

Supplementary High Schools Offering Courses for College Credit

JESNA Summary Report

Congregational schools increasingly grapple with the question of how to retain post bar/bat mitzvah teens in their learning programs. In order to attract high school age students to their learning programs, many supplementary schools have successfully partnered with local community colleges and Universities to offer Jewish studies courses for AP credit. JESNA recently sent out a query to the Association of Directors of Central Agencies for Jewish Education (ADCA), asking them to share the names of the schools in their communities that have aligned with institutions of higher learning to offer courses for college credit. The following document provides a compilation of these school partnerships, as well as lists the types of courses provided by the individual supplementary schools.

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Supplementary High Schools Offering Courses for College Credit

California

Los Angeles, CA

Name of School: Los Angeles Hebrew High School

Course: *Students receive high school foreign language credit*

Number of Participating Students: 400

San Diego, CA

Name of School: High School of Jewish Studies, Agency for Jewish Education

Courses: Hebrew for high school credit; college credit courses offered (3 credits each, dependent upon enrollment): A Survey of Jewish History, Education, Hebrew

For Grades: 11-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Gratz College

Cost to Students: \$500 for each college class

Colorado

Boulder/Denver, CO

Name of School: CAJE Hebrew High

Name of Course: Israel Study Tour

Hosting Academic Institution: Gratz College

Florida

Broward County, FL

Name of School: Judaica High School of Broward County

Course: 3-4 credit classes

For Grades: 11-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Broward Community College

Palm Beach County, FL

Name of School: Community Judaica High School

Courses: Literature of the Holocaust (required for all March of the Living participants); Literature of the Bible; Jews, Judaism, the Silver Screen: That's Entertainment; Jewish and American Values - A Course on Jewish Service Learning; Jews in the News: Current Events in the Jewish World

For Grades: 11-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Palm Beach Community College

Number of years that partnership has been in existence: 1

Cost to Students: \$300-350 per year

Michigan

West Bloomfield, MI

Name of School: Community Dual Program

Courses: Two complementary Holocaust Studies courses; Modern Hebrew Language courses; Jewish Civilization and Culture

For Grades: 11-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Michigan Jewish Institute

Cost to Students: School district pays most of tuition

Number of years that partnership has been in existence: 2

Minnesota

Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

Name of schools: Midrasha; The Talmud Torah Afternoon School in Minneapolis

Course: Hebrew (beginning, intermediate, advanced)

For Grades: 9-12

Hosting Academic Institution: University of Minnesota.

Number of Participating Students: 47

Number of years that partnership has been in existence: 3

Missouri

St. Louis, MO

Name of School: St. Louis Jewish Community High School

Courses: Modern Hebrew Language

Hosting Academic Institution: Gratz College

Number of years that partnership has been in existence: 1

Maryland

Baltimore, MD

Available to “qualifying high school students”

Courses: A wide range of Judaica undergraduate courses are offered

Hosting Academic Institution: Baltimore Hebrew University

New Jersey

Hackensack, NJ

Name of School: Bergen County High School for Jewish Studies

Courses: Issues of the Holocaust, Literature of the Holocaust, The Bible as Literature, Basic Jewish Thought, Taking the MTV Challenge

For Grades: 11-12 (can take up to 12 credits over two years)

Hosting Academic Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University

Number of Participating Students: 51 total thus far

Number of years that partnership has been in existence: 3

Ohio

Cleveland, OH

Name of School: Akiva High School

Courses: Hebrew language can be taken for high school foreign language credit; students in an “honors” class can enroll in a variety of offered Judaic studies courses – the potential exists to earn up to two years of college credit

For Grades: 8-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Siegal College of Jewish Studies

Number of Participating Students: approximately 75

Columbus, OH

Is this offered by the Commission on Jewish Education? The Federation?

Course: twelve one-hour sessions with reading and written assignments

For Grades: 11-12

Hosting Academic Institution: Melton Center for Jewish Studies at Ohio State University

At this time, students do not receive credit, but they are working toward this goal

Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh, PA

Name of School: School of Advanced Jewish Studies (SAJS)

Courses: 4 year-long classes (meet for 42 minutes on Sunday mornings), 3 credits each. Jewish Philosophy, Contemporary Jewish Society, Holocaust, Jewish Identity in World Literature

For Grades: 10-12. They can take a maximum of one course per year (thereby graduating with 9 college credits)

Hosting Academic Institution: Local University.

Cost to Students: Students pay an additional \$100 beyond tuition

A few communities responded that they attempted to create AP offerings, but decided to discontinue their efforts:

CA

• *Bureau of Jewish Education of Orange County (Costa Mesa)*

The Bureau attempted to offer a History course in conjunction with their local Junior College. They were unable to meet the minimum enrollment of 15 students.

• *Midrasha (Berkeley)*

The school went through the process of filing paperwork to create a partnership with the local Community College. However, not one student enrolled for the courses. The School Director stated that the students felt that “they were in Midrasha to learn, and didn’t care about the credit.”

MA

• *Prozdor (Boston)*

The students were not interested in taking courses for credit; they felt they had accumulated enough AP credits