

KEHILLAH JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-2022

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

Daisy Pellant, Head of School / **Patricia Carbery**, Assistant Head of School
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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 Jewish High School 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 AND LOCATION

Kehillah Jewish High School is an independent Jewish high school that welcomes a diversity of students from both public and private schools. Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, our Palo Alto location allows us to welcome students from as far north as Burlingame, as far

south as Morgan Hill, and as far east as Pleasant Hill.

Our campus offers state-of-the-art physics, chemistry, and biology labs, a laboratory for engineering arts, music and art studios, a "black-box" theatre, and an exceptional gym and athletic facility. 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.

STUDENT LIFE

Kehillah provides a robust program of extra-curricular activities, sports, and many leadership opportunities for our students at all grade levels.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

Architecture Club, Rambassadors, Bridge Club, Women in Science Club, Biology Club, The 3900 (student newspaper), Gardening Club, Fun and Games Club, Debate Team, Chess Club, Screenwriting Club, Creative Coding Club, Video Production Club, Kindness Club, Debate Club, GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance), Model UN, Yearbook, Jewish Life Committee, and MishMosh.

ATHLETICS:

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

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

Kehillah's experiential learning program is central to the student experience. It includes weekly Reflective Practice, Beit Midrash, Kabbalat Shabbat (entirely student-led), Advisory, Grade Level

Seminars, and Annual Class Trips, including the highlight of the Kehillah experience: the 11th grade trip to Israel.

CURRICULUM

Kehillah operates on a block system. Students engage in a challenging array of core courses in English, History/Social Studies, Math, Science, Language, and Jewish Studies (see graduation requirements below). Students in grades 9-11 enroll in at least 7 courses (with one free block). At least 6 courses (and two free blocks) are required for students in grade 12.

JEWISH STUDIES AT KEHILLAH:

Each semester, students are required to choose one elective from our three areas of concentration: "Thought and Tradition," "Life and Culture," and "History and Identity," or our Text-based courses that 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 world citizens.

NOTES ON THE CURRICULUM:

- **Honors and AP Enrollment:** Students enroll in Honors and AP courses through a process of individual course counseling and academic departmental recommendations.
- **Implications of the Jewish Studies (JS) Requirement:** JS courses are part of the core curriculum at Kehillah and are required every semester. This means that Kehillah students are required to enroll in 7 core courses each year through 11th grade. As a result, students often make curricular choices for the junior year that take this additional course requirement into account. This might include opting out of an AP course in the 11th grade in order to accommodate the additional JS core requirement.

COURSES OFFERED 2021-2022

ENGLISH

4 YEARS REQUIRED

Required Courses:

English 9
English 10 or
English 10 H
English 11 or AP Engl Lang & Comp
English 12
Elective or AP Engl. Lit & Comp

English 12 Electives:

Yiddish Literature (cross-listed with JS)
Contemporary Jewish Lit (cross-listed w/JS)
Utopias & Dystopias
Banned Books
Creative Writing: Short Fiction
Civil Rights Movement through Lit
Comedy & Satire

HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES

3 YEARS REQUIRED

Required Courses:

World History
World History 2
US History or AP US History

Senior Electives:

AP Psychology
AP US Government & Politics
Introduction to
Economics
Women's Studies

MATH

3 YEARS REQUIRED

Algebra 1
Algebra 2/Trigonometry or
Algebra 2/Trig H
Geometry
Precalculus or
Precalculus H
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Linear Algebra*
(offered every other year; Multivariable Calculus offered alternate years)

ENGINEERING ARTS

ELECTIVES

Computer Science and Coding
Engineering 1
Engineering 2
AP Computer Science
Adv. Algorithms* (req. Comp Sci & AP Calc AB)

SCIENCE

3 YEARS REQUIRED

Required Courses:

Biology
Chemistry or Chemistry H

11th & 12th grade options:

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

JEWISH STUDIES

4 YEARS REQUIRED

Contemporary Israel
Contemporary Jewish Lit (cross-listed w/English)
**Great Debates of the Talmud (w/Hebrew option-see below)
History of the Jewish Diaspora
Holocaust and Society
Holocaust Historical Perspectives
Introduction to Jewish Studies 101
Introduction to Jewish Art & Vision

Introduction to Comparative Religions
Jewish Cinema
Jewish Leadership
Jewish Monsters, Magic, and Superstition
Jews & the Early American Experience
Kabbalah and Human Personality
**Medieval Jewish Thought (w/Hebrew option see below)
Monsters & Magic: Jewish Folklore
Nationalism
Prophets & Politicians
Self & Other in Jewish Thought
Theology, Ritual, & Theater
From Slavery To Sinai
Warriors & Prophets: Biblical Women
Yiddish Literature (cross-listed w/English)

**Jewish Studies Hebrew Intensives (Level 3 Hebrew required)

JS HI Great Debates in the Talmud
JS HI Medieval Jewish Thought

**Jewish Studies Hebrew Courses (Basic Hebrew required)

JS H Great Debates in the Talmud
JS H Medieval Jewish Thought

LANGUAGES

2 YEARS REQUIRED

Spanish:

Spanish 1
Spanish 2 or Spanish 2 H
Spanish 3 or Spanish 3 H
Spanish 4 or Spanish 4 H
AP Spanish Language & Culture
AP Spanish Literature & Culture

French: (being phased out)

French 2
French 3 Honors
French 4 Honors
AP French

Latin:

Latin 1
Latin 2
Latin 3
Latin 4
AP Latin

Hebrew:

Hebrew 1
Hebrew 2
Hebrew 3 or Hebrew 3 H
Hebrew 4 or Hebrew 4 H
Hebrew 5 or Hebrew 5 H
Hebrew 6 Honors
*Israeli Law and Society
(*highest level offered in Hebrew)

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

1 YEAR REQUIRED

Visual Arts:

Intro to Illustration
Advanced Art Making
Digital Design
Publication Design
Digital Photography
Photography 2
Senior Studio Art
AP Studio Art

Performing Arts:

Acoustic Guitar-Family Ensemble 1
Acoustic Guitar-Family Ensemble 2
Beginning Digital Music Jazz/Rock Ensemble
Music Theory and Composition 1
Music Theory and Composition 2
AP Music Theory
Beyond AP Music Theory

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Training

DIRECTED STUDIES

9th - 12th grades

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from Kehillah, students must complete the following requirements:

English (4 years)

Mathematics (3 years)

Science (3 years)

History (3 years)

World Languages (2 year)

Jewish Studies (4 years)

Visual & Performing Arts (1 year)

Physical Education (1 year)

9th - 11th graders must take at least 7 courses;

12th graders must take at least 6 courses.

GRADING SYSTEM AND 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.**
- GPA is cumulative. 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 2022: 40 STUDENTS

		Mean	
GPA Unweighted		3.61	
GPA Weighted		3.87	
Class of	#of Students	SAT	ACT
2020	53	1257.94	31.52
2021*	42	1341.43	31.4
2022**	40	N/A	N/A

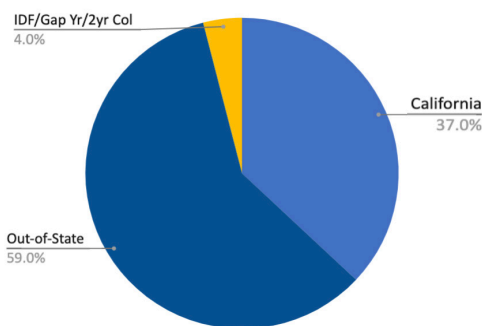
*Less than 20% of the Senior class took standardized tests due to COVID-19
**Insufficient data to report due to COVID19

POST-SECONDARY ATTENDANCE

CLASS OF 2020-2021

DATA POINTS:

- 96% OF STUDENTS ATTEND 4-YEAR COLLEGES
- 4% OF STUDENTS ATTEND A 2-YEAR COLLEGE, JOIN THE IDF OR TAKE A GAP YEAR



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ADDENDUM TO SCHOOL PROFILE

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 preserved 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 2020 spring semester. 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.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

- SAT School-day testing and ACT School-day testing was administered at Kehillah in October, 2021 as an option for Kehillah seniors due to ongoing test cancellations in the Bay Area throughout Spring and Summer, 2021.