

# KOHELET YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL PROFILE 2018-2019

WWW.KOHELETYESHIVA.ORG  
CEEB CODE 392782

## CONTACT

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## THE SCHOOL

Kohelet Yeshiva High School is a co-educational, modern Orthodox Jewish college preparatory school serving grades 9-12. We have a full dual curriculum in General and Judaic Studies, and students enroll in ten courses per semester. Our platform is cross-disciplinary in nature, challenging students to think analytically and dynamically, while also nurturing and supporting spiritual growth. In Judaic Studies courses, students learn how to analyze and interpret various texts and commentaries, and then argue and defend their positions in classroom debate. These skills complement and augment the breadth and depth of the General Studies courses. Kohelet graduates are well prepared for the rigorous demands of university coursework, and they take with them the tools and vision that will help them become passionate and capable leaders in the future.

## THE STUDENTS

There are 105 students enrolled in grades 9-12. The Class of 2019 includes 31 seniors, 95% of whom plan to attend a four-year college or university. Our students come from the neighboring areas of Lower Merion, Northeast Philadelphia, Bucks County, and Cherry Hill.

## FINANCIAL AID AT KOHELET

- 2/3 of students at Kohelet receive need-based financial aid.
- The average aid award is 60% of the cost of tuition.
- 40% of students receive 75-100% scholarship.

## THE CURRICULUM

Students typically carry ten courses each term. The school day runs from 7:50 a.m. to 4:50 p.m. We have a superb general studies faculty, offering 10 AP classes this year, (though students are limited to a maximum of two AP's in 11th and 12th grades.) To graduate, a student must complete the following curriculum in General and Judaic Studies:

### GENERAL STUDIES

English	4 Years
History	4 Years
Math	4 Years
Science	4 Years
Art & Music	2 Years
Elective	2 Years

### JUDAIC STUDIES

J.S. Law & Reasoning (Gemara*)	4 Years
J.S. Intertextual Theology (Chumash)	4 Years
J.S. Prophetic Literature (Navi)	4 Years
Hebrew Language	4 Years
Contemporary Jewish Issues	4 Years

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Important Note: *Due to the rigor of our dual curriculum, juniors and seniors may take up to two AP courses per year, and sophomores may take only one. Exceptions are only granted upon approval from all department heads, the Director of College Guidance, and the Director of General Studies. Kohelet does not require students to sit for AP exams.*

### AP Courses Offered:

Calculus AB  
Multivariable Calculus  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
English Lang-Comp/Tikvah\*\*  
English Lit-Comp  
Physics  
Psychology  
U.S. History

**82% OF STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2019 WHO TOOK AP EXAMS RECEIVED A SCORE OF 4 OR 5**

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## THE FACULTY

Of 40 teaching faculty, 20% have doctorates, 10% are completing their doctorates, 85% have masters degrees, and 15% are completing masters degrees. Our teachers have advanced degrees from top institutions, including Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Penn, the Tyler School of Art, and the Curtis Institute of Music.

## COURSE RIGOR

**General Studies** courses are leveled as follows, in order of increasing difficulty: College Prep (CP), Expedited Track (ET), Honors (H), and Advanced Placement (AP).

**Judaic Studies** courses are leveled as follows, in order of increasing difficulty: College Prep (CP), Honors (H), and Advanced (Adv). The advanced level is the highest available, and the rigor of the coursework is comparable to that of an AP course.

## GPA WEIGHTING

College Prep (CP) and Expedited Track (ET), courses are graded on a 4.0 scale. Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced Judaic Studies (Adv), and Honors (H) courses are weighted with +1.0. Because class size is small, students are not ranked.

### *\*A Note on J.S. Law & Reasoning (Gemara)*

A cornerstone of our program, Gemara is the application and interpretation of Jewish law in all facets of daily life. The students and teacher engage in rigorous debate over Hebrew and Aramaic rabbinic commentaries that examine both the text itself and the arguments made by earlier scholars. In essence, Gemara is a dialectical exchange between scholars across time. This course challenges students to cultivate their own understanding of complex legal theory, so that they too can add their voices to this ongoing conversation. Oft-debated topics include the author's use of specific language, an argument's logic, and potential legal repercussions of an argument. After four years of a course that meets eight periods per week, our students know that any opinion must be questioned before conclusions can be drawn – an invaluable skill in today's world.

### *\*\*Tikvah / AP English*

The Tikvah program is an AP English course combined with a series of humanities courses that integrate western literature and philosophy with biblical texts, commentary, and Jewish philosophy to explore approaches to important questions.

## TESTING: CLASS OF 2019

ACT Summary	Mean
English	30
Math	24
Reading	36
Science	27
Composite	29

SAT Summary	Mean
ERW	656
Math	619
Total	1275

SAT Subject Tests	# Tested	Mean
Biology - Molecular	2	705
Chemistry	6	742
Math Level 2	8	700
World History	3	737

AP Tests	# Tested	Mean
Calculus AB	3	5.0
Chemistry	8	4.4
Comp Sci Principles	3	4.3
English Language	7	4.3
Psychology	10	4.0
World History	12	4.5

**5 NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS IN THE CLASS OF 2019**

**2 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS IN THE CLASS OF 2019**

## SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT

In the winter and spring of their senior year, students develop individual projects that culminate in May with a presentation to peers, teachers, and members of the community. Under the guidance of faculty mentors, students explore topics of interest to develop projects that combine hands-on work and academic research.

## ACCREDITATION

Kohelet is accredited by the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS), and the Middle States Association (MSA). Our program far surpasses Pennsylvania state requirements for graduation. We are a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS) and the National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC), and we comply with the NACAC Statement of Principles of Good Practice.

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### COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: CLASSES OF 2016-2018

American University	<b>Harvard University</b>	<b>Technion Institute of Technology</b>
<b>Barnard College</b> (3)	Hofstra University (3)	<b>Temple University</b> (20)
Baruch College CUNY (5)	Hunter College CUNY (6)	- Honors (3)
<b>Binghamton University</b> (19)	- Honors	<b>Towson University</b> (4)
<b>Boston University</b> (3)	Ithaca College	<b>University of Chicago</b>
<b>Brandeis University</b> (9)	<b>JTS/Columbia University</b> (2)	University of Delaware
Brooklyn College CUNY (9)	John Jay College CUNY (2)	<b>University of Maryland</b> (16)
<b>Bryn Mawr College</b>	Johns Hopkins University	- Honors (6)
Cedar Crest College	<b>Macaulay Honors College CUNY</b> (4)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Chestnut Hill College	Muhlenberg College	University of Miami (3)
City College of New York CUNY (4)	<b>New York University</b> (6)	University of Michigan (3)
College of Staten Island (4)	- Honors	<b>University of Pennsylvania</b> (6)
<b>Columbia University</b> (3)	<b>Penn State Abington</b> (5)	<b>University of Pittsburgh</b> (11)
Cornell University	Penn State Main Campus (3)	- Honors
Dickinson College	<b>Princeton University</b> (3)	Ursinus College
<b>Drexel University</b> (20)	<b>Queens College CUNY</b> (16)	<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b>
- Honors (4)	<b>Rowan University</b>	Wesleyan University
<b>Fashion Institute of Technology</b>	<b>Rutgers University</b> (19)	<b>Yale University</b>
Goucher College (2)	- Honors (2)	<b>Yeshiva University/Stern College</b> (30)
		- Honors (6)

\*Schools in bold are where students have enrolled