



# **MASTERCLASS ON PANTHEISM IN RABBINIC THOUGHT (1200-1970)**

**Smokler Center for Jewish Life  
(3109 N. Charles St.), Room 213**

**May 6th - 9th 2019  
9:30am-1:00pm**

The class will be taught jointly by Professor Jonathan Garb, the Gershom Scholem Chair in Kabbalah, (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) and Yitzhak Y. Melamed (Johns Hopkins University). Professor Garb is a leading world scholar of early modern and modern Kabbalah, and Yitzhak Melamed is a scholar of early modern and medieval philosophy.

Contrary to the widespread perception that pantheism has been considered heresy in the "Judeo-Christian Tradition," we argue that the identification of God with nature was a common and fully legitimate view within Rabbinic Judaism which was only rarely attacked as unorthodox or heretic. We intend to study together medieval and early modern Rabbinic and Jewish- philosophical texts addressing pantheism (and panentheism). Among the authors to be discussed are Moshe of Taku, Maimonides, Ibn Gabirol, Abraham ibn Ezra, Abraham Abulafia, Moshe Cordovero, Hayim Vital, Abraham Cohen de Herrera, Benedict de Spinoza, Georg Wachter, Zvi Hirsch Ashkenazi, David Nieto, Yosef Irgas and Immanuel Hai Ricci.

The class will meet for four days (4 hours daily). A small number of grants will be available to cover lodging. For further information and to reserve a spot in the workshop, please contact Yitzhak Melamed ([ymelame1@jhu.edu](mailto:ymelame1@jhu.edu)).