

RIETS Catalog Entries – Business Ethics & Jewish Law

A. Advanced Certificate In Business Ethics & Jewish Law

The Advanced Certificate in Business Ethics & Jewish Law is a graduate certificate for students who wish to study the intersection of Jewish Law and contemporary business ethics. It is open to semikha students who are interested in entering the business world or related fields, as well as business professionals and others who wish to gain greater understanding of Jewish business law and ethics, or anyone else interested in the field. Students in the Advanced Certificate complete the two foundational courses in Business Ethics & Jewish Law; some students will conclude their studies with the Certificate, while others may continue on to the MHL program. To receive the Advanced Certificate, students must complete the following course of study:

Admissions Requirements:

1. A recognized bachelor's degree.
2. Interview and examination by the Program Director.

Required Course of Study:

Students can complete the program in one year taking two courses, one per semester.

- a. HAL 6303 - Business Ethics & Jewish Law I (3 Credits)
- b. HAL 6304 - Business Ethics & Jewish Law II (3 Credits)

These courses provide a broad introduction to the field and establish the conceptual and textual foundation for further advanced study in Business Ethics & Jewish Law.

B. Master's in Hebrew Literature (MHL) – Business Ethics & Jewish Law

The Master's Degree in Hebrew Literature (MHL) in Business Ethics & Jewish Law is a graduate degree for students with strong backgrounds in Jewish learning who seek to develop deep halakhic and ethical fluency in navigating the complex business challenges of contemporary commercial life. It is open to semikha students, business professionals, and others seeking to study Torah at a high level while gaining expertise in the developing field of Jewish business ethics and law. All students in the MHL program begin with the two-course Advanced Certificate sequence in Business Ethics & Jewish Law, and may, as appropriate, take additional MHL coursework concurrently as co-

requisites or after completion of Advanced Certificate courses. Thus, every student in the MHL program will also have completed, or be enrolled in, the Advanced Certificate in Business Ethics & Jewish Law. To receive the MHL in Business Ethics & Jewish Law, students must complete the following course of study:

Admissions Requirements:

1. A recognized bachelor's degree.
2. Interview and examination by the Program Director.

Required Course of Study:

Students can complete the program in one year as full-time students, or part-time over two or more years. All coursework is delivered remotely and synchronously.

A. Core Curriculum (15 credits total)

All students must take Business Ethics & Jewish Law I and Business Ethics & Jewish Law II in the first two semesters of the program. These courses form the certificate sequence of the program which may be earned in route to completing the MHL in Business Ethics & Jewish Law, and are prerequisites and co-requisites for the remaining coursework in the MHL.

1. HAL 6303 - Business Ethics & Jewish Law I (3 credits)

Foundational principles in halakha and business ethics; topics include the ethical structure of commerce, honesty in financial dealings, and introductory methods for applying classical Jewish legal sources to modern business practice.

2. HAL 6304 - Business Ethics & Jewish Law II (3 credits)

Continuation of foundational issues; covers more advanced applications of Jewish business ethics and law in contemporary commercial settings, with emphasis on analysis of practical cases and halakhic reasoning.

3. HAL 6331 - Workplace Ethics (3 credits)

Halakhic and ethical analysis of obligations, conduct, and relationships in the workplace, including the responsibilities of employers, employees, and institutional actors.

4. HAL 6332 - Theft & Fraud (3 credits)

Sources and applications relating to theft, fraud, misrepresentation, and financial misconduct in Jewish law, with attention to both classical doctrine and modern commercial practice.

5. HAL 6333 - Jewish Law Fundamentals (3 credits)

Introduction to the core legal categories, textual foundations, and conceptual tools necessary for advanced study in Jewish business law.

B. Electives (12 credits total – 3 credits each)

Students must choose four of the following elective courses:

Real Estate

- HAL 6341 - Real Estate Development & Acquisition (3 credits)
- HAL 6342 - Brokerage in Jewish Law (3 credits)

Management

- HAL 6343 - Employee Rights & Obligations I (3 credits)
- HAL 6344 - Employee Rights & Obligations II (3 credits)

Sales

- HAL 6345 - Acquisitions in Jewish Law (3 credits)
- HAL 6346 - Consumer Protection (3 credits)
- HAL 6347 - Marketing (3 credits)
- HAL 6348 - Monopoly Power & Market Economics (3 credits)

Finance

- HAL 6349 - Debt Finance (Ribbis) I (3 credits)
- HAL 6351 - Debt Finance (Ribbis) II (3 credits)
- HAL 6352 - Corporate Structure (3 credits)
- HAL 6353 - Investments: Equity & Alternatives (3 credits)

C. HAL 6393 - Capstone Thesis (3 credits)

A culminating research project under faculty guidance in which students synthesize halakhic analysis, ethical reasoning, and applied study in a focused area of Business Ethics & Jewish Law.