

Mission

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College educates leaders, advances scholarship and develops resources for contemporary Jewish life.

Vision

The vitality of the Jewish people requires a dynamic approach to Jewish life. The approach must honor the past, meet the needs of the present and provide a road to the future through bold, innovative thinking.

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College will:

- **EDUCATE** rabbis and other Jewish community leaders who will help people create meaningful, purposeful and spiritual lives; engage Jews of all ages in sacred study grounded in scholarly, traditional and innovative methods of interpretation; foster participation in Jewish cultural arts and letters; inspire Jews and others to pursue justice, peace and righteousness; and lead efforts to build and sustain participatory and vibrant Jewish communities.
- **ADVANCE** scholarship with an esteemed teaching faculty that gives voice to Jewish wisdom throughout the ages; sheds light on the historical and intellectual dynamics of Jewish religious civilization; and contributes fresh ideas to contemporary Jewish life through research and publication.
- **DEVELOP** and widely disseminate Jewish liturgical and educational materials that foster meaningful living and promote a world in which all peoples coexist peacefully and with mutual respect.

Core Values

תורה

Torah: Jewish Learning

We are dedicated to gaining wisdom from the Jewish experience throughout time and wherever Jews have lived. We approach the study of sacred texts with love, humility and intellectual honesty. We seek to create lifelong learners.

קהילה

Kehillah: Community

We are a conscious community that strives for קדושה (kedushah/holiness) by dignifying all people as created in the Divine image; acting according to principles of democracy, egalitarianism and *menshlikhkeit*; and responsibly caring for and utilizing our human, financial and natural resources.

חשבון הנפש

Heshbon Hanefesh:

Reflection in the Service of Excellence

As a community, we are committed to evaluating our thoughts and deeds, striving for excellence and supporting one another in this process.

צדק

Tzedek: Justice

We strive to pursue justice in the world through עבודה (avodah/sacred service), גמילות חסדים (gemilut hasadim/acts of loving kindness) and צדקה (tzedakah/social and economic responsibility) toward all people.

אהבת ישראל

Ahavat Yisrael: Love of Israel

עם ישראל *Am Yisrael: Love of the Jewish People*

We share responsibility for the flourishing of the Jewish people.

ארץ ישראל *Eretz Yisrael: Love of the Land of Israel*

We value the land and State of Israel as a spiritual, intellectual and historical center of the Jewish people.

שלימות

Shleymut: Integrity

We work to attain wholeness by caring for our physical and emotional well-being (בין אדם לעצמו / *beyn adam le'atzmo*);

honing our virtues in order to live by our moral principles and obligations (בין אדם לחברו / *beyn adam lekhavero*);

and deepening our connection with God (בין אדם למקום / *beyn adam lamakom*).

יהדות מתחדשת

Yahadut Mitkhadeshet: Reconstructionist Judaism

We value the wisdom of our ancestors and recognize that Judaism must be revitalized in each age. It is our obligation to wrestle with our traditions, to infuse new meanings into Jewish practices and to add our voices to the chain of tradition. We embark upon this enterprise with courage, creativity and joy.



Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

בית המדרש לרבנים ליהדות מתחדשת

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