



COMMUNITY-WIDE COURSE “JUDAISM FOR CONVERSION CANDIDATES”

A 36-week course to Learn about Judaism for Anyone Considering Conversion

2023-2024 COURSE INFORMATION

GOALS:

The year-long course is intended to acquaint those considering conversion to Judaism with what it means to live Jewishly. Learn about Jewish holidays, home celebrations, life-cycle observances, rituals and Jewish prayer, Torah, history, Judaism's view of God, Israel, and about our religion's movements. Each class will include a 30- or optional 60- minute Hebrew component. Combine Jewish learning with Jewish “doing” - become part of a shared community and create Jewish memories by taking part in a Shabbat and holiday celebrations and observances. This course will allow future Jews-by-choice an opportunity to study with rabbis, meet others exploring Judaism and learn about Judaism and the Kansas City Jewish community. Classes are taught by local Rabbis of all movements.

WHEN: *Thursday evenings, 7:00-9:00 p.m.*
Orientation August 10, 2022, 7:00-9:00PM
Classes begin August 17th

Last class is scheduled on May 30, 2024

Approximately 36 sessions with breaks for winter and Jewish holidays
Extracurricular activities for Holidays and Shabbat to be announced

LOCATION: Classes will be held virtually via Zoom with some in person opportunities throughout the year that may rotate among synagogues and the Jewish Community Campus. A detailed schedule will be provided at orientation.

REQUIRED: Each student will be required to secure a rabbinic sponsor by **November 15** and meet the conversion requirements developed by their rabbinic sponsor.

FEE: \$250 includes course textbooks

INFO: **For additional information or to register** for this course, visit kcrabbi.org or contact Annette Fish, Rabbinical Association Administrator, by email afprogram@aol.com or call 913-327-8226.
Rabbi Doug Alpert is the rabbinic course coordinator.

*Sponsored by the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City with generous funding provided by Menorah Heritage Foundation and the National Center to Encourage Judaism.
This course is taught through a collaborative educational partnership with the Miller Introduction to Judaism Program of American Jewish University*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

I want to learn more about Judaism and would like to enroll in the community wide program. How do I get started?

- **Contact afprogram@aol.com** to schedule an introductory phone meeting. We will discuss your background and interest in Judaism and determine whether our program may be a good fit for you.
- If it is determined that you wish to enroll in the program, you will be sent an online link to complete **a [course enrollment form and make payment](#)**.

I have a Jewish partner/spouse; can they attend classes with me?

- **Absolutely.** We encourage them to do so.

What are some optional ways that I can begin this spiritual journey and explore Jewish living?

- **Attend Shabbat and/or holiday services.** visit <http://kcrabbi.org> and click on *Board* to find a listing of congregations and rabbis. Confirm the worship service schedule at the various congregations (Friday night and/or Saturday morning) and begin attending worship services at as many congregations as you can so you can experience all movements. Check the website for a listing of other communal programs which you are welcome to attend.
- **Consider observing a complete Shabbat** by un-plugging, refraining from work or commerce, have a Shabbat meal and attend services at a congregation.
- **Volunteer to do some form of *tikkun olam*** (community service)
- **Engage in Jewish education and cultural experiences** e.g., Visit a synagogue gift shop, visit vaadkc.org to learn where you can purchase a kosher meal/food items, watch a movie or play or read a book on a Jewish theme, attend an in-person or online lecture on a Jewish topic, enroll in the community daylong Jewish education program in August, visit a local museum and ask about where to find works by Jewish artists; visit the Truman Library's Recognition of Israel Exhibit; etc.
- **Keep a reflection journal** of thoughts, questions, insights, and Jewish experiences you have along the way and over the course of the class.

When will I receive my orientation packets, books and zoom link to the orientation?

- In late July or early August, you will receive an email **about [orientation/book pick up and class zoom link](#)**.