



Jewish Studies Continued

For Torah SheBichtav (Bible), all pupils gain an historical and sequential overview of the biblical map, and then, based on their previous level of knowledge and studies, begin an in-depth exploration of different parts of the Bible. Some begin “in the beginning”, with a study of sections from Sefer Bereishit, emphasising the middot (character traits) that we can learn from these narratives. Then they will go onto sections from Sefer Shemot, with an emphasis on the significance of citizenship and our responsibility to one another. Finally, they will refine their knowledge of Torah by exploring sections from Vayikra, Bamidbar, and Devarim. Other pupils, who have already learned the earlier sections of Torah in primary school, will begin with Bamidbar and continue their journey throughout Nakh.

In all of these programmes translation and analysis skills are taught, emphasising the value and significance of interpretation in the Jewish tradition.

Years 10-11

Pupils follow the Philosophy & Ethics syllabus (OCR 1931) for GCSE. Teaching materials written by the department ensure that pupils continue to add to their knowledge and build on their skills. Thus pupils consider a topic through analysis and discussion of relevant texts rather than through rote learning of information. At this stage, pupils explore crucial ethical and philosophical issues such as “Proofs for the Existence of G-d”, “Science and Religion”, “Sexism”, “Racism” and “Medical Ethics”. Pupils may also opt to study Biblical Hebrew GCSE, helping them to develop superior translation and grammatical skills and leading to a deeper understanding of the Tenach and its language. A new development is the inclusion of a non-examined course in Jewish Textual Learning. This course, which includes Tenach, Talmud, and Halachah study, is taught by members of the Immanuel College Beit Midrash. The course encompasses four to five lessons a fortnight and is non-examined but intellectually rigorous in nature. Pupils develop their translation and close reading skills, explore and analyse commentaries, and develop their ability to learn through chevruta study.

LVI and UVI

In the LVI and UVI all students choose one of the following Jewish Studies tracks:

- OCR Religious Studies AS/A2.
- OCR Biblical Hebrew AS/A2.
- Intensive Jewish Studies Programme – an intensive text-based course in preparation for study at Yeshiva or Seminary.
- Torah V’Chochmah Programme – a leadership course aimed at providing our students with the necessary skills and

knowledge to become active both on campus and in the wider Jewish community.

Extra-curricular activities

Jewish living and learning

In addition to all the above, the school provides a number of extra Jewish living and learning sessions during lunchtime and after school. These include the study of Gemara, Tenach, Contemporary Jewish issues, Spirituality, Jewish cooking and Israeli dance.

Public examinations

- GCSE: OCR RELIGIOUS STUDIES (PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS)
OCR BIBLICAL HEBREW
- AS/A Level: OCR RELIGIOUS STUDIES
(RELIGIOUS ETHICS & JUDAISM)
OCR BIBLICAL HEBREW

Why is the Immanuel College Jewish experience unique?

- Our rigorous yet thoughtful teaching methods encourage pupils to explore and discuss a broad range of issues from the perspective of Jewish texts and teachings.
- The programme of informal educational experiences fosters the pupils’ personal, social and spiritual growth.
- The educational journeys, which are an integral part of the curriculum, inspire a love of Israel and create a deep understanding of the place of the Jew in the modern world.
- The Beit Midrash Programme makes a strong impact on the lives of many pupils, providing shiurim, Israel updates and chevruta opportunities on a daily basis.

