

Isaac Mayer Wise Teaching Certificate Program Pittsburgh

Have you thought about earning money in college teaching religious school? Do you want to learn the skills to get a teaching position in most Reform synagogues throughout the United States? Do you want to do all this plus earn college credit for it? Join the Isaac Mayer Wise Teaching Certificate Program!

The Isaac Mayer Wise Teaching Certificate Program consists of:

- Four courses over two years
 - History of Reform Judaism
 - Hebrew
 - Teaching
 - Bible
- Earn **college credit** for two classes (Bible and Teaching)
- Serve as a teaching assistant during religious school hours (either Sunday or during the week)

Students must be teaching assistants in the classroom as well as attend two hours of class. Classes will be offered on Monday evenings at Temple Emanuel from 6:30-8:30pm (provided there is ample enrollment for a full class) or on Tuesday evenings at in Squirrel Hill from 6:30-8:30pm.

For more information, or to sign up for the 2011-2012 school year, please contact Beth Goldstein at bgoldstein@ajlpittsburgh.org or 412-521-1101 ext 3203.



Reform Teaching Certificate Courses

2011-2012 Courses

IMW 315: Education *

The objective of this course is to prepare the student to function as a beginning teacher in Jewish supplementary schools. This course is an in-depth study of the practical areas of lesson planning and classroom management. Approaches to teaching and content areas of theology, Bible Israel, History, Ethics and prayer are explored.

IMW300 Reform Judaism

A year-long study of Reform Judaism's development, including its American origins, its philosophy, principles and institutions. Students will review life cycles from the Reform Jewish perspective. In addition, students will discuss environmental issues, civil rights and the role of Israel in their Jewish lives.

IMW400 Student Teaching

A required, supervised program of student teaching is provided in cooperation with the student's congregation. Students are assigned to work with teachers one day a week.

*College Credit Class



2012-2013 Courses

IMW 310: Bible*

Survey of the Bible includes a review of the three main sections of the Bible with special attention given to the unique contribution each section makes to the enrichment of modern-day life. Analysis of representative chapters and verses.

IMW305 Hebrew

A study that ensures basic fluency and competency in reading and writing. Students will become proficient in understanding Reform liturgy.

IMW 405: Student Teaching

A required, supervised program of student teaching is provided in cooperation with the student's congregation. Students are assigned to work with teachers one day a week.

*College Credit Class



FAQ About the IMW Reform Movement Teaching Certificate Program:

What is the Isaac Mayer Wise Reform Movement Teaching Certificate Program?

The Isaac Mayer Wise Reform Movement Teaching Certificate Program is a partnership between AJL/ J-SITE and Gratz College in collaboration with Reform Synagogues throughout the United States. This two year program is designed for 11th and 12th grade teens who are both taking two hours of courses as well as serving as teaching assistants (Madrichim) in the school. At the end of the two year program teens will receive a certificate from Gratz in addition to college credit for two of the four courses.

What is the curriculum?

In the 2011-2012 academic year, the teens will be enrolled in “Education” and “Reform Judaism”. In the 2012-2013 academic year, the teens will be enrolled in “Hebrew” and “Bible”. The “Education” course as well as the “Bible” course are offered for college credit.

What is Gratz’s role be in this program?

J-SITE is in continual contact with the staff from Gratz College. Over the course of the year, staff from Gratz College visit Pittsburgh to observe classes and speak with teachers and teens. In addition, student’s final papers/projects for the college credit courses will be sent to Gratz for final approval. Lastly, all teachers hired to teach in the IMW Reform Movement Teaching Certificate Program must be approved by Gratz college.

What is the attendance policy?

In order to complete the certificate and receive college credit students must be present 80% of the time. The 80% includes both their in class time as well as their time as madrichim.

Who will be teaching the courses?

Teachers for the IMW Reform Movement Teaching Certificate Program are hired and supervised by J-SITE with oversight and approval from Gratz College.