

The Herbert Tarr North Shore Institute for Adult Jewish Education  
at  
Temple Judea

Jewish Studies & Lectures  
2009/5770 Fall Program

**KEYNOTE LECTURE CO-SPONSORED  
BY THE AMERICAN ISRAEL POLICY  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (AIPAC)**  
OPEN TO ALL AT NO CHARGE

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009, at 7:45 P.M.**

## **JOHN R. BOLTON**

**JOHN R. BOLTON, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N., WILL SPEAK ON  
FOREIGN POLICY CHALLENGES FOR THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION  
RE: ISRAEL, IRAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST**



John R. Bolton, a distinguished attorney and a riveting speaker, is currently serving as a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. His portfolio includes foreign policy and international organizations.

Before coming to AEI, Amb. Bolton was the United States permanent representative to the United Nations from August 2005 to December 2006 and has been a strong critic of the United Nations for much of his career.

From June 2001 to May 2005, he was the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. He has also been involved with an assortment of think tanks such as the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA) and US Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Amb. Bolton has spent many years (from 1981 through 1993) in public service, having served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs at the Department of State, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, and General Counsel, U.S. Agency for International Development.

## **ABOUT HERBERT TARR**

Fifteen years ago the North Shore Institute for Adult Jewish Education was renamed to memorialize Rabbi Herbert Tarr, the bestselling author and humorist whose warmth, wit and wisdom exemplified in his critically acclaimed novels (*Conversion of Chaplain Cohen*, *Heaven Help Us!*, *So Help Me God*, *A Woman of Spirit*, etc.) reached both Jew and non-Jew, enhancing their appreciation and understanding of Judaism. Rabbi Tarr was the quintessential Jew and truly believed that all Israel should respect and be responsible for one another—be they Conservative, Orthodox, Reconstructionist or Reform. This Institute, now comprising 18 synagogues including one Jewish Community Center, abides by this philosophy. We are honored to fulfill Rabbi Herbert Tarr's legacy.

**Our program offers a diverse spectrum of courses designed to broaden your knowledge and understanding of our rich heritage. The first hour will be devoted to the course you select; the second hour will feature a different guest lecturer each week who will speak on contemporary Jewish issues.**



# COURSES IN JEWISH STUDIES

Beginning Monday, October 26th, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Please select one 3-week course from SEMESTER I AND another 3-week course from SEMESTER II

## SEMESTER I (October 26th, November 2nd and 9th) MONDAYS

### Course #1

**Title: TWO JEWS – THREE OPINIONS**

**Instructor: RABBI TODD CHIZNER, TEMPLE JUDEA**

This course will explore the age-old question of what makes this Jew different from that Jew. For example, there are those that could be called Hasidic Jews who see themselves as Lubavitch, and Hasidic Jews who see themselves as Satmar. What is the difference? There are Liberal Jews who call themselves Reform or Reconstructionist or Humanistic or Conservative, and what are their differences? Finally, we will try to answer the question of what makes us all one people.

### Course #2

**Title: EMAIL, INTERNET, AND LASHON HARA (GOSSIP & SLANDER)**

**Instructor: REB IRWIN HUBERMAN,  
CONGREGATION TIFERETH ISRAEL**

The Internet, email and text messaging have created vast communication opportunities, but are we using them in a sacred way? Are we acting Jewishly when we send an unvetted news article or blog to others, or forward a copy of a personal email without asking permission? As a basis of discussion as to how the rules can or should be applied today, we will use the 31 rules concerning *Lashon Hara* created by one of our great Rabbis, the Chofetz Chaim.

### Course #3

**Title: THE BOOK OF JOB – CRISIS AND CHUTZPA  
A STUDY OF THE MOST DIFFICULT BOOK IN THE BIBLE**

**Instructor: RABBI ALAN B. LUCAS, TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM**

There is no book that raises more questions than the Biblical Book of Job. What does this incredible book say about God and what does it say about us? Together we will explore the text and the issues it raises; we will also discuss how the book gives us insight into dealing with personal crisis and a theology of enormous chutzpa. Please try to read the book before the class starts and bring your questions. Prepare for some lively debate.

### Course # 4

**Title: SERVE GOD WITH GLADNESS: JEWS AND JOY**

**Instructor: RABBI RANDY SHEINBERG, TEMPLE TIKVAH**

“Don’t worry, be happy,” is too simplistic and superficial. Yet Judaism, far from commanding suffering, expects, and at times, even commands us to be joyful. What is the Jewish path to happiness? In these sometimes troubled times, what insights do our tradition offer to keep us smiling? We will look at stories, teachings and texts that help us light the darkness.

### Course # 5 & 5A

**Title: JEWISH RESPONSES TO FUNDAMENTALISM**

**Instructor: RABBI MICHAEL WHITE AND  
RABBI DAVID BENJAMIN, TEMPLE SINAI**

Join Rabbis White and David for an unprecedented six-part course (Sessions 1 and 2) on Jewish Responses to Fundamentalism. Topics will range from the traditional and textual to the modern and geo-political. How did the Rabbis of old respond to extremist practices both within and outside of Judaism? How might their thinking impact ours? What might Jewish theology have to say with regard to contemporary fundamentalist ideologies in our own nation, in the Middle East and beyond? Our discussions promise to be open, engaging and enlightening.

## SEMESTER II (November 16th, 23rd and 30th) MONDAYS

### Course # 1A

**Title: HERMAN MELVILLE’S GREAT EPIC POEM “CLAREL”**

**Instructor: RABBI MARTIN S. COHEN,  
SHELTER ROCK JEWISH CENTER**

In this class we will delve into Melville’s gigantic epic about Jews, Jewishness and the Zionist ideal to gain real insight into the role Jews played in the thinking of one of the 19th century’s greatest American poets and novelists. Most people have read “Moby Dick,” but how many Jewish readers have read “Clarel?” Yet, it is the richest extended meditation on the place of Jews in American society and the relationship of Jewish people to the land of Israel that anyone – and certainly any non-Jew of real literary stature – has ever written.

### Course # 2A

**Title: ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL**

**Instructor: RABBI STEVEN MOSKOWITZ,  
JEWISH CONGREGATION OF BROOKVILLE**

Explore the thinking of one of the greatest modern thinkers, Abraham Joshua Heschel, who continues to influence the direction of American Jewish life. We will read from his masterpiece, “The Sabbath,” and discuss his evaluation of Shabbat. We will look at his philosophical treatise, “God in Search of Man,” and debate his thinking about such theological questions as: the revelation of Torah, the meaning of mitzvot and prayer, chosen people and why bad things happen to good people. We will delve into his exploration of the state of Israel in “Israel: An Echo of Eternity,” and discuss his social activism when he protested against the Vietnam War and marched in support of civil rights with Martin Luther King.

### Course # 3A

**Title: TALES MY BUBBE TOLD ME**

**Instructor: RABBI JENI S. FRIEDMAN, TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM**

Stories are one of the best ways we impart lessons from one generation to the next. In this class we will examine the importance of storytelling in Judaism – our own stories and those of our tradition. Come prepared to laugh, to cry and to enjoy the wisdom of Jewish lore.

### Course # 4A

**Title: JEWISH SIGNS, SYMBOLS, SUPERSTITIONS  
AND THE MYRIAD OF MEANINGS BEHIND THEM**

**Instructor: RABBI MICHAEL STANGER,  
OLD WESTBURY HEBREW CONGREGATION**

Why do we do certain things the way we do in our tradition? How did certain customs and rituals originate and how are they understood today? Join us as we explore rituals around various life cycle events such as birth, marriage and death. We shall investigate the folk ways of our ancestors, investigating why certain practices are so prevalent in our religious culture – be it covering the mirrors in a shiva house, placing rocks on a gravestone, smashing a glass at a wedding or tying a red string around a baby’s crib. At what point does Jewish law, tradition, custom, magic and superstition intersect – and what does it mean for us as Jews today?

### Course # 5 & 5A

**Title: JEWISH RESPONSES TO FUNDAMENTALISM**

**Instructor: RABBI MICHAEL WHITE AND  
RABBI DAVID BENJAMIN, TEMPLE SINAI**

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## LECTURE SERIES FOLLOWING COURSES

Registration in the Jewish Studies Courses (pg. 2) includes complementary admission to the following weekly lectures.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

**Title: JUDAISM AND THE AFTERLIFE:  
WHAT CAN WE BELIEVE?**

**Guest Lecturer: DR. NEIL GILLMAN**

Dr. Gillman, an eminent Rabbi and philosopher, was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary and earned a PhD in Philosophy from Columbia University. He is a faculty fellow at the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Congregation Emanu-El in New York City.

Prof. Gillman is the author of several books, one of which, "Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought" will impact our discussion this evening with questions such as – Is death final and what can we expect will happen to us after the grave? Every religion develops a theology of some form of life after death. What is Judaism's philosophy and what can we modern Jews believe?

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

**Title: JEWS OF IRAN**

**Guest Lecturer: MARCIA HADDAD IKONOMOPOLOUS**

Marcia Haddad is a Judaic scholar and an acclaimed lecturer. She is the director of the Kehila Kedosha Janina Museum in New York City. In this lecture, she will discuss Persian Jews, the Jews of Iran, who have a fascinating history of over 2700 years. Once again their ability to survive is being challenged. She will review both the long history and the present challenges and try to answer the most important question: "Why do they continue to stay?"

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

This event is co-sponsored by the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County in commemoration of *Kristallnacht*.

**Title: HIDDEN CHILDREN OF THE HOLOCAUST**

**Guest Lecturer: DR. SUZANNE VROMEN**

Ms. Vromen is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Bard College where she taught for 22 years. She and her family had lived in Belgium in 1940 when the Nazis invaded the country. Fortunately, they escaped and found refuge in the Belgium Congo.

In her deeply moving book, "Hidden Children of the Holocaust," Dr. Vromen reveals the hidden history not just of Jewish children rescued during the Holocaust, but also of the courageous women, priests and nuns—the Righteous Gentiles—who saved their lives. Vromen's insightful analysis of important questions of identity, inheritance, faith and survival is illuminating and inspiring.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

**Title: JEWS OF INDIA**

**Guest Lecturer: RABBI MARVIN TOKAYER**

Rabbi Tokayer's warm, engaging smile has been the hallmark of his varied and distinguished career starting with the summer he spent as a comedian in the Borshht Belt, to his time as a chaplain in the US Air Force, to the thirteen years he was Rabbi of the Jewish community in Japan, where he also served as Vice President and Director of Culture, Religion and education for the Jewish communities of the Far East, to the role of principal and rabbi in the Great Neck community.

A prolific author, Rabbi Tokayer is best known for his first book (in Japanese), "The Wisdom of the Talmud" which sold over half a million copies and "The Fugu Plan: The Untold Story of the Japanese and the Jews during World War II" – an eye-opening book!

Rabbi Tokayer currently leads tour groups through the Far East expounding the incredible wealth of Jewish history that lies buried in these remote places.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

**Title: OBAMA AND NETANYAHU IN THE  
MUDDLE EAST: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
BETWEEN RUPTURE AND RAPTURE**

**Guest Lecturer: PROF. MARK ROSENBLUM**

Prof. Rosenblum is an award-winning historian at Queens College where he is also Director of the Center for Jewish Studies and the Center for Ethnic and Racial Tolerance. He has been involved in numerous efforts to facilitate Israeli-Palestinian co-existence by organizing six international conferences with leaders of the PLO, the Palestinian Authority and Israeli national figures. He has designed and taught a new curriculum at Queens College, "America and the Middle East: A Clash of Civilizations or a Meeting of the Minds?," a program which aspires to create a "Learning Community" that integrates Islamic, Jewish and Christian students with community leaders and experts from the Middle East.

For all his innovative efforts, the FORWARD Newspaper selected Prof. Rosenblum as one of the fifty most influential American Jews.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2009, 8:40 P.M.

**Title: "YIDDISHLANDS: A MEMOIR"**

**Guest Lecturer: DR. DAVID ROSKIES**

David Roskies, Professor of Jewish Literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary and founder and former editor of "Prooftexts," a journal of Jewish literary history, will discuss his newest book, "Yiddishlands," a remarkable family saga.

Roskies' home in Montreal was a salon for Yiddish writers, actors and artists. Beginning with a flashback to his grandmother's storybook wedding in 1878, "Yiddishlands" brings to life the major debates, triumphs and struggles of the modern Yiddish experience along with memorable portraits of great Jewish writers, cultural leaders and educators.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009, 7:45 P.M.

**Title: WORLD JEWISH MUSIC CONCERT**

Join us for an enchanting evening of beautiful voices. Under the direction of Cantor Abby Sher, Cantor Gabi Arad, Cantor Ofer Barnoy, Reb Irwin Huberman and Cantor Gustavo Gitlin, Cantor Yosef Karavani and Parvaneh Sarraf will perform an exciting medley of Israeli, Yiddish, Sephardic, and Persian melodies to make the final session of this year's Herbert Tarr Institute most memorable.

**PLEASE REGISTER EARLY BY MAIL  
BEFORE OCTOBER 1ST.**

Please complete form below & mail with a \$25.00 registration fee for each individual, made payable to:  
**Herbert Tarr North Shore Institute**

**Mail to: Herbert Tarr North Shore Inst.  
c/o Temple Judea, 333 Seasingtown Road  
Manhasset, NY 11030**

*The \$25.00 registration fee includes one class in each semester PLUS the entire lecture series.*

*For those not registering for a Jewish Studies course, there will be a fee of \$5.00 per person for each lecture, payable at the door.*

**COURSE REGISTRATION FORM**

_____		_____	
Last Name	First Name		
_____		_____	_____
Street Address	Town	Zip	
_____		_____	
Phone Number	Congregation		

**Please fill in Course No.**

Semester I Course No. \_\_\_\_\_ Semester II Course No. \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE REGISTRATION FORM**

_____		_____	
Last Name	First Name		
_____		_____	_____
Street Address	Town	Zip	
_____		_____	
Phone Number	Congregation		

**Please fill in Course No.**

Semester I Course No. \_\_\_\_\_ Semester II Course No. \_\_\_\_\_

*\* We reserve the right to cancel any course due to insufficient registration.  
See [www.herberttarr.org](http://www.herberttarr.org) for additional registration forms.*

**Directions to Temple Judea:**

**Take the L.I. Expressway to Exit 36. Go North at traffic light for 50 yards. Make a left into the Temple. Proceed to rear.**

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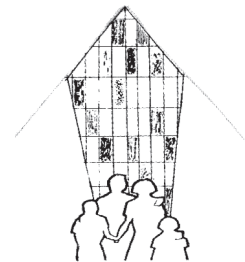
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484-1545

Chava Ortner

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*Gather the people, the men,  
women, and children, and the  
strangers in your communities, that  
they may hear and learn...*  
Deuteronomy 32:12