



Joint Religious Education Program

An official program of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: Why is the U.S. Army offering Jewish education courses?

A: In many areas where active-duty Army personnel are stationed or deployed, there are limited opportunities for Jewish education. JWB, through the Army's Department of Religious Education, is offering high-quality, no-cost courses so individuals in uniform and their families can expand their personal knowledge of Judaism and its history, customs, practices, traditions, and beliefs. They also can enrich their quality of life by connecting to other Jews, especially if they are not able to participate in a local Jewish community in their own area.

Q: How were these resources chosen?

A: The resources provided through JWB's Joint Religious Education Program are among the most highly regarded and widely used Jewish education curricula in the civilian world, and we are proud to make these materials available to individuals and families in our military Jewish community.

Q: Are the courses taught online or in person?

A: Courses are held online (with one exception, available only in Europe). Courses will be live, in real time, and accessible from students' home computers.

Q: What are the registration deadlines for each curriculum?

A: Registration is required to participate in all courses. Registration will open in September. Classes will begin in November. The school year will come to a close at the end of May.

Q: Can I begin classes after the program starts?

A: If space in classes is available, students can join at any time. However, we encourage enrollment at the beginning of the course.

Q: Are there any costs for the classes?

A: No. This initiative is entirely funded by the U.S. Army.

Q: Are classes open only to children of active-duty service members?

A: First priority will be given to children of active-duty service members. If space is available, anyone within the community may register.

Q: How much time per week will be required for class?

A: Instructors will set their own pace for class meetings. Plan for 60 to 90 minutes of class time per week for each class.

Q: How much homework and independent study will be required?

A: As with anything, the more time and effort you invest, the more you will benefit. Although there will be no assignments outside of class time, each program will offer opportunities for further study on your own.

Q: What tools and materials will be required?

A: You will need a working computer with an internet connection, as well as paper and pen as desired for additional notetaking.

Q: Is this religious study?

A: That is the million-dollar question of Jewish studies. Is Judaism a religion, a culture, an ethnicity, or all of the above? The curricula will cover prayer, *mitzvot* (ethical or obligatory practices), Jewish history, the Bible, and more.

Q: Can I receive educational credits toward a degree or continuing education requirements?

A: The Lookstein Virtual Jewish Academy program is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and courses can be taken for credit. However, the course requirements will be different than those of JREP, and students will have to pay to take courses for credit.

Q: Can I attend via my mobile phone?

A: Although it may be possible to attend classes on your phone, it is not recommended.



To register and for
more information visit:
icca.org/jwb/jrep



Provided by
**JWB Jewish
Chaplains Council**
Serving Jews Who Serve®