

ACCESS TO LIBERAL JUDAISM

INTRODUCTION FOR STUDENTS

Welcome to a journey of learning and to this guided curriculum that will help you to learn more about being Jewish whether you are already Jewish, thinking of converting or are marrying a Jewish person.

This is a modular curriculum that gives an approachable and thought-provoking introduction to the main areas of Jewish life and knowledge. There are six modules and within each module there are four units. Each unit is a single worksheet that points you towards various reading materials and then asks you to discuss, study, reflect, write and engage in practical tasks and in Jewish communal life.

The curriculum is designed to be flexible. It can be started at the beginning of any of the six modules as they do not depend on each other. You will have a Rabbi/tutor/mentor who will guide you through the journey and with whom you will meet with at least every 2-3 months. If this person is not local, the units can be studied alone or in a study group that aims to meet every 2-3 weeks. This way, the curriculum can take 12-18 months to complete.

This is only a learning curriculum and, if you are in the process of conversion, there are many other aspects to this journey, and only you and your sponsoring Rabbi can decide when you are ready to appear before the Beit Din.

The modules and units that make up this curriculum are:

Module: Jewish History Unit 01: Ancient History
 Unit 02: Medieval History
 Unit 03: Modern History
 Unit 04: Liberal Jewish History

Module: Jewish Time Unit 01: Hebrew Calendar
 Unit 02: Shabbat
 Unit 03: High Holy Days
 Unit 04: Pilgrim Festivals

Module: Jewish Texts Unit 01: Torah
 Unit 02: Prophets & Writings
 Unit 03: Rabbinic Literature
 Unit 04: Liturgy

Module: Jewish Life Cycle	Unit 01: Childhood Unit 02: Education Unit 03: Partnership Unit 04: End of Life
Module: Jewish Thought	Unit 01: Jewish Identity Unit 02: God Unit 03: Prayer Unit 04: Eternal Life
Module: Jewish Practice	Unit 01: Jewish Living Unit 02: Liberal Jewish Practice Unit 03: Jewish Ethics Unit 04: TikkunOlam

The readings in this curriculum are based on a short book list that you need to acquire. Please note that, if you are registering for conversion through Liberal Judaism's Beit Din, you will receive a complimentary copy of '100 Years of Liberal Judaism'. Additional readings are all found on the internet and links are provided.

The following books on the book list are published by Liberal Judaism and are available to purchase via our website at <http://www.liberaljudaism.org/written-word-resources/shop.html>:

Siddur Lev Chadash

Machzor Ruach Chadashah

Liberal Judaism: The First Hundred Years, by Lawrence Rigal & Rosita Rosenberg

Liberal Judaism for the 21st Century, by Pete Tobias

The following books from the book list are widely available to purchase on the internet:

JPS Guide to Jewish Traditions, by Ronald L Eisenberg

A Historical Atlas of the Jewish People, by Eli Barnavi

JPS English/Hebrew Bible or JPS Study Bible

This is a collaborative journey between you and your Rabbi/tutor/mentor. Feel free to discuss any concerns or questions you have with them at any time along the way. Enjoy and safe travels!