



Program Snapshot:

4 Five-Day Seminars

6 Weekly Online Classes

6 Mentoring Sessions

Approximately 30 months to complete your degree

MA in Jewish Professional Studies Program Overview | Lifecycle of Courses

Each course has a “lifecycle” that begins when you are enrolled (gain access to course materials) and concludes when your final course project is due. This guide gives an overview of what to expect for each course format in the MAJPS program.

Online Weekly Courses

A weekly course is taught online for 2.5 hours once a week via Zoom for 7 or 8 weeks. Students typically take one weekly course at a time. In the weekly format, students can read and prepare for each week at a time (though reading ahead is welcome).

Lifecycle of a Weekly Course:

- **Enrollment:** Approximately 2-3 weeks before your first weekly class session, you will be enrolled in your online course site, where you will find your course resources.
- **Preparation:** Students can read and prepare for each class session “as they go.”
- **Assignments:** Instructors will assign short assignments between class sessions throughout the course, followed by a final project.
- **Post-Course Work:** Weekly courses culminate two weeks after the final session when you turn in your final assignment/paper.
- **Evaluations:** Feedback is a crucial part of the program. At the conclusion of every course, you will be expected to submit an anonymous evaluation before grades are posted.
- **Grades:** You can expect grades and feedback on your final work approximately 3-4 weeks after an assignment deadline.
- Therefore, the lifecycle of a weekly course is approximately 12 weeks. (This can vary depending on holidays/breaks.)

(Continued on next page)



Five-Day Seminars at Spertus Institute in Chicago

At each seminar, you will take two courses—one in the mornings and one in the afternoons. Since the seminar schedule doesn't leave time to prepare between class sessions, students are expected to complete the assigned readings ahead of the seminar.

Lifecycle of a Seminar Course:

- **Enrollment:** Approximately 6 weeks before your in-person learning at seminars in Chicago, you will be enrolled in your online course sites, where you will find your course resources.
- **Preparation:** During this 6-week preparation period, you will engage with readings and activities, such as short reflection pieces, to prepare you for the 5-day intensive seminar learning experience!
- **Assignments:** Instructors usually assign a pre-seminar assignment for reflection prior to the course meeting and a final project to follow the seminar.
- **Post-Seminar Work:** Seminar courses culminate 4 weeks after the seminar when you turn in your final project.
- **Evaluations:** Feedback is a crucial part of the program. At the conclusion of every course, you will be expected to submit an anonymous evaluation before grades are posted.
- **Grades:** You can expect grades/feedback on your final work approximately 4 weeks post an assignment deadline. Therefore, the lifecycle of a seminar course is approximately 11 weeks. (This can vary depending on holidays and breaks.)

6 Mentoring Sessions | Individualized learning for you!

At the beginning of your second year in the program, you will begin the mentor-match process. You will be matched with a mentor for 6 sessions (over a 9-month period) to enhance the learning you are doing within the program. Mentoring is a credit-bearing piece of the MAJPS program for degree completion.