

“The Idea of Sefarad”

Spring Semester 2024 - Curriculum

Beit Midrash Barcelona will dedicate the spring semester of 2024 to an interdisciplinary study of the Sephardic branch of Jewish civilization.

"The Idea of Sefarad" and its multifaceted representations will be explored across various aspects, as cultural categorization, tradition, identity, social and historical constructs, and the realm of political imagination.

Throughout 16 weekly sessions, from February to May, participants of the study group will read and discuss foundational texts, visit historical sites in Barcelona, engage in discussions with prominent researchers and thinkers, and scrutinize the potentials and roles of "Sephardic studies" within contemporary (European) society.

Beit Midrash Barcelona is directed by Ze'ev Maor, (PhD Philosophy) with the participation of guest scholars, local and international.

No religious background or prior knowledge is required. Language of teaching: English (Catalan, Spanish, Hebrew friendly).



Atlas catalán de Cresques Abraham. 1375

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N	Date	Sessions
1	Feb 1	Opening: The Idea of Sefarad
2	Feb 8	The Sephardic Category & Identity
3	Feb 15	“Language for the Faithful” - On the concept of Tradition
4	Feb 22	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Prof. Meir Buzaglo . Hebrew University of Jerusalem “Sephardi heritage and contemporary Vocations”
5	Feb 29	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Prof. David Ohana . Ben-Guryon University/the Van Leer institute “On Myth and Political Theology in the holy land”
6	Mar 7	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Prof. Ángeles (Angy) Cohen . University of Calgary “Post-colonialism and Sephardi studies”
7	Mar 14	Visiting Scholar: Prof. Lucía Conte Aguilar . UPF Barcelona “The Sephardic Textual Experience”
8	Mar 21	<u>Visiting Scholar</u> : Prof. Sílvia Planas i Marcé . Instituto de Estudios Nahmánides “La història de les dones jueves a la Catalunya medieval”
9	Mar 28	Urban Workshop A: The Barcelona Cathedral Archives
10	Apr 4	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Uriel Macías “La idea de Sefarad”
11	Apr 11	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Prof. Irene E. Zwiep . University of Amsterdam “Futures of Jewish/Sephardic studies”
12	Apr 18	<u>Visiting Scholar</u> : Evan Kapros “The Sephardic Diaspora – Greece”
13	May 2 / (6,7, 8)	<u>Visiting Scholar</u> : Prof. Haviva Pedaya . Ben-Guryon University/ Van Leer institute “The East (HaMizrah) Writes Itself” / “Cabala de Catalunya - Girona workshop”
14	May 9	<u>Guest Scholar</u> : Prof. Yuval Evri . Brandeis University “The return to Sefarad”
15	May 16	Urban Workshop B: Call de Barcelona
16	May 23	“Sephardi studies” - Concluding workshop & Peer Presentations