



Dear Parents and Students,

In this brochure you will find the full course offerings for our students in the Confirmation Academy.

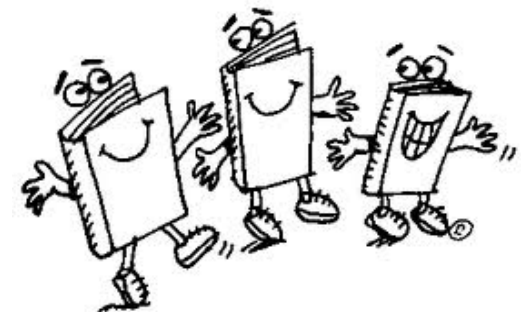
Courses are divided based on time they are taught and time of year they are offered. Not all grades are eligible to take all courses, grades are noted on the sides.

Students should sign up for first trimester courses at this point, but the brochure enables you to see the full breadth of courses to be offered this year and throughout their years in our Confirmation Program.

We look forward to a year of learning and growth together,

**Rabbi Stacy Eskovitz Rigler, MAJE
Director of Religious Education**

 **Confirmation
Academy
2011-2012 Course Booklet**



Tuesday Evenings

**6:00 pm Pizza Dinner
6:30-7:15pm Electives
7:15-8:00pm Core Class**



First Trimester Courses (September, October, November)

First period

____ **Creating a more individualized Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service** **Grade 7**

Write special readings or introductions to the prayers you will say at your service. Learn about the content of the service and how to introduce prayers.

____ **Torah Study** **Grade 7,8,9,10**

Learn about the weekly Torah portion and how it can be interpreted. *This is an advanced class with Rabbi Sussman* — for 7th graders to prepare for writing D'var Torah or for older students to study Torah and Jewish history.

____ **Modern Hebrew** **Grade 7,8,9**

Need to keep your Hebrew sharp before you start Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutoring, always wanted to learn to speak Hebrew?

____ **Hebrew Hammers** **Grade 7,8,9,10**

Play an instrument? Want to add Jewish music to your life and bring your gifts to KI? Join Cantor Levy and be part of our Hebrew Hammers band.

____ **Fall Holidays and Fall Festivals** **Grades 8,9,10**

Love to plan and organize fun events for others? Want to learn about the connection between Jewish holidays and fall harvest festivals? Plan our very own KI Sukkot Farmers Market Festival.

____ **Mitzvah Cooking** **Grades 8,9,10**

Help work each week to compile meals that will be delivered to needy Philadelphians. *This class will be held from 6:00-7:15 with a dinner break.*

____ **How to be a Jewish Leader** **Grades 9,10**

What makes a leader? What can we learn about our own leadership styles? For KIFTY leaders and those involved in leadership activities outside KI.

Second Period

____ **Holocaust** **Grade 7**

Students will learn about the Holocaust from a Jewish perspective. How do we feel as Jews? What is our responsibility?

____ **Anti Semitism** **Grade 7**

Explore modern Anti Semitism, its roots, and how we can respond to incidents of Anti Semitism in the media, locally, or just from friends making jokes.

____ **Jewish Role Models, Celebrities, Heroes** **Grade 7,8**

How do the actions or behaviors of Jews in the public eye reflect on the Jewish community as a whole? Who is deserving of respect, honor and admiration?

____ **Social Justice** **Grade 8,9**

Why do Reform Jews act in pursuit of justice? What difference do we make? How can our actions affect the people and world around us?

____ **Sacred Choices in Everyday Life** **Grade 8,9**

Peer pressure, friendships, social media, music, and more. Is there a Jewish perspective to how we live our everyday life?

____ **Spirituality, Faith and Belief** **Grade 8,9**

What is the difference between spirituality, faith and belief? How does Judaism provide a framework for me to explore my own beliefs?

____ **Origins of Arab Israeli Conflict** **Grade 10**

A in-depth look from a Jewish perspective at the key issues of the current conflict including the refugee problem, current borders, Jerusalem, and terrorism.



Second Trimester Courses (December, January, February)

First Period

____ **Adding Poetry to Your Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service** **Grade 7**

Work with a professional writer to develop your own prayer liturgy to be incorporated into your Bar or Bat Mitzvah service.

____ **7 Habits of a Highly Effective Jewish Teen** **Grades 7, 8**

Spend time exploring habits to help you be the best during a fantastic time of life. For *students whose bar/bat mitzvah takes place BEFORE March 2012*

____ **Torah Study** **Grade 7,8,9,10**

Learn about the weekly Torah portion *This is an advanced class with Rabbi Sussman*. For 7th graders to prepare for writing D'var Torah or for older students to study Torah and Jewish history.

____ **Shir Glee** **Grade 7,8,9,10**

Our very own teen choir with Cantor Levy. Pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah *7th graders must have taken either Torah study or Bar/Bat Mitzvah class to be eligible.*

____ **Mitzvah Cooking** **Grades 8,9,10**

Help work each week to compile meals that will be delivered to needy Philadelphians. *This class will be held from 6:00-7:15 with a dinner break.*

____ **I Need Your Advice** **Grades 8,9,10**

Love to give your opinion? Try your hand at the Jewish Dear Abby answering newspaper questions from the Jewish immigrants living in the Lower East Side. Class will culminate in a trip to the Lower East Side, NY.

____ **Every Day Environmental Choices** **Grade 9,10**

How to decide what to buy, where to shop, which products are “green” and if it makes a difference.

Second Period

____ **Holocaust Through Art** **Grade 7**

An advanced elective for seventh graders. Students will learn about the Holocaust through the visual arts. This class is taught by Rabbi Sussman.

____ **Anti-Semitism** **Grade 7**

This course will explore modern Anti-Semitism, its roots, and how we can respond to incidents of Anti Semitism in the media, locally, or from friends.

____ **Jewish Role Models, Celebrities, Heroes** **Grade 7,8**

How do the actions or behaviors of Jews in the public eye reflect on the Jewish community as a whole? What does Judaism teach us about who is deserving of respect, honor and admiration?

____ **Social Justice** **Grade 8,9**

Why do Reform Jews act in pursuit of justice? What difference do we make when we act in pursuit of justice? How do my actions affect others?

____ **Sacred Choices in Everyday Life** **Grade 8,9**

Peer pressure, friendships, social media, music, and more. How do we put it all together and figure out who we are and who we want to be?

____ **Spirituality, Faith and Belief** **Grade 8,9**

What is the difference between spirituality, faith and belief? How does Judaism provide a framework for me to explore my own spirituality, faith, and beliefs?

____ **Real Life Judaism** **Grade 10**

Each week we will meet different Reform Jews who embrace Jewish values in their lives or help us understand how we can live adult Jewish lives.



Third Trimester Courses (February, March, April)

First Period

____ **Anti-Semitism** **Grade 7**

This course will explore modern Anti-Semitism its roots and how we can respond as Jews.

____ **Holocaust Memorial Service** **Grade 7,8,9**

Help create a meaningful and memorable congregational program for Yom Hashoah. *This is required for 7th graders who did not take a Holocaust class.*

____ **Yoga** **Grades 7,8,9**

Need to Bliss out? Want some spiritual inspiration? Jewish yoga is for you.

____ **Food Ethics** **Grade 7,8,9**

What goes in your mouth? Where does it come from? What are the ethical concerns from the farmer to the store that you need to know about.

____ **How to Judaism: Creating Jewish Videos** **Grades 7,8,9**

Want to teach other's about Judaism? Create a video that can be shared with others, used in our religious school or as a how to for parents.

____ **Reel Theology** **Grades 7,8,9**

What do you believe about God? What are we supposed to do for others? Watch *Bruce Almighty* and *Pay it Forward* and discuss what is your theology.

____ **What Am I Confirming?** **Grade 10**

Spend your last trimester with Rabbi Sussman discussing what you believe and what you are “Confirming” as a doctrine of Faith.

Second Period

____ **Jewish Identity After My Bar/Bat Mitzvah** **Grade 7**

What did I learn? Who are my role models? How am I now an adult? These questions and more will be explored as our post or soon to be post B'nai Mitzvah students reflect on their experience. A highlight of the class will be student conducted interviews of their own Jewish role models.

____ **Launch into High School** **Grade 8**

What lies ahead? What am I excited for in this next stage of life? What do I need help preparing for? We'll figure it out together.

____ **Sexuality and Judaism** **Grade 9**

What does Judaism say about sex, dating, relationship and the choices you make? Find out your answers in Jewish Sex Ed.

____ **Confirmation Service Preparation** **Grade 10**

Join Cantor Levy and Rabbi Kleinman as you prepare for your service.

____ **Ask the Rabbi** **Grade 7,8,9**

This honors elective is open to students in 7th and 8th grade who would like a more in depth study time with Rabbi Sussman