

New Campus for Hebrew College



It's official; Hebrew College opened the doors to its new campus on December 3. The 6.7-acre campus, located at 160 Herrick Road in Newton Centre, dramatically transforms Hebrew College into a campus-based institution and provides vital space for a wide range of academic and community programs.

Designed by architect Moshe Safdie, whose international credits include the new Ben-Gurion International Airport and the Vancouver Public Library, the campus was built by Columbia Construction Company of North Reading, Mass. Four structures, totaling 72,000 square feet, define the first phase of the hillside campus: the Friedman Entrance Building, which includes an assembly hall and gallery; the Cutler-Chafetz Academic Building, which houses eight classrooms as well as offices for faculty and staff; the Rae and Joseph Gann Library, home to the College's extensive Judaica collection, with more than 120,000 holdings; and the Gould-Florence Campus Center, including a student lounge, computer lab, bookstore and dining hall. Later phases of construction will include an auditorium, second academic building and student housing.

Begun in Fall 1999, construction includes roads, sidewalks, streetscapes, utility and drainage systems, and a 100-space parking lot in addition to the campus structures and landscaping. The site also includes a state-of-the-art water pumping station for the City of Newton, with a capacity of 2,000 gallons per minute. Natural light is an important architectural element in the design, which features skylights and glass walls that reflect the forested surroundings. The College is working with the City of Newton to finalize all necessary inspections.

"We are delighted to be in Newton and settling into our magnificent new campus," says Dr. David M. Gordis, Hebrew College President. "This move marks a historic transition for Hebrew College to our first real campus-as well as the emergence of Hebrew College as a national leader in advanced Jewish study and Jewish education."

Founded in 1921, Hebrew College maintains a historic commitment to Jewish learning and scholarship within a pluralistic, nonsectarian academic environment. Through the study of Jewish religion, culture, civilization and Hebrew language, the College is committed to educating students of all ages and backgrounds to become knowledgeable, creative participants, educators and leaders in the Jewish community and larger world. Hebrew College is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Hebrew College Programs

Hebrew College offers graduate and undergraduate degrees in Jewish education and Jewish studies as well as certificates in Jewish education, Jewish communal studies and Jewish cantorial arts.

In addition, the College's Prozdor high school program serves over 600 8th- through 11th-graders. The College's Center for Adult Jewish Learning offers extensive opportunities for continued learning -- whether a one-time lecture, an early-morning or lunchtime study group, or an ongoing course. Me'ah, a two-year 100-hour program of intensive study, is offered at many sites throughout the Greater Boston area and across the country.

For more information, visit www.hebrewcollege.edu or call 617-559-8600.