

**OSTS Lecture, Fall, 2025, 2nd Term
November 3rd to December 1st**

Course D *Unravelling the Mysteries of the Dead Sea Scrolls*

Lecturer Rabbi Lawrence Englander, CM, DHL, DD

Descriptor

The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, hidden two millennia in caves on the shore of the Dead Sea, is one of the most important finds in modern archaeology. We shall discuss the Scrolls and who wrote them and why. We shall also discuss their impact on Judaism and Christianity.”

Outline

Week 1: Discovery and Publication – Who “owns” the scrolls?

Week 2: Texts and Themes
Background: Rabbinic and mystical texts
DSS Liturgical Texts

Week 3: Artifacts Found at Qumran: Archaeological evidence

Week 4: Authorship: Who wrote the scrolls?
“Standard Model” Theory
Alternate theories

Week 5: What Can We Learn from the Dead Sea Scrolls?
Contemporary Judaism and Christianity

Bio

Rabbi Lawrence Englander is Rabbi Emeritus of Solel Congregation of Mississauga, and Adjunct Rabbi at Temple Sinai. He has a Doctorate in Rabbinics and Jewish Mysticism and has taught at university undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as offering extensive courses in Adult Education. In 2005 he was awarded the Order of Canada for his work in the community.