# MIDRESHET AMIT

NIT J".54







At Midreshet AMIT you will spend your day learning, questioning, and growing in Torah. From interesting and challenging classes to guided chavruta study, your year will be packed with learning geared to help you develop a lifelong connection to Torah.

## A PLACE TO LIVE

Our home is in the Alfred M. and Frances Frisch Beit Hayeled, AMIT's well known foster home for disadvantaged youth. You will spend each day teaching, playing and caring for some of Israel's most needy children. As a "big sister" you will be challenged to give of yourself in a way you have never experienced before and you will be transformed in the process.

#### **A PLACE TO LIVE**



Your connection to Israel will be deepened through the unique experience of living and interacting with dedicated Israeli couples and committed Sherut Leumi young women. Through adventurous tiyulim, you will travel the length and breadth of Israel, learning about our history and gaining a greater appreciation for the State of Israel.

# BEIT MIDRASH

The teachers at AMIT have made us feel welcome and comfortable from the day we arrived. Their goal is to create the best learning environment for each individual student no matter what thier learning level is. They make us feel like their home is our home. This aspect of the program makes it a very special place to spend the year.

CHANA BAJTNER Chicago, IL One of the amazing things about Midreshet AMIT is that we can choose between so many inspirational and interesting shiurim, or we can have a chavruta in the beis with one of our teachers, who guide us in finding what we as individuals want to focus on in our learning and personal growth.

**JODIE FRANKS** London, England



Our Mashgichim provide our students with the religious and spiritual guidance necessary to reach and even exceed their goals. By learning with the girls one on one or in smaller groups (chubura style), the mashgichim develop close and meaningful relationships with each and every AMIT student.

The Beit Midrash is the center of spiritual life at AMIT. It is a place to learn independently or to learn b'chavruta with a staff member or a friend. It is a place to daven and meet one on one with our Mashgiach or Mashgicha Ruchani, our madrichot and our faculty. It is a place for quiet contemplation. Most of all, it's a place to connect with people who want to grow just like you.



RAV RAFI ROSENBLUM Mashgiach Ruchani



MRS. MIRI KWALWASSER Mashgicha Ruchani

MRS. NAOMI SCHRAGER Mashgicha Ruchani

"Having never been to Israel, I placed all my trust in AMIT to give me the full experience and since the moment I arrived I've never felt let down. There are so many opportunities for us to better ourselves in AMIT. Whether it's in the beit midrash, the classroom, or our chesed locations. My Wednesday chesed volunteering at Shaarei Zedek Hospital and assisting children muscular dystrophy is something I look forward to every week! Not only does it benefit the children, it benefits me. It makes me appreciate all that I can contribute to our people."

**OLGA MAMROUT** Hollywood, FL





A PLACE TO LIVE

## TORAH

The courses of Midreshet AMIT are designed to challenge and guide you as you develop your skills and knowledge. A wide variety of intermediate and davnaced classes on topics such as Tanach, Halacha, Hashkafa and Jewish History are offered.

Mornings include time spent in the Beit Midrash preparing texts and researching fascinating subjects under the supervision of caring and knowledgeable teachers. Our regular schedule is enhanced by special events and guest speakers.

#### At Midreshet AMIT, you will appreciate the relevance of our tradition in today's society and develop a lifelong commitment to Torah.

In addition to the variety of exciting classes offered every week at AMIT, there are numerous opportunities for additional learning. Educational Seminars throughout the year are centered around topics such as Zionism, Modern Orthodoxy, Emunah and Holidays with text based shiurim, special speakers and experiential programming. Our students have the opportunity to learn from some of Israel and America's most prominent leaders through special guest lectures which take place throughout the year. Optional daily chavrutot with our staff allow our students to engage in learning one on one and focusing on topics of their choice.

The AMIT Beit Midrash has been an amazing environment for us this year - whether it be a place to learn quietly alone , engage with peers in a chevruta or learning one on one with the amazing staff, we all know that we always have a place full of endless Torah learning opportunities. Coming to AMIT is something I wouldn't exchange for anything and am beyond grateful for the experience.

**LEXI WEINBERGER** Sydney, Australia





# THE CAMPUS

Our comfortable dormitory is located in residential Gilo, a southern suburb of Yerushalayim. Each suite has a fully equipped kitchen, air conditioning, American washer/ dryer, exercise equipment, internet access, and a lounge area. Three delicious meals are provided daily and the dormitory is open all year round. You can choose to stay "home" for Shabbat with your Beit Hayeled family or enjoy hospitality offered by AMIT faculty and friends. The highest security is maintained with closed circuit surveillance cameras and a full time armed guard. Caring madrichot live on the premises and are available to help provide students with all of their needs.





A PLACE TO LIVE

Midreshet AMIT provides unique opportunities for daily chesed. As you work with the children at Beit Hayeled you will use your talent and creativity to design and lead innovative programs. With care and compassion, you will have the opportunity to help disadvantaged children with their academic and social challenges. You will become part of a "mishpachton" (foster family unit) helping to provide much needed shelter, structure and stability.

Additionally, you will work with talented and dedicated post high school Sheirut Leumi girls who have volunteered to spend a year of their lives helping the children at Beit Hayeled. This entire project is supervised by a joint effort between the staff of Midreshet AMIT and the professionals at Beit Hayeled, including educators, psychologists and therapists. Throughout the year, these professionals conduct periodic seminars to help you navigate the challenges that you encounter working with foster children. **By giving to others, your lives will be immeasurably enriched and you will develop the skills to become the leaders of tomorrow.** 





Spending time with the kids of Beit Hayeled is truly a life changing experience. I look forward to working with Nehorai everyday! As much as I thought I would be making a difference in Nehorai's life, he is the one who is making a difference in mine.

**GABY BENELIYAHU** Los Angeles, CA





# A PLACE TO LIVE

At Midreshet AMIT you will not just spend a year in Israel, you will "Live Israel!" In addition to daily interaction with Israeli children and families at Beit Hayeled, Tanach and Jewish History come to life as we explore the geography of Israel on our monthly tiyulim. Shabbatonim in communities such as Yerushalayim, Gush Etzion, Tzefat and Beit Shemesh will expose you to the diverse populations of contemporary Israel.



The Chagim in Israel are amazing! From inspiring shiurim before each holiday to powerful tiyulim which teach us about our rich history, I have had the most inspiring holiday experience. AMIT has taught me both inside and outside of the classroom how to connect with this most special time of year.

**EMILIE KERENDIAN** Los Angeles, CA

Additionally, we are part of a large network of 110 AMIT schools throughout the entire country renowned for their academic excellence and professionalism. Throughout the year, we visit some of the AMIT schools in areas such as Sederot, Beersheva, Tzefat and Ashkelon and participate in special joint programs.



AMIT has taken us on some amazing tiyulim. Between water hikes, Old City tours, pre-Yom Kippur retreats and chesed outings, I have bonded with the girls and explored Israel in a way that I have never done before. These tiyulim have allowed me to truly appreciate the beauty of the land and I cannot wait to experience even more throughout my year!

חייצפה הייאג הפקאו

ם אשכחך ירושלים תשכח ימיני

שת אמ

ELIANA LUBOFSKY New Rochelle, NY

**TORAH · CHESED · ISRAEL** 

PHUL D'S

# WEEK ATA GLANCE

9:00-9:15 MORNING MEETING

## SUNDAY AND TUESDAY

MIDRESHET AMIT

9:15-10:20 Women in Nach

The Search for Identity in Sefer Shemot

> A Day in the Life The End of Days

10:25–11:25 The Family Feud in Bereshit Moral Dilemmas in Tanach Seven Habits of Highly Effective Jews World of Medrash

11:30–12:30 Exploring Tehilim Pirkei Avot Siman L'Banim Women in Jewish Law Middot & Mystical Meditation WEDNESDAY CHESED: OUT OF THE BUILDING

## **MONDAY AND THURSDAY**

9:15–10:05 Art of Tefila (Part 1) Hilchot Shabbat (Part 1) Mishlei Life Cycles

#### 10:05-10:55

Art of Tefila (Part 2) Hilchot Shabbat (Part 2) Villains in Tanach Intermediate Gemara

#### 11:00-11:50

Advanced Gemara (Part 1) Torah and Science

> Parsha Shutim

### 11:50-12:40

Advanced Gemara (Part 2) Shoah Hilchot Kashrut Thought of Rav Soloveitchik





#### MONDAY SUNDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY Afternoon Seder Yona (and other Yona (and other **Hey 19!** Hey 19! **Angry Prophets**) **Angry Prophets**) 2:45-3:40 **Hilchot Shabbat Hilchot Shabbat History of History of Face Time Thought of Rav Thought of Rav Zionism** Zionism **CLASSES** with Kook Kook **Traveling** Traveling **Mrs. Gottlieb OPEN BEIT** The Hidden The Hidden through our through our

MIDRASH Tefila World (Agadot Tefila World (Agadot **Chazal**) Chazal) **Living Inspired Living Inspired** 613! **Jerusalem U** Jerusalem U **Halacha and** 613! 3:45-4:40 Women in Medicine **Around the Year** Women in **Around the Year Jewish Law Jewish Law 13 Beliefs** CLASSES **Meaning in Meaning in Hilchot Kashrut** OR Mitzvot Mitzvot **Hilchot Kashrut Exploring Tefila OPEN BEIT Be All You Can Be All You Can** Modern Modern Jews in the **MIDRASH Be (Mesilat Be (Mesilat** Orthodoxy Orthodoxy News Yesharim) Yesharim) Interpersonal

Dilemmas BEIT Chasidut **BEIT HAYELED** 4:45-5:40 Middot HAYELED Workshop **Michtav M'Eliyahu** 7:45-9:00 Chavruta & Chavruta & **Chavruta &** Chavruta & **NIGHT SEDER** Chabura Chabura Chabura Chabura



OR



#### WOMEN IN NACH

In this course we will learn about the women found in בתוביא: We will explore their role and impact on their times and surroundings and apply the lessons of their lives to our lives today. We will learn about righteous women as well as some evil women, all of whose stories can teach us. We will focus on the primary text and explore relevant commentaries. We will work on developing the skills of analyzing בסוקים and ideas found within the stories of the Tanach.

#### THE SEARCH FOR TRUE IDENTITY: (AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF SEFER SHEMOT)

In this course, we will rediscove Sefer Shemot , the book which contains many of the most pivotal moments in Jewish history, such as the enslavement of Bnei Yisrael, Yetziat Mitzrayim, Kriyat Yam Suf, Matan Torah, and Chet HaEgel. We will begin by focusing on Moshe Rabbenu's personal growth as he himself searched for his own identity. What are the character traits he possessed which helped him throughout his personal struggles, and why is this important for us today. In studying these events, we will also explore the larger questions, such as: Why would God want his Chosen Nation to start as slaves? Why would God choose someone who grew up in an Egyptian palace to be the leader? Why would Hashem go through the process of the makot instead of simply taking His nation out of slavery? This class is a text-based class, in which we will delve into the stories, ask questions, and search through the pesukim and the commentators, in order to develop new thoughts and ideas.

#### A DAY IN THE LIFE (LAWS OF EVERYDAY LIFE)

The life of a Jew is filled with ritual from the time we wake up until we go to sleep. This halachah (Jewish Law) class will trace the cycle of the day using classic halachic sources as well as contemporary responsa with the goal of understanding and bringing meaning to our day

#### THE END OF DAYS

What is the difference between Gan Eden and Olam Habah? Does Techiyat Hameitim have anything to do with Moshiach? These are all concepts with which we are familiar, but what are their precise meanings? The goal of this course is to offer a survey of the various opinions regarding these terms, and help us order the concepts in a logical framework (and maybe even find a small hint of practical application for our daily lives!)

#### "THE FAMILY FEUD" (IN BEREISHIT)

Sefer Bereshit is made up of many stories, all which lead up to the creation of the Jewish nation. In many of these stories we encounter rivalry between siblings. In this course, we will delve into these sibling relationships. What is the source of dispute and strife? Why did Cain kill Hevel? Why did Esav sell his birthright to Yaakov? Why did Rivka tell Yaakov to trick Yitzchak? How could Yosef's brothers even fathom selling him? The answers to these questions will be discovered through analyzing the pesukim, reading the commentators and discussing the stories at hand.

#### **MORAL DILEMMAS IN TANACH**

The Torah is a timeless truth imbued with a divine morality. But as time goes on, the human sense of morality has changed. Should we change Torah values to make room for modern views? This course will examine the supposed moral dilemmas of Torah and mitzvoth, when viewed through a modern prism.

#### SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE JEWS

We are all creatures of habit. Many of us procrastinate work, errands, and phone calls. We know we will do them eventually we just "aren't in the mood" to do them right now ... Others always say "yes" when a friend asks us for a favor even if we really don't want to do what was being asked. Does saying "no" make you a "bad person?" Can giving be a bad thing? And some people get five hours of sleep and can function really well during the day, does that mean that's all the sleep you need? Steven Covey, author of Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, discusses the habits he believes help us develop into our best selves. For example, how to best listen to people, how to prioritize our time, when its best to work alone or best to work as a team. etc...In this class we will learn these habits in detail while incorporating Jewish philosophy, and specific mitzvoth. Combining these ideas will help us appreciate how the Torah is truly a guidebook of maximizing our lives. Exercise, sleep, being more assertive, and so many "good habits" are positive mitzvoth as well. Together we will learn how to develop these positive habits into our everyday lives.

#### WORLD OF MEDRASH: (HOW THE MIDRASH GOT IT'S GROOVE BACK)

Do a little dance. Make a little chiddush. Get down with some funky Midrashim. Learning to love Parshat Hashavuah by really tasting the details of the story. What actually happened? What did it look like? Feel like? Smell like? And what in the world do the midrashim on the parsha have to do with me? Time to explore the parshas and ourselves, in the World of Midrash.



#### **EXPLORING SEFER TEHILLIM**

Sefer Tehillim is a timeless work full of spiritual guidance and essential wisdom. In this class will study and analyze selected chapters, discover their meaning and message and their relevance to our lives. We will cover the psalms which are well known (including those that appear in our daily tefillot) as well as those less known which contain treasures waiting to be discovered. The insights of Tehillim will help us comprehend the ways of Hashem and develop our own potential as a Jew.

#### **PIRKEI AVOT SIMAN LABANIM**

The Torah has so many incredible messages to teach us through the myriad of stories and lives it describes, and so many of those ethics and morals are recounted in Pirkei Avot. Together, in this unique course which combines Pirkei Avot with Tanach, we will learn about different parts of Tanach and see how each story can so eloquently teach us by example the lessons of the Mishna and the ideals by which we should shape our own personal lives today.

#### WOMEN IN JEWISH LAW

As Jewish women, it is essential for us to study and gain insight into the mitzvot that we observe. In this course, we will develop a deep conceptual understanding of a woman's performance of mitzvot. We will trace the unique set of laws applying to the Jewish woman from Tanach through contemporary poskim. The challenges and opportunities facing the Jewish woman in today's society will be discussed, debated and analyzed throughout the year. Topics we will cover include: ראש, קול אישה, and more.

#### MIDDOT AND MYSTICAL MEDITATION

Each class focuses on learning about a different character trait and at the end of class we do a short meditation to help integrate the ideas for greater yishuv hadat (peace of mind.)

#### YONA (AND OTHER ANGRY PROPHETS)

Tanach is a never ending resource for inspiration and stimulation. No matter how many times you think you learned a part of Tanach, there is always something new to learn and apply. This course will explore Tanach in depth. We will analyze the text and stories through a close look at the p'shat, with both classic and modern commentators in hand. Along the way, we will familiarize ourselves to the approaches of the Mefarshim, with the goal of learning how to think like one. We will begin with a look at Sefer Yona, a prophet who seemed very angry at everything which crossed his path. From there, we will look at some other fiery prophets who delivered Hashem's message to the world.

#### **HISTORY OF ZIONISM**

This course is an intensive study of the modern political phenomena that has brought about a Jewish State in Eretz Yisrael. Who were these secular and religious Jews who brought about a complete change in Jewish affairs after a 2000-year exile? What is Zionism? What happened in the 19th century to bring Zionism into the hearts and minds of the people? How does Israel today function as a Jewish state while also acting as a vibrant democracy? This class will introduce the student to the "movers and shakers" who shaped Zionist thinking. It will also expose students to the issues and problems of a modern Jewish State that also functions as a democracy. Lastly, students will become familiar with the importance of Eretz Yisrael in Jewish Thought.

#### TRAVELLING THROUGH OUR TEFILLA

In this course we will discuss the fundamentals of Tefillah. Tefilla is something that can be challenging to relate to and understand properly, but it can be an invaluable tool for forging a deep and personal relationship with G-d and playing an essential role in our spiritual growth. We will learn and discuss the purpose of tefilla and the different types of tefillot that exist. We will study and go through sections from the siddur and discover the unique role and message of each Tefillah. Our goal is to deepen our understanding of what we are doing and realize what an effect tefilla can have on our lives. The classes will be partially text-based with lots of interactive discussion.

#### **LIVING INSPIRED**

Inspiration doesn't just "happen". It is something we have to be open to; it is a way of life and takes a mindset of growth. Together in this class, we will work towards having a more meaningful life. We will address many down-to-earth topics, including: how to become who you really are; leaving your mark on the world; clearing your mind of distractions; swimming against peer pressure; how to achieve happiness, and much more. By acquiring tools to face life's challenges, we will hopefully leave each shiur feeling uplifted, inspired, more selfaware and more connected – to ourselves, to Hashem, and to the Jewish people.

## AN INFINITE DEAL: 21ST CENTURY ZIONISM (ISRAEL ADVOCACY)

Israel as a country and a political entity is always in the news. Anti-Semitism and pro-Palestinian sentiment are in full gear on the college campus and in the world at large. This course is designed to teach you to advocate effectively for Israel on campus. Educate yourself with a dynamic seminar, a multimedia presentation and Israel policy experts that focus on the Jewish connection to the Land of Israel, and the development of Jewish leadership skills.

#### **AROUND THE JEWISH YEAR**

The Jewish calendar is a living, breathing, and vibrant guide which lead us through the various emotions and experiences of our Jewish existence. From the exulted freedom of Passover to the bitter tears of Tisha B'Av, the Jewish calendar helps shape the character of the Jewish experience. However, too often we are caught off guard and find ourselves unprepared to properly absorb the power of each month and the flavor of each holiday as they seem to suddenly arrive unexpectedly. In this course, we will travel through the entire Jewish year- from start to finish- and make stops along the way to learn about the laws and lessons of each special day. Obviously, the course will not be able to cover every holiday in full detail, but will at least give a taste of each one. The course will cover at least basic laws related to each significant day, as well as provide an understanding of the morals and values that each day is meant to introduce.

#### **MEANING IN MITZVOT**

In this course we will be discovering the depth and meaning behind the mitzvot that we do on a regular basis. The mitzvot are the building blocks of our Jewish life and relationship to G-d. These classes will help us understand the importance of mitzvot in general and will focus on specific mitzvot in detail to raise our awareness of them and to bring more meaning and inspiration into our daily actions and lives.

#### **ISSUES IN MODERN ORTHODOXY**

In this class we will attempt to anticipate some of the challenges that will occur when the student is no longer in their supportive Jewish environment. We will be discussing issues such as: What to do when we start to doubt? How to react and interact with other religions and with other denominations of Judaism? Is evolution anti – Torah? What is Biblical criticism, and the like.





#### THE ART OF TEFILAH

Tefillah is the expression of the soul. How can we make Tefillah more meaningful, and a true expression of our inner world? In this class we will delve into the soul of the Tefillot, and create works of art that reflect our own interpretation of the meaning of the prayers. Each Tefillah unit will introduce a different artistic technique. A double period will insure maximum productivity and creativity.

#### **HILCHOT SHABBAT**

From the perspective that "תלמוד מביא לידי מעשה" ("Study fosters observance"), Hilchot Shabbat is an essential aspect of any curriculum. Such a central aspect of Jewish life demands not only a knowledge of what to do, but an understanding of why we do it. We will study some of the most commonly encountered areas of Hilchot Shabbat with emphasis on their practical application. As a double period class, we will have plenty of time for chavruta, skill building, and individual growth as part a central aspect of our class.

#### THE BOOK OF MISHLEI

Of all the books of Tanach, Mishlei is one of the most esoteric. What did Shlomo Hamelech have in mind when he said "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight (Mishlei 3,6)"? Or, "He who scorns a word will cause himself injury, but he who reveres a commandment will be rewarded"? If you ever wanted to understand these sayings and more, then this class is for you. We will try to uncover the depth and wisdom of Shlomo Hamelech in a way that we can take practical lessons that will impact our lives.

#### LIFE CYCLES

From Birth to Death- Ever wonder why people put all their jewelry around the baby at a יברוך שפטרני" Do you say "ברוך שפטרני" on a Bat Mitzvah? Wonder why a Kallah walks around the Chatan 7 times? In this class we will explore the reasons, halachot and minhagim of all the major lifecycle events so that when they happen to you – you know what and why we Jews do what we do!

#### **VILLAINS IN TANACH**

In this class we will explore some of the most well-known stories in Tanach (as well as some lesser known episodes), but rather than focus on the protagonist we will analyze and get to know the villains. We will ask such fundamental questions as- what is evil. What makes the 'bad guys (or girls)' of Tanach bad? Relying on the peshat as well as the Midrashic and later commentaries, we will try to understand these unethical characters and learn how NOT to act. While this is a text based class, we will rely heavily on class discussion and group analysis.

#### INTERMEDIATE GEMARA

What is the Talmud? This Gemara course explores the many levels comprising one of Judaism's most cherished works. The Gemara is the Jewish guide to life discussing law, ethics, history, science, and Torah interpretation. Supplementary discussions will analyze the significance of this 2000 year old document and why Jews continue to revere its message. This Talmud course is an opportunity for students to develop their understanding of the Gemara's style and content. It is a text-based course that is suitable for newcomers to Gemara as well as those who have had previous experience learning Talmud.

#### ADVANCED GEMARA

The Gemara is the central work of all of Torah Sheba'al Peh, and in it contains the key to Jewish Law and beyond. This class will explore the Gemara in depth. Emphasis will be placed on critical analysis of Gemara and Early Rabbinic Scholars, with the goal of understanding the foundation of Halachah. As a double period class, we will have plenty of time for chavruta, skill building, and individual growth as part a central aspect of our class.

## EXPLORING TORAH THROUGH THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

In this course we will be studying topics such as Evolution, The Age of the World, Dinosaurs, Spontaneous Generation, Stem Cell Research, Organ Donation, Surrogacy and Autopsies. We will also be covering topics such as Art such as Color Theory and Tolerance, Art in the Mishkan, Hiddur Mitzvah, Graven Images, Biblical Art. The purpose of this course is to enable us to see the connections and interactions between Torah and other disciplines and to be exposed to Conflicts that come up in both the Science and Art worlds, as related to Torah. Each topic will be analyzed using classical Torah sources as well as scientific articles or Art journals. We will also be physically getting our hands dirty doing science experiments. The aim of the class is to enable students to feel confident in their knowledge of the issues and to be exposed to various resolutions.

#### **IN PURSUIT OF THE PARSHA**

The Parsha is more than just another subject. Parshat Hashavua is the common language that connects Jews of every different type. Knowledge of the Parsha and its issues is a basic foundation upon which all learning is based. This class is dedicated to pursuit of the Parsha. It is a chavrutabased period in which pairs of students will gain knowledge of the parsha, it's important Rashi's, famous issues, and commentators by delving into the parsha together.

#### SHEILOT U'TESHUVOT (QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS) IN OUR EVER CHANGING WORLD

This course will focus on שאלות ותשובות (known as שילות ותשובות) and the integral role they have played for the last 1000 plus years. We will see how the Gemara, the rishonim, the שולח שולחן, and the achronim are used to answer questions that arise in all areas of our ever changing world. We will cover topics as far ranging as organ donations, electricity and many of its applications, what brachot will be said when we see Moshiach, cosmetic surgery, inviting irreligious Jews to our homes, hydroponics, and many more.

#### THE SHOAH

In this course we will be taking a look at one of the greatest tragedies of Jewish History through the lens of History, Halacha and Hashkafa.

Topics that will be discussed are: The uniqueness of the Shoah The life that was - understanding what was lost

The History & Theology of Anti-Semitism The rise of the Nazi party The reaction of the world What did we know and when did we know it What is a ghetto and were all ghettos the same

The transports and camps Rescue and resistance Leadership & youth during the war years Theology of the Shoah The end of the war – when did it really end for the Jews.

#### KASHRUT ON CAMPUS (AND AT HOME, TOO.)

Keeping kosher is one of the pillars of Jewish observance, and understanding the principles of Kashrut and knowing how to apply them is paramount to living a full Jewish life. The college dormitory presents particular challenges in this regard. This course will provide an overview of the principles of kashrut, with special emphasis on issues that are likely to arise and emphasis the practical laws and issues pertaining to the maintenance of a kosher home.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF RAV SOLOVEITCHIK

The Rav, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, was among the most influential leaders and thinkers of twentieth century orthodoxy, whose impact is felt in our shuls, schools and homes. The Rav's essays remain a wellspring of insight into the world and the Jew's place in it. Issues such as the State of Israel, Torah and creativity, prayer, and other topics, as well as finding unifying themes in his thought, will be explored.



#### **HEY 19!**

There are 19 books in Nach, but what are they about? Here is your chance to meet of all the Neviim and Ketuvim: from the book of Yehoshua through Divrei Hayamim. Every class we will explore themes from different sefarim. We will seek out lessons from each one and learn a selected piece of each text and discuss it. Join us on this journey through our faith and history!

#### **HILCHOT SHABBAT**

From the perspective that" מלשור מביא לידי "מעשה" ("Study fosters observance"), Hilchot Shabbat is an essential aspect of any curriculum. Such a central aspect of Jewish life demands not only a knowledge of what to do, but an understanding of why we do it. We will study some of the most commonly encountered areas of Hilchot Shabbat with emphasis on their practical application.

#### THOUGHT OF RAV KOOK

The name Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, has come to be synonymous with religious Zionism. In fact, is impossible to understand religious Zionism in Israel without having some understanding of the writings of Rav Kook. However, Rabbi Kook's thought is deep and wide ranging, from modern Zionism to deep and timeless mysticism. This course will explore the works of Rabbi Kook and enable the student to grasp the depth of his thought.

## THE HIDDEN WORLD (AN EXPLORATION OF AGADOT CHAZAL)

The ancient texts of the Aggada and Midrash contain timeless wisdom "hidden" in the form of amazing stories, elaborate parables, and cryptic sayings. In this course we will uncover the deeper messages that Chazal intended to communicate in these remarkable passages. Join us as we focus on such topics as" the holidays, Tefillah, ethics, character traits, and the challenges of modernity.

#### SURVEY OF THE 613 MITZVOT

We are familiar with the idea that there are 613 mitzvot, but have you ever wondered where that number came from? And why are there so many mitzvot? Can't we just have a few that we perfect instead? Is living in Israel a mitzvah? How about davening? Where does the mitzvah of chesed come from? How much Torah does one need to learn every day? In this class, we will look at what the Rishonim (Rambam, Ramban, Smag...) considered as part of the 613 mitzvot and we will try to learn more about a selection of those mitzvot (what to do, when to do them, who needs to do them...)

#### BE ALL YOU CAN BE (MESILAT YESHARIM, PATH OF THE JUST)

The Mesilat Yesharim was written by Rav Moshe Chaim Luzzato in the eighteenth century and has become the most renowned of all mussar sefarim. It describes a step by step approach towards development of one's character traits and growth in service of G-d. For anyone who is truly interested in improving as a human being and becoming a true oved Hashem: this course is highly recommended.

#### **MEDICINE IN HALACHA**

Judaism values life over all other things. For this reason, much time and thought has been spent discussing the relationship between medicine and Jewish Law. In this class, we will explore both the legal aspects, as well as the philosophical dilemmas that arise on a daily basis. Am I in charge of my body to do with it as I please? Must I seek medical attention in all situations, or may I decline medical intervention? Are there limits to what I may do on Shabbos? This course will provide practical answers to many questions that come up, as well as an understanding of the fundamental issues that are at hand. The topics we will cover will include the beginning of life and abortion, euthanasia and suicide, and many other topics in between.

#### **13 BELIEFS**

Curious About the Torah's teachings of God, Prophecy, and Mashiach? The 13 Principals of Faith, which Rambam called the 13 basic beliefs of Judaism, is a good place to start. This class will involve in depth philosophical discussions regarding the importance of this much debated list.

#### **EXPLORING TEFILLA**

מפילה presents perhaps Judaism's greatest challenge. It is a commandment unaccompanied by action—the individual confronts G-d with her mind, her mouth and her heart. The high frequency of this practice demands great attention, and the entire institution of prayer must be examined in order to make this a meaningful practice. In this course we will work through the central prayers of the prayer book to understand their origins and meanings.

#### **JEWS IN THE NEWS**

Description: So often, when Jews are highlighted in the media, it's for negative reasons, stories that cause a chilul Hashem. But there are also many examples of "good Jews in the news". In this class we will highlight a different story each week of Jews who have caused a kiddush Hashem. We will analyze their stories and discuss the impact they can have. We will also discuss relevant halachot. Topics will include returning lost objects, halacha in space, business ethics, Jews in politics and more!

## INTERPERSONAL ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN HALACHA

When is it recommended to be critical of someone else? When is it forbidden to give tzedakka? When is lashon hara allowed? This class will discuss the complicated world of interpersonal relations drawing from the halachot of ben adam l'chaveiro.

#### THE THOUGHT OF CHASSIDUT

Chassidut introduced new ways of understanding major themes in Jewish philosophy through a lens of heightened spirituality. In this class, we will explore the novel approach that the great Chassidic masters advanced regarding many different topics, and explore ways to apply the lessons of chasidut in our daily lives—in our Avodat Hashem, interpersonal relationships and the challenges we face. Some of the topics to be covered include: Faith in God, Love and Fear of God, Prayer, Torah Study, The Tzaddik, and more.

#### **MIDDOT WORKSHOP**

The goal of this class is personal, interpersonal as well as spiritual growth. We will discuss the importance of certain character traits. We will also address the challenges of and strategies towards self improvement. Ultimately, we'll discover how certain midot can facilitate happiness, success and meaning in life.

#### **MICHTAV M'ELIYAHU**

Rav Eliyahu Dessler was one of the greatest Jewish thinkers of the twentieth century. R' Dessler was born in the late 1800s in Lithuania where he learned under some of the leaders of European Jewry. R' Dessler went on to spread his teachings to England before finally settling in Israel and teaching there until the end of his life. This class will explore some of his ideas on Judaism from the five volume set of his teachings - Michtav M'Eliyahu. Some of the questions that we will delve into include: what is love? Do we really have free will? Reward in this world and the world to come. What are some of the tricks that the yetzer hara uses and how can we fight against those challenges? These are but a few of the topics we will cover as we explore the beautiful words of R' Dessler.



## AGADEMIC

## AUGUST

Monday, August 28 MTA and Torani Arrival and Orientation

**Thursday, August 31** US Group Flight Arrival and Opening Program

## SEPTEMBER

Shabbat, September 2 Opening AMIT Shabbaton

Sunday, September 3 Student Orientation

Monday, September 4 Yom Gibbush

Tuesday, September 5 Classes Begin

Wednesday, September 6 Chessed Orientation

Motzei Shabbat, September 16 Selichot Begin

Wednesday, September 20 Erev Rosh Hashanah, no classes

Thursday, September 21-Friday, September 22 Rosh Hashanah Sunday, September 24 Tzom Gedalia, AM Classes, Selichot at Migdal Oz

Monday, September 25 Pre- Yom Kippur Retreat

Friday, September 29 Erev Yom Kippur, no classes

Shabbat, September 30 Yom Kippur Program in Beit Hayeled

## **OCTOBER**

Thursday, October 5-Sunday, October 15 Succot Vacation

Monday, October 16 Classes Resume

Friday, October 20 "Live Israel Tiyul"

Shabbat, October 21 AMIT Shabbaton

## NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 5 Chessed Trip

Thursday, November 9 Educational Seminar Wednesday, November 15- Thursday, November 16 Overnight Tiyul

Shabbat, November 18 AMIT Shabbaton

Thursday, November 23 Thanksgiving Dinner Extravaganza

## DECEMBER

Month of December Beit Hayeled Group Shabbatonim- Dates TBA

Week of December 3rd AMIT Week #1 (1 day trip)

Tuesday, December 12 Chanukah Chagiga and Dinner

Wednesday, December 13 Chanukah Mesibot with Staff

> Thursday, December 14 Chanukah Tiyul

Sunday, December 17-Tuesday, December 19 Chanukah Vacation

#### Wednesday, December 20 Classes Resume

#### Wednesday, December 27

MTA Southern Hemisphere Closing Event

#### Thursday, December 28

Assara B'Tevet Fast- Yad Vashem, No PM Classes

## JANUARY

Shabbat, January 20 AMIT Shabbaton

Monday, January 22-Tuesday, January 23 Overnight Tiyul

Wednesday, January 24- Thursday, January 25 Winter Break

Sunday, January 28 Classes resume

Monday, January 29 Educational Seminar

Wednesday, January 31 Tu B'shvat Evening Program

## GALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

Week of February 18th AMIT Week #2 (1 day trip)

Friday, February 23 "Live Israel Tiyul"

Shabbat, February 24 AMIT Shabbaton

Wednesday, February 28 Ta'anit Esther, No PM Classes

## MARCH

**Thursday, March 1** Purim, Evening Chagiga

Friday, March 2 Shushan Purim, Purim Seudah Brunch **Tuesday, March 6** Educational Seminar

Friday, March 9 Jerusalem Marathon- GO TEAM AMIT

Thursday, March 15 Pre-Pesach Seminar

Sunday, March 18-Monday, April 9 Pesach Vacation

Monday, March 19-Monday, March 26 Heritage Poland Trip

**APRIL** 

**Tuesday, April 10** Classes Resume

Thursday, April 12 Yom Hashoah Friday, April 13 "Live Israel Tiyul"

Shabbat, April 14 AMIT Shabbaton

Wednesday, April 18 Yom Hazikaron

Thursday, April 19 Yom Haatzmaut

Monday, April 30-Tuesday, May 1 Overnight Tiyul

## MAY

Thursday, May 3 Lag Baomer Trip

Thursday, May 10 Educational Seminar

Sunday, May 13 Yom Yerushalayim Shabbat, May 19-Sunday, May 20 Shabbaton and Shavuot Program

> Monday, May 28 College Prep

## JUNE

Shabbat, June 2 AMIT Shabbaton

Sunday, June 3 Closing Banquet

Tuesday, June 5 Dorm Closes

Wednesday, June 6 Summer Zman Learning Begins

Wednesday, June 28 Summer Zman Learning Ends

Punt D. 13X

**TORAH · CHESED · ISRAEL** 

All Beit Hayeled special activities and events TBA upon arrival.

ALL dates and events are tentative and subject to change.

No vacations are permitted without permission from the school administration.

# OUR STUDENTS

#### AMIT STUDENTS ARRIVE FROM THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOLS:

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Beren Academy (Houston, TX) Beth Rivkah (Melbourne, Australia) CHAT (Toronto, ON) Fuchs Mizrachi (Cleveland, OH) HAFTR (Lawrence, NY) HANC (Plainview, NY) Hasmonean High School (London, UK) Hillel Day School (Miami, FL) Ida Crown Academy (Chicago, IL) Kesser Torah (Sydney, Australia) Maayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls (Teaneck, NJ) Magen David (Brooklyn, NY) Maimonides (Boston, MA) Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy (Potomac, MD) Moriah College (Sydney, Australia) North Shore Hebrew Academy (Great Neck, NY) Rabbi Alexander S. Gross Hebrew Academy (Miami Beach, FL) Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School (Livingston, NJ) RAMAZ (New York, NY) SAR (Riverdale, NY) Shalhevet (Los Angeles, CA) Stella K. Abraham High School for Girls (Hewlett, NY) Frisch (Paramus, NJ) Ulpanat Orot (Toronto, ON) Weinbaum Yeshiva High School (Boca Raton, FL) Westchester Hebrew High School (Westchester, NY) Yeshiva College (Johannesburg, South Africa) Yeshiva of Atlanta (Atlanta, GA) Yeshiva of Flatbush (Brooklyn, NY) Yeshiva of Greater Washington (Silver Spring, MD) YU High School for Girls (Queens, NY) YULA (Los Angeles, CA)

#### AMONG THE UNIVERSITIES OUR STUDENTS ATTEND ARE:

Chennon Chennon

Bar Ilan University (Israel) **Barnard College Boston University Brandeis University** Columbia University **Emory University** Fashion Institute of Technology Hunter College **IDC** (Israel) Johns Hopkins University London School of Economics **McGill University** New York University **Parsons College Queens College** SUNY Albany **SUNY Binghamton Touro College** UCLA University College of London University of Maryland University of Michigan University of Pennsylvania Washington University Yeshiva University - Stern College for Women York University



#### **OUR STUDENTS COME FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:** United States, Canada, England, Australia, South Africa and The Netherlands

Midreshet AMIT has taught me that family isn't only defined by blood or by a last name. It's defined by commitment and love. It means showing up and being a part of a child's life. It mean's having someone's back. It means choosing to love each other even on days when you struggle to like each other. At Midreshet AMIT family isn't just something...it's everything.

Johannesburg, South Africa

CHERISH AEL'S CHILDREN

S

Living Torah. Living Chesed and Living Israel isn't just the tagline at AMIT - it's the reality. My "Makom" in the Beis is filled with Sefarim and I wake up every day ready to learn something new. I have developed new friendships with girls who all share the same goals as mine. AMIT is everything I have hoped for and I have never been happier!

**ILANA GOLDMEIER** Chicago, IL AMIT fosters an environment that allows you to learn at your own pace and helps the development of self motivation that is needed throughout life. We are not only finding ourselves at AMIT, but helping kids find strength and trust in something greater than themselves.

**RAYNA WASSERMAN** Los Angeles, CA Although I came to AMIT only knowing a few people, everyone has been so welcoming and I feel so comfortable with the girls and the staff. One of the best aspects of the programme is that I now have friends from all around the world.

MADDY ASSOR London, England

At AMIT I know I am learning to my highest potential because I get to customize my schedule and choose from a large variety of classes that interest me. In addition, I am excited to further my own learning with the one on one chavrutot that I have set up twice a week in the Beit Midrash.

**ZOE EISENBERG** Livingston, NJ In high school, I definitely wasn't the girl taking extra elective classes and staying late to speak with teachers. At AMIT, you can always find me chatting with the staff and spending time in the Beit Midrash after hours. **NICOLE JACOBS** 

Woodmere, NY

The chesed program at AMIT is unlike anywhere else. Not only do I feel like I am making a difference in another child's life every day but that child is changing mine. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for me to be a "big sister" to an Israeli child.

MICHELLE DELMAN Sharon, MA



# ADMINISTRATION



## Mrs. Ilana Gottlieb

A natural and highly regarded educator, Mrs. Gottlieb has served as director of Midreshet AMIT since 2009-2010. In addition to her administrative responsibilities, Mrs. Gottlieb's open-door policy and engaging personality enables her to develop close personal relationships with each of the students at AMIT. Mrs. Gottlieb earned a BA in Education summa cum laude from Stern College, as well as a Masters degree in Education and Administration from Azrieli Graduate School, where she was co-valedictorian. With her special combination of personal warmth and professional excellence, Mrs. Gottlieb is an inspiring leader and ideal role model for our students. Mrs. Gottlieb lives in Ramat Shilo with her husband and four children.



#### Rabbi Daniel Goldstein Rav HaMidrasha

Rabbi Daniel Goldstein has been a faculty member at Midreshet AMIT since we opened our doors in 2007. Prior to making aliyah, Rabbi Goldstein served as the rabbi of Kingsway Jewish Center in Brooklyn, NY. Rabbi Goldstein received his BA from Yeshiva College, Semicha from RIETS, and an MA in History from Brooklyn College. With his wise academic guidance and genuine care for each individual, Rabbi Goldstein ensures that every student maximizes the opportunities available for her at AMIT. Rabbi Goldstein and his family live in Neve Daniel.



#### Mrs. Barbara Vidomlanski Coordinator of Student Life

Mrs. Barbara Vidomlanski's round-the-clock guidance and good humor ensure that our students are happy and cared for 24/7. With innovative Shabbatonim, tiyulim, and chesed programs, Barbara – as she's known at AMIT – adds fun, exciting, and inspiring out-of-the-classroom components to the AMIT experience. Barbara earned her degree in education from Stern College and in addition to the various formal and informal educational positions she has held, she has spent many summers on staff at Camp Moshava. Barbara and her husband live in Ramat Shilo with their six children.



#### Mrs Shirelle Avreky Eim Bayit and Beit Hayeled Chesed Coordinator

Shirelle is our first Midreshet AMIT alumnus to serve as a full time staff member. As Eim Bayit, she works with both faculty and students to make sure that all the girls are well taken care of. As Beit Hayeled Chesed Coordinator, she oversees all interactions between the foster families and the AMIT students and runs exciting special events in our building. Her warmth and dynamic personality, and her open home for a late night shmooze or a Shabbat meal have endeared her to the entire AMIT family.



Our faculty is made up of Israel's most dynamic and caring educators. They have the special ability to make ancient texts relevant and meaningful. They are dedicated to the students and focused on creating lasting relationships. Our faculty are role models and represent an ideal synthesis of love of Torah, Am Yisrael and Eretz Yisrael.













Mrs. Nili B'Simcha

Mrs. Sima **Cohen Blaustein** 

Rabbi Jonathan Duker

Mrs. Pesha Fischer

Mrs. Esther Hammer

Mrs. Sepha Kirshblum





Mrs. Dara Knapel

Rabbi Jason Knapel



Rabbi Noam Koenigsberg



Mrs. Miri **Kwalwasser** 



Lyons



Mrs. Adina

Mann



**Reb Norman** Meskin



Rabbi Rafi Rosenblum



Mrs. Naomi Schrager



Mrs. Aliza Schwartz



Mrs. Geula Twersky



Rabbi Shalom Weisberg



Rabbi Aharon Wexler



Rabbi Max Daniels



Rabbi Jonny Friedman



Rabbi Eytan Goldstein



Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg



Mrs Shani Benovitz



Ms. Rebecca Gellis



Grad



Mrs. Elana Penner











## MIDRESHET AMIT 9 Hashayish St • Jerusalem, Israel 93841

T: 02-6450435 • USA T: 646-484-8982 • F: 02-6767822

## www.midreshetamit.org







