

THE CENTER FOR MODERN TORAH LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2017 SUMMER BEIT
MIDRASH FELLOWSHIPS

2017 SBM will focus on the theme "Mental Disabilities in Jewish Law"

SHARON, MA: The Center for Modern Torah Leadership, the intellectual catalyst of Modern Orthodoxy, is proud to introduce the Fellows for its 2017 Summer Beit Midrash. Fellows include men and women from leading universities, *yeshivot*, and seminaries with advanced textual skills and a passionate commitment to learning Torah in an environment that welcomes the moral challenges of modernity as spiritual opportunities and sees recognition of each human beings as a Divine Image as a fundamental assumption and *telos* of Torah study.

The Summer Beit Midrash is an intense and exhilarating learning program that allows Fellows to pursue compelling questions with intellectual rigor and ethical integrity in the framework of a warm and challenging Orthodox community, and to experience themselves as active contributors to the halakhic conversation. This year's seminar, our twenty first, will center on the theme "Mental Disabilities in Jewish Law." It will run from July 2 – August 11 at Young Israel of Sharon, 100 Ames Street.

SBM is headed by CMTL Dean Rabbi Aryeh Klapper, with an array of distinguished guest lecturers including Rabbi Chaim Jachter, author of *Gray Matters Volumes 1-4* and a member of the Elizabeth Beit Din and of the RCA Halakhah Commission; Rabbi Dov Linzer, Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School; and Rabbi Yaakov Jaffe, director of the Boston Rabbinical Court, Rabbi of the Maimonides Kehillah, and Tanach Department Chair at the Maimonides School.

SBM Fellows will lead a variety of public learning opportunities during the seminar, including one-on-one study, thematic text-study groups, and formal classes. For more information, please contact Rabbi Klapper at dean@torahleadership.org or Davida Kollmar at davida.kollmar@gmail.com. For more information about CMTL and its programs, as well as for many terrific articles and audio and video classes, please see www.torahleadership.org.

2017 Summer Beit Midrash Fellows



Joshua Blau, from Cincinnati, OH, is a recent graduate of YU, where he studied math and computer science. Before coming to YU, he studied in Israel for two years in Yeshivat Har Etzion (Gush), where he learned from a wide range of Torah personalities, topics, and sources. Among his particular fascinations in Judaic studies are midrashic and aggadic texts. He also has many other interests, including music, poetry, and tennis. Joshua will be a Senior Fellow in this year's Summer Beit Midrash.



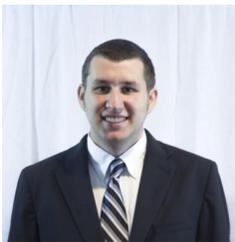
Steve Gotlib grew up in Fair Lawn, New Jersey and is now a rising senior at Rutgers University where he is studying Relationship and Family Communication, Jewish Studies, and Philosophy. He enjoys reading, writing, playing musical instruments and working as a magician. Following graduation, he hopes to enter rabbinical school.



Avi Hirsch grew up in Teaneck, NJ. After graduating Torah Academy of Bergen County in 2014, he spent two years learning in Israel at Yeshivat Har Etzion. He will be starting his second year at Yeshiva College this fall, where he is studying Computer Science. Avi is looking forward to joining the Sharon community in learning this summer!



Shoshana Jakobovits hails from Switzerland, where she studies Computational Science and Engineering. She also studied at Midreshet Ein Hanatziv (Zman Kayitz 2010 and Yuval 2012-13) and was a Summer Fellow at Yeshivat Hadar (2014), and has little words to describe how excited she is for the opportunity of participating in the life of a Beit Midrash again for a significant amount of time. She is passionate about people, relationships, morality, Halakha, the future of Judaism, and computer science: if she is not in a corner somewhere reading a book or talking with people, you will find her in front of her computer programming. She's very much looking forward to meeting you and to sharing meaningful exchanges, growth and new ideas.



Ben Kaplan was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. He spent two years learning in Yeshivat HaKotel and graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in bioengineering this past May. His hobbies include reading, learning (of course) and spending time in the outdoors (he is an Eagle Scout). He will be making aliyah in August and will be spending his first year in Israel as a madrich at Yeshivat Mevaseret. He is very excited to spend the summer learning and getting to know the Jewish community in Sharon!



Doniel Weinreich just finished his first year at Yeshiva University, majoring in Jewish Studies, though he recently decided to also major in physics. Before that, he studied at Yeshivat Orayta in Jerusalem. He has a particular interest in science, philosophy, politics, halacha, and Orthodox sociology, though he's interested in most things and has a cache of trivia knowledge and an opinion about everything. He looks forward to growing and learning with the community of Sharon.