

## J U D A I S M

### **Synagogue Attendance and Reflection Paper**

*Must be submitted to turnitin.com prior to the beginning of class on Thursday, October 8*

Please attend two Shabbat (Sabbath) services, either Friday evening or Saturday morning, at local synagogues, and compose an essay of about 1200 words both describing and contextualizing your experience within your own world-view. Please visit one synagogue from each column on the attached list. Please plan accordingly and schedule your visits early enough in the semester to complete the assignment by the due date. Visit the synagogue's website prior to your visit to learn more about the institution.

If, as a member of the Jewish faith, you are accustomed to attending synagogue services, for this assignment please attend synagogues that are outside of your comfort area.

*Please be respectful of the customs of each congregation you visit. For some, this may mean covering your head or not writing on Shabbat. If you are unsure of what is appropriate, please ask Rabbi Weiss prior to your visit or ask someone when you arrive.*

**For each synagogue you visit, please answer the following questions:**

1. Name of synagogues attended
1. Dates attended and type of service (Shabbat evening or morning)
2. Describe the physical space of the sanctuary and any symbols that are found within it.

**You may find the following helpful in formulating your reflection paper:**

1. Comment on one aspect of the service (a particular ritual, piece of liturgy, or teaching) that is evidence of Judaism's belief system or tenets.
2. Discuss insights that you gained while attending the service.
3. Raise questions that you have from the experience.

## Houston Synagogues

*Please visit one synagogue from each column*

Congregation Beth El  
3900 Raoul Wallenberg Drive  
Missouri City, TX 77459  
(281) 499-5066  
[www.cbetexas.org](http://www.cbetexas.org)

Congregation Beth Israel  
5600 N. Braeswood  
Houston, TX 77096  
(713) 771-6221  
[www.beth-israel.org](http://www.beth-israel.org)

Congregation Emanu El  
1500 Sunset Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77005  
(713) 529-5771  
[www.emanuelhouston.org](http://www.emanuelhouston.org)

Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism  
801 Bering Drive  
Houston, TX 77057  
(713) 782-4162  
[www.hcrj.org](http://www.hcrj.org)

Houston Reconstructionist Havurah  
P. O. Box 35634  
Houston, TX 77235  
(713) 728-5050  
[www.jrf.org/houstntx](http://www.jrf.org/houstntx)

Mishpachat Alizim  
P. O. Box 980136  
Houston, TX 77098  
(866) 841-1834  
Shabbat services at 8:00 p.m. on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 602 Fairview

Temple Sinai  
13875 Brimhurst Dr.  
Houston, TX 77077  
(281) 496-5950  
[www.temple-sinai.org](http://www.temple-sinai.org)

Congregation Beth Yeshurun  
4525 Beechnut  
Houston, TX 77096  
(713) 666-1881  
[www.bethyeshurun.org](http://www.bethyeshurun.org)

Congregation Brith Shalom  
4610 Bellaire Blvd  
Bellaire, TX 77401  
(713) 667-9201  
[www.brithshalom.org](http://www.brithshalom.org)

Congregation Or Ami  
3342 Walnut Bend Lane  
Houston, TX 77042  
(713) 334-4300  
[www.oramihouston.org](http://www.oramihouston.org)

Congregation Shaar Hashalom  
16020 El Camino Real  
Houston, TX 77062  
(281) 488-5861  
[www.shaarhashalom.org](http://www.shaarhashalom.org)

Meyerland Minyan  
9606 Chimney Rock  
Houston, TX 77096  
(713) 684-6161  
[www.meyerlandminyan.org](http://www.meyerlandminyan.org)

United Orthodox Synagogues  
9001 Greenwillow  
Houston, TX 77096  
(713) 723-3850  
[www.uosh.org](http://www.uosh.org)

Young Israel of Houston  
7823 Ludington  
Houston, TX 77071  
(713) 729-0719  
[www.yihouston.org](http://www.yihouston.org)