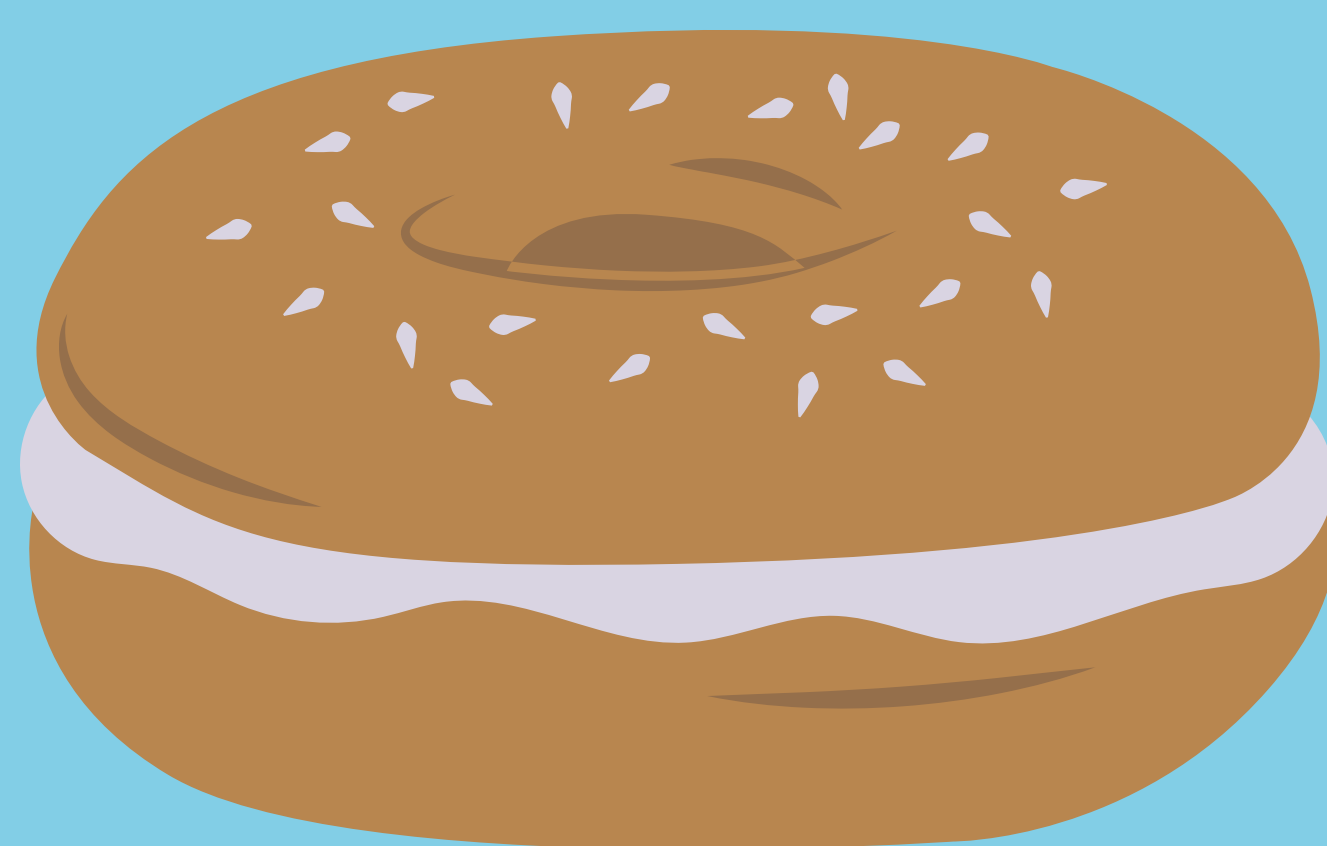


BCHSJS COURSE CATALOG

Fall 2024

[Register for Classes Here](#)



BCHSJS
Bergen County High School of Jewish Studies

Sundays:

10:30-11:20- Course 1

11:20-11:40- Break

11:40-12:20- Community Time

12:20-1pm- Course 2

475 Grove
Street,
Ridgewood



Jewish Federation
OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY



Period 1 Classes

10:30-11:20 AM

Moving Traditions: Kulam: A Class for Everyone (All Grades)

Mrs. Deborah Wolf

An innovative program that provides a safe space for teens to grow, create meaning, and connect to their Judaism. Kulam - Explores student's relationships with themselves, their family/friends, and the greater community.

Responsas: Is Ethical or Not (All Grades)

Rabbi David Fine

Facilitated interactive group discussions about Jewish law. The students will read through contemporary teshuvot (rabbinic responses on Jewish law) and discuss their thoughts and opinions on them. In this course, students will take information from the teshuvot as starting points for in-depth analysis of questions at the forefront of both American and Jewish law and ethics. Students will learn to apply important ideas to situations they personally encounter while navigating their own observance of Judaism within the realities posed by the world in which they live.

Better Together: An intergenerational volunteer course (All Grades)

Mr. Barnett Goldman

In the Jewish tradition, there is a mitzvah to honor the elderly. In this service-learning class, we will learn together as well as be actively involved in volunteering with a group of seniors. Some of our classes will take place during school time during our class from 10:30-11:20 and through the bagel break and community period until 12:20 at the Jewish Home in River Vale. Students who take this class will meet the seniors 4 times. On those weeks you'll need to come to BCHSJS 5 minutes early. This is a great class for 9th-grade students and those looking for community service hours.

History of Israel/Anti-Semitism/Anti-Zionism (All Grades)

Rabbi Gary Hoffman

A look at the history of the State of Israel and how it is perceived in light of contemporary events, and how one can respond as a critically-thinking young Jew.

Period 2 Classes 12:20-1:00 PM

Jewish Art History (All Grades)

Mrs. Deborah Wolf

Explore Jewish history from a new perspective! In this class, learn about and study the works of some of the greatest Jewish artists of all time. One of the most amazing things about Jewish art history is the necessity to create within restriction- Judaism prohibits the graven image. Somehow, artists have managed to work around this prohibition to create the elaborately hand-carved wooden synagogues of Poland (none of which still stand today), biblical tile zodiac floors, illuminated manuscripts, art created in the wake of the Holocaust, and much more! In this class, we will explore a new and exciting medium and artist each week.

Jewish Games & Outdoors (All Grades)

Mr. Barnett Goldman

The students will learn about the history of Jewish games (i.e., gaga; Jewish Apples to Apples) and then learn how to play them. Outdoor Education: Take learning outdoors by incorporating nature walks, wilderness survival skills, and ecological stewardship activities infused with Jewish teachings on environmental responsibility and appreciation for creation.

Jewish Infused Improv (All Grades)

Black Box Theater

Format: Interactive Who knew that improv could improve communication, cultivate leadership skills, and develop Jewish values? From warm-ups to full scenes, each class will develop students' improvisation skills while reinforcing Jewish values. Study with the best in the business: BLACK BOX THEATER.

The Week in Review (All Grades)

Rabbi Gary Hoffman

Text-based This course will feature provocative, accessible conversations and lively, sharp debates with friends of diverse opinions and backgrounds about things going on in the world. Our young people are hungry for constructive dialogue and difficult and honest conversations. While maintaining civility and fairness we will address issues with frankness and transparency. Students will be invited and encouraged to formulate and articulate their opinions on local and world events while exploring the Jewish perspectives on these issues. The class will use both Jewish and non-Jewish newspapers and magazines as well as videos and podcasts as primary sources. Biblical and Rabbinic online sources from the Torah and Mishna will also be presented for discussion.

Why Be Jewish? (All Grades)

Shalom Brauser

Why be Jewish? Is that really a question? Unless we convert, aren't we either born Jewish or not? That may be true, but it's still up to us to actively choose whether or not to live as a Jew. We can do that only if we know what it means to be a Jew. Together, we'll explore the greatest ideas of our faith, and discover the oldest roots of our history. Also, there may or may not be donuts. Looking forward to learning together!

Register for classes:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevPKyltaeF3ZoZAU2qu9DamKH3a0dcgXko12A2Z6FueWkxVg/viewform?pli=1>