1st Trimester Course Options



Hour 1

RYFTI BOARD with Ari Zimmet

RYFTI (Reform Youth Federation at Temple Israel) is the social group that's part of the Tent... and if you're reading this, you're in RYFTI! RYFTI board meetings are where anyone in the Tent who's in 9th grade or above can get to know each other and be a part of planning RYFTI's social and religious programs and events. In this first trimester, we'll focus on getting to know each other and the structure of the board, and work to reach out to other teens to learn about how RYFTI can bring value to their lives through Zoom and safely planned in-person events.

Jewish Dream Practices with Rabbi Noam Lerman

What does Judaism say about dreams and dream interpretation? In this class, we will learn about the various Jewish opinions and beliefs about dreams. We will keep a dream journal, experiment with dream practices, and discuss our findings with the rest of the class.

The Good Place with Emilia Diamant

Have you ever heard of the Trolley Problem? Well imagine you are on that trolley and you have to make a split second decision, what do you do? This class will use clips from The Good Place and follow the show's trajectory to discuss topics of Jewish Ethics and the ethical practice of Mussar. If you enjoy talking in hypotheticals and then bringing them back to reality, this class is for you! We will be discussing philosophical and ethical quandaries to help us figure out what it means to be a good person and what gets us to the "Good Place" and if there even is a "Good Place."

HOUR 2

The People United Will Never Be Defeated: How Social Movements Work with Emilia Diamant

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world saw a resurgence of protests against the murder of Black people by police and white supremacists. We watched brands post black squares on Instagram and saw what seemed like unprecedented consciousness-raising across the country. And now, what? Lots of people are still out there fighting, but it feels like the "excitement" has worn off. We'll examine the history of how social movements grow, are perceived by the public, and accomplish their goals over time. We'll look at our contemporary moment and ask--how do we stay engaged, how do we keep others engaged? And we'll examine how Jews have a unique role in this historic moment of political uprising, especially Jewish teens.

Take Me Out To....: An Exploration of Baseball as a Tool to Connect with Jenna Shaw

The crack of the bat, the smell of grilled hot dogs, the green grass, there is nothing more magical than baseball. Baseball is called America's Pastime, but could the magic of baseball be a tool to help us connect to our Jewish pastime? Through this class, we will explore the ways that baseball can be a tool to connect to spirituality, God, self, community, and Judaism. The class will be a mix of examination and exploring some of baseball's ethical dilemmas from a Jewish lens.

Antiracist Art Making with Ari Zimmet

no artmaking experience, training, or skill required, AT ALL!
Have you ever felt held back by nagging perfectionism? What about a sense of urgency and either/or thinking? Do you notice when people around you value quantity over quality? How are these things related to racism and the status quo? In this class we'll be learning different meditation techniques to help notice some of the forces that may be limiting how we think about the world. As we slow down and draw whatever comes out of us that day, we'll reflect on our own thought processes and imagine how we might change them. As we progress we'll talk about how these elements may work to reinforce racist structures and practices in the institutions of our country and our own personal lives. Whether making art feels exciting or intimidating, this class is for you!