



Israel. However, in these 9 one-hour sessions we will be reading and discussing the phenomena and institutions that have made American Jewry one-of-a-kind, an antidote to the dynamics of exile in Europe.

The course will examine the huge impact of Jewish immigration at the beginning of the century and how it led to the whole array of political and social welfare institutions we have today. We'll look at the origins of the different ideologies and denominations in synagogue life, and discuss the impetus and the pros and cons of the secular Jewish option as well. Israel and Zionism have given American Jewry a great sense of pride and a creative tension as well. The history of the holocaust has imbued us with a sense of vigilance to the point that the U.S. Holocaust Museum sits prominently at the center of our nation's capital.

What this all means for ourselves and for generations to come is ripe material for speculation, and should yield good discussion and learning. (We'll begin on Thursday evening, February 13th at 7 pm.)

Reflections...

By Cantor Jennie Chabon



As I sit down to write my article this month, my mind keeps drifting back to the Reform movement's biennial in San Diego, where I just spent Shabbat this past weekend. I had never attended biennial before, but I have been hearing for years how incredible and impactful it is. I have been to many Jewish conferences, so I thought I was prepared for the experience I would have there. I wasn't.