

World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

Teacher Name: Jeffrey Dodge Humanities Discipline: Philosophy 102 & 220 Date: Oct. 30, 2015

World Religion: Judaism Teaching Module Title: The Philosophy of Religion: Judaism (PHIL 220)

Introduction to the Ethics of Judaism (PHIL 102)

Teaching Module Goals:

Introduce students to basic Jewish beliefs, scriptures, and ethics of Jews in America.

(PHIL 220) Introduce students to Jewish ideas about God, religious experience, faith and reason, and the problem of evil.

(PHIL 102) Introduce students to Jewish moral thinking including Divine Command theory, justice, self-identity, family, relationships with one's own and others' community, and human rights.

Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

Bowker, *World Religions*, Judaism, pp. 124-147 (PHIL 102 & 220)

Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures, New JPS Translation, Jewish Publication Society, Philadelphia (PHIL 102 & 220)

Ethics of the Fathers, Korén Publishers, Jerusalem (Phil 102) – also available on the website below.

Babylonian Talmud (PHIL 220) – available on the website below.

Telushkin, *Jewish Literacy*, William Morrow & Co., NY -- selected readings from this anthology for PHIL 102 & 220 from Section 1 on Bible, 5 on Zionism, 7 on the Holocaust, 8 American Jewish life, 10 Antisemitism, 11 on Jewish texts, 12 on Jewish ethics and basic beliefs.

Chabad.org , Chabad-Lubavitch Media Center, 1995-2015. (Jewish TV, website with general Jewish information on ethics and beliefs; this is link to the Tanakh in English and Hebrew).

http://www.chabad.org/library/bible_cdo/aid/63255/jewish/The-Bible-with-Rashi.htm

Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

What is the basis for Jewish religious doctrines and philosophy? What shaped Jewish thoughts and practices?

What are the major sections of the Hebrew Bible? Explain two major religious beliefs from each of those sections.

What other major Jewish religious works other than the Tenakh that have influenced the development of Judaism? List and explain the importance of each text.

Explain Jewish self-understandings of their origins. What events, beliefs, and practices shaped their identity? How have those beliefs and practices continued to develop?

Explain the importance of *mitzvah*, or commandment/good deed, in Jewish thought (PHIL 220) and ethics (PHIL 102).

Explain the religious experience associated with the Kabbalah. Compare this to our selection from Martin Buber's I and Thou (PHIL 220).

What is the Galut and how did it shape Jewish thought and practice (PHIL 220)?

List some of the major ethical principles and moral values of Judaism (name the source), and explain their importance (PHIL 102).

What was the Shoah, or Holocaust, and what major moral dilemmas are raised by it? What solutions would you offer? Be specific rather than general in your responses (PHIL 102 & 220).

What forms of Judaism are practiced in America, and what effect have these groups had upon American thought (PHIL 220) or ethics (PHIL 102)? List them and give a specific example.

What are the major philosophical beliefs of American Judaism today? List and explain each one. Use examples for support (PHIL 220).

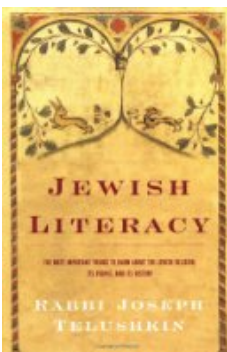
What are the major ethical beliefs of American Judaism today? List and explain each one. Use examples for support (PHIL 102).

Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

(PHIL 220) Black Board Journal entries (essay minimum 500 words each).

(PHIL 102) Black Board Discussion Board (minimum 500 words).

Additional Resource information:



Jewish Literacy: The Most Important Things to Know About the Jewish Religion, Its People and Its History

ISBN-13: 9780688085063

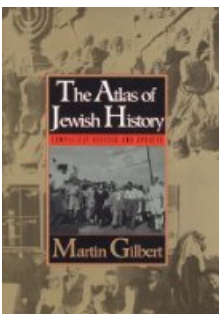
ISBN-10: 0688085067

Author: Joseph Telushkin

Edition: 1,

Binding: Hardcover, **Publisher:** William Morrow, **Published:** April 1991, **List**

Price: \$35.00



The Atlas of Jewish History (Compl Rev & Updtd)

ISBN-13: 9780688122645

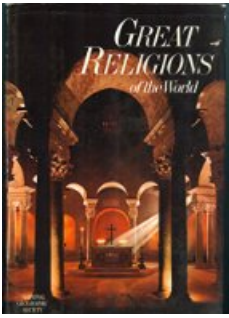
ISBN-10: 0688122647

Author: Martin Gilbert

Edition: Rev Upd Su

Binding: Hardcover, **Publisher:** William Morrow & Company, **Published:** January 1993,

List Price: \$23.00



Great Religions of the World

ISBN-13: 9780870441400

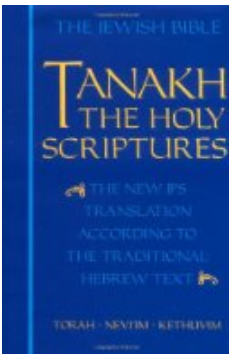
ISBN-10: 087044140X

Author: National Geographic

Edition: 2nd

Binding: Hardcover

Publisher: Random House~trade, **Published:** December 1978



Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures, The New JPS Translation According to the Traditional Hebrew Text

ISBN-13: 9780827602526

ISBN-10: 0827602529

Edition: 1st

Binding: Hardcover

Publisher: Jewish Publication Society

Published: November 1985, **List Price:** \$37.00



Old Testament (Bible Students)

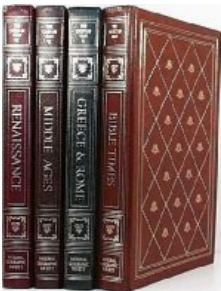
ISBN-13: 9780564000296

ISBN-10: 0564000299

Author: N H Snaith

Edition: Hebrew Edition, **Binding:** Hardcover

Publisher: The British and Foreign Bible Society, **Published:** December 1958



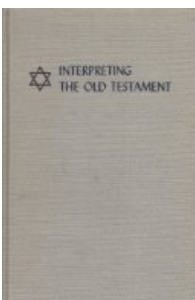
Everyday Life in Bible Times

ISBN-13: 9780870441318

ISBN-10: 0870441310

Author: National Geographic Book Service

Edition: 2, **Binding:** Hardcover, **Publisher:** Natl Geographic Society, **Published:** June 1977, **List Price:** \$9.95



Interpreting the Old Testament

ISBN-13: 9780030446603

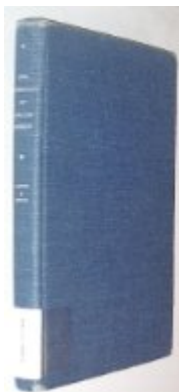
ISBN-10: 0030446600

Author: Walter Harrelson

Edition: First Edition, First Printing, **Binding:** Hardcover

Publisher: Holt Rinehart and Winston, **Published:** December 1964,

List Price: \$94.40



Essentials of Biblical Hebrew

ISBN-13: 9780060697105

ISBN-10: 0060697105

Author: Kyle M. Yates

Edition: Revised

Binding: Hardcover

Publisher: Harpercollins College Div

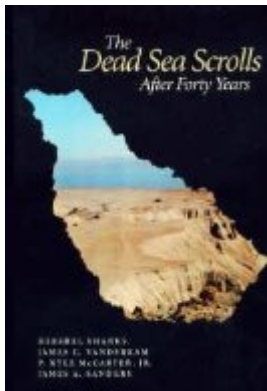
Published: June 1955, **List Price:** \$14.95

Smithsonian

ISBN-

ISBN-

Authors: P.
Vanderkam



The Dead Sea Scrolls After Forty Years (Symposium at the Institution, Oct. 27, 1990)

13: 9780961308971

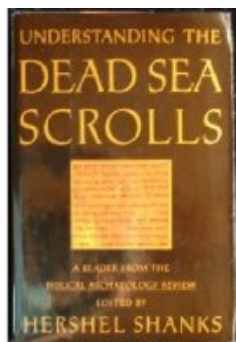
10: 0961308974

Authors: Kyle McCarter Jr.; James A. Sanders; Hershel Shanks; James C.

Edition: Edition Unstated

Binding: Paperback, **Publisher:** Biblical Archaeology Society

Published: May 1991, **List Price:** \$7.95



Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls: A Reader from the Biblical Archaeology Review

ISBN-13: 9780679414483

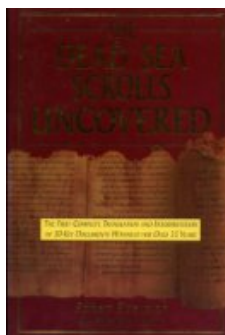
ISBN-10: 0679414487

Edition: 1

Binding: Hardcover

Publisher: Random House

Published: August 1992, **List Price:** \$25.00



The Dead Sea Scrolls Uncovered: The First Complete Translation and Interpretation of 50 Key Documents Withheld for over 35 Years

ISBN-13: 9781852303686

ISBN-10: 1852303689

Authors: Michael Wise; Robert H. Eisenman

Binding: Hardcover

Publisher: Element Books Ltd

Published: November 1992, **List Price:** \$24.95