

College/School: Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration

Program/Major: Masters Program

Contact Name: David Schnall, Dean; Rona Novick, Director of Doctoral Program; Moshe Krakowski, Director of Masters Program

1. Please type or paste your program's/major's mission statement into the space below.

The Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration (AGS) was named in recognition of a major gift by the Montreal architect-builder and communal leader David J. Azrieli, in 1983. Our students come from every part of the United States, as well as Canada, Israel and Europe, to attend this premier international center for the training of Jewish educators. Alumni serve at the helm of schools and educational agencies, in universities and in communal institutions all over the world.

The field of Jewish education, both formal and informal, has experienced enormous growth in recent years, reflecting important changes in the direction and composition of the Jewish communities world-wide. As a result, there is an expanding need for highly trained personnel, qualified teachers, principals, administrators and other educational leaders, who can contribute to the quality and accessibility of Jewish education, while preserving and strengthening its values and practices.

Our mission is to train a cadre of Torah educators with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to relay the rich values and traditions of the Jewish heritage with warmth, joy and intelligence. Our student body includes teachers and administrators, regardless of institutional or denominational affiliation, who seek to enhance their skills and competencies while earning an advanced degree in Jewish education.

At Azrieli we have a broad and expansive definition of Jewish education, from early childhood to the university campus to the *beit midrash* (study hall), from the pulpit to the classroom to the summer camp, from the mainstream to the gifted to those with special challenges. Our students and alumni staff formal agencies with highly structured curricula as well as informal programs of looser design. Many reside in concentrated centers of Jewish life, while others work to build communal and educational institutions in less developed communities throughout North America, Israel and elsewhere.

We are committed to the proposition that there is no better, more powerful way to ensure the Jewish future than to educate Jewish children. As our sages declared, "*Talmud Torah ke-neged kulam*," the study of Torah encompasses the rest.

2. Please list below each of your program's/major's goals and corresponding student learning objectives (SLOs). *Note: Some Learning Objectives fulfill multiple goals.*

| Program/Major Goals | SLOs |
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| 1. Graduates will display commitment to and competence in pedagogy that draws on instructional strategies that promote active engagement in a student-centered learning environment. | a. Students will be able to manage a classroom effectively, including differentiating instruction, utilizing chevruta and cooperative learning, and ensuring engagement and active learning b. Students will exhibit flexibility in moment to moment teaching – teaching to the moment of need, recognizing a teachable moment c. Students will recognize that the practice of teaching is both an art and a science |
| 2. Graduates will display commitment to the broadest dissemination of Jewish education without regard to gender, race, ethnicity or personal disabilities. | a. Students will be committed to the idea that all students can thrive when provided with an appropriate instructional and emotional environment. b. Students will serve as Jewish role models for their students, and acts professionally c. Students will recognize that educational practices have ethical implications |
| 3. Graduates will display competence in and commitment to the historical, social and psychological foundations of Jewish traditions and values. | a. Students will have knowledge of the history of Jewish and general education b. Students will display sensitivity to the tension between tradition and innovation in education (awareness of community) c. Students will have familiarity with classic and contemporary theories of curriculum development and assessment |
| 4. Graduates will display competence in classroom management techniques and strategies appropriate to their chosen grade levels. | a. Students will be able to manage a classroom effectively, including differentiating instruction, utilizing chevruta and cooperative learning, and ensuring engagement and active learning b. Students will be familiar with child and adolescent development patterns and age-appropriate reactions, attitudes, and behaviors; c. Students will have knowledge of current research on effective instruction. |
| 5. Graduates will display competence in the development and delivery of Jewish studies curricula in such areas as Bible, Talmud, prayer and Jewish history. | a. Students will have knowledge of the structures of the Jewish studies disciplines b. Students will display PCK (pedagogical content knowledge) for individual Jewish subjects c. Students will be able to design and develop |

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| | Jewish studies curricula based on curriculum goals, and prepare lesson plans based on clear learning objectives |
| 6. Graduates will display competence in the formative and summative assessment of learning in these areas of Jewish studies. | a. Students will have familiarity with classic and contemporary theories of curriculum development and assessment |
| | b. Students are able to use traditional and non-traditional assessment tools |
| | c. Students are able to use formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and assess learning |
| 7. As learning styles and capacities vary among their own students graduates will display competence in and commitment to the delivery of differentiated instruction in Jewish studies based on assessments of their students learning. | a. Students will be able to manage a classroom effectively, including differentiating instruction, utilizing chevruta and cooperative learning, and ensuring engagement and active learning |
| | b. Students will appreciate that students learn think and behave in diverse ways |
| | c. Students will be able to structure learning environments to accommodate diverse learners and students' socio-emotional needs |
| 8. Graduates will display competence in and commitment to the use of innovative techniques and technologies in the delivery of Jewish studies curricula. | a. Students will be familiar with the range of appropriate educational technology available in Jewish studies |
| | b. Students will display a willingness to utilize technology in Jewish education, where appropriate and relevant |
| | c. Students will be able to utilize technological tools such as smart boards, software programs, and tablets, in their Jewish studies classrooms |