

Johns Hopkins University

The JLIC educators at Johns Hopkins University are Rabbi Binyamin and Miriam Marwick.

Demographics:

There are approximately 400 Jewish undergraduates at Johns Hopkins University, which is 13% of the student population. About 35 students attend the Orthodox Minyan on Friday nights.

Kosher Food:

There is a kosher meal plan that provides lunch and dinner Sunday through Friday in the campus dining facility (FFC) and on Shabbat and holidays in the Hillel building. The food is under the supervision of Star-K. There is also kosher food available in the campus supermarket.

Programming and Shiurim:

One of the popular annual social events at Johns Hopkins is the Latke/Hamentaschen debate, in which professors argue the respective virtues of the Latke and the Hamentaschen. Approximately 150-200 students attend the debate.

Current Jewish learning opportunities include: Sunday morning Breakfast and Learning Program, which focuses on Jewish philosophy, a Halacha series, Biblical Hebrew Grammar, an intensive Talmud Chabura, "Pizza and Parsha" on Thursday evenings, and a "Science and Torah" lecture series on Shabbat. There is also a women's "sisterhood" which provides social and educational programs for female students.

Orthodox Community:

The Orthodox community has a Minyan coordinator who acts a liaison to the Hillel. There is also an active Beit Midrash.

Freshmen and sophomores live in University housing while juniors and seniors live in apartments within a couple blocks of campus. Baltimore's Orthodox community is eight miles away from campus.

There is a daily Minyan three times a day, as well as a Minyan on Shabbat.

Shabbat at Johns Hopkins:

Approximately 35 students attend the Orthodox Minyan on Friday night. After meals, students usually hang out and play board games or ping-pong in the Hillel building.

An Eruv was recently built around the Johns Hopkins campus in the spring of 2008.

Additional Resources:

A Near Eastern Studies major is available, and Jewish History and Hebrew classes are offered at Johns Hopkins University.

"The JHU Jewish community represents individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and observance levels; nevertheless, the community is extremely inclusive and open. Daily Minyanim, Shiurim, kosher food, and a friendly group of committed students make this a great community." -- Mike Basilyan, '10