

In this course we will explore several different extended texts which are relevant in various ways 1. to your rabbinate or 2. to filling out your understanding of what Talmud is. In the first rubric are texts which will generate thinking about topical issues such as Diaspora-Israel relations, social justice and the meaning of Shabbat while in the second category are texts which will introduce you to the blueprints of the Temple and interrogate notions of Rabbinic and judicial authority in Talmud.

The *sugyot* that we will study are the following:

1. כתובות קי ע"ב-קיא ע"א
2. שבת קי"ז ע"ב-קכ ע"א
3. משנה מידות
4. בבא בתרא ז ע"ב-יא ע"א
5. ברכות ג ע"א-ה ע"א
6. בבא בתרא לד ע"ב-לה ע"ב
7. גיטין לו ע"א-לז ע"ב
- a. משנה שביעית פרק י
- b. משנה עדויות א:ד-ו
8. שבת פו ע"א-פט ע"ב
9. כתובות סב ע"ב-סג ע"א

### Course Requirements

1. You will be expected to prepare the text that we will be studying. (It will be more or less one text each week.) You are allowed to use Steinsaltz to prepare. At the same time you will be expected to have thought about the texts beyond the *pshat* and should be ready to discuss the themes, images, ideas, and so on which will come up in these texts. To this end, you will submit a summary or outline of the text to be discussed at the beginning of each class, together with one or two questions that the text raised for you.
2. You will be required to write a 7-10 page paper in which you will demonstrate how you would use 2 or 3 of these texts in the context of your Rabbinate: teaching, preaching, counseling, organizing, etc.