



The  
Lookstein  
Center  
Bar-Ilan University

# Professional Development Catalog

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## Professional Development from The Lookstein Center

The Lookstein Center offers professional development for Judaic Studies educators around the globe at every stage of their careers. Our professional development offerings cover foundational topics such as applying pedagogic strategies to the teaching of Jewish texts, history, and life, as well as more advanced seminars to ensure that teachers are up to date with the latest educational research so that they can rethink pedagogic approaches, build new skills, and acquire new mindsets.

From one-off sessions to fully customized programs, our professional development approach is to combine theory and practice so educators can walk away from our sessions with the knowledge, tools, and know-how to enhance their teaching and upgrade their classrooms.

This catalog contains sessions that may be purchased by Jewish schools and organizations for their faculty and staff. If you are an individual educator interested in any of these sessions, please email us at [pd\\_inquiries@lookstein.org](mailto:pd_inquiries@lookstein.org).

### Online Sessions and Workshops

Online sessions and workshops are available a la carte. Each standalone session (or series) is designed to pinpoint a specific skill or topic area, and will provide a directed approach that will enable you to implement strategies informed by theory and best practice.

### Intensive Programs

Intensive PD programs allow our learners to delve into a topic, discover new approaches, and develop teaching strategies through a collaborative learning process. Workshops are used to model relevant pedagogic approaches, while participants will have the opportunity to share, present, and learn from a cohort of peers.

### Customized Professional Development

Customized sessions (face-to-face or online) are a great way to tailor professional development to your school's specific needs. For more information about customizing one of the programs in this catalog, or to create a new program, please contact us at [pd@lookstein.org](mailto:pd@lookstein.org).

We look forward to learning with you!

## Online Sessions and Workshops

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## Online Sessions and Workshops

### Best Practices in Online Education

#### **TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF: MANAGING TIME, TASKS, AND EXPECTATIONS**

Teaching online is difficult, but the fact that work comes home with us takes things to a whole new level. Come explore scheduling challenges and solutions, setting boundaries with students and parents, ideas for teacher networks, and learn about time-saving tools to reclaim your work-life balance.

**TIME:** 1 hour

**FORMAT:** Online Webinar

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#### **MASTERING CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT ONLINE**

With great power comes great responsibility. While digital technology provides unprecedented resources at our fingertips, it has also provided students with ample ways to disrupt learning. How can you set expectations and keep to them? How can you troubleshoot once a problem comes up? Join veteran online educators as they share stories, strategies, and shortcuts about online classroom management.

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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#### **TEACHING IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE: CONCURRENT/HYBRID/FLEX/HYFLEX TEACHING**

Today's classroom isn't what it used to be. Students and teachers alike are in and out of buildings this year, on and off devices, and navigating uncharted territory, leading to feelings of disruption and anxiety. This session explores strategies to keep face-to-face and remote students learning at the same pace, ease your workload, and create a cohesive classroom environment in the COVID-19 era.

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Webinar

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#### **VIRTUALLY TOGETHER: FOSTERING COMMUNITY IN A HYBRID ENVIRONMENT**

How do we build classroom communities? What can we bring from the face-to-face classroom to the virtual and vice versa? What tools and best practices will help us intentionally foster a strong community that will in turn create a vibrant learning environment?

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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## **TEACHING FROM A DISTANCE: SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS FUNDAMENTALS**

How do we best use free tools and resources for effective asynchronous learning, while engaging students in synchronous sessions and helping students step away from the computer and still learn?

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Session

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## **Student-Centered Education**

### **MAKING JEWISH LEARNING MEANINGFUL IN THE ONLINE ENVIRONMENT**

It is easy to see how the online environment can be used for teaching content knowledge or skills. But to make learning compelling, we need to teach in a way that is meaningful to others. In this session, we explore the fundamentals of meaning-making and look at digital tools to support this objective in an online/concurrent environment.

**TIME:** 1 hour

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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### **MAKING JEWISH LEARNING MEANINGFUL IN FACE-TO-FACE ENVIRONMENTS**

As Jewish Day School professionals, we know how important meaning-making is, and yet this is one of the hardest things to impart in our classrooms. In this session we will explore the fundamentals of meaning-making and look at different classroom practices that can help us make Jewish learning truly meaningful for students.

**TIME:** 1 hour

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Workshop

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### **PERSONALIZING INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT**

The move to online and blended learning has opened up new possibilities in the move away from whole-class instruction. In this session, we will explore how to harness these new modalities to promote personalized learning. We will discuss the design of multiple pathways, goal setting, the role of digital materials, the shifting role of the teacher, and how to create and use the formative assessments that make it possible.

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Webinar

## Jewish Studies

### WHAT MAKES A KINGDOM: UNDERSTANDING AND TEACHING MAJOR THEMES IN SEFER MELAKHIM

This session explores overarching themes in the *Sefer Melakhim*, including the nature and functions of the kingdom; the importance of culture; and understanding the difference between *Malkhut Yehudah* and *Malkhut Yisrael*. The broad themes will be grounded in a careful understanding of multiple texts woven together into a narrative. These themes can be very valuable in shaping our understanding of the *sefer* and how we teach it.

**TIME:** 3 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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### HIGHER-LEVEL THINKING IN TANACH

This session will equip middle and high school Tanach educators to elevate student thinking, learning, and personal connection to text. Together we will explore moving the study of Tanach beyond translation; engaging students in the process of interacting with the texts they are learning; focused critical reading of *parshanim*; how to make *peshat* and *derash* meaningful categories for students.

**TIME:** 3 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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## Blended Learning

### INTRODUCTION TO BLENDED LEARNING

The Covid-19 crisis has reinforced both the importance of the classroom experience as well as the importance of giving teachers new digital skills and tools. This introduction to blended learning will show teachers how to "blend" digital learning skills with the in-classroom experience to maximize the success of each student. We will discuss instruction, skill building, practice, application, and assessment and the role that digital tools and traditional classroom modalities should play in each.

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Workshop

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### INTRODUCTION TO HYFLEX LEARNING

The Covid-19 crisis has presented schools and teachers with new challenges, while also highlighting issues that have long been neglected in traditional classroom environments (how to effectively deal with extended student absence for example). With students in school or learning at home, in often rapidly shifting configurations, the Hybrid-Flex, or "hyflex", model of blended learning can help schools and teachers plan ahead and create learning plans that will allow students and teachers to move seamlessly between in-school and at-home environments.

**TIME:** 1.5 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Workshop

## Expanding Your Toolbox

### HOW TO USE *CREATING MEMORY: AN ARTS-BASED INITIATIVE IN HOLOCAUST EDUCATION*

'Creating Memory' is an arts-based program for Holocaust education, based on the successful Hebrew program *Yotzrim Zikaron*. Through the creative arts and exploration of relatable themes, students can connect to the Holocaust in new ways. This session will offer practical ideas and implementation techniques for Jewish day school and informal Jewish educators. Each mini-course is geared towards middle and high school educators across the globe. Every participant will receive a free copy of the 'Creating Memory' booklet.

**TIME:** 3 hours

**FORMAT:** Online Workshop

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### DIGITAL TOOLS FOR BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

Effective teachers know how to design materials that ensure student learning, from the simple to the more complex. This session will delve into six digital tools, each matched with a category in the Taxonomy. For each tool, participants will see examples, watch how it's done, and receive how-to-videos to help them "do it at home".

- **Knowledge and Comprehension: Edpuzzle and Quizlet**
- **Application, Analysts, and Evaluation: Padlet and Flipgrid**
- **Creation: Create Digital Projects and Products and The Google Apps Suite**

**TIME:** 3 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Workshop

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### COLLABORATIVE FILM-MAKING WITH CHILDREN

Video creation can help teachers present content to students. We will learn how to create concise, logically organized, visually pleasing, and pedagogically sound videos following research-based multimedia principles.

**TIME:** 2 hours

**FORMAT:** Face to Face or Online Workshop

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#### Pricing:

Our professional development sessions cost \$275/hr. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Jewish schools are eligible to receive the subsidized rate of \$200/hr.

Interested individuals may also contact us about joining sessions.

Please email us at [pd\\_inquiries@lookstein.org](mailto:pd_inquiries@lookstein.org) to get started.

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## Intensive Programs

Intensive PD programs allow our learners to delve into a topic, discover new approaches, and develop teaching strategies through a collaborative learning process. Workshops are used to model relevant pedagogic approaches, while participants will have the opportunity to share, present, and learn from a cohort of peers.

### Teacher Leadership

**Teacher Leadership @The Lookstein Center** is for teachers who love and excel at their craft and are committed to ongoing improvement. It is for teachers who care about impacting their entire school community while remaining in the place that they love most, their classroom. Selected participants will emerge from the program ready to become catalysts for ongoing professional growth in their schools. The 16-month program integrates learning, practice, and the development and implementation of a school-specific initiative by each participant.

Program cost is dependent on cohort size. Please write to [pd@lookstein.org](mailto:pd@lookstein.org) for more information.