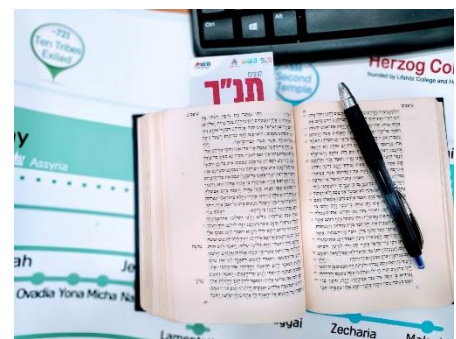


# M.A. in Teaching Tanakh & Parshanut

**Department Head: Professor Eli Hadad**  
**English M.A. Program Director: Rabbi Reuven Spolter**  
**Director of Admissions: Hadassah Levy**

For over 30 years, teaching Tanakh has been the flagship educational degree program at Herzog College, training thousands of teachers for Israel's religious schools. Our M.A. in Teaching Tanakh and Parshanut takes this online program for educators and Torah-lovers, raising the standard of learning of texts that are central to Judaic studies in educational institutions in Israel and around the world.

Teaching Tanakh is a multi-disciplinary endeavor, exploring Biblical verses and their commentaries drawn from multiple sources including Talmud, Midrash and Halachic literature. The Herzog approach to the study of Tanakh involves literary analysis of every chapter, understanding its historical context, the places where its events took place, and its philosophical messages. Interpretations of Biblical stories can also be examined through engagement with contemporary literature, poetry, art, cinema and theater.



Students in the M.A. program will study passages from the Tanakh, expand their knowledge of its many classical interpretations, and explore opportunities for engaging multidisciplinary teaching. The program will combine traditional commentaries with new study methods, modern research and interpretative tools, while retaining an authentic religious Jewish commitment to the Torah text.

During the first year of the two-year program, the online courses will focus on exploring connections between the Biblical text and other Jewish traditional sources and developing pedagogy skills. During the summer program and second year courses, we will develop techniques for interpreting, researching and teaching the Tanakh and its commentaries.

While the Hebrew-language master's course is taught in-person in Jerusalem, the English-language version of the program is taught primarily online, with one two-week summer semester in Jerusalem in summer 2026.

*Please note that all details in this prospectus are subject to change and dependent on sufficient registration.*

## English M.A. Rubric

The English online Master's program includes 14 hybrid and asynchronous courses in English with the option to take classes in Hebrew. Course study will focus on Tanakh, Education, Pedagogy, and touring with the Tanakh, as well as two courses geared towards writing a Master's seminar paper.

Overseas students will graduate with an internationally recognized Master of Arts degree in "Teaching Bible and its Commentaries" from Herzog College, accredited by Israel's Council of Higher Education.

Many of our existing Tanakh Teaching Courses are accredited as part of this degree. If you have taken online courses through Herzog College, you may already have earned credits toward the M.A. degree.

Tuition for the 5786-7 online M.A. course in English will be approximately 38,880 NIS total for two years of study, valid for all registrations before August 31, 2025, and not including flights to Israel or accommodations. We offer a discount to 37,000 NIS for those who register before July 1, and anyone who registers before April 1 will also receive free online access to all the Herzog College Yemei Iyun lectures. Space in the program is limited and all candidates will be interviewed.

### Course Breakdown by Learning Method:

- 18 Credit Hours (CH - each credit hour = 1 semester course)
- 2 CH Research Seminars + 1 Paper
- 6 Asynchronous Courses (12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings)
- 8 Hybrid Courses (10 asynchronous units plus 2 online & 2 live meetings in Summer Semester)
- 2 Summer Courses in Israel in July 2026

### Course Breakdown by Topic:

- 10 Tanakh Courses
- 3 Pedagogy Courses
- 1 Multi-Disciplinary Course
- Writing a Research Paper (2 CH)
- 2 Touring Israel Courses – Tanakh and Archaeology & Walking the Land

## Timetable

- Fall 5786 Semester begins: Sunday October 26, 2025
- Spring 5786 Semester begins: Monday March 2, 2026
- Summer 5786 Semester in Israel: June 28 – July 9, 2026
- All Zoom meetings will take place at 7:00 PM IST on Sunday evenings.

## Courses in Hebrew

This M.A. degree is also offered in Hebrew in-person – [see details here](#)

M.A. students in the English program can also register for any Master's level course offered by Herzog College in Hebrew and apply credits earned to their degree. Overseas students can register for any online course, and Israel-based students are welcome to register for live classes, which take place on Tuesdays at Hechal Shlomo in Jerusalem.

## M.A. Course List

Credit Hours	Type	Course	Instructor	Mode
1	Tanakh	Breadth and Depth: A Textual and Values-Based Study of Tanakh	Dr. Yosefa Fogel Wruble	Asynchronous
1	Tanakh	Method & Meaning: Herzog-Style Tanakh	Rabbi Dr. Shuky Reiss & Rabbi Daniel Wolf	Asynchronous
1	Tanakh	Teaching Ethics and Morals	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	Asynchronous
1	Tanakh	Teaching Shemot: The Birth of the Jewish Nation	Dr. Yael Ziegler	Asynchronous
1	Pedagogy	Student-Centered Learning	Dr. David Saltzman	Asynchronous
2	Tanakh	David: From Shepherd to Monarch - Triumphs and Trials	Dr. Yael Ziegler	Hybrid (asynchronous + live)
2	Tanakh	<i>Shivat Tzion</i> (year-long course)	Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Tropper	Hybrid (asynchronous + live)
1	Pedagogy	Intrinsic Motivation in the Kodesh Classroom	Rabbi Shmuel Feld & Dr. Avichai Kellerman	Asynchronous
2	Seminar	Research Seminar + Paper	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	Live online meetings
1	Multi-Disciplinary	Hassidut in the Torah	Professor Daniel Reiser	Hybrid
1	Summer	Tanakh & Archaeology	Herzog Staff	In-Person Course
1	Summer	Walking the Land	Herzog Staff	In-Person Course
1	Pedagogy	TBD	Rabbi Dr. Barry Kislowicz	Asynchronous
1	Tanakh	The Five Megillot	Rabbi Dr. Ari Silbermann	Hybrid (asynchronous + live)
1	Tanakh	Parshanut for Teachers	Rabbi Dr. Daniel Reifman	Asynchronous
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Please note that all details in this prospectus are subject to change and dependent on sufficient registration.

## M.A. Course Schedule – Year 1

Year 1 – Semester 1 – Fall 2025 – October 26, 2025 – February 1, 2026			
Tanakh	Method & Meaning: Herzog-Style Tanakh	Rabbi Dr. Shuky Reiss and Rabbi Daniel Wolf	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings
Pedagogy	Student-Centered Learning	Rabbi Dr. David Saltzman	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings
Tanakh	David: From Shepherd to Monarch - Triumphs and Trials (Part I)	Dr. Yael Ziegler	12 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Tanakh	The Five Megillot	Rabbi Dr. Ari Silbermann	12 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings

Year 1 – Semester 2 – Spring 2026 – March 2 – June 26, 2026			
Tanakh	Teaching Ethics and Morals	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	12 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Tanakh	David: From Shepherd to Monarch - Triumphs and Trials (Part II)	Dr. Yael Ziegler	12 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Tanakh	Parshanut for Teachers	Rabbi Dr. Daniel Reifman	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings
Pedagogy	Intrinsic Motivation in the Kodesh Classroom	Rabbi Shmuel Feld and Dr. Avichai Kellerman	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings

Year 1 – Semester 3 - Summer 2026 - June 28 – July 09, 2026			
Tanakh	David: From Shepherd to Monarch	Dr. Yael Zeigler	2 in-person meetings
Pedagogy	Teaching Ethics and Morals	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	2 in-person meetings
Summer	Tanakh and Archaeology	Herzog Staff	In-person course
Summer	Walking the Land	Herzog Staff	In-person course
Multi-Disciplinary	Hassidut in the Torah	Prof. Daniel Reiser	2 in-person meetings
Tanakh	<i>Shivat Tzion</i>	Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Tropper	2 in-person meetings

## M.A. Course Schedule – Year 2

Year 2 – Semester 3 – Fall 2026			
Seminar	Research Seminar + Paper	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	Includes 1 live online meeting
Tanakh	<i>Shivat Tzion</i>	Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Tropper	10 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Multi-Disciplinary	<i>Hassidut</i> in the Torah	Prof. Daniel Reiser	10 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Tanakh	Breadth and Depth: A Textual and Values-Based Study of Tanakh	Dr. Yosefa Fogel Wruble	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings

Year 2 – Semester 4 – Spring 2027			
Seminar	Research Seminar + Paper	Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn	1 live online meeting
Tanakh	<i>Shivat Tzion</i>	Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Tropper	10 asynchronous units plus 2 online meetings
Tanakh	Teaching Shemot: The Birth of the Jewish Nation	Dr. Yael Ziegler	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings
Pedagogy	TBD	Rabbi Dr. Barry Kislowicz	12 asynchronous units with 2 online meetings

## M.A. Course Instructors

**Rabbi Shmuel Feld** served for 25 years in Jewish education as a teacher, instructional leader, and principal. He helps day schools as the founding director of the Jewish Education Innovation Challenge. Rabbi Feld has an M.Ed. from Harvard Graduate School of Education and brings his many professional experiences outside of schools to inform his work, including running field training for the US Public Health Service, an arm of the US Navy.

**Dr. Yosefa Fogel Wruble** is a Ramit in the Women's Beit Midrash Migdal Oz, a lecturer in Matan Jerusalem's branch and the host of their weekly podcast, One on One. She holds a doctorate in Bible from Bar-Ilan University, a master's degree in Bible from Bar-Ilan University, a B.A. in Literature and Judaic Studies from Yeshiva University, and a teaching degree from Herzog College. She is also a Nishmat-certified Yoetzet Halacha and kallah teacher.

**Rabbi Dr. Barry Kislowicz** served as Principal and Head of School at Fuchs Mizrahi School in Cleveland, OH, for over a decade. He holds semicha from Yeshiva University and a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University Teachers College. After moving to Israel in 2016, Rabbi Kislowicz founded the Ministry of Diaspora's formal schooling initiative, designed to improve Jewish day schools around the globe, and directed the Educating for Impact project. He is a faculty member in the Jewish Educational Leadership and Administration departments at Herzog College, and was named a Bronfman Fellow, Wexner Graduate Fellow, and Pomegranate Prize winner.

**Rabbi Dr. Eli Kohn** is Senior Lecturer at Orot Israel College in Israel, and lecturer at the School of Education, Bar Ilan University. In this capacity he teaches Tanach and the pedagogy of Tanach to teachers of Jewish Studies at different grade levels. Rabbi Kohn was head of Jewish studies at Herzlia School in Cape Town, South Africa. There he developed curriculum in Tanach and other areas of Jewish studies. He is also former Director of Curriculum Development Projects at the Lookstein Center of Jewish Education in the Diaspora at Bar Ilan University. He specializes in the development of curriculum in Jewish Studies for Jewish Day schools and has lectured to teachers in Australia, Canada, England, Hong Kong, South Africa, and the United States.

**Professor Daniel Reiser** heads the Department of Jewish Thought at Herzog College. He specializes in Hasidic philosophy, modern mysticism, and theology in the Shoah. Reiser was a Matanel and a Warburg Post-Doc Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and an adjunct lecturer in their department of Jewish Thought. He was a Yad-Vashem Post-Doc Fellow in Jerusalem, and a Saul Kagan Post-Doc Fellow in Advanced Shoah Studies in New York. His books include *Language of Truth in the Mother Tongue: The Yiddish Sermons of Rabbi Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter*; *Imagery Techniques in Modern Jewish Mysticism*; and *Sermons from the Years of Rage*.

**Rabbi Dr. Daniel Reifman** is grateful to have been teaching Torah in a variety of institutions of higher learning for the past twenty years. He currently teaches at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, Yeshivat Maharat and at the Institute for Advanced Torah Studies at Bar-Ilan University. Daniel is also a long-time faculty member at the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, where he served most recently as the director of the Drisha Summer Kollel.

**Rabbi Dr. Yehoshua (Shuky) Reiss** is an alumnus of Yeshivat Har Etzion, where he received rabbinical ordination. Rav Shuky received a B.A. in history from the Open University, and an M.A. in history from Hebrew University. His doctorate from Bar-Ilan University was on the structure, ideology and historiography of the book of Joshua. For the past decade, Rabbi Shuky has been Chair of Herzog's Bible Studies department and Director of Bible Initiatives, making the Tanakh accessible to wider audiences through digital and experiential tools, including the HaTanakh.com website.

**Rabbi Dr. David Saltzman** Ed.D, is an experienced educator with more than 27 years of work in Jewish Day Schools. He spent 12 years teaching before serving as the Lower School Principal at Maimonides School in Brookline, MA for another 12 years. Currently, he works at the Yeshivah of Flatbush as the Lower School General Studies Principal and the Director of Teaching and Learning. Rabbi Saltzman is a firm believer in developing student-centered classrooms. He has coached teachers and administrators to support this approach.

**Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Tropper** heads the Tanakh Department of Shaanan College in Haifa. and was formerly the national supervisor of Tanakh teaching in Israel's religious school system. He studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion and Herzog College, holds an M.A. in Judaic Studies from the Siegal College of Jewish Studies in Cleveland, and a Ph.D. in Bible from Haifa University. He has worked in Jewish education for over thirty years, including at the Fuchs Mizrahi School in Cleveland. He believes in teaching a pedagogy that connects the teaching of Tanakh with shaping students' Jewish identity.



**Rabbi Dr. Ari Silbermann** Originally from Australia, Ari Silbermann spent 10 years studying at Yeshivat HaKotel, Beit Morasha, and Yeshivat Siach and has some two decades of experience involved in formal and informal Jewish education. He holds a B.A from Monash University, a Dip. Ed. from Herzog College as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. from Bar-Ilan University in Bible. His research interests include Sefer Tehillim, literary approaches to the Bible, and Second Temple Jewish biblical interpretation. He is currently a post-doctoral fellow at Tel-Aviv University involved in mapping Divine epithets in the Hellenistic ancient Near East.

**Rabbi Daniel Wolf** is a veteran educator, manager, and programmer with more than two decades of experience exploring and testing the interaction between technology and education. He studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion and Herzog Teachers College and holds a Masters in Jewish Thought from the Siegal College of Jewish Studies, and an undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Yeshiva University. Daniel spent seven years as a teacher and department chair at Fuchs Mizrahi School in Cleveland, where he developed Tanakh curricular materials for high school. He later served as an instructor and teaching coach in the Pardes Educators Program in Jerusalem. As an educator, Daniel encourages the use of technology as a pedagogic tool, particularly to facilitate textual analysis.

**Dr. Yael Ziegler** is a Senior Lecturer in Tanakh at Herzog College and former Rosh Batei Midrash and Academic Director of Matan. She received her BA from Stern College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Bible at Bar Ilan University. Dr. Ziegler has lectured widely on various Tanakh topics in Israel, the United States, Canada, South Africa, Australia, and Europe. Dr. Ziegler is the author of "*Promises to Keep: The Oath in Biblical Narrative*", "*Ruth: From Alienation to Monarchy*", and "*Lamentations: Faith in a Turbulent World*".

## Cost

### Application Fee (non-refundable):

New Students: \$120

Current Herzog Students: \$25

### Tuition

Tuition will be 38,880 NIS for two years of study, not including flights to Israel or accommodations. We offer a discount to 37,000 NIS for those who register before July 1, plus anyone who registers before April 1 will also receive free online access to all the Herzog College Yemei Iyun lectures.

Additional discount for students with an Israeli ID Card, living in Israel, or Israeli Shlichim currently overseas, to 32,000 NIS plus 1,200 NIS student fees (based on the Israeli Higher Education market charge).

Arrangements can be made to pay in installments.

## Application Procedure

If you have not already done so, please complete the registration form on our website: <https://global.herzog.ac.il/MA> or contact our Admissions Director, Hadassah Levy.

Hadassah will conduct your initial online interview, and you will be asked to send the following documents:

- Photo page of your Passport / Israeli ID Card if relevant
- Transcript from your Bachelor's degree
- Current photo

You will then be interviewed over Zoom by the head of the English program, Rabbi Reuven Spolter.

**Deadline for applications is August 31, 2025.**

**If you have any questions, you are invited to contact Hadassah Levy, Admissions Director, at [admissions@herzog.ac.il](mailto:admissions@herzog.ac.il) or call/WhatsApp her at +972-54-552-2464.**