

## DOR HADASH ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM 2011-2012

*Welcome to another year of exciting offerings by outstanding instructors on important Jewish topics. Pre-registration is required by email: [admin@dorhadash.net](mailto:admin@dorhadash.net) or call 412-422-5158. Please give full name, email address, and phone number. All sessions meet at Tree of Life\*Or L'Simcha unless otherwise noted.*

### **OFFERINGS FOR FALL 2011**

- **MORE JEWISH ETHICS** Wednesdays, September 7 and 14. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Daniel Leger, healthcare specialist and leader of Dor Hadash Shabbat Torah Study Group.*

Continuation of lectures/discussions from Spring 2011 course on Jewish Ethics.

September 7: “Maintaining Our Health – how we care for ourselves and each other, being well, being ill.”

September 14: “Practical Teshuvah – the value of common sense, correcting our screw-ups.”

- **PRAYBOOK HEBREW** Thursdays, September 8, 15, 22; October 6 & 27; November 10 & 17; December 8 & 15. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Hal Grinberg, principal and teacher, Dor Hadash Religious School.*

A chance to improve reading and understanding of the siddur and the ideas embedded in the prayers.

Classes meet in students’ homes as arranged with the instructor.

- **FOUR BELIEFS THAT JEWS STRUGGLE TO BELIEVE: TORAH, G-D, SUFFERING AND LIFE-AFTER-DEATH** First session Tuesday, September 20. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Rabbi Neil Gillman, professor emeritus, Jewish Theological Seminary.*

A community-wide program sponsored by AJL (with Dor Hadash support). For further information contact Howard Aizenstein, [haizenstein@gmail.com](mailto:haizenstein@gmail.com) or 412-421-9713.

- **HISTORY OF ZIONISM** Tuesdays, October 11, 18 & 25; & November 1. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Dr. Alexander Orbach, professor emeritus, University of Pittsburgh, Religious Studies Department .*

Seminar on the foundations of Zionist thought from its emergence in 1881 and ending with the United Nations vote in 1947. Review of Zionist ideologies and agendas shaped both by the focus on national identity and affirmation of individual freedom. Recommended reading: The Zionist Idea by Arthur Hertzberg (ed.).

- **ISRAELI NOVELS BOOK GROUP** Thursdays, November 3 & December 1. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Hal Grinberg, Dor Hadash Religious School principal, reads Hebrew literature in the original.*

November 3: To the End of the Land by David Grossman. An amazing story of parenthood and love in a society plagued by war.

December 1: To the Land of the Cattails and The Immortal Bartfuss by Aharon Appelfeld. Two short novels about eastern Europe, World War II and surviving the Holocaust.

The group meets in students’ homes as arranged with the instructor.

- **JEWS IN A NON-JEWISH WORLD.....**Wednesdays, November 9 & 16. 7 – 8:30 pm

*Instructor: Dr. Ronald Brauner, professor emeritus of Judaic Studies, Siegel college of Judaic Studies; author, editor, and former dean at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.*

To understand Jewish history and civilization requires reference to relationships with the non-Jewish world.

We will study our being both a dominant and subordinate culture, unique, yet quite similar to our neighbors.

The November 9 session will examine the biblical period and November 16, the rabbinic period.

## DOR HADASH ADULT EDUCATION FALL 2011 OFFERINGS *(continued)*

- **ISRAELI CINEMA OF THE 1960s** Sundays, November 13 & December 11. 1:30 – 4:30 pm  
*Instructor: Dr. Naftali Kaminski, professor, University of Pittsburgh Medical School, grew up in Israel, is a film buff, and helped bring Israeli film screenings to Pittsburgh.*

Both films reflect the shifts in mood and culture in Israel before, during and after the Six Day War.

November 13: “He Walked through the Fields.” December 11: “A Hole in the Moon.” Each session will include an introduction and discussion of the film.

- **RECONSTRUCTIONISM AND SOCIAL GLUE** Sunday, November 20. 1:30 -- 3 pm  
*Instructor: Professor Lisa Brush, University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology.*

Traces the origins of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan’s thinking about Judaism as a civilization to the work of pioneering sociologist, Emile Durkheim, and helps connect the importance of belonging to modern Jewish Life.

- **CHURCH, STATE AND THE CRISIS IN AMERICAN SECULARISM** Wed., Nov. 30. 7 – 8:30  
*Instructor: Professor Bruce Ledewitz, Duquesne University School of Law, author, formerly in Dor Hadash.*

In presenting his recently published book, Professor Ledewitz argues that religious symbols in the public square are constitutional because they contain universal, nonreligious messages.

- **TAKING A LOOK AT JEWISH BELONGING** Tuesday, December 6. 7 - 8:30 pm  
*Instructors: Ruth Drescher and Janice Gordon, long time Dor Hadash members.*

Discussion about our personal experiences of being Jewish with questions, “What does being Jewish mean to you?”, “What does being a Dor Hadasher mean to you?” and “How does Reconstructionism work for you?” We will share thoughts and keep the momentum going from Rabbi Fuchs Kreimer’s visit last year.

To register for Fall 2011, contact Leslie Hoffman, Dor Hadash Congregation Manager

By email: [admin@dorhadash.net](mailto:admin@dorhadash.net) By phone: 412-422-5158

## PREVIEW OF SPRING 2012 OFFERINGS

- **ANCIENT CODES OF FAMILY LAW** Tuesdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27. 7 – 8:30 pm  
*Instructor: Dr. Ram Kossowsky, world traveler, teacher and passionate student of ancient societies, including biblical Israel.*

- **INTRODUCTION TO KABBALAH** Mondays, April 2 & April 23. 7 – 8:30 pm  
*Instructor: Dr. Jon Spiegel, Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh and co-founder of the Program in Spirituality and Psychology, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.*

- **ISRAELI CINEMA OF THE 1960s** Sundays, April 15 & 29. 1:30 – 4:30 pm  
*Instructor: Dr. Naftali Kaminski, professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, grew up in Israel, is a film buff, and helped bring Israeli film screenings to Pittsburgh.*

- **JEWISH SPAIN: PAST AND PRESENT** Tuesdays, May 1, 8 & 15. 7 – 8:30 pm  
*Instructor: Dr. Michal Friedman, adjunct professor, Carnegie Mellon University, has taught Jewish, Spanish and Latin American history and culture.*

\*Watch for more sessions on Prayerbook Hebrew, the Israeli Novels Book Group, and Rabbi Neil Gillman.