



3900 Fabian Way • Palo Alto, California 94303 • 650.213.9600 • Fax 650.213.9601

Daisy Pellant, Head of School

Roy Danovitch, Associate Head of School

Kaylin Liang, Director of College Counseling
kliang@kehillah.org

Jordana Bischoff, College Counselor
jbischoff@kehillah.org

CEEB/ACT CODE: 053173

FOUR COMMITMENTS

- 1 **Everyone counts.**
- 2 **Everyone has equal access to great learning.**
- 3 **Everyone's unique talents are valued equally.**
- 4 **We take responsibility for ourselves, our learning, and our community.**

OUR STORY

Kehillah is distinguished by an exceptional academic program in a supportive environment. At Kehillah, students embark on a journey of self-discovery guided by a community of passionate educators. They graduate with the knowledge, values, and community that enable them to create extraordinary futures.

BACKGROUND

Kehillah is an independent high school that welcomes a diversity of students from Silicon Valley and the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Our campus offers state-of-the-art physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering arts labs, music and art studios, a "black-box" theatre, and an exceptional gym and athletic facility in collaboration with the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center. Average classroom size is 12 students. Kehillah is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and by the California Association of Independent Schools.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Kehillah's experiential learning program is central to the student experience. It includes weekly Reflective Practice/Heart-Work, Beit Midrash (lit. house of meaning-making), Kabbalat Shabbat, Advisory, grade-level Seminars, Just Communities townhalls, and annual local and international grade-level educational travels. These programs help our students become citizens of the world - socially aware, engaged, and working for a more just and kind world.

CURRICULUM

Kehillah operates on an 8-block schedule. Students engage in a challenging array of courses in English, History, Social Studies, Math, Visual and Performing Arts, Science, and Language (see graduation requirements). Students in grades 9-11 enroll in at least 7 courses (with 1 free block). At least 6 courses (and 2 free blocks) are required for students in grade 12.

In addition, each semester, students are required to choose one Jewish Studies elective from three areas of concentration: Thought and Tradition, Life and Culture, or History and Identity. Our text-based courses focus on the exploration of canonical texts from biblical and rabbinic literature and involve the study of both Hebrew and Aramaic. All courses offered by the Jewish Studies department are UC-approved, draw upon 3,000 years of Jewish tradition, and prepare students to become better global citizens.

NOTES ON THE CURRICULUM

- Students enroll in Honors and AP courses through a process of individual course counseling and academic departmental recommendations.
- Jewish Studies are required every semester. Students often make curricular choices for junior and senior year taking this additional course requirement into account. This might mean opting out of an AP course to accommodate the additional Jewish Studies core requirement in their schedule.

CLUBS

Architecture, RAMbassadors, Bridge, Women in Science, Biology, The 3900 (student newspaper), Gardening, Fun and Games, Debate Team, Chess, Screenwriting, Robotics, Creative Coding, Video Production, Kindness, Debate, GSA, Model UN, Yearbook, Jewish Life Committee, and MishMosh
(not an exhaustive list)

ATHLETICS

Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Tennis, Cross Country, Baseball, and Track

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years
Science	3 years
History	3 years
World Languages	2 years
Jewish Studies	4 years
Physical Education	1 year
Visual & Performing Arts	1 year

Additionally, all students must successfully complete and present a Capstone Senior Project as a requirement for graduation.

Students in grades 9-11 must take at least 7 courses. Grade 12 students must take at least 6 courses.

GRADING SYSTEM & CLASS RANK

- Grade point average (GPA) is calculated on the basis of all courses taken at Kehillah, except Physical Education and Directed Studies.
- Courses taken outside of Kehillah are not included in the cumulative GPA.
- **Kehillah uses a 4.0 GPA scale. Honors and Advanced Placement courses receive a weight of +1.**
- Consistent with Kehillah's commitment to being a supportive academic environment that values all of our students, Kehillah does not rank students or award academic distinctions.

ACADEMIC PROFILE

CLASS OF 2024: 48 STUDENTS

Mean Unweighted GPA 3.78

Mean Weighted GPA 4.10

May 2023

122 students took 259 AP exams

Exams with scores of ≥ 3 : **83%**

Exams with scores of 4 and 5: **57%**

COURSE OFFERINGS

DIRECTED STUDIES

Directed Studies

ENGINEERING ARTS

Computer Science and Coding
Engineering 1 & 2
Robotics 1
Data Structures/Adv. Algorithms Honors*
AP Computer Science

ENGLISH

English 9
English 10
English 10 Honors
English 11
AP English Language
AP English Literature
Senior English Options:
Contemporary Jewish Literature
The Harlem Renaissance
Tolkien's Mythopoeia
Utopias and Dystopias
Voices in Magical Realism
Yiddish Literature

HISTORY

World History 1 & 2
World History 2 Honors
US History
Cold War & the 21st Century World
Diaspora History +
Introduction to Economics
AP US Government and Politics
AP US History
AP Psychology

JEWISH STUDIES

Bibliodrama: 440 Years
Big Jewish Decisions: Stage and Page +
Cana'an to Kehillah
Contemporary Israel
Culture of Jews
Holocaust and Society
Holocaust Historical Perspectives
Introduction to Comparative Religions +
Introduction to Jewish Art & Vision +
Introduction to Jewish Studies 101
Jewish Monsters, Magic, and Superstition +
Jews & the Early American Experience +
Kabbalah and Human Personality +
Kabbalah: God, Ourselves, & Each Other
Monsters & Magic: Jewish Folklore +
OMG: 20th & 21st Century Jewish Theology
Self & Other in Jewish Thought
Space and Time in Jewish Thought
Theology, Ritual, & Theater +
Warriors & Prophets: Biblical Women 1 & 2
Basic Hebrew required:

JSH Great Debates of the Talmud +
JSH Ethical Wisdom of the Talmud +
JSH Medieval Jewish Thought +
JSH Moral & Spiritual Challenges

Level 3 Hebrew required:

JSHI Moral & Spiritual Challenges

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 1
Geometry
Algebra 2/Trigonometry
Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors
Precalculus
Precalculus Honors
Calculus
AP Statistics
AP Calculus AB & BC
Multivariable Calculus/Linear Algebra*

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Training

SCIENCE

Biology
Chemistry
Chemistry Honors
Physics
Physics Honors
Human Anatomy and Physiology
Marine Biology
Introduction to Astronomy
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C: Mechanics

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Studio Art
Intro to Illustration
Digital Design 1 & 2
Digital Photography
Photography 2
The Reel Perspective +
Advanced Art Making
Senior Studio
Publication Design (Yearbook)
Acoustic Guitar-Family Ensemble 1 & 2
Jazz/Rock Ensemble
Music Theory and Composition 1 & 2
Theater 1 & 2
Theatre Arts 3 Honors
Senior Studio - Theatre Lab
AP Studio Art - Digital
AP Music Theory
Beyond AP Music Theory

WORLD LANGUAGES

French 2, 3, 4 +
French 3 Honors +
AP French
Hebrew 1, 2, 3, 4
Hebrew 3, 4, 5, 6 Honors
Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4
Spanish 3, 4 Honors
AP Spanish Language (Level 4 req.)
AP Spanish Literature (Level 4 req.)
Latin 1, 2, 3
AP Latin
Beyond AP Latin
Mandarin 1, 2, 3, 4

+ Not offered in 2023-24

* Offered alternate years

Daisy Pellant, Head of School
Roy Danovitch, Associate Head of School

Kaylin Liang, Director of College Counseling
kliang@kehillah.org

Jordana Bischoff, College Counselor
jbischoff@kehillah.org

CEEB/ACT CODE: 053173



kehillah.org

SCHOOL PROFILE ADDENDUM

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON KEHILLAH

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

- School operated remotely for one full year (March 2020-March, 2021).
- School operated on a hybrid basis between March 8, 2021- June, 2021.
- Kehillah ran synchronous classes four days per week, with Wednesdays reserved for experiential education, additional 30-minute AP class meetings, office hours, and a much-needed break from Zoom-fatigue.
- After March 8, 2021, students were given the option to return to the building for in-person classes. About 75% returned.
- Because of the particular challenges that Covid-19 presented, some students were approved to take classes on a pass/fail basis during the spring semester of 2020. A passing grade indicates a grade of 70% or above.
- School became fully operational for in-person classes beginning August, 2021 with no option available for remote learning.

STUDENT LIFE

- No athletics teams met or competed between March, 2020-March, 2021.
- A limited number of school clubs met virtually.
- Spring athletics and many school clubs resumed in March, 2021.
- All normal school activities and athletics teams resumed beginning August, 2021.