

# Shalom

Hello! It is my pleasure to be among the first people to welcome you to the “Exploring Judaism” class. This class is designed for those exploring Judaism for the first time, for those beginning a conversion process, and for those Jews who wish to refresh their knowledge of a wide range of topics relating to Judaism. As part of your learning process, the class includes a panel with several of our community’s rabbis. It is a good way to establish your first contact for what we hope will become many in the future. The Jewish Federation of Omaha also offers programs and activities that are open to the entire community. As the Director of Community Engagement & Education I encourage you to contact me so that I may assist you in making more connections to Jewish life in Omaha.



**Jennie Gates Beckman**

Director of Community  
Engagement & Education  
jbeckman@jewishomaha.org  
(402) 334-6445



*Scott Littky is an experienced Jewish education professional. He began his career in Jewish education in 1985 as a religious school teacher. From 1988 until 1997 he served the then Bureau of Jewish Education of Omaha as a Community Teacher. He taught at the Friedel Jewish Academy in addition to afternoon religious school programs. Scott served 17 years as a Director of Education beginning at Beth El Synagogue in Omaha, followed by Beth Israel Synagogue in Ann Arbor, MI, and Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria, VA. During the summer of 2014, Scott returned to live in Omaha and served for three years as the Program Director at Temple Israel. Currently Scott is the Executive Director of the Institute for Holocaust Education.*



**The Jewish Federation**  
OF OMAHA

333 S. 132nd Street • Omaha, NE 68154  
[www.jewishomaha.org](http://www.jewishomaha.org)



## Exploring Judaism

• Fall 2019 •

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm

• Winter 2020 •

Mondays, 7:00-8:30 pm

KRIPKE JEWISH FEDERATION LIBRARY

Instructor: Scott Littky  
Executive Director of IHE



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# FALL 2019 Class Schedule

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

## PART I: JUDAISM AS A RELIGION

- Sept. 3** Intro: What is a Jew and Jewish Contributions
- Sept. 10** Written Torah: Sacred Text, Oral Torah & Rabbinic Writings
- Sept. 17** Basic Beliefs and Mitzvot
- Sept. 24** Theology, Philosophy & Jewish Ethics, Who is a Jew?

## PART II: JUDAISM AS HISTORY

- Nov. 5** Part I: History, Zionism, Anti-Semitism, Holocaust, American Jewish Experience
- Nov. 12** Part II: History, Zionism, Anti-Semitism, Holocaust, American Jewish Experience

## PART III: JUDAISM AS A WAY OF LIFE

- Nov. 19** Hebrew Calendar, Holidays and Shabbat
- Nov. 26** Jewish Life Cycle & Culture
- Dec. 3** The Mikvah, Riekes Museum, Jewish Omaha
- Dec. 10** Israel Today & Jewish Secular Life
- Dec. 17** Contemporary Judaism and Denominations: Clergy Panel

*Course instructor will provide links to all class material and recommends additional reading throughout the course.*

All classes held at the Kripke Jewish Federation Library, 333 S. 132nd Street, Omaha.

# WINTER 2020 Class Schedule

Mondays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

## PART I: JUDAISM AS A RELIGION

- Jan. 6** Intro: What is a Jew and Jewish Contributions
- Jan. 13** Written Torah: Sacred Text, Oral Torah & Rabbinic Writings
- Jan. 20** Basic Beliefs and Mitzvot
- Jan. 27** Theology, Philosophy & Jewish Ethics, Who is a Jew?

## PART II: JUDAISM AS HISTORY

- Feb. 3** Part I: History, Zionism, Anti-Semitism, Holocaust, American Jewish Experience
- Feb. 10** Part II: History, Zionism, Anti-Semitism, Holocaust, American Jewish Experience

## PART III: JUDAISM AS A WAY OF LIFE

- Feb. 17** Hebrew Calendar, Holidays and Shabbat
- Feb. 24** Jewish Life Cycle & Culture
- March 3** The Mikvah, Riekes Museum, Jewish Omaha
- March 16** Contemporary Judaism and Denominations: Clergy Panel
- March 23** Israel Today & Jewish Secular Life
- March 30** Clergy Panel

# Exploring Judaism

## Registration Form

Name .....

Address .....

City..... State..... Zip.....

Phone.....

Email.....

### REGISTERING FOR:

Fall 2019

Winter 2020

**Registrations not accepted  
after second class of session.**

*Tuition for "Exploring Judaism" is \$180 per person. The Jewish Federation of Omaha (JFO) presents the class as a gift, free of charge, to current contributors to the Annual Campaign of the JFO, active congregants of an Omaha synagogue, and JFO employees.*

Payment is due the first week of classes. Please make checks payable to "The Jewish Federation of Omaha" & return with completed form to:

**The Jewish Federation of Omaha  
ATTN: Mark Kirchhoff  
333 S. 132 Street  
Omaha, NE 68154-3296**

*Please call (402) 334-6463 with any questions or email Mark Kirchoff at [mkirchhoff@jewishomaha.org](mailto:mkirchhoff@jewishomaha.org).*