

Teaching Preparation 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 synagogues throughout the United States? Do you want to do all this plus earn college credit for it? Join the NEW Teaching Preparation Program!

The Teaching Preparation Program consists of:

- Four courses over two years
 - Hebrew
 - Teaching
 - Bible
 - Comparative Judaism
- Earn **college credit** for the Bible and Teaching courses
- 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 class on Tuesday evenings 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.

Teaching Preparation Program

2011-2012 Courses

CTC 300 Comparative Judaism

An objective approach is taken in comparing various streams of Judaism as practiced in America in the past and today. Students will learn the history of each movement. In addition, students will explore what different sects teach about God, Torah, mitzvot, prayer, the Jewish people, Zionism, and the role of women. Discussion centers on how they differ, why they differ and what they share.

CTC 305 Hebrew

This course will focus on basic skills of reading and writing Hebrew as well as understanding how to translate select key words and phrases. Additionally, students will learn some key skills in teaching or tutoring Hebrew students. Finally, students will gain an understanding of why certain prayers are selected and/or edited in the Conservative and Reform Liturgy and how that selection is a reflection of these movements' theology.

CTC 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.

2012-2013 Courses

CTC 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.

CTC 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.

CTC400 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 Course**

FAQ About the Teaching Preparation Program:

What is the Teaching Preparation Program?

The Teaching Preparation Program is a partnership between the AJL/J-SITE and Gratz College in collaboration with Rodef Shalom Congregation, Tree of Life*Or L'Simcha, Beth Shalom and Temple Sinai. 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 (Madrachim) in the school.

At the end of the two years in the program teens will receive a certificate for 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 "Comparative Judaism" and "Hebrew". In the 2012-2013 academic year, the teens will be enrolled in "Teaching" and "Bible" for college credit.

I also heard there are two different certificates within this program, is this true? What is the difference between the two certificates?

This new program is based on the reform movement version of this program which stipulates that teens must be enrolled in Jewish educational programs through 10th grade to be eligible to begin the program. However, after speaking with Gratz College, they have agreed to the following to allow the most amount of teens to participate in this amazing new program.

For teens who have been enrolled in Jewish educational programming through J-SITE, their synagogue's confirmation program or other approved programs through 10th grade, a teen can earn a "Teaching Certificate for Supplementary Schools." This certificate is an already existing certificate from Gratz college that they offer teens who have been enrolled in their Hebrew high school from 8-12th grade, have taken parallel courses to what we are offering in this new program and are madrichim in the classroom.

For teens who have not been enrolled in a Jewish educational program through 10th grade, the teen will be working towards a "Certificate in Teacher Preparation". This is a new certificate that Gratz has developed just for this new pilot and will be launching with the Pittsburgh group.

What will 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 will visit Pittsburgh to observe the classes and speak with the teachers and teens. In addition, students final papers/projects for the college credit courses will be sent to Gratz for final approval. Lastly, all teachers hired to teach in the new Teaching Preparation 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 Teaching Preparation Program will be hired and supervised by J-SITE with oversight and approval from Gratz College.