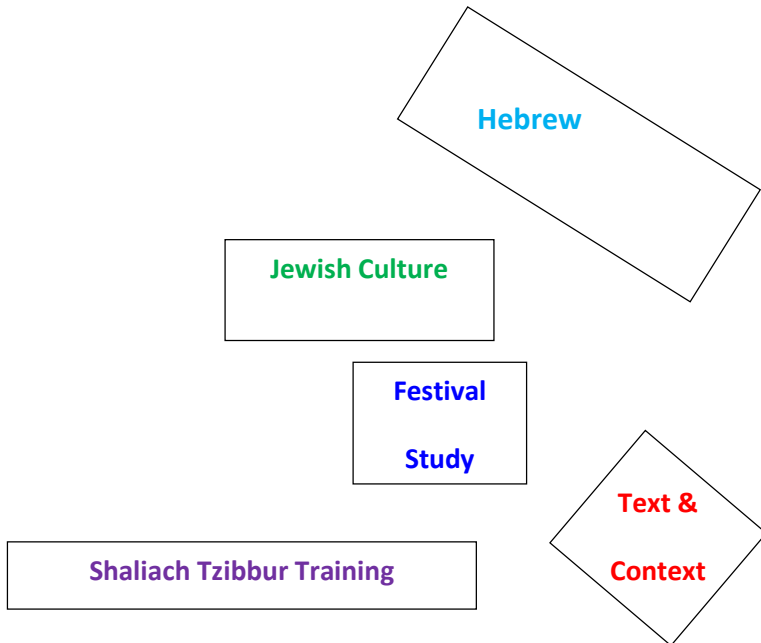




**Mosaic**  
Choose your Jewish life

# Adult Education Programme

*Summer to Autumn 2015*



## Text and Context

### ***Wine, Women and a Gazelle – Medieval Poetry on the Good Life, God and the Soul.***

Andalusian Jews in the 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Century belonged to a sophisticated culture which borrowed heavily from their Arabic speaking surroundings; in terms of theological, philosophical and cosmological outlook, but also in terms of cultural and artistic expression.

The Spanish rabbis, whose names are well known in a more religious context borrowed heavily from Arabic love poetry to express their thoughts about love, life and God.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, 8.00 pm with Rabbi Middleton**

### ***A Guide for the Perplexed – Jewish thoughts on God & the World.***

Moses Maimonides' great philosophical work '*Guide to the Perplexed*' is a real product of the cross fertilization of thought, culture and general worldview. Whilst looking at the main principles of his monumental work, we'll also look at the many non-Jewish influences which inspired his worldview and his work.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 8.00 pm with Rabbi Middleton**

***Parashat ha'Shavuah.*** Pre-service shiur on Torah reading.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June on *Shelach Lecha* with Rabbi Middleton & Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July on *Pinchas* with Rabbi Dabba Smith.

***Legacies of Zionist Figures.*** Looking at the ideas and careers of prominent Zionists, past and present, through the examination of primary source materials and academic perspectives.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 am: Menachem Begin

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 9.30 am: Ariel Sharon

**Both sessions will be led by Rabbi Dabba Smith**

## Hebrew

**Hebrew Reading Sessions:** An informal group for those interested in improving their fluency in reading Hebrew prayers and in sight-reading and exploring the weekly Sidrah. Lots of practice and individual attention.

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 am with Rabbi Dabba Smith**

**Intermediate/advanced Hebrew:** This class involves reading texts and a gentle introduction to Hebrew grammar, using '*Tav is for Torah*' by Linda Motkin URJ Press, 2005. The participants have to be prepared to do some regular homework and should have some knowledge of *semichut* (word pairs), the *pa'al*, *pi'el* and *hif'il* declinations in the imperfect and perfect tense.

**Generally every Monday morning 10.15 – 11.15 (but check with Rabbi Middleton).**



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## Service taking – *shaliach tzibbur* training

Small intensive class to help train those who are interested in actively taking services. Involves refining Hebrew reading skills, understanding the structure of the service, public reading and the choreography of the service.

**Saturdays 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 – 10.20 with Rabbi Middleton.**


## Jewish Culture

**Discovering Jewish Music.** During the last hundred years, the influence of Jewish American musicians on the world of music has been extraordinary, both in the development of contemporary “classical” music, jazz, folk and musical theatre.

In his first illustrated talk **Michael Marx** will explore the Jewish influence on American “classical” music, concentrating on George Gershwin, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, Steve Reich and Philip Glass. **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 3.00 pm.**

In his second talk **Michael Marx** will conduct a trip through Tin Pan Alley and after – Gershwin (again), Jerome Kern, Oscar Hammerstein, Bernstein (again), Sondheim, through to his namesake, Jeff Marx, one of the creators of Avenue Q. **Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Sep, 3.00 pm**

## Festival Study

**Erev Shavuot at  Mosaic** on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
Individual services at 7.00 pm for Liberal, Masorti and Reform synagogues at Hatch End Guide headquarters, followed by study:

8.20 pm [‘The Income Gap in the Text’](#)

Three approaches to considering a significant and difficult contemporary issue through studying Jewish sources:

- [Torah text](#) with Rabbi Frank Dabba Smith
- [Book of Ruth](#) with Rabbi Kathleen de Magtige-Middleton
- [Talmudic Text](#) with Rabbi Paul Arberman

9.00 pm Plenary Discussion Concerning Income/Wealth Inequality with Respect to Social Cohesion:

- [How might the Texts That We Have Just Examined Influence Our Views](#)