Syllabus for Hilchot Shabbat Learning Program

(approximately 2 years)

I) **The Halakhot of Maaseh Shabbat** *(Simanim 243-247, 252, 276, 307, 325 and the beginning of 318)*

**Background**

This section contains the following three topics:

A) Melacha performed by a non-Jew

B) Melacha performed by a Jew

C) Melacha performed by inanimate objects (including automated technology)

**Breakdown of the Shiurim:**

A) Melacha performed by a non-Jew

1. The prohibition of instructing a non-Jew to perform Melacha.
2. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew on the Jew’s behalf - defining “on a Jew’s behalf”.
3. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew – defining “benefitting”
4. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew - Leniencies in cases of illness and to facilitate Mitzvot.
5. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew - Leniencies in cases of significant loss and other issues.
6. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew – long term work that includes Shabbat and partnership with a non-Jew.
7. The prohibition of benefitting from Melacha performed by a non-Jew - The appearance of impropriety when giving over Melacha to a non-Jew.

B) Melacha performed by a Jew

8. The principles of the prohibition against benefitting from Melacha performed by a Jew.

C) Melacha performed by inanimate objects (automation)

10. Shevitat Keilim: Profiting from Melacha that was arranged before Shabbat to be performed on Shabbat by itself.
11. Shevitat Keilim: Melacha performed by automation in a conspicuous manner.

II) **The Halachot of setting sail on a boat before Shabbat** *(Siman 248)*

12. Travelling by boat and plane in the days preceding Shabbat.
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III) The Halachot of Cooking, Hakhazara (returning food to a heat source, on Shabbat) Shehiya (leaving food on a heat source before Shabbat begins), Hatmana (insulating food, Simanim 253-255, 318)

This section contains the following four topics:
A) The Av Melacha of Bishul, the Toladot, and the related Rabbinic prohibitions.
B) The rules of Chazara. Even where Bishul does not apply, situations where it may still be forbidden to heat up the food.
C) The prohibition of Shehiya: The Rabbinic prohibition against beginning Bishul before Shabbat.
D) The prohibition of Hatmana – insulating food to keep it warm.

In an effort to achieve a clearer flow the topics, the laws of Hakhazara will be presented in the middle of the topics of the definition of Bishul.

Breakdown of the Shiurim
13. Defining the prohibition of Bishul: From raw to fully cooked.
15. Bishul after baking or grilling, and vice versa.
16. The laws of Chazara and placing food on a heat source on Shabbat.
17. Conditions of Hakhazara.
18. Using a hot plate.
20. Kalei Habishul – food that cooks more easily.
22. Stirring.
23. Different heat sources: Fire, microwave, the sun and solar-power.
24. The prohibition of Shehiya: The rationale behind, and scope of this prohibition. Covering and removing the coals, historically and in modernity.
25. Situations in which the prohibition of Shehiya does not apply (sufficiently cooked, or fully raw).
26. The prohibition of Hatmana.

IV) The Halachot of honoring and enjoying Shabbat (Simanim 261-307)
27. The laws of adding on to Shabbat at the beginning and end.
30. The laws of Kiddush, and the requirement of Kiddush accompanying a meal.
32. The laws of Havdala: wine Besamim and fire.
33. Honoring Shabbat: Preparing for a weekday in both a conspicuous and subtle fashion. Waiting at the end of the Techum, and preparing the house for Shabbat and for after Shabbat.
34. Honoring Shabbat: Permitted and forbidden speech and reading material on Shabbat.
35. Honoring Shabbat: Buying, selling, and giving gifts on Shabbat.
V) The Halachot of Muktzeh (primarily Simanim 308-312)
The Laws of Muktzah are very detailed. Our goal is to focus on the principles, and to provide the learner with the tools to properly apply the rules to practical situations.

36. The rationale behind the prohibition and its definition.
37. Moving Muktzah indirectly. Dealing with Muktzah found in one’s pocket.
38. Muktzah Machmat Gufo.
39. Items that have broken (a subcategory of Muktzah Machmat Gufo), leftover food, and designating Muktzah for a permitted use.
40. Muktzah Machmat Chesron Kis and Machmat Mius.
41. Kli Shemilachto Le’isur, and defining Le’tzorech Gufo and Mekomo.
42. Basis Ledavar Ha’asur, as applies to a keychain, bag, and Shabbat candles on a table.

VI) The Halachot of laundering (Siman 302)
43. Wetting clothing and drying spills.
44. Folding clothing and a Tallit, Shaking off liquids or dirt.
45. Hanging wet garments.

VII) The Halachot of building and destroying (Simanim 313-315)
46. Building and destroying something that is connected to the ground (door handle that fell off, a door that came off of its hinges, a sewage cover and opening a blockage, and hanging items on the wall).
47. Assembling and disassembling portable items and related issues (assembling beds, strollers, and folding tables etc.).
48. Fixing broken items (a bench with a loose leg, glasses that came apart, a screw or nail that came loose).
49. The definition of an Ohel. Using an umbrella, covers, and spreading out a Tallit.
50. Opening packages, cans, and bottles.
51. The Melacha of Memareach: Applying creams and soaps.

VIII) The Halachot of trapping (Siman 316)
52. The definition of trapping on a Torah and Rabbinic level.
53. Killing a mosquito or flee. Trapping a pet. Killing ants unwittingly. Closing a door after an animal has entered.

IX) The Halachot of tying a knot (Siman 317)
54. The scope of the prohibition (tying a bow, double knot, a permanent knot that one intends on untying later, tying a kerchief).

X) The Halachot of Borer (Siman 319)
55. The definition of the Melacha and the conditions that permit separating.
56. Using a strainer, tea bag, and French press.
57. Washing and peeling vegetables.
58. Sorting dishes, cutlery, clothing, and books.
XI) **The Halachot of squeezing (Siman 320)**
59. The definition of the Melacha on a Torah and Rabbinic level. Squeezing lemons directly on to food and into drink.
60. Freezing and defrosting.
61. Washing dishes with a sponge, etc. Using baby wipes.

XII) **The Halachot of pickling, grinding, and kneading (Siman 321)**
63. Pickling, marinated salads.
64. Grinding - chopping vegetables, mashing bananas or potatoes, grinding spices etc.
65. The definition of the Melacha of kneading, application of the principles to preparing baby food, tuna salad and techina.

XIII) **When it is permitted to cause a Melacha indirectly (Siman 334)**
66. Contemporary leniencies in regards to saving lives and property on Shabbat.

XIV) **The prohibition of making loud noises (Siman 338)**
67. The laws and definition of causing noise and using musical instruments.

XV) **The Halakhot of shearing, erasing, writing, tearing, and cutting (Siman 340)**
68. Shearing: Pulling out hair, using a comb, and cutting nails.
69. Erasing: Defining the Melacha, packages with writing, food with writing, and remnants of ink on one’s body or on a table.
70. Writing: Defining the Melacha, non-permanent writing (in steam or dirt), photography, computers, playing scrabble, and Kindle.
71. Tearing and cutting: Stickers, magnets, Velcro, toilet paper, aluminum foil, diapers, and sticky (post-it) notes.