

The Mama Loshon: Yiddish Ashkenazic Culture in Literature and History

Mondays: 6:30-8:00 PM Beginning October 2 for 7 weeks
at Temple Beth Israel Eugene



\$70.00 for the class Registration: email to rabbiseidel@gmail.com or call 541-520-3434

Join Rabbi Seidel for an exploration of Yiddish as a language in history, from its earliest developments through the early 20th century and the modernist renaissance of Yiddish literature. Topics: Poverty and wealth, Jewish/Christian relations, mysticism, Family life—including marriage and divorce—and selected topics in Jewish law (*halakha*). We will also explore the autonomous civilization of the Ashkenazim and its relationship to Middle Eastern and Sephardic Jewry.

We'll read some selections of novella, short stories and legends, while exploring Ashkenazic *minhagim* (customs) and folklore, including clothing, herbology, magic, talismanic and birthing traditions. If there is interest we will also view classic Yiddish films from the 30s.

No background in Yiddish required, though there will be a Yiddish language reading track for those interested. Depending upon interest there might be a further and deeper exploration of later Yiddish classics in translation. Bibliography for in-print and on-line reading will be provided.