



Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin

Jerome and Miriam Katzin Professor of Jewish Studies, is President and Professor of Jewish Law at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. He is long-time Chair of the Va'ad Halakhah (Law Committee) of the Rabbinical Assembly which writes responsa and gives halakhic guidance to the Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel. He is the founder and Director of the Institute of Applied Halakhah and the Director of the Center for Women in Jewish Law. He was ordained from the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he also received a PhD in Talmud. He is the author or editor of thirty-nine books including *Halakhah for Our Time*, *The Responsa of Prof. Louis Ginzberg and The Status of Women in Jewish Law: Responsa*, among others. He has published over 190 articles, responsa and sermons.



Rabbi Dr. Elnat Ramon received ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York in 1989, making her the first Israeli-born woman rabbi. After serving successfully for four years as Dean of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary in Jerusalem, she returns full-time to the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, where she teaches modern Jewish thought and literature and Jewish feminism. Dr. Ramon, who holds a Ph.D. from Stanford University, has written and published numerous articles on modern Jewish thought, Jewish feminism and Zionist intellectual history. Her most recent book is *A New Life: Religion, Motherhood and Supreme Love in the Works of A.D. Gordon*.



Rabbi Dr. Paul Shrell-Fox is a lecturer at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies where he is the academic Head of the Women's Studies and Family and Community M.A. programs. He is a Licensed Psychologist in private practice. In addition he runs the special education program at Efrata College in Jerusalem.



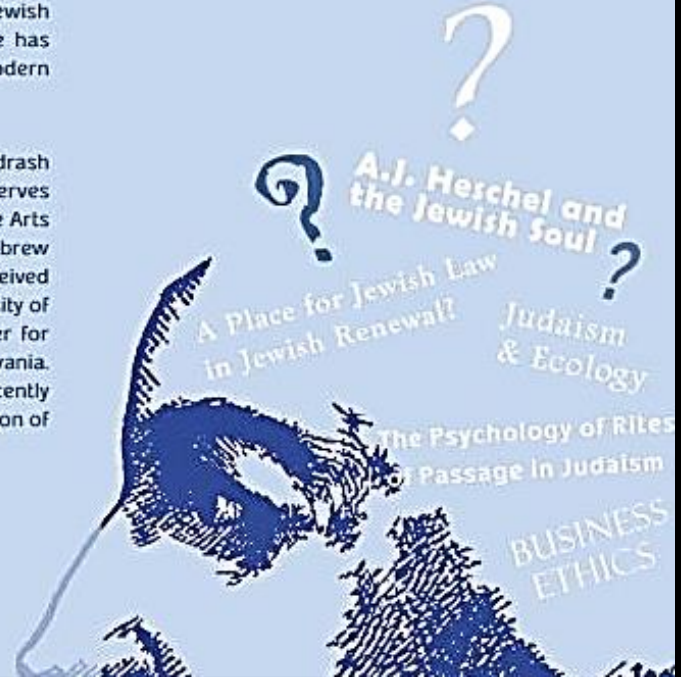
Dr. Ari Ackerman teaches Jewish philosophy and education at the Schechter Institute in Jerusalem, where he is also Educational Advisor for principals and lead staff of the Educational Leadership program of the TALI School Network. Dr. Ackerman received his Ph.D. in Jewish Thought from the Hebrew University. He has written numerous articles on aspects of modern and medieval Jewish thought.



Tamar Kadari is a lecturer in Midrash at the Schechter Institute and serves as the head of its Judaism and the Arts M.A. program. She also teaches at the Hebrew University and at Bar-Ilan University. She received her Ph.D. in Midrash at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She was a fellow at the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. The Israel Science Foundation has recently granted her funding for a critical text edition of *Midrash Song of Songs Rabbah*.

LA Goes the Distance

A Six-Part Lecture Series on Contemporary Issues in Jewish Life with Faculty of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem



Business Ethics

Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin
Sunday, December 20, 2009
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Contrary to what many think, Jewish law and ethics have much to say about the world of business: accurate weights and measures, overcharging, verbal deception, false packaging and much more. It is no secret that ethics and business are not always compatible. As a matter of fact, they frequently seem to be a contradiction in terms. Despite this problem, or perhaps because of it, our Sages emphasized the importance of business ethics. This lecture will lay out the basic principles of Jewish business ethics through a comprehensive overview of the subject using an array of Jewish texts.

Judaism and Ecology
Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin
Sunday, January 10, 2010
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Judaism and Ecology will examine some general principles related to the Jewish attitude towards ecology and mankind's relationship to nature and the environment. In addition, the talk will focus specifically on a halakhic study of air pollution in the Israeli desert town of Arad.

The Saving of the Jewish Soul
According to A.J. Heschel
Rabbi Dr. Elnat Ramon
Sunday, February 7, 2010
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Abraham Joshua Heschel was a passionate critic of modernity and a passionate lover of Jewish life and the Jewish people. We will

look at a less known text written by Heschel and published recently by his daughter, Susannah Heschel, *Pikuach Neshama: The Saving of the Jewish Soul*. In it we will see how he begs for Jewish solidarity and simplicity at a time when Judaism projected a much lower profile than it does today.

Jewish Renewal: What is the Place of Jewish Law?
Dr. Ari Ackerman
Sunday, March 21, 2010
9:00 am - 11:00 am

One of the most important contemporary cultural-religious phenomena in non-Orthodox Judaism is the Jewish renewal that has been taking place in the last few decades. This renaissance began with a renewed interest in studying Jewish texts, but has recently explored the desirability and feasibility of creating a contemporarily relevant halakhah (Jewish Law). In Israel, the foremost thinker who has examined the notion of a non-Orthodox form of Jewish Law is Prof. Eliezer Schweid. Although the immediate context of his thought is the secular religious divide in Israel, his teachings also have profound ramifications for liberal Judaism in the Diaspora.

Psychological Aspects of Rites of Passage in Judaism
Rabbi Dr. Paul Shrell-Fox
Sunday, April 25, 2010
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Long before Freud, Erickson or Bandura, Judaism was a thriving civilization. As in all cultures, it meets the emotional spiritual and communal needs of its members. To the degree that Judaism has survived for over 2000 years, those who study the nature of the human

condition will agree that these basic needs are met well. We will examine basic psychological needs and explore how these needs are met by the system of rites and practices we call Judaism.

Defining Beauty: Aesthetics and Rabbinic Literature
Dr. Tamar Kadari
Sunday, May 23, 2010
9:00 am - 11:00 am

The course will examine the attitude of rabbinic literature towards aesthetics and beauty using the image of Adam. Our sages saw in Adam a symbol of the ideal person. We will read *midrashim* about Adam to explore how he was perceived and how the sages defined ideal beauty as well as compare their aesthetic values to those of the contemporary Hellenistic culture. We will discuss what world view is portrayed in these sources and how it is shaped in midrashic sources.

Registration and Additional Information
To register, receive additional information and/or check availability for each lecture, please send an email to laschechter@gmail.com or call The Schechter Institutes North American Office, 1-866-830-3321.

\$35 for single lecture; \$180 for the full series
Registration Deadline: December 10, 2009.

All lectures will be held at:
American Jewish Committee
9911 W. Pico Blvd. #1602
Los Angeles, CA 90035