



A Shalom Hartman Institute Video Lecture Series

TOGETHER & APART: The Future of Jewish Peoplehood explores one of the most pressing issues facing the Jewish world today — how we move from being a people with no permanent home to one with two permanent homes.

This series addresses the complex features of Jewish peoplehood inherent in our tradition and in our history. Who are we? What does it mean to be a member of the Jewish people? And what are some of the fundamental values that this encompasses?

Our new course examines the contemporary forces challenging peoplehood, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty, and identity politics, and imagines new conceptual frameworks that can help sustain and grow the story of our people for a new millennium.

Each session in this 14-unit course includes a 20-30 minute video lecture and 20-30 minutes of interviews with faculty, rabbis and public intellectuals. There is also a sourcebook with primary sources and background readings for each lecture.

Temple Judah's *Together & Apart* course will starting on **January 20th at 7:00 pm**, following this class we will meet every Wednesday through **April, 2021**. The class will be held of Zoom, a link will be sent to those who register for it. The cost for the class will be \$20 per person or couple for materials. The other side of this page has more details about each session.

If you are interested in joining us for this unique opportunity, please let the Temple office know by Jan 4th. You can either call, 319-362-1261, or email, office@templejudah.org.

Central Themes of the Video Lecture Series

January 20 - Unit 1: From No Home to Two Homes

This introductory unit examines the stories we have told about ourselves throughout history and asks whether we need a new grand narrative of Jewish peoplehood as a people who moved from no home to two homes – in Israel and in North America.

January 27 - Unit 2: The Judaism of Being

This unit explores one feature of the Jewish story, the permanent, unconditional Covenant of Being, in which Jews are defined by who we *are*, and not by what we *do*.

February 3 - Unit 3: The Judaism of Becoming

In this session, we explore the Covenant of Becoming, in which Jewish identity is shaped around shared beliefs and practices.

February 10 - Unit 4: On Universalism and Particularism

This unit explores the debate between the commitments of Jewish particularism and Jewish universalism and how the dance between these ideas has characterized the development of modern Zionism.

February 17 - Unit 5: Between Nationalism, Ultra-Nationalism, and Fascism

This session explores various definitions of nationalism and whether we can construct a positive Jewish articulation of nationalism constructed around the value of “encumberedness.”

February 24 - Unit 6: The Moral Implications of Jewish Nationalism

This unit continues the exploration of nationalism with a focus on its moral consequences.

March 3 - Unit 7: The Israeli Nation-State Law

This session explores two differing perspectives on Israel’s Nation-State law: one denouncing its moral failings and one embracing its significance for the future of Israel as a Jewish democratic state.

March 10 - Unit 8: Antisemitism as a Divisive Force

This unit explores the challenges to Jewish peoplehood posed by the current internal Jewish debate around antisemitism.

March 17 - Unit 9: Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism

This unit explores the relationship between antisemitism and anti-Zionism, the differences between the manifestations of antisemitism from the far-left to the far-right, and the ramifications for Jewish peoplehood.

March 24 - Unit 10: The Accusation and Dilemma of Dual Loyalties

This unit explores the notion of dual loyalty and its impact on Jewish peoplehood. Can Israel and World Jewry maintain a sense of togetherness while fully aware of the loyalty demands of a people, each in their own distinct home?

March 31 - Unit 11: “What’s Good for the Jews?” Identity Politics in North America

This unit explores the divergent historical strategies used within the American Jewish community to advocate for Jewish interests and how these strategies relate to contemporary internal Jewish debates.

April 7 - Unit 12: From Family to Consumer

This unit introduces five categories which shape the narrative of Jewish peoplehood: 1) family; 2) shared believers; 3) partners; 4) investors; 5) consumers.

How can a synergy between the categories of family and consumer strengthen the relationship between Israel and North American Jewry?

April 14 - Unit 13: Shared Believers, Partners, and Investors

This session focuses on the conceptual categories of shared believers, partners, and investors to explore if they can be helpful foundations for Jewish collective life today.

April 21 - Unit 14: At-Homeness

The dual reality of at-homeness in North America and Israel poses new challenges to our sense of togetherness today. This concluding session reflects on how the Jewish people can envision and take responsibility for a future together.