to combine ideas from different sources and grant them new meanings. They will gain a new appreciation for the intellectual rigor of Talmud study.

*Prerequisite: T31##SU      Talmud Intensive III -SU*

T41##SP

Talmud Intensive IV -SP

6 Credits

In this course the students expand the scale and scope of their research/preparation into interpretive commentary. Applying the analytic skills developed over the course of their training they engage

extensively with the works of some of the major *Acharonim*. The shiur models a refined analytical technique, guiding students in synthesizing complex ideas.

*Prerequisite: T41##FA Talmud Intensive IV -FA*

**T41##SU Talmud Intensive IV -SU 6 Credits**

In this course the students further develop their ability to follow the logical progression within the works of the *Acharonim* and to distinguish between compelling and flawed proofs. They refine the skill of comparing differing lines of reasoning and articulating why certain approaches align more closely with the Sugya's conceptual framework.

*Prerequisite: T41##SP Talmud Intensive IV -SP*

**T51##FA Talmud Intensive V -FA 6 Credits**

In the final year, the courses address unresolved difficulties in Talmudic thought. The student's study is almost entirely self-directed, with the shiur serving as a venue for refining ideas and modeling the highest levels of conceptual sophistication. The students are encouraged to begin independent research projects, producing sustained, well-reasoned analyses of complex sugyos.

*Prerequisite: T41##SU Talmud Intensive IV -SU*

**T51##SP Talmud Intensive -V SP 6 Credits**

In this course the students will solidify their ability to formulate hypotheses and clarify difficult concepts to penetrate the crux of a Sugya (Talmudic topic). The lectures focus on sharpening conceptual precision, challenging assumptions, and expanding interpretive depth in preparation for graduate-level study.

*Prerequisite: T51##FA Talmud Intensive V -FA*

**T51##SU Talmud Intensive V -SU 6 Credits**

In this course the students research the process by which interpreters have created authoritative halacha from the source case texts. The three principal works of this genre are known by the acronym of the authors' names: (a) the Rif, Rabbi Yitzchok of Fez (Morocco), (b) the Rambam, Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon, and (c) the Rosh, Rabbi Osher.

*Prerequisite: T41##SP Talmud Intensive V -SP*

### **Talmud Research Course Descriptions**

**T12##FA Talmud Research I -FA 4 Credits**

On this level, the students transition from high school to the post-secondary Bais Medrash environment. Students begin studying with a chavrusa, focusing on a chapter in the Tractate selected

by the Rosh Yeshiva. The objective is to introduce students to the subject matter and structure of the Talmudic text.

*Prerequisite: None*

T12##SP

## Talmud Research I -SP

4 Credits

In this course, students deepen their familiarity with major texts of Talmudic scholarship and are encouraged to strengthen intellectual independence appropriate to the post-secondary level. Emphasis is placed on strengthening foundational skills and developing fluency in the structure and flow of Talmudic discourse.

Prerequisite: T12##FA      *Talmud Research I -FA*

T22##FA

Talmud Research II -FA

4 Credits

At this level, students expand their knowledge of Talmudic case law while focusing their efforts on an in-depth understanding of the texts. Through the intellectual give-and-take of chavrusa study, they learn to avoid superficiality, question initial interpretations, and engage more deeply with the material.

Prerequisite: T12##SP      *Talmud Research I -SP*

T22##SP

Talmud Research II -SP

4 Credits

In this course, students begin learning Tosfas in addition to Rashi. They follow the thread of the resolution of the Sugya (Talmudic topic) through chavrusa study, reinforcing their analytical approach. Students are expected to solidify the accomplishments of earlier semesters and demonstrate mastery in analytic and critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: T22##FA      Talmud Research II -FA

T32##FA

Talmud Research III -FA

4 Credits

At this level, students begin exploring major commentaries. Independent study and intellectual creativity are encouraged, leading to a deeper understanding of how texts interact with their commentators. Students also learn to reconstruct rejected hypotheses and become increasingly familiar with the major Rishonim, consulting them regularly.

Prerequisite: T22##SP      Talmud Research II -SP

T32##SP

### Research III -SP

4 Credits

In this course, students work through various commentaries to understand the different hypotheses each one presents. They continue studying the major commentaries and further develop their scholarship skills, reinforcing their analytical approach and deepening their engagement with Talmudic literature.

Prerequisite: T32##FA      Talmud Research III -FA

T42##FA

Talmud Research IV -FA

4 Credits

At this level, the students make use of Acharonim commentaries as they relate to the Sugyas studied. They also begin to familiarize themselves with the bibliography of Talmudic literature and major commentaries. The students continue to develop their knowledge of Talmudic case law while honing their analytic and textual skills.

*Prerequisite: T32##SP*

*Talmud Research IV -SP*

T42##SP

Talmud Research IV -SP

4 Credits

In this course, students become increasingly independent of faculty assistance, relying more on their own study and reasoning. As they engage more deeply with the texts, the structure of the Talmud becomes clearer and more accessible. They continue to refine their critical thinking and further develop the ability to formulate original interpretations with clarity and precision.

*Prerequisite: T42##FA*

*Talmud Research IV -FA*

T52##FA

Talmud Research V -FA

4 Credits

At this level, students are expected to be fairly adept at independent learning as they research additional commentaries. They further strengthen their skills in reasoning, problem solving, and analyzing the internal consistency of arguments, refining their ability to evaluate multiple perspectives within the texts.

*Prerequisite: T42##SP*

*Talmud Research IV -SP*

T52##SP

Talmud Research V -SP

4 Credits

In this final course of the Talmud Research sequence, students engage in independent Talmudic research and are expected to interact with entering students. This interaction reinforces their own understanding of the Talmud and helps sharpen their ability to articulate complex ideas, further developing their analytical skills and deepening their grasp of the material.

*Prerequisite: T52##FA*

*Talmud Research V -FA*

### **Talmud Survey Course Descriptions**

T13##FA

Talmud Survey I -FA

2 Credits

At this level, students are guided in transitioning from high school training to the post-secondary Bais Medrash environment. This course introduces basic textual reading and the Be'kius method of study, which emphasizes breadth over depth.

*Prerequisite: None*

T13##SP

Talmud Survey I -SP

2 Credits

In this course, the focus is on building core skills and developing familiarity with the structure of the Talmudic text. Students' progress at a quicker pace, focusing exclusively on Rashi's commentary to enhance comprehension and deepen essential knowledge.

*Prerequisite: T13##FATalmud Survey I -FA*

T23##FA

Talmud Survey II -FA

2 Credits

In this course, students survey the text and, through consistent practice, hone essential thinking skills. The syntax and structure of the Talmud become increasingly clear as they engage in self-directed study.

*Prerequisite: T13##SPTalmud Survey I -SP*

T23##SP

Talmud Survey II -SP

2 Credits

In this course, students strengthen their grasp of Talmudic concepts by reviewing the chapter being studied, thereby strengthening their Talmud vocabulary. Continued study of the text with Rashi enhances their grasp of Talmudic reasoning and sharpens analytical skills.

*Prerequisite: T23##FA Talmud Survey II -FA*

T33##FA

Talmud Survey III -FA

2 Credits

At this level, students advance their knowledge of Talmudic discourse and case law while learning to focus on understanding the text, developing the tools needed for independent study of Talmud. The broader pace of study allows students to cover more ground in the tractate and gain a sense of accomplishment that encourages further study.

*Prerequisite: T23##SP Talmud Survey II -SP*

T33##SP

Talmud Survey III -SP

2 Credits

In this course, students advance in their Talmud Survey studies with greater independence. They maintain their own pace and aim to cover as much of the tractate as possible within the semester. The structure supports self-directed learning while reinforcing previously acquired skills.

*Prerequisite: T33##FA Talmud Survey III -FA*

T43##FA

Talmud Survey IV -FA

2 Credits

At this level, students are expected to have developed a broad knowledge base of Talmudic case law and the foundational skills necessary for independent study. They begin to occasionally reference the commentary of Tosefos and other relevant commentaries.

*Prerequisite: T33##SP Talmud Survey III -SP*

T43##SP Talmud Survey IV -SP 2 Credits  
In this course, students refine their ability to independently interpret Talmudic texts. They also broaden their familiarity with a range of Sugyas (topics), further reinforcing their analytical and textual proficiency.

Prerequisite: T43##FA Talmud Survey IV -FA

## T53##FA Talmud Survey V -FA 2 Credits

At this level, students study with minimal guidance and faculty assistance. They are expected to demonstrate strong independent learning skills. The course further cultivates the student's capacity for creative thinking and self-directed analysis.

Prerequisite: T43##SP *Talmud Survey IV -SP*

## T53##SP Talmud Survey V -SP 2 Credits

In the final course of the Talmud Survey sequence, students are prepared to enter graduate-level Talmud study. The focus is on developing an incipient independent scholar, laying the foundation for a lifetime of learning and the potential to master significant sections of the Talmud.

Prerequisite: T53##FA      Talmud Survey V -FA

## Chabura (mini lecture)

An important element of the Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem's educational program is the Chabura, or mini lecture. Directed by members of the faculty, the students are divided into small groups. Each student is given an opportunity to prepare and deliver a short, structured presentation to his group. This is an important pedagogic tool in developing the student's level of understanding of the Talmud. It challenges the student to study the Talmud text and relevant commentaries with care and detail. The presentation can be an original thought developed while studying or through his own original research. This assignment develops the students' skill in self-expression and delivery as well as provides him with a sense of accomplishment and positive reinforcement for further Talmud study.

## **Department of Codes (Halacha)**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem places significant importance on the study of Jewish Codes (Halacha). It's important for the students to be knowledgeable in the practical aspects of Halacha to better participate in the day-to-day laws, customs and practices of our community. The students study daily the Orach Chaim section of the Shulchan Aruch which covers a variety of topics including daily conduct, Sabbath and Jewish Holidays, as well as special events. The text used is the 20th century classic six-volume Mishnah Brurah a comprehensive commentary on Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim. The Mishnah Brurah written by Harav Yisroel Meir Kagan of Radun is a brilliant compendium of the

major Halachic literature of the last 200 years. The study of Halacha is with an emphasis on Halacha L'Maasa, the practical application since the goal is to incorporate it into their actual daily living.

The study of Codes (Halacha) is currently non-credit bearing.

### **Department of Ethics (Mussar)**

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem seeks to develop the complete person not just his knowledge in specific disciplines. It is obvious to us that morality can only be defined in a spiritual framework. Otherwise, the constant change of the standards and values of the day would be considered morality. Therefore, morality can only be based on values of a Higher being as it was given to us in the Holy Torah. The study of Jewish Ethics commonly known as Mussar, guides the students in the basic tenets of Jewish faith. It is an important part of the curriculum because it forms the basis for character development, moral values and personal growth. The study of Mussar is goal oriented, inspiring students to engage in self-evaluation and act upon their conclusions. The topics studied prepare the students for real-life ethical dilemmas and moral questions.

There is a daily short study session devoted to the study of Ethics-based literature. A weekly Mussar-Ethics lecture is delivered by a member of the faculty for the whole student body. Often these lectures will examine the Torah perspective on general themes or current problems facing the Orthodox community. In addition, students of each level participate in a more personal Ethics "Vaad" (short talk) by the Rosh Yeshiva. In these talks the Rosh Yeshiva imparts from his rich life experience and encourages the students to set personal goals and to strive to constantly improve himself. Occasionally the Yeshiva invites guests' speakers to address the student body as well.

The study of Ethics-Mussar is currently noncredit bearing.

### **Undergraduate Program Sample Curriculum**

#### **Year 1**

##### **Fall Semester**

T11##FA	Talmud Intensive I -FA	6 Credits
T12##FA	Talmud Research I -FA	4 Credits
T13##FA	Talmud Survey I -FA	2 Credits

##### **Spring Semester**

T11##SP	Talmud Intensive I -SP	6 Credits
T12##SP	Talmud Research I -SP	4 Credits
T13##SP	Talmud Survey I -SP	2 Credits

Summer Semester

T11##SU      Talmud Intensive III -SU      6 Credits

*Cumulative total: 30 credits*

**Year 2**

Fall Semester

T21##FA	Talmud Intensive II -FA	6 Credits
T22##FA	Talmud Research II -FA	4 Credits
T23##FA	Talmud Survey II -FA	2 Credits

Spring Semester

T21##SP	Talmud Intensive II -SP	6 Credits
T22##SP	Talmud Research II -SP	4 Credits
T23##SP	Talmud Survey II -SP	2 Credits

Summer Semester

T21##SU      Talmud Intensive II -SU      6 Credits

*Cumulative total: 60 credits*

**Year 3**

Fall Semester

T31##FA	Talmud Intensive III -FA	6 Credits
T32##FA	Talmud Research III -FA	4 Credits
T33##FA	Talmud Survey III -FA	2 Credits

Spring Semester

T31##SP	Talmud Intensive III -SP	6 Credits
T32##SP	Talmud Research III -SP	4 Credits
T33##SP	Talmud Survey III -SP	2 Credits

Summer Semester

T31##SU      Talmud Intensive III -SU      6 Credits

*Cumulative total: 90 credits*

**Year 4**

Fall Semester

T41##FA	Talmud Intensive IV -FA	6 Credits
T42##FA	Talmud Research IV -FA	4 Credits

T43##FA Talmud Survey IV -FA 2 Credits

Spring Semester

T41##SP Talmud Intensive IV -SP 6 Credits

T42##SP Talmud Research IV -SP 4 Credits

T43##SP Talmud Survey IV -SP 2 Credits

Summer Semester

T41##SU Talmud Intensive IV -SU 6 Credits

*Cumulative total: 120 credits*

**Year 5**

Fall Semester

T51##FA Talmud Intensive V -FA 6 Credits

T52##FA Talmud Research V -FA 4 Credits

T53##FA Talmud Survey V -FA 2 Credits

Spring Semester

T51##SP Talmud Intensive V -SP 6 Credits

T52##SP Talmud Research V -SP 4 Credits

T53##SP Talmud Survey V -SP 2 Credits

Summer Semester

T51##SU Talmud Intensive V -SU 6 Credits

*Cumulative total: 150 credits*

The First Talmudic Degree is awarded for the successful completion of 150 credits.

### ***The Graduate Program***

Graduate study at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem represents a course of study for the accomplished Talmud scholar who wishes to continue his education in Talmud, Halacha and related fields.

Graduate study requires a full time commitment. Full time status requires the student to spend eight or more hours a day, five days a week, pursuing a program of at least twelve credits of Talmud and related studies. The amount of time spent for preparation, study and research is far in excess of that required for undergraduate work. This is accomplished in a variety of formats, including Chavrushah study, the presentation of Chaburah lectures, independent study and the development of Chiddushei Torah that are discussed with and evaluated by the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel.

Course work is devoted to setting the student on the path of independent scholarship and professional studies. Students in the Graduate Program are expected to study and research additional texts, chosen due to their practicality in everyday life. Becoming an originalist and inventing new interpretations and solutions are the goals of the graduate student.

The five-year graduate programs are based on the philosophy that a student's full maturation as a Talmudic scholar depends on his developing an independency of thought, a self-sufficiency which is an important hallmark of the true researcher and scholar.

The Graduate Program offers training for two types of Rabbinics. First there are two programs in Practical Rabbinics offering training in psak, the application of halachic judgment, and training for the pulpit. These are the First Rabbinic and Second Rabbinic degree programs (120 credits each). These programs are geared to Graduate Students who intend to practice Rabbinical Jurisprudence or serve as members of recognized Rabbinical Courts. Students who wish to receive formal Rabbinic ordination can take the necessary classes as part of the First Rabbinic degree program. While the Semicha program is optional it is generally considered standard for all aspiring Rabbinic students.

The second field of study is designed to prepare scholars who can teach and carry out research at an advanced level. The First Professional Degree (120 Credits) offers a rigorous graduate program in Talmud and Halacha scholarship. The graduate student acquires a wide mastery of Talmud texts, particularly of those tractates that form the learning cycle in secondary schools. Scholars are encouraged to develop their own unique approach to Talmud study and to work on creative readings of the texts of the Talmudic commentaries. This course of study provides excellent preparation for the position of a Talmud teacher, religious functionary, or lay leader in the Jewish community.

## **First Rabbinic Degree**

To qualify for this 120 credit degree, students master the Yoreh Deah and/or Orach Chaim codes as well as the related Talmud literature and the Rishonim commentaries while pursuing a collateral program of advanced Talmud study. After successfully completing the 120 credit course of study, the student must also pass a comprehensive examination in halachic subjects to qualify for the First Rabbinic degree.

There are required courses for this program. Under normal circumstances a student does not take two courses in the same series during any one semester. Students must take a minimum of twelve credits each term, which must include one Talmud Iyun course (GTY series), one Halacha course (GHY or GHO series), and one Graduate Mussar course (GMU series). While these course series are required the student still has many options to choose from. In consultation with the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel the student will create his own program by choosing the Masechta to be learned in the Talmud Iyun course, which Halacha course he will take, and which text he will be studying for the Graduate Mussar course.

The courses for the First Rabbinic Degree are listed below.

### *Talmud Iyun – GTY series*

These courses focus on the derivation of Talmudic principles from the text and Rishonim. Students carry out intensive research in the commentary literature of the tractate being studied. The key sugyos of the Mesechta are studied in depth. The goal is to trace clear legal principles from the case studies and debates presented in the Talmud text. Chiddushim are discussed in Chabura and with senior faculty. These Novellae are criticized, debated and refined over the course of the term.

This course series is very different than undergraduate Talmud. The text is studied with the goal of extracting the practical legal rulings from the Gemara, therefore different Rishonim may be focused upon. The entire method of approaching the text is shifted when studying for this purpose. That having been said, a high level of skill and familiarity with Gemara learning is necessary. It is required that the student have already completed an undergraduate degree in Talmud from a recognized Rabbinical school.

Courses in the GTY series must be taken in order.

GTY101 - Talmud Iyun Level I – Year 1 Semester 1 6 credits  
Students begin the study of Talmud at the graduate level in this course. The text of the Rashi and Tosfos is approached for the first time at a graduate level, not only determining *what* these Rishonim say but *why* they say it.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate degree in Talmud

GTY102 - Talmud Iyun Level II – Year 1 Semester 2 6 credits  
This course continues the development of the new way the students approach the basic Talmudic commentaries of the Rashi and the Tosfos. Students are expected to focus on the specific choice of words of these commentators and the insights can be derived from them, striving to clarify the reasons behind *how* the commentator chose his terminology.

*Prerequisites:* GTY101 - Talmud Iyun Level I

GTY103 - Talmud Iyun Level III – Year 2 Semester 1 6 credits  
This course expands the purview of the students' new methods of analysis. Depending on the tractate being studied, further Rishonim are added to the coursework. The Ramban, Rashba, and Ritva are extensively used. Students must clarify their opinions and delve into the underlying thought processes of these authors.

*Prerequisites:* GTY102 - Talmud Iyun Level II

GTY104 - Talmud Iyun Level IV – Year 2 Semester 2 6 credits  
This course is a continuation of GTY103. Some of the more common Rishonim such as the Ramban, Rashba, and Ritva are studied and the motivating factors behind their opinions are clarified. Other Baalei Tosfos such as the Tosfos HaRosh are examined as well.

*Prerequisites:* GTY103 - Talmud Iyun Level III

GTY105 - Talmud Iyun Level V – Year 3 Semester 1 6 credits  
In this course the students begin to widen their range of study beyond the Rishonim that were previously studied. Students must also consult a more diverse range of commentators from divergent schools of thought, such as the Mieri, the Chiddushei HaRan, the Ra'ah, the Shitah Mekubetzes, and the Tosfos Rid. These Rishonim often exhibit very different methodologies than the Rishonim focused on up to this point. Students must learn to view complex concepts from widely varying viewpoints in order to discern the underlying understanding of these works.

*Prerequisites:* GTY104 - Talmud Iyun Level IV

GTY106 - Talmud Iyun Level VI – Year 3 Semester 2 6 credits  
In this course the students continue using the methods and commentaries introduced in GTY105. Upon completion students are expected to be able to decipher the commentaries of the Rishonim from all of their varying time frames and historical locations.

*Prerequisites:* GTY105 - Talmud Iyun Level V

GTY107 - Talmud Iyun Level VII – Year 4 Semester 1 6 credits  
This course begins the study of the Talmudic commentaries of the Acharonim. Spanning from around 1500 BCE to around 1900 BCE, these authors wrote commentaries that substantially differed from earlier works both in content and form. Much of these treatises are concerned with understanding how the Rishonim understand the Talmud and elucidating their words. Students are introduced to works such as the Penei Yehoshua, the Sefas Emes, the Aruch Lener, and the Chasam Sofer.

*Prerequisites:* GTY106 - Talmud Iyun Level VI

GTY108 - Talmud Iyun Level VIII – Year 4 Semester 2 6 credits  
This course continues GTY107 with the students analyzing the Talmudic works of the Acharonim. This study is of course conducted on the graduate level with extreme attention devoted to conceptualizing the process followed by these authorities. Much attention is given to the works of Rabbi Akiva Eiger and the Shaagas Aryeh, both of whom are considered to be among the most difficult of the Acharonim.

*Prerequisites:* GTY107 - Talmud Iyun Level VII

GTY109 - Talmud Iyun Level IX – Year 5 Semester 1 6 credits  
This course starts off of the final year of the First Rabbinic Degree program. At this point, the works of the great Roshei Yeshiva of prewar Europe become the primary focus of study. Even though students may have been familiar with the works of Rav Chaim Soloveitchik and Rav Elchonon Wasserman from undergraduate study, the expectation in this class is to plumb their depths to much deeper level than they might have previously attempted. Commentaries such as those of the Steipler Gaon and Ran Naftoli Trop are also presented.

*Prerequisites:* GTY108 - Talmud Iyun Level VIII

GTY110 - Talmud Iyun Level X – Year 5 Semester 2 6 credits  
In this course the students complete the Talmud Iyun course series. Students continue their graduate-level analysis of the Talmudic works introduced in GTY109. In addition, some of the most complex commentaries from the Roshei Yeshiva are expected to be used such as those of Rav Boruch Ber Liebowitz and Rav Shimon Shkop. Upon successful completion of this course, the student has covered a broad range of Talmudic commentaries at a graduate level and has familiarized himself

with the methodologies and thought processes of great Talmudic authorities from all major schools of thought from all their diverse eras and milieu.

*Prerequisites:* GTY109 - Talmud Iyun Level IX

Generally, a single text is studied for two consecutive terms. The texts available to be used for Talmud Iyun courses are as follows:

*Shabbos* - Basic discussion of the derivation, laws, customs and intricate body of laws regarding the Sabbath. The course of study is devoted to the study of the general concept of Shabbos, as well as a multilayered analysis of the *issur* of Hotzoah and its *toldos*. Included is a discussion and analysis of the 39 categories of Melacha promulgated by the Mishna and established in some detail in the Talmud. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Pesachim* - Laws of Passover concerning how to deal with Chometz before and after the holiday. The second part of the tractate deals with the sacrificial Paschal service in the Temple. The third part deals with the Mitzvos of the Seder and general applications of the laws of Kiddush and Havdalah for Shabbos and Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Yevomoth* - The focus of this intricately detailed tractate is the practice of the Levirate marriage, and includes a discussion of the laws of Chalitzah; the halachic view of consanguinity; the marriage laws of the Cohanim; the case of the Agunah. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kesuboth* - The Jewish marriage contract; the biblical, rabbinic and customary obligations that make up the contract; the legal effect of the contract; the Jewish perspective on betrothal; the reciprocal financial obligations involved in marriage and the role of women in the Jewish family. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Nedorim* - The definitive law of vows and their legal effect; this tractate discusses the obligations of the individual to his own word and the prior obligation that is owed to the Siniatic Law as well as the extent of the salience of all manners of vows. Principal commentaries: Ran and the Rosh.

*Gitten* - The halachic outlook on divorce and the divorce document, or Get. The meseches entails a full discussion of the technical aspects of witnesses, the taking of possession of documents, and the halachic requirements for verification of all documents having a legal effect. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kedushin* - Procedures and practices associated with betrothal comprehensive discussion of the differences between time related commandments and those that are not time specific; the implication of these differences for the obligations of men and women; the rights of parents with

regards to their offspring, and their halachic obligations; the practices and procedures involved in taking legal possession; i.e., in making a kinyon. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Kama* - Talmudic civil law, Part I. Damage to such subjects as animate objects; real property damages; personal injury, and all forms of sustained damage, is discussed. Degrees of culpability and financial liability and responsibility derived from being appointed a guardian, a hired watchman, a lender, a renter, etc. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Metzia* - Talmudic civil law Part II. Primarily concerned with the claims related to joint transactions from finding lost articles to settling wage disputes. It considers such topics as usury, trade, consumer rights, fair trade, conditions which govern labor and industry. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Rashbam, and Tosefos.

*Baba Basra* - Talmudic Civil Law Part III. discusses the issues as the public right of way; the rights of privacy; the reciprocal rights and obligations of business partners, owners of shared property, neighbors, vendors and heirs and the extent of liability of a seller for his merchandise. Deeds and legal documents are explicated. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Chulin* - A detailed analysis of the laws of Kashrus and of injuries or diseases of an animal or bird which render it unfit for kosher consumption; anatomy of kosher animals and fowls as well as correct methods of slaughtering. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and the Rashba.

*Sanhadrin* - A comprehensive analysis of the process of Jewish justice, the role of courts and their operation. The various kinds of courts and their levels of jurisdiction, the taking of testimony, challenging witnesses, liability of judges. The testing of witnesses, and requirements for serving as a judge. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Brochos* - Prayer as a fundamental medium for religious expression; discussion of time related prayers, various prayer services and special blessings, also Aggadic discussions concerning dreams. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and Rabbeinu Yonah.

*Beiza* - Activities prohibited on festivals, differing from the Sabbath. Also, laws of Eruv Tavshilin and 39 Categories of Melacha, as they apply to Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

#### Graduate Halacha – GHY and GHO series

Halacha in the graduate programs is studied very unlike it is in the undergraduate program. The undergraduate courses are primarily focused on building familiarity and ultimately mastery of the Halachic process. The graduate Halacha course series are structured with the assumption that the

student already knows *how* to learn Halacha, the purpose of these courses is to actually *learn* the Halacha. To acquire the broad knowledgebase of Halacha that is essential to becoming a Rabbi or a Posek. The subject matter is studied at a speed and depth that makes at least four years of undergraduate Halacha study a prerequisite.

## *Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah* – GHY series

GHY201 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Shechita I 4 Credits

Sections 1-13, The first of two parts discussing the lengthy laws of kosher slaughtering, detailing who is or isn't eligible to slaughter, the ideal method of slaughtering, how to, prepare and maintain the instruments, and which animals are traditionally considered eligible for kosher slaughter. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

GHY202 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Shechita II 4 Credits

Sections 14-28, The second part of laws of kosher slaughtering, specifies the minimum age various animals must be to in order to be properly slaughtered. Also exhaustively lists all the various things that could disqualify the shechita incision thus rendering the meat not kosher. Describes how the internal organs need to be checked to verify the status of the health of the animal as well as the integrity of the shechita. Ends with a complete exposition of the laws of covering the blood of a wild animal after its slaughter. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: GHY201 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Shechita I

GHY203 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Melicha 4 Credits

Sections 69-78, Detailed discussion of the kashering process of meat, including the proper timing of the rinsing and salting, as well as the quantity of salt to be used and which parts can be salted together. Also, the proper method of salting various cuts, as well as the kashering of the liver and the spleen via roasting. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

GHY204 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Basar B'cholov | 4 Credits

Sections 87-91, The intricate laws of the various forbidden forms of contact between meat and milk products, i.e. Cooking them together, serving them together, and the prescribed waiting time between their consumption. Also addresses the complex halachic status of the bovine udder. The text of the

Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHY205 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Basar B'cholov II** 4 Credits

Sections 92-97, Further laws of forbidden contact between meat and dairy, defining what amounts can cause problematic contact and at what temperatures. Describes the Rabbinically approved methods of serving and cooking in separate sets of dishes as well as the impact these dishes may have on Pareve (neutral) foods. Also addresses the Rabbinical prohibition regarding dairy doughs breads and pastries. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* GHY204 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Basar B'cholov I

**GHY206 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Taaruvos I** 4 Credits

Sections 98-102, Guidelines as to what constitutes a forbidden mixture, examination of how and when forbidden foods can be nullified in permitted foods, also whether inedible items can cause Issur. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHY207 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Taaruvos II** 4 Credits

Sections 103-111, The laws of mixtures of forbidden and permitted food types, as well as the Halachic status of dairy and meat dishes, and kosher and non-kosher dishes, that came into various forms of contact with each other. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Shach, Pischei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* GHY206 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Taaruvos I

### *Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim – GHO series*

These courses are based on the close study of the Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, the Magen Avrohom and the Taz, along with the principle commentaries such as the Tur, Beis Yosef and Bach. Here the emphasis is on understanding the halachic principles that are to be drawn from the case studies of the Talmud as understood by the major codifiers and their successors.

**GHO301 - Hilchos Hanhogas Haboker, Tzitzis, Tefilin** 4 Credits

Sections 1-45 - This course focuses on the laws of the practicing Jew from the beginning of his day, the biblical law of Tzitzis regarding the requirement for distinctive fringes on four cornered garments, as well as the halachic requirement of donning Tefilin; what these phylacteries symbolize; how they must be prepared; who must wear them; how they must be worn; and their proper care. The text of

the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHO302 - Hilchos Birchot Hashachar, Krias Shema, Tefilla** 4 Credits

Sections 46-156 - The laws of the early morning blessings, the laws of the shema; the blessings to be recited before and after this essential statement of faith; its incorporation in prayer; its specific obligation; when and under what conditions it may be recited, as well as the laws of the Shmoneh Esrei or Amidah prayer. Each of the prayers included in this service is discussed. In addition the special variations introduced upon the occasion of the holidays and the Festivals are also elaborately discussed. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHO303 - Hilchos Netilas Yodaim, Seudah, Birkas Hamazon** 4 Credits

Sections 157-201 - The laws of Taharah instituted by the Rabbonon in preparation of food consumption. Students will also study the various laws regarding the Pas and the regulations regarding halachic behavior during the meal. The biblical commandment regarding Birkas Hamazon involves a set of intricate rules regarding the placement of the blessings; the citation of special days in various prayers; the amounts needed to be consumed before one becomes biblically obligated to make the blessings. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHO304 - Hilchos Brochos, Mincha, Maariv** 4 Credits

Sections 202-241 - The laws of the blessings for a wide range of occasions. The primary categories of blessings; the Mincha and Maariv prayers. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

**GHO305 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Shabbos I** 4 Credits

Sections 242-300 - The laws of the Sabbath including the preparation for Sabbath; the sanctification of the Sabbath; the Sabbath service; the Sabbath ritual. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites:* Four years of undergraduate Halacha study

GHO306 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Shabbos II 4 Credits  
Sections 301-344 - The laws of prohibited work on the Sabbath. Students will study the specific application of the Biblical prohibition on creative labor. A background in the Tractate Shabbos is highly recommended. Students are expected to study the relevant Talmudic sources. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

*Prerequisites: Four years of undergraduate Halacha study*

Graduate Mussar - GMU series

Mussar is an eminently practical discipline. It involves honing the ethical sensibility, first intellectually, and then applying the intellectually derived principles of Torah behavior, through introspective analysis, to one's own conduct. Mussar, then, is the interface between the abstract world of perfect morality and the world of real life.

Self-improvement is a lifelong undertaking at which an individual must be constantly expanding and deepening his understanding and effort. Students in the graduate program are expected to have already completed many years of Mussar study. The depth and intensity at which it is learned make these courses suitable only for students that have already learned Mussar at an undergraduate level.

Courses in the GMU series may be taken in any order, generally a single text is studied for an entire year, the courses offered are as follows:

GMU801 - Ethics of the Fathers I 2 credits

This body of Mishnayos provides a wealth of material about the Ethics derived from the teachings of the Oral Tradition as taught on Sinai. It also discusses the transmission through the Mesorah of the Jewish tradition. Students study the text along with its primary commentaries, Rashi, the Bartenura, and Rabbeinu Yona of Gerona.

*Prerequisites: Undergraduate Talmudic Degree*

GMU802 - Ethics of the Fathers II 2 credits

The text of *Ethics of the Fathers* is studied along with some of its later commentaries such as *Ruach Chaim* by Rav Chaim of Volozhin and the commentary of Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, rabbi in 19th century Frankfurt am Main.

Prerequisites: GMU801 - Ethics of the Fathers I

GMU803 - Misilas Yeshorim I 2 credits

Students begin the learning of the *Mislas Yeshorim* a work that emphasizes the study of Mussar in the traditional style, developing an introspective dimension, and understanding the roots of Jewish

ethical behavior. This text is the classic study by Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto a prominent Italian Jewish rabbi, kabbalist, and philosopher.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU804 - Misilas Yeshorim II

2 credits

Students continue the study of the fundamental mussar text the *Misilas Yeshorim*. Ideas discussed are examined in context of the other great ethical works of the author. Recently published versions based on newly discovered manuscripts of this work are consulted.

*Prerequisites:* GMU803 - Misilas Yeshorim I

GMU805 - Shaarai Tsuva I

2 credits

Students are introduced to the *Shaarai Tsuva*, the complex philosophical analysis of Teshuva by the medieval scholar Rabbeinu Yona of Gerona is still the definitive work on this topic. It was possibly written as a personal statement of regret for his sharp opposition to the conceptual approach of Maimonides.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU806 - Shaarai Tsuva II

2 credits

Students complete their mastery of the classic in ethical behavior *Shaarai Tsuva*, the essay *Yesod HaTsuva*, also by Rabbeinu Yona of Gerona, is read and reflected upon.

*Prerequisites:* GMU805 - Shaarai Tsuva I

GMU807 - Chovos Halevovos I

2 credits

The *Chovos Halevovos* is a systematic study of Jewish philosophy written by the medieval Jewish thinker Rabbi Bachya Ibn Pekuda. This course covers the second, third, and fourth sections of the text, the first section is not studied as part of this course.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU808 - Chovos Halevovos II

2 credits

This course completes the study of the medieval work *Chovos Halevovos*. Students learn the fifth through the tenth sections of the text.

*Prerequisites:* GMU807 - Chovos Halevovos I

GMU809 - Madreigos Haodom I

2 credits

*Madreigos Haodom* consists of the published lectures of Rabbi Yosef Yoizel Horowitz also known as the “Alter from Novardok”. The most overriding theme of the text is Bitachon (trust in God). Students read and internalize the fiery Mussar lessons from this great sage of pre-war Eastern Europe.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU810 - Madreigos Haodom II 2 credits  
Students continue their study of this intense work. The last section discusses at length the duty of bringing the masses back to the service of God, this timely theme is explicated and reflected upon.  
*Prerequisites:* GMU809 - Madreigos Haodom I

GMU811 - Sichos Mussar I 2 credits  
Mussar lectures delivered by Rav Chaim Shmulevitz, Rosh Yeshiva in Yeshivas Mir Jerusalem. Many of these lectures are based on readings of Medrash and Aggadah, using a scholarly approach to derive Mussar principles. Students engage with this popular work which draws deep psychological concepts from the weekly Torah portion. Translated into many languages, this text has proven itself to be of enduring interest to students and scholars.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU812 - Sichos Mussar II 2 credits  
This course is a continuation of GMU811 the study of *Sichos Mussar* by Rav Chaim Shmulevitz. Students will attempt to cross-reference with each other the Mussar concepts derived by the author  
*Prerequisites:* GMU807 - Sichos Mussar I

GMU813 - Orchos Tzadikim I 2 credits  
*Orchos Tzadikim* is a conceptual approach to an integrated moral outlook, based on the systematic study of Talmudic and Midrashic sources for a Jewish view of ethics in everyday life. Guided by this classic text, students focus on one character trait at a time seeking to understand its correct usage and effective means of rectifying it if proven necessary.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU814 - Orchos Tzadikim II 2 credits  
Students complete their mastery of the *Orchos Tzadikim*, continuing to examine what constitutes proper human behavior and the means of acquiring it for themselves.  
*Prerequisites:* GMU807 - Orchos Tzadikim I

GMU815 - Kisvei Chofetz Chaim I 2 credits  
The *Kisvei Chofetz Chaim* is a distillation of the thought of the modern giant of Torah, the Chofetz Chaim, Rabbi Yisroel Meir HaCohen Kagan. Of particular attention is his classic study on Shmiras Haloshon. Students are guided through the various works that comprise this magnum-opus of the Chofetz Chaim.

*Prerequisites:* Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU816 - Kisvei Chofetz Chaim II

2 credits

This course continues the study of the *Kisvei Chofetz Chaim*, the collected writings of the preeminent rabbinic sage of the 20th century the Chofetz Chaim.

Prerequisites: GMU807 - Kisvei Chofetz Chaim I

GMU817 – Nahar Shalom I

2 credits

Sefer Nahar Shalom authored by our Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Reuven Feinstein shlit'a.

Prerequisites: Undergraduate Talmudic Degree

GMU818 - Nahar Shalom II

2 credits

This course continues the study of sefer Nahar Shalom by HaRav Reuven Feinstein shlit'a.

Prerequisites: GMU807 - Kisvei Chofetz Chaim I

### **Semicha**

This Semicha program is an optional part of the First Rabbinic Degree which is designed to lead to Rabbinic Ordination using the Rosh Hayeshiva's unique approach to Semicha. It requires an in depth study of the appropriate Halachos starting with the Talmudic source material and working up to Rishonim, Achronim, and more contemporary Poskim. This leads to a deeper understanding to the sources and, therefore, how to apply these Halachos to more contemporary issues.

In order to be granted Rabbinic ordination, additional criteria must be met. While the course load and schedule are the same for a Semicha student, more specific courses are required. The primary tractate for a Semicha candidate is Maseches Chullin, the principle source for the intricately detailed laws of Kashrus. It requires a working knowledge of the anatomy of several groups of animals. In addition, students make a methodical study of the principles and case texts that are related to the kosher ritual and the Sinaitic laws regarding the slaughter of Tahor (kosher) animals. Students will study carefully the authoritative works of the Rambam, Rosh, and Rashba in conjunction with their analysis of the case studies presented in Chullin. Seven comprehensive oral examinations are administered by the Mashgiach at different points throughout the program. Even if all the necessary courses are taken and a Student is ordained, the First Rabbinic Degree is not awarded until all 120 credits are completed.

Courses listed below are required in order to receive Semicha:

GTY1XX - Talmud Iyun – six courses learning Chullin	36 Credits
GHY201 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Shechita I	4 Credits
GHY202 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Shechita II	4 Credits
GHY203 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Melicha	4 Credits
GHY204 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Basar B'cholov I	4 Credits

GHY205 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Basar B'cholov II	4 Credits
GHY206 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Taaruvos I	4 Credits
GHY207 - Shulchan Oruch Yoreh Deah Taaruvos II	4 Credits

Total number of required credits: 78 Credits

### **Graduate Course Map – First Rabbinic Degree**

#### **Year 1**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTY101	Talmud Iyun Level I	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

##### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTY102	Talmud Iyun Level II	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

#### **Year 2**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTY103	Talmud Iyun Level III	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

##### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTY104	Talmud Iyun Level IV	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

#### **Year 3**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTY105	Talmud Iyun Level V	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTY106	Talmud Iyun Level VI	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Year 4

Semester 1: 12 Credits

GTY107	Talmud Iyun Level VII	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTY108	Talmud Iyun Level VIII	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Year 5

Semester 1: 12 Credits

GTY109	Talmud Iyun Level IX	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTY110	Talmud Iyun Level X	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GMU***	Graduate Mussar	2 Credits

Total: 120 Credits

First Rabbinic Degree is awarded for the successful completion of 120 credits.

*Sample Curriculum: First Rabbinic Degree with Semicha*

First Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTY101	6 credits	GTY102	6 credits
GHY201	4 credits	GHY202	4 credits
GMU801	2 credits	GMU802	2 credits

### Second Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTY103	6 credits	GTY104	6 credits
GHY203	4 credits	GHY204	4 credits
GMU803	2 credits	GMU804	2 credits

### Third Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTY105	6 credits	GTY106	6 credits
GHY205	4 credits	GHY206	4 credits
GMU805	2 credits	GMU806	2 credits

### Fourth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTY107	6 credits	GTY108	6 credits
GHY207	4 credits	GHO301	4 credits
GMU807	2 credits	GMU808	2 credits

### Fifth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTY109	6 credits	GTY110	6 credits
GHO305	4 credits	GHO306	4 credits
GMU809	2 credits	GMU810	2 credits

Total: 120 Credits

### **Second Rabbinic Degree**

This 120 credit degree program is designed for those students who have successfully completed the First Rabbinic Program. This degree trains the individual to render Halachic decisions (Psak) in all areas of Halacha. To qualify for this degree, students master the relevant codes of Choshen Mishpat and Even HaEzer. The codes are studied within the context of related Talmud sources and the commentaries of the Rishonim and Achronim with emphasis on practical contemporary applications. The student must also pass a comprehensive examination in Halachic subjects for the Second Rabbinic degree.

There are required courses for this program. Under normal circumstances a student does not take two courses in the same series during any one semester. Students must take a minimum of twelve credits each term, which must include one Talmudic Law course (GTL series), one Halacha course

(GHE, GHC, or GHR series), and one Jewish Philosophy course (GJP series). While these course series are required the student still has many options to choose from. In consultation with the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel the student will create his own program by choosing the Masechta to be learned in the Talmudic Law course, which Halacha course he will take, and which text he will be studying for the Jewish Philosophy course.

The courses for the Second Rabbinic Degree are listed below.

*Talmudic Law – GTL series*

The basis for Rabbinic authority is Talmudic jurisprudence. Students pursuing the Second Rabbinic degree will naturally spend much of their time analyzing and mastering the intricacies of Talmudic civil law, looking carefully at the principles and case studies of the Poskim. But serious halachic study must be founded on a fresh awareness of the Talmud and even advanced halachic students need to continue their study of the primary texts even as they master the secondary literature of commentary and interpretation. Thus the student will register for a course in Talmud topics each semester.

These courses are progressive in nature and start at a high level of difficulty. In order to properly form the Talmudic context on which the Halacha is based, serious analysis and rigorous examination is required. These skills are first developed, then practiced and enhanced through the course of this program. Time is not devoted to the basic structure of the text or to many of the commentaries that were previously focused upon in the Talmud Iyun courses. Students are expected to already be utterly familiar and well-trained in these proficiencies; these courses are thus limited to students that have already received the First Rabbinic degree.

Courses in the GTL series must be taken in order.

**GTL201 - Talmudic Law Level I – Year 1 Semester 1**

**6 credits**

In this initial course of the Talmudic Law series the student is brought back to the basic text of the Gemara, Rashi, and Tosfos, however the paradigm is now totally different than anything the student has yet encountered. The text is minutely examined with the goal of extracting general Halachic principals which can eventually be used in the determination of practical Halacha. The tractates studied throughout this series will be determined by the area of practical Halacha that the students chosen concentrations are.

**Prerequisites:** First Rabbinic Degree

**GTL202 - Talmudic Law Level II – Year 1 Semester 2** 6 credits  
This course continues GTL201 in familiarizing and guiding the students to eventual mastery over the graduate-level study of the texts of Gemara, Rashi, and Tosfos with the focus being the development of Halachic concepts and principles.

Prerequisites: GTL201 - Talmudic Law Level I

**GTL203 - Talmudic Law Level III – Year 2 Semester 1** 6 credits  
The students continue their course of study in Talmudic Law by expanding their number of source commentaries. Talmudic commentaries with halachic focus such as the Rif, the Rosh, and the Ran are used extensively in the difficult task of retraining the students in this radically different method of Talmud study.

Prerequisites: GTL202 - Talmudic Law Level II

**GTL204 - Talmudic Law Level IV – Year 2 Semester 2** 6 credits  
Continuing on where GTL203 left off, this course continues the use of Rishonim in the process of deriving Halachically useful conclusions from the give and take of the Talmudic text.

Prerequisites: GTL203 - Talmudic Law Level III

**GTL205 - Talmudic Law Level V – Year 3 Semester 1** 6 credits  
In this course the students now have to adapt to using commentaries that are not necessarily super-commentaries of the Talmudic text. The legendary Halachic code of Maimonides – the Mishne Torah – is the primary focus of this and the following course. Students must find the Halachos in the Mishne Torah that are relevant to the Talmudic Sugya being studied. Much attention is given to discerning the reasoning behind the decisions of Maimonides. The major commentaries on the Mishne Torah are also used.

Prerequisites: GTL204 - Talmudic Law Level IV

**GTL206 - Talmudic Law Level VI – Year 3 Semester 2** 6 credits  
The study of Talmud through the lens of Maimonides continues in this course. Students are expected to derive insights not only from what Maimonides writes but also from what Maimonides chose not to write. Defense against the refutations of the Raavad is also a critical aspect of this field of study.

Prerequisites: GTL205 - Talmudic Law Level V

**GTL207 - Talmudic Law Level VII – Year 4 Semester 1** 6 credits  
We now move on to the works of other Halachic codifiers. The study of the Halachic code of the Tur is a significant emphasis of this course, specifically, using the Tur as a way to understand the Talmud and how the practical applications were drawn from it. The commentary of the Bais Yosef is also

consulted as it explains the reasoning behind the Tur as well as it being an important step in the standard Halachic process.

Prerequisites: GTL206 - Talmudic Law Level VI

GTL208 - Talmudic Law Level VIII – Year 4 Semester 2 6 credits

This course continues the use of the Halachic code of Tur started in GTL205. The other major commentary on the Tur – the Bach – is also brought into the growing list of Halachic works being utilized in the study of Talmud at the graduate level.

Prerequisites: GTL207 - Talmudic Law Level VII

GTL209 - Talmudic Law Level IX – Year 5 Semester 1 6 credits

As the students begin their final year of Halachic Talmudic study the primary aim is to finish “bridging the gap” between theoretical Talmudic study and the use of the Talmud in the process of deciding practical Halacha. Insights with specific Halachic application are gleaned from some of the Acharonim already familiar to the students such as the Chasam Sofer and Sfas Emes. Talmudic insights drawn from the work of the Vilna Gaon on Shulchan Aruch are also examined.

Prerequisites: GTL208 - Talmudic Law Level VIII

GTL210 - Talmudic Law Level X – Year 5 Semester 2 6 credits

Continuing from GTL209, the students complete their graduate-level Talmud study with practical Halacha being the eventual objective. The comprehensive code of the Chazon Ish is studied for its utilization of the Talmud text in determining its Halachic applications. Selections from the Biur Halacha – part of the Chofetz Chaim’s monumental halachic treatise the Mishne Berura – are employed in analysis of the Talmudic text, further emphasizing relevancy of the Talmud to contemporary Halachic issues.

Prerequisites: GTL209 - Talmudic Law Level IX

Generally, a single text is studied for two consecutive terms. The texts available to be used for Talmudic Law courses are as follows:

*Shabbos* - Basic discussion of the derivation, laws, customs and intricate body of laws regarding the Sabbath. The course of study is devoted to the study of the general concept of Shabbos, as well as a multilayered analysis of the Issur of Hotzoah and its Toldos. Included is a discussion and analysis of the 39 categories of Melacha promulgated by the Mishna and established in some detail in the Talmud. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Pesachim* - Laws of Passover concerning how to deal with Chometz before and after the holiday. The second part of the tractate deals with the sacrificial Paschal service in the Temple. The third part

deals with the Mitzvos of the Seder and general applications of the laws of Kiddush and Havdalah for Shabbos and Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Yevomoth* - The focus of this intricately detailed tractate is the practice of the Levirate marriage, and includes a discussion of the laws of Chalitzah; the halachic view of consanguinity; the marriage laws of the Cohanim; the case of the Agunah. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kesuboth* - The Jewish marriage contract; the biblical, rabbinic and customary obligations that make up the contract; the legal effect of the contract; the Jewish perspective on betrothal; the reciprocal financial obligations involved in marriage and the role of women in the Jewish family. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Nedorim* - The definitive law of vows and their legal effect; this tractate discusses the obligations of the individual to his own word and the prior obligation that is owed to the Siniatic Law as well as the extent of the salience of all manners of vows. Principal commentaries: Ran and the Rosh.

*Gitten* - The halachic outlook on divorce and the divorce document, or Get. The meseches entails a full discussion of the technical aspects of witnesses, the taking of possession of documents, and the halachic requirements for verification of all documents having a legal effect. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kedushin* - Procedures and practices associated with betrothal comprehensive discussion of the differences between time related commandments and those that are not time specific; the implication of these differences for the obligations of men and women; the rights of parents with regards to their offspring, and their halachic obligations; the practices and procedures involved in taking legal possession; i.e., in making a kinyon. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Kama* - Talmudic civil law, Part I. Damage to such subjects as animate objects; real property damages; personal injury, and all forms of sustained damage, is discussed. Degrees of culpability and financial liability and responsibility derived from being appointed a guardian, a hired watchman, a lender, a renter, etc. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Metzia* - Talmudic civil law Part II. Primarily concerned with the claims related to joint transactions from finding lost articles to settling wage disputes. It considers such topics as usury, trade, consumer rights, fair trade, conditions which govern labor and industry. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Rashbam, and Tosefos.

*Baba Basra* - Talmudic Civil Law Part III. discusses the issues as the public right of way; the rights of privacy; the reciprocal rights and obligations of business partners, owners of shared property, neighbors, vendors and heirs and the extent of liability of a seller for his merchandise. Deeds and legal documents are explicated. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Chulin* - A detailed analysis of the laws of Kashrus and of injuries or diseases of an animal or bird which render it unfit for kosher consumption; anatomy of kosher animals and fowls as well as correct methods of slaughtering. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and the Rashba.

*Brochos* - Prayer as a fundamental medium for religious expression; discussion of time related prayers, various prayer services and special blessings, also Aggadic discussions concerning dreams. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and Rabbeinu Yonah.

*Beiza* - Activities prohibited on festivals, differing from the Sabbath. Also, laws of Eruv Tavshilin and 39 Categories of Melacha, as they apply to Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

#### Graduate Halacha – GHC, GHE, and GHR series

The basic structure of the Halacha courses in the Second Rabbinic degree program is quite similar to the Halacha courses in the First Rabbinic degree program. Having said that, the courses offered here are from parts the Shulchan Oruch that are generally considered more difficult to learn and to apply. There are no specific prerequisites for most of these courses but an advanced familiarity with the Halachic framework of the Shulchan Oruch is highly recommended.

With special permission from the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel, students in this program may also substitute Halacha courses from the Halacha offerings of the First Rabbinic degree program described above. It is understood that scholars at this level are allowed wide discretion in the program of study that they propose, so long as the course of study outlined offers an internally consistent plan of study and will move the candidate forward toward the goals of this program.

#### *Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat* – GHC series

The Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat assembles authoritative opinion on the subject of torts, civil law and related matters. It derives its principles from the vast commentary literature on such Mesechtos as Sanhedrin, Makos, Baba Kama, Baba Metzia and Baba Basra, and lays the groundwork for the Shulchan Oruch. The Tur text is the starting point for halachic research, but much research is also carried out in the original Rishonim. The core text is the Shulchan Oruch of the Mechaber, Rabbi Yosef Caro and the Rama, Rabbi Moshe Isserlis. Principle commentators studied are the Rif, Rambam, Rosh, Beis Yosef, Bach, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen. Students also sample the Responsa literature through the anthologies, the Measfim.

GHC581 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Dayanim 4 Credits  
Sections 1-28, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC582 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Eydus 4 Credits  
Sections 29-38, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC583 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Halvaos I 4 Credits  
Sections 39-56, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC584 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Halvaos II 4 Credits  
Sections 57-74, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: GHC463 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Halvaos I

GHC585 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Toain V'nitan 4 Credits  
Sections 75-96, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC586 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Gvias Milveh/Gvias Chov 4 Credits  
Sections 97-132, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC587 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Chezkas Metaltelin/Karkaos 4 Credits  
Sections 133-154, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eiynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC588 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Nizkei Shecheinim	4 Credits
Sections 155-170, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC589 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Shutefim/Shlichus	4 Credits
Sections 171-188, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC590 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Kinyonim	4 Credits
Sections 189-204, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC591 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Mechirah	4 Credits
Sections 205-226, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC592 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Oinoah/Mekach Taos	4 Credits
Sections 227-240, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC593 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Matanos	4 Credits
Sections 241-258, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHC594 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Aveidah Umetziah	4 Credits
Sections, 259-275, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	

GHC595 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Hilchos Nachlos 4 Credits  
Sections 276-290, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC596 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Pikadon/Shomrim 4 Credits  
Sections 291-305, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC597 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Umnim/Poalim/Sheelah 4 Credits  
Sections 306-347, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC598 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Geneivah/Gezelah 4 Credits  
Sections 348-388, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHC599 - Shulchan Oruch Choshen Mishpat, Nizkei Mamon 4 Credits  
Sections 389-427, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Shach, Meiras Eynaim and Ketzos Hachoshen.  
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

#### *Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer – GHE series*

Courses based on the Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer address the intricate halachic work of the codifiers and their descendants, the Baalei Shulchan Oruch. This study begins with the law and traces backwards to the principles and sources for its derivation. Thus while the Shulchan Oruch text is the starting point, much use will be made of Mesechtos Kiddushin, Gittin, Kesubos and Yevamos. Much research will be carried out in the Tur as a basis for understanding the Mechaber,

Rabbi Yosef Caro and the Rama, Rabbi Moshe Isserlis. Principle commentators studied are the Rif, Rambam, Rosh, Beis Yoseph, Bach, Chelkas Mechokaik and Beis Shmuel. Students also sample the Responsa literature through the anthologies of the Measfim.

GHE561 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Gittin I	4 Credits
Sections 119-132, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHE562 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Gittin II	4 Credits
Sections 133-154, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: GHE282 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Gittin I	
GHE563 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kiddushin I	4 Credits
Sections 26-39, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHE564 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kiddushin II	4 Credits
Sections 40-65, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: GHE274 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kiddushin I	
GHE565 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kesubos I	4 Credits
Sections 66-94, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	
GHE566 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kesubos II	4 Credits
Sections 95-118, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: GHE278 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Kesubos I	
GHE567 - Shulchan Oruch Even Haezer, Hilchos Yevamos/Chalitzah	4 Credits
Sections 155-178, The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Chelkas Mechokaik, Beis Shmuel and Avnei Miluim.	
Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree	

*Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim – GHR series*

GHR541 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Eiruvin I 4 Credits

Sections 341-395, Halachic domains as applicable to transporting objects on the Sabbath, women and Eiruvin, Which domains may be Rabbinically “combined” and how to effect such a combination. The status of courtyards that open one to another. The laws of “acquiring” the Eiruv, and the ramifications of property partnerships. Detailed analysis of the intricate criteria involved in the construction of city-wide Eiruvin. The laws of when the blessing over the construction of an eruv is said. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHR542 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Eiruvin II 4 Credits

Sections 396-416, Halachos of Eiruv Techumin, which specify how far one may travel in rural areas on the Sabbath, and how this distance is measured. Also teaches the proper procedure to follow if one left the Techum on Shabbos, as well as where and how to "extend" the city limits with an Eiruv Techumin. Limits the use of an Eiruv to situations where it is required for the fulfillment of a Mitzva. How to creating an Eiruv when a Jewish holiday falls out on a Friday. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: GHR541 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Eiruvin I

GHR543 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Pesach I 4 Credits

Sections 429-467, Familiarity with Tractate Pesachim is recommended. These laws range from the prohibition on leavened bread and various derivative foods to the baking of matzah. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GHR544 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Pesach II 4 Credits

Sections 468-494, The laws of the Seder, the prayer service, and the ritual foods of this highly complex festival. Included are the laws of the counting of the Omer and of the Shavuos holiday. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: GHR543 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Pesach I

GHR545 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Yom Tov 4 Credits

Sections 495-529, The laws of the festivals and holidays. These laws deal with both Biblical and Rabbinical prohibitions on labor, as well as the positive requirements for honoring the holidays and

sanctifying the festivals. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GHR546 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Chol Hamoed and Rosh Chodesh 4 Credits**

Sections 530-548, 417-428, This course covers the laws of the intervening days of the festivals which have an entire category of laws defining their status. Much of this is derived from the Tractate Moed Katan. Appended to this are the laws of the sanctifying new moon and the Jewish calendar. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GHR547 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Taanis, Tisha B' Av 4 Credits**

Sections 549-580, Included in this course are laws describing fast days and the ritual requirements and the prayer service on such days. The day of great sorrow, Tisha b'Av, also has a full complement of relevant law which is covered in this course. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GHR548 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur 4 Credits**

Sections 581-624, The laws of the Shofar, the ten days of atonement, the New Year ritual, and assorted other practices associated with Rosh Hashana as well as the entire set of Yom Kippur laws. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GHR549 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Succoth 4 Credits**

Hilchos 625-669, A survey of the ritual laws that apply to these different holidays, including discussions of the Arbah Minim, the obligations of Succah use.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GHR550 - Shulchan Oruch Orach Chaim, Hilchos Purim, Chanukah 4 Credits**

Sections 670-697, The laws regarding the two major Yomim Tovim d'Rabbonon, including the writing and reading of the Megillah and the lighting of the Chanukah lights. The text of the Shulchan Oruch is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Tur, Beis Yoseph, Taz, Magen Avrohom, Shaarei Teshuvah.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

### *Jewish Philosophy – GJP series*

The phrase “Jewish Philosophy” can mean many different things to many different people. The courses in Jewish Philosophy offered at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem are not focused on trying to solve the religious “problems” presented by science and the modern world. Rather they are designed to understand the world around us through the Hashkafa of true Torah Judaism. While the Mussar courses of the First Rabbinic degree are personal, introspective, and “inward” focused; These Jewish Philosophy courses are “outward” focused, starting from solidly within the normative Torah view and examining the realities of the modern world from that prospective.

These courses progressively increase in sophistication as the student increases his capabilities in philosophic analysis. The goal of this course series is to give the student a solid base of Jewish philosophic knowledge and skill that will inoculate him from the at times decadent influence of modern society. As such, a student taking these courses must be already very confident in his own self-worth and religious growth, a full five years of graduate level Mussar is essential in preparation for these courses.

With special permission from the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel, students in this program may substitute some of these Jewish Philosophy courses with courses from the Graduate Mussar offerings of the First Rabbinic degree program described above. It is understood that scholars at this level are allowed wide discretion in the program of study that they propose, so long as the course of study outlined offers an internally consistent plan of study and will move the candidate forward toward the goals of this program.

Courses offered in the GJP series are as follows:

GJP901 – Derech Hashem I 2 credits

Derech HaShem – The Way of God – is a philosophical text written in the 1730s by Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto. It systematizes the basic principles of Jewish belief regarding the existence of God, God's purpose in creation, Divine providence, prophecy, prayer and the logical consequence of other concepts in Judaism. Presented from a Kabbalistic perspective, yet requiring no prior Kabbalistic knowledge, this work provides a logical framework for the structure of Jewish belief.

The text is read and analyzed for internal consistency.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP902 - Derech Hashem II** 2 credits

The text of Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto's fundamental work Derech Hashem is studied. Students will compare concepts in this work to similar ideas in the author's other works with an aim towards clarifying the author's intent and expanding the knowledge of the reader.

Prerequisites: GJP901 – Derech Hashem I

**GJP903 – Kuzari I** 2 credits

The Kuzari, is one of the most famous works of the medieval Spanish Jewish philosopher and poet Judah Halevi, completed around 1140. It is regarded as one the most important works of Jewish philosophy. Divided into five parts, it takes the form of a dialogue between a rabbi and a pagan king. The text is studied analyzed for philosophic and logical integrity.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP904 - Kuzari II** 2 credits

Continuation of the study and analysis of the most famous work of Rabbi Judah Halevi, the Kuzari. Students complete their study of this classic text.

Prerequisites: GJP903 – Kuzari I

**GJP905 – Nefesh Hachaim I** 2 credits

The text of the first three sections of Nefesh Hachaim is studied in which Rav Chaim of Volozhin – foremost disciple of the Vilna Gaon – shares his outlook on many fundamental Jewish beliefs. He discusses the profound impact that our mitzvos and prayers have on the universe; an understanding of berachos (blessings), the nature of the soul and of Olam Haba (the World to Come); whether one should combine Torah study with earning a livelihood, and whether man is greater than the angels.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP906 - Nefesh Hachaim II** 2 credits

The students complete their reading of text of the Nefesh Hachaim with its fourth section in which the author extols the study of Torah for its own sake and describes its impact on the learner and on the entire world.

GJP905 – Nefesh Hachaim I

**GJP907 - Michtav Meliyahu I** 2 credits

The book Michtav Meliyahu consists of the transcribed lectures of Rabbi Eliyahu Dessler, contemporary rabbi, pietist, and philosopher. His lectures were philosophical expositions on the essentials of Jewish thought. The first volume is studied and basic concepts are explored using material cross-referenced from the other four volumes of the set.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP908 - Michtav Meliyahu II****2 credits**

This course is a continuation of the examination of the writings of Rabbi Eliyahu Dessler, focusing on the second volume of his classic work *Michtav Meliyahu* which explores the significance and effects of the various holidays and seasons that together comprise the Jewish year.

Prerequisites: GJP907 - *Michtav Meliyahu I*

**GJP909 - Sefer Hachinuch I****2 credits**

The *Sefer Hachinuch* is a work which systematically discusses the various aspects of the 613 commandments of the Torah and attempts to discern their underlying rationale. It was published anonymously in 13th century Spain. The text is studied and the primary commentary *Minchas Chinuch* is consulted.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP910 - Sefer Hachinuch II****2 credits**

Students complete their learning of the *Sefer Hachinuch*, an anonymously published 13th century work on the 613 commandments of the Torah.

Prerequisites: GJP909 - *Sefer Hachinuch I*

**GJP911 - Morah Navuchim I****2 credits**

The *Morah Navuchim* – *Guide for the Perplexed* – is one of the three major works of Maimonides. This work seeks to reconcile Aristotelian philosophy with Hebrew Bible theology, by finding rational explanations for many events in the text. This difficult text is examined and clarified using its classic rabbinic commentaries.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

**GJP912 - Morah Navuchim II****2 credits**

Students continue their analysis of the *Morah Navuchim*, other opinions, such as those of Nachmanides and Rabbeinu Yona of Gerona, regarding various issues addressed in the *Morah* are considered and contrasted.

Prerequisites: GJP911 - *Morah Navuchim I*

**GJP913 - Emunoth Vedeoth I****2 credits**

Students embark on the study of the *Sefer Emunoth Vedeoth* – *The Book of Beliefs and Opinions* – a text written by Saadia Gaon in 933 which is the first systematic presentation and philosophic foundation of Judaism. The work was mainly written as an exposition of Rabbinic Judaism refuting the views of the Karaites that rejected the oral law.

Prerequisites: First Rabbinic Degree

GJP914 - Emunoth Vedeoth II 2 credits

Students continue their study of the Sefer Emunoth Vedeoth, the text is analysed in the context of the position of authority of Rav Saadia Gaon in the Jewish world and his lifelong struggle with the Karaite heresy.

Prerequisites: GJP913 - Emunoth Vedeoth I

### **Graduate Course Map – Second Rabbinic Degree**

#### **Year 1**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTL101	Talmudic Law Level I	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

##### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTL102	Talmudic Law Level II	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

#### **Year 2**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTL103	Talmudic Law Level III	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

##### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTL104	Talmudic Law Level IV	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

#### **Year 3**

##### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTL105	Talmudic Law Level V	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTL106	Talmudic Law Level VI	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Year 4

Semester 1: 12 Credits

GTL107	Talmudic Law Level VII	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTL108	Talmudic Law Level VIII	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Year 5

Semester 1: 12 Credits

GTL109	Talmudic Law Level IX	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTL110	Talmudic Law Level X	6 Credits
GH****	Graduate Halacha Shulchan Oruch	4 Credits
GJP***	Jewish Philosophy	2 Credits

Total: 120 credits

Second Rabbinic Degree is awarded for the successful completion of 120 credits.

*Sample Curriculum: Second Rabbinic Degree*

First Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTL201	6 credits	GTL202	6 credits
GHR541	4 credits	GHR542	4 credits
GJP901	2 credits	GJP902	2 credits

Second Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTL203	6 credits	GTL204	6 credits
GHE561	4 credits	GHE562	4 credits
GJP903	2 credits	GJP904	2 credits

Third Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTL205	6 credits	GTL206	6 credits
GHE563	4 credits	GHE564	4 credits
GJP905	2 credits	GJP906	2 credits

Fourth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTL207	6 credits	GTL208	6 credits
GHC581	4 credits	GHC582	4 credits
GJP907	2 credits	GJP908	2 credits

Fifth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTL209	6 credits	GTL210	6 credits
GHC585	4 credits	GHC586	4 credits
GJP909	2 credits	GJP909	2 credits

Total: 120 credits

## **First Professional Degree**

This 120 credit program is designed and limited to advanced Talmudic Scholars with admission based on a comprehensive examination in Talmudic and Halachic subjects. Those who complete this degree are considered qualified to teach in Rabbinical and Talmudic colleges, however this is not strictly speaking a teacher training program. The program is designed to foster in-depth as well as broad mastery of Talmud and its literature and to develop gifted scholars and researchers by assisting in applying their scholarship to academic applications through published scholarship, ongoing research or public lectures. The goal for scholars in this program is to devote their lives to creative and intensive scholarship while personalizing their study to their particular areas of interest.

Students in this program are examined each year by the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel. Their work is evaluated in order to be certain that they will be able to carry out the rigorous study called for in this program. Each year, they must be certified as having completed the year with satisfactory progress in order to be permitted to continue.

There are required courses for this program. Under normal circumstances a student does not take two courses in the same series during any one semester. Students must take a minimum of twelve credits each term, which must include one Talmudic Research course (GTR series), one Talmudic Literature course (GTU series), and one Maimonides course (GMA series) or one Responsa course (GRE series). While these course series are required the student still has many options to choose from. In consultation with the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel the student will create his own program by choosing the Masechta or Masechtoth to be learned in the Talmudic Research and Talmudic Literature courses, and by selecting a Maimonides course or a Responsa course.

The courses for the First Professional Degree are listed below.

### *Talmudic Research – GTR series*

In these courses, the student is expected to carry out intensive research in the entire expanse of Talmudic literature and to develop original perspectives on the principles and concepts. Chiddushim (Novella) are presented and discussed in Chaburah and with senior faculty.

Students are required to keep a journal of their Chiddushim and periodically to present discourses based on these Chiddushim and their research before their peers. These novellas are criticized, debated and refined over the course of the term.

Students are examined not only for content mastery, but also for demonstrating the ability to independently research and construct scholarly dissertations on complex Talmudic concepts. These

papers are generally expected to be completed at the end of each term and they are expected to reflect significant growth in skills and knowledge on the part of the student from one term to the next. A well-developed set of skills in Talmudic analysis along with its commentaries, is required to embark upon this course series, hence a Second Rabbinic degree is a prerequisite for these courses.

*Courses in the GTR series must be taken in order.*

GTR301 - Talmudic Research Level I – Year 1 Semester 1 6 credits

In this course the students are again instructed to reexamine the Talmudic text from a different angle. Using the knowledge acquired from the previous two degree programs, the aim of this course is to start guiding the student towards developing his own personal method of in-depth analysis of the Talmudic texts.

### Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

GTR302 - Talmudic Research Level II – Year 1 Semester 2 6 credits

This course is a continuation of GTR301. The student continues his journey towards proficiency in utilizing his own distinct approach in understanding the Talmud and its primary commentaries from the Rishonim. During this course the student will be encouraged to begin crystallizing their own ideas into discrete idea structures what in the Yeshiva world is known as Chiddushim.

Prerequisites: GTR301 - Talmudic Research Level I

GTR303 - Talmudic Research Level III – Year 2 Semester 1 6 credits

This course introduces the students to one of the most difficult of all Talmud commentaries – the Dibros Moshe. Authored by the previous Dean of Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem – Rabbi Moshe Feinstein – these compendia of analysis and commentary on tractates of the Talmud display his encyclopedic grasp of Talmudic literature and his phenomenal and original powers. Rabbi Aharon Kotler said of Dibros Moshe, "There is no significant concept or chiddush that cannot be found here." The effort and skill required to apprehend this work, as well as its total comprehensiveness make it a fitting challenge and a useful tool for the graduate students.

Prerequisites: GTR302 - Talmudic Research Level II

GTR304 - Talmudic Research Level IV – Year 2 Semester 2 6 credits

The students continue their study of the renowned Talmudic commentary the Dibros Moshe. Students are expected to formulate and record in writing their own comments and innovative thoughts that arise in the course of learning this complex work – the magnum opus of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein.

Prerequisites: GTR303 - Talmudic Research Level III

Prerequisites: GTR304 - Talmudic Research Level IV

GTR306 - Talmudic Research Level VI – Year 3 Semester 2                            6 credits  
This course continues where GTR305 left off. Incorporating the student and instructor feedback, students must continue to hone their writing abilities. By the end of the course students will be expected to produce a full length essay in original Talmudic thought that would be suitable for publication in one of the journals of advanced Talmudic scholarship or as a book chapter.

Prerequisites: GTR305 - Talmudic Research Level V

GTR307 - Talmudic Research Level VII – Year 4 Semester 1 6 credits

The focus of the courses now turns towards developing the skills necessary to transmit Talmudic thought to the next generation of scholars. Students are expected to assemble short discourses – Chaburos – and to deliver them before the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel and the other students. The discourses are then publicly discussed amongst the students and are critiqued by the instructor.

Prerequisites: GTR306 - Talmudic Research Level VI

GTR308 - Talmudic Research Level VIII – Year 4 Semester 2 6 credits  
The ability to deliver brief, lucid discourses in Talmudic thought is further developed. Emphasis is also now placed on attaining proficiency in public speaking, a vital skill in the teaching of any detailed body of knowledge. Students are instructed in methods of pedagogy effective for the teaching of Talmudic material.

Prerequisites: GTR307 - Talmudic Research Level VII

Prerequisites: GTR308 - Talmudic Research Level VIII

GTR310 - Talmudic Research Level X – Year 5 Semester 2

6 credits

In this final course of the series, students must demonstrate the ability to research, assemble, commit to writing and finally to deliver in front of the student-body a full length lecture on a major Sugya of the Talmud. This lecture should include original innovative thoughts – Chiddushim – and must be defended from any challenges offered by fellow students or instructors. Upon successful accomplishment of this task the students will be qualified for faculty positions in any school of advanced Talmudic or Rabbinic studies.

Prerequisites: GTR309 - Talmudic Research Level IX

Generally, a single text is studied for two consecutive terms. Students who wish to study other tractates than those listed below, may suggest alternative preferences and design a course of study around their tractates with the approval of the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel.

*Shabbos* - Basic discussion of the derivation, laws, customs and intricate body of laws regarding the Sabbath. The course of study is devoted to the study of the general concept of Shabbos, as well as a multilayered analysis of the Issur of Hotzoah and its Toldos. Included is a discussion and analysis of the 39 categories of Melacha promulgated by the Mishna and established in some detail in the Talmud. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Pesachim* - Laws of Passover concerning how to deal with Chometz before and after the holiday. The second part of the tractate deals with the sacrificial Paschal service in the Temple. The third part deals with the Mitzvos of the Seder and general applications of the laws of Kiddush and Havdalah for Shabbos and Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Yevomoth* - The focus of this intricately detailed tractate is the practice of the Levirate marriage, and includes a discussion of the laws of Chalitzah; the halachic view of consanguinity; the marriage laws of the Cohanim; the case of the Agunah. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kesuboth* - The Jewish marriage contract; the biblical, rabbinic and customary obligations that make up the contract; the legal effect of the contract; the Jewish perspective on betrothal; the reciprocal financial obligations involved in marriage and the role of women in the Jewish family. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Nedorim* - The definitive law of vows and their legal effect; this tractate discusses the obligations of the individual to his own word and the prior obligation that is owed to the Siniatic Law as well as the extent of the salience of all manners of vows. Principal commentaries: Ran and the Rosh.

*Gitten* - The halachic outlook on divorce and the divorce document, or Get. The meseches entails a full discussion of the technical aspects of witnesses, the taking of possession of documents, and the halachic requirements for verification of all documents having a legal effect. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kedushin* - Procedures and practices associated with betrothal comprehensive discussion of the differences between time related commandments and those that are not time specific; the implication of these differences for the obligations of men and women; the rights of parents with regards to their offspring, and their halachic obligations; the practices and procedures involved in taking legal possession; i.e., in making a kinyon. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Kama* - Talmudic civil law, Part I. Damage to such subjects as animate objects; real property damages; personal injury, and all forms of sustained damage, is discussed. Degrees of culpability and financial liability and responsibility derived from being appointed a guardian, a hired watchman, a lender, a renter, etc. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Metzia* - Talmudic civil law Part II. Primarily concerned with the claims related to joint transactions from finding lost articles to settling wage disputes. It considers such topics as usury, trade, consumer rights, fair trade, conditions which govern labor and industry. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Rashbam, and Tosefos.

*Baba Basra* - Talmudic Civil Law Part III. discusses the issues as the public right of way; the rights of privacy; the reciprocal rights and obligations of business partners, owners of shared property, neighbors, vendors and heirs and the extent of liability of a seller for his merchandise. Deeds and legal documents are explicated. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Chulin* - A detailed analysis of the laws of Kashrus and of injuries or diseases of an animal or bird which render it unfit for kosher consumption; anatomy of kosher animals and fowls as well as correct methods of slaughtering. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and the Rashba.

*Sanhadrin* - A comprehensive analysis of the process of Jewish justice, the role of courts and their operation. The various kinds of courts and their levels of jurisdiction, the taking of testimony, challenging witnesses, liability of judges. The testing of witnesses, and requirements for serving as a judge. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Brochos* - Prayer as a fundamental medium for religious expression; discussion of time related prayers, various prayer services and special blessings, also Aggadic discussions concerning dreams. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and Rabbeinu Yonah.

*Beiza* - Activities prohibited on festivals, differing from the Sabbath. Also, laws of Eruv Tavshilin and 39 Categories of Melacha, as they apply to Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosafos.

*Talmudic Literature – GTU series*

Graduate scholars in consultation with the Mashgiach or Rosh Kollel select a Mesechta to be studied in a “Bekius” fashion with a Chavrushah. The aim in this course is to provide the scholar with a broad understanding of Talmudic law and Aggadah by leading him through much of Talmudic corpus. The emphasis is on familiarizing the student with the concepts, principles and texts of such Sedorim of Shas as Zeraim, Kodshim, Moed and Taharos which involve new vocabularies and the mastery of new Mishnaic sources.

Students are expected to complete whole Tractates and be able to pass a comprehensive oral examination upon completion. As the student progresses through this course series he will be expected to gradually accustom himself to learning in a quick but thorough manner. Another aim of this course is to enable the scholar to become proficient in studying massive amounts of material in far less time than the most students were previously accustomed to. This course is only appropriate for students with extensive Talmudic experience; a Second Rabbinic degree is required.

Courses in the GTR series must be taken in order.

**GTU401 - Talmudic Literature Level I** 6 credits

This course requires students to approach Talmud study in ways with which they are already very familiar. The syllabus is substantially similar to the first year Talmud Iyun courses. Gemara, Rashi, and Tosfos are examined with graduate-level comprehensiveness, where students seek the underlying reasoning of the text. Where this course differs is in its pace, whereas previously maybe a Perek or two was completed, depending on the choice of Masechta, now the goal is the completion of a significant portion of the Masechta over two terms.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GTU402 - Talmudic Literature Level II** 6 credits

This course continues the course of study from GTU401. Students study basic texts in a fast-paced intense manner.

Prerequisites: GTU401 - Talmudic Literature Level I

**GTU403 - Talmudic Literature Level III** 6 credits

The pace of study is increased even further. Students are expected to demonstrate the ability to master the entire chosen Masechta by the end of the year.

Prerequisites: GTU402 - Talmudic Literature Level II

GTU404 - Talmudic Literature Level IV	6 credits
Continuation of GTU403, students complete their survey of the chosen Masechta in moderate depth.	
Prerequisites: GTU403 - Talmudic Literature Level III	
GTU405 - Talmudic Literature Level V	6 credits
The workload is increased in this course as students are expected to peruse the standard Rishonim in the course of study, select sections of the Rashba, Ritva, and Ramban are consulted.	
Prerequisites: GTU404 - Talmudic Literature Level IV	
GTU406 - Talmudic Literature Level VI	6 credits
Students continue their mastery of covering vast amounts of Talmudic material at a rapid clip, without compromising on the thoroughness of study at a graduate level.	
Prerequisites: GTU405 - Talmudic Literature Level V	
GTU407 - Talmudic Literature Level VII	6 credits
This course brings the skills acquired over the previous two years together. Students are expected to complete the study of an entire Masechta by the end of the year together with much of the commentaries of the Rishonim considered primary to the specific Masechta which may include the Ritva, Ramban, and Rashba.	
Prerequisites: GTU406 - Talmudic Literature Level VI	
GTU408 - Talmudic Literature Level VIII	6 credits
The Masechta begun in GTU407 is completed. Students continue to mature in their ability to expertly assimilate Talmudic texts in short periods of time.	
Prerequisites: GTU407 - Talmudic Literature Level VII	
GTU409 - Talmudic Literature Level IX	6 credits
In this final year of Talmudic Literature students are more closely monitored for proper retention of the material studied. Students are subject to regular oral examinations to ensure that they are properly reviewing and reflecting upon their studies.	
Prerequisites: GTU408 - Talmudic Literature Level VIII	
GTU410 - Talmudic Literature Level X	6 credits
This course completes this graduate-level course series in Talmudic Literature. Students should now be able to learn, review, and retain whole Masechta with their standard commentaries from the	

Rishonim in a rapid fashion without compromising on the level of attention dedicated to analyzing the reasons and methodologies behind the text.

Prerequisites: GTU409 - Talmudic Literature Level IX

Generally, a single text is studied for two consecutive terms. The choice of Masechta is not limited to the texts listed below:

*Shabbos* - Basic discussion of the derivation, laws, customs and intricate body of laws regarding the Sabbath. The course of study is devoted to the study of the general concept of Shabbos, as well as a multilayered analysis of the Issur of Hotzoah and its Toldos. Included is a discussion and analysis of the 39 catagories of Melacha promulgated by the Mishna and established in some detail in the Talmud. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Pesachim* - Laws of Passover concerning how to deal with Chometz before and after the holiday. The second part of the tractate deals with the sacrificial Paschal service in the Temple. The third part deals with the Mitzvos of the Seder and general applications of the laws of Kiddush and Havdalah for Shabbos and Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Yevomoth* - The focus of this intricately detailed tractate is the practice of the Levirate marriage, and includes a discussion of the laws of Chalitzah; the halachic view of consanguinity; the marriage laws of the Cohanim; the case of the Agunah. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kesuboth* - The Jewish marriage contract; the biblical, rabbinic and customary obligations that make up the contract; the legal effect of the contract; the Jewish perspective on betrothal; the reciprocal financial obligations involved in marriage and the role of women in the Jewish family. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Nedorim* - The definitive law of vows and their legal effect; this tractate discusses the obligations of the individual to his own word and the prior obligation that is owed to the Siniatic Law as well as the extent of the salience of all manners of vows. Principal commentaries: Ran and the Rosh.

*Gitten* - The halachic outlook on divorce and the divorce document, or Get. The meseches entails a full discussion of the technical aspects of witnesses, the taking of possession of documents, and the halachic requirements for verification of all documents having a legal effect. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Kedushin* - Procedures and practices associated with betrothal comprehensive discussion of the differences between time related commandments and those that are not time specific; the

implication of these differences for the obligations of men and women; the rights of parents with regards to their offspring, and their halachic obligations; the practices and procedures involved in taking legal possession; i.e., in making a kinyon. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Kama* - Talmudic civil law, Part I. Damage to such subjects as animate objects; real property damages; personal injury, and all forms of sustained damage, is discussed. Degrees of culpability and financial liability and responsibility derived from being appointed a guardian, a hired watchman, a lender, a renter, etc. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Baba Metzia* - Talmudic civil law Part II. Primarily concerned with the claims related to joint transactions from finding lost articles to settling wage disputes. It considers such topics as usury, trade, consumer rights, fair trade, conditions which govern labor and industry. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Rashbam, and Tosefos.

*Baba Basra* - Talmudic Civil Law Part III. discusses the issues as the public right of way; the rights of privacy; the reciprocal rights and obligations of business partners, owners of shared property, neighbors, vendors and heirs and the extent of liability of a seller for his merchandise. Deeds and legal documents are explicated. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Chulin* - A detailed analysis of the laws of Kashrus and of injuries or diseases of an animal or bird which render it unfit for kosher consumption; anatomy of kosher animals and fowls as well as correct methods of slaughtering. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and the Rashba.

*Sanhadrin* - A comprehensive analysis of the process of Jewish justice, the role of courts and their operation. The various kinds of courts and their levels of jurisdiction, the taking of testimony, challenging witnesses, liability of judges. The testing of witnesses, and requirements for serving as a judge. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

*Brochos* - Prayer as a fundamental medium for religious expression; discussion of time related prayers, various prayer services and special blessings, also Aggadic discussions concerning dreams. Principal commentaries: Rashi, Tosefos and Rabbeinu Yonah.

*Beiza* - Activities prohibited on festivals, differing from the Sabbath. Also, laws of Eruv Tavshilin and 39 Categories of Melacha, as they apply to Yom Tov. Principal commentaries: Rashi and Tosefos.

### *Maimonides*

The Mishneh Torah consists of fourteen books, subdivided into sections, chapters, and paragraphs. It is the only Medieval-era work that details all of Jewish observance, including those laws that are

only applicable when the Bais Hamikdash is in existence, and remains one of the primary Halachic sources. In the Mishneh Torah, Maimonides never cites sources or arguments, and confines himself to stating the final decision on the law to be followed in each situation. There is no discussion of Talmudic interpretation or methodology, and the sequence of chapters follows the factual subject matter of the laws rather than the intellectual principle involved.

A major focus of this course, and indeed in any study of the Mishneh Torah, is sourcing the Halachic rulings in the Talmudic corpus. Students will master the relevant Maimonidean text then find and scrutinize the Rabbinic sources for consistency. Extensive knowledge of far-reaching Sugyos in the Talmud is required for this manner of study and a Second Rabbinic degree is a prerequisite for these courses.

**GMA801 – Maimonides Sifrei Madda and Ahava** 2 credits

The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GMA802 – Maimonides Sifrei Kedusha and Haflaah** 2 credits

The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GMA803 – Maimonides Zeraim** 2 credits

The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GMA804 – Maimonides Sifrei Avodah and Korbanot** 2 credits

The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GMA805 – Maimonides Sefer Taharah** 2 credits

The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

GMA806 – Maimonides Sefer Kinayn	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
GMA807 – Maimonides Sefer Mishpatim	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
GMA808 – Maimonides Sefer Zmanim	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
GMA809 – Maimonides Sefer Nezikin	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
GMA810 – Maimonides Sifrei Shoftim and Milochim	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
GMA810 – Maimonides Sefer Nashim	2 credits
The applicable text of the Mishneh Torah is studied accompanied by the commentaries of the Kesef Mishneh, Mishneh Lemelech, and Lechem Mishneh.	
Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree	
<i>Responsa</i>	
Rabbinic responsa literature spans 1700 years and there are even responsa being developed based on questions posed today. The responsa literature has a unique place in the vast library of Torah study. It represents the “missing link” in the chain of the development of the Halacha. The Talmud was written around 1800 years ago and almost immediately questions arose as to how to apply its teachings to the ever-changing realities of life. These questions were, of course, addressed to the Torah sages in every generation, usually in the form of letters and were answered in kind. These	

question and answer letters or “shailos” and “teshuvos” form the essential tools that were used in writing many of the great Halachic compendiums.

This huge body of literature has been divided by time period and is a required part of a true Torah scholar’s education. In order to properly comprehend the source material used in the constructing the teshuvos, a student must have much prior Talmudic and Halachic expertise and a Second Rabbinic degree is mandatory in order to take any of these courses.

Each course is independent of the other courses in the series and they need not be taken in any order.

**GRE901 – Gaonic Responsa** 2 credits

Responsa from the period of the Geonim which began in 589 CE and ended in 1038 CE.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GRE902 – Rishonic Responsa** 2 credits

Responsa from the era of the Rishonim which began in 1038 CE and ended in 1568 CE.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GRE903 – Later Responsa** 2 credits

Responsa from the era of the Early Acharonim which began in 1568 CE and ended around 1800 CE.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GRE904 – Modern Responsa** 2 credits

Responsa from the era of the Later Acharonim, or the Modern Era, which began around 1800 CE and ended in 1944.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

**GRE905 – Contemporary Responsa** 2 credits

Responsa from the contemporary era which began in 1944 after WW2 and continues to this day.

Prerequisites: Second Rabbinic Degree

## **Graduate Course Map – First Professional Degree**

### **Year 1**

#### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTR101	Talmudic Research Level I	6 Credits
GTU101	Talmud Literature Level I	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

#### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTR102	Talmudic Research Level II	6 Credits
GTU102	Talmud Literature Level II	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

### **Year 2**

#### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTR103	Talmudic Research Level III	6 Credits
GTU103	Talmud Literature Level III	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

#### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTR104	Talmudic Research Level IV	6 Credits
GTU104	Talmud Literature Level IV	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

### **Year 3**

#### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTR105	Talmudic Research Level V	6 Credits
GTU105	Talmud Literature Level V	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

#### **Semester 2: 12 Credits**

GTR106	Talmudic Research Level VI	6 Credits
GTU106	Talmud Literature Level VI	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

### **Year 4**

#### **Semester 1: 12 Credits**

GTR107	Talmudic Research Level VII	6 Credits
GTU107	Talmud Literature Level VII	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTR108	Talmudic Research Level VIII	6 Credits
GTU108	Talmud Literature Level VIII	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

Year 5

Semester 1: 12 Credits

GTR109	Talmudic Research Level IX	6 Credits
GTU109	Talmud Literature Level IX	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

Semester 2: 12 Credits

GTR110	Talmudic Research Level X	6 Credits
GTU110	Talmud Literature Level X	4 Credits
GMA***/GRE***	Graduate Maimonides/Graduate Responsa	2 Credits

Total: 120 Credits

First Professional Degree is awarded for the successful completion of 120 credits.

*Sample Curriculum: First Professional Degree*

First Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTR301	6 credits	GTR302	6 credits
GTU401	4 credits	GTU402	4 credits
GMA801	2 credits	GMA802	2 credits

Second Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTR303	6 credits	GTR304	6 credits
GTU403	4 credits	GTU404	4 credits
GMA803	2 credits	GMA804	2 credits

Third Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTR305	6 credits	GTR306	6 credits
GTU405	4 credits	GTU406	4 credits
GRE907	2 credits	GRE908	2 credits

Fourth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTR307	6 credits	GTR308	6 credits
GTU407	4 credits	GTU408	4 credits
GRE902	2 credits	GRE903	2 credits

Fifth Year

First Semester		Second Semester	
GTR309	6 credits	GTR310	6 credits
GTU409	4 credits	GTU410	4 credits
GRE904	2 credits	GRE905	2 credits

Total: 120 credits

## **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution at any age. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem receives a request for access.

A student who wishes to inspect their education record should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the eligible student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of their privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to request that the school amend their education record should write the school official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If, after reviewing the request, the school decides not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the eligible student in writing of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the eligible student at that time.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official may include a person employed by the school in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a

student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the school.

Upon request or when initiated by the student, Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Students may file a complaint with the Student Privacy Policy Office (SPPO) at <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint>. Complaint forms may also be accessed at [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Complaint Form](#) and emailed to [FERPA.Complaints@ed.gov](mailto:FERPA.Complaints@ed.gov), or mailed to the following address:

U.S. Department of Education  
Student Privacy Policy Office  
400 Maryland Ave, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-8520

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to maintain a record of any disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional

services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))

- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To either parent of a student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, to proceed with or defend against the legal action. (§ 99.31(a)(9))  
To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- The information the school has designated as "directory information" under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11)): name, student status, marital status, spouse's name, telephone number, address, date of birth, place of birth, dates of attendance, enrollment status, degrees granted, dates degrees granted, names of prior institutions attended, chavrutas, chaburas, roommates, photos, videos, dormitory building/room numbers, seat information, parents' and parents in-law's names, addresses, occupations, congregations, and similar background information.

Note: Students have the right to restrict the sharing of directory information. Students who wish to make such a request must contact the registrar's office, and submit the request in

writing within 90 days from the beginning of the semester. Once a student requests that the school not disclose directory information, this hold on sharing directory information will remain in place until revoked by the student in writing. Requests cannot be put into effect retroactively.

- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school's rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him. (§ 99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student's violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§ 99.31(a)(15))

### **COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT POLICY**

As per 34 CFR 668.43(a)(10), students of Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem are hereby informed that the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including peer-to-peer file sharing, may subject the students to civil and criminal liabilities.

#### *Summary of Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws*

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense. For more information, please see the website of the U.S. Copyright Office at <https://copyright.gov>.

*Legal Alternatives for Downloading or Otherwise Acquiring Copyrighted Materials*

- Purchasing the material in a legal manner
- Securing permission for use from the copyright owner
- Linking directly to materials on other sites, rather than copying and pasting
- Sourcing materials from the public domain
- Lawfully using protected materials after a fair use analysis

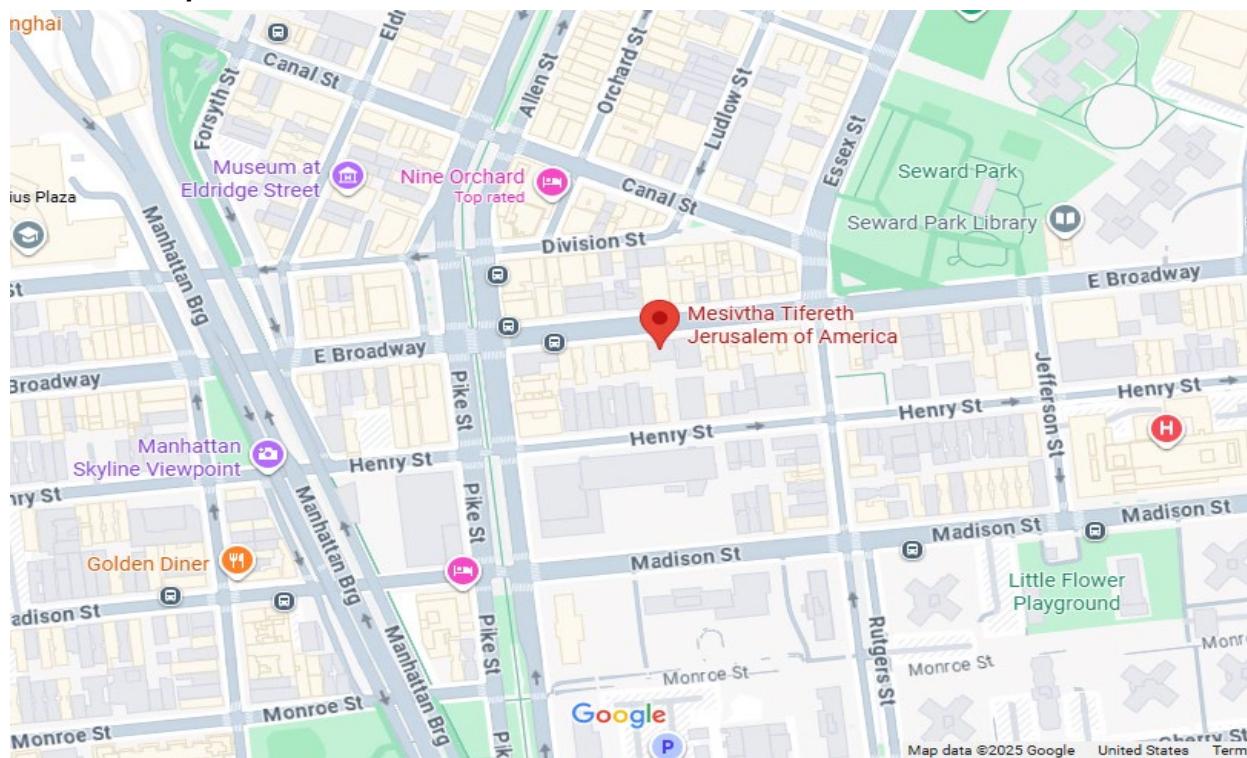
Students are reminded that using free content is not always copyright infringement, and purchased content may contain copyrighted work. Always ensure that any content you obtain, whether free or purchased, comes from a legitimate and trustworthy source.

*Unauthorized Peer-to-Peer Sharing*

Unauthorized peer-to-peer sharing is a copyright violation, and is prohibited by law, as well as by Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem. The school does not have an institutional information technology system for student use.

## MAP

### In-Town Campus



### Resident Campus

