

## **Transcript of A Window into Year Three: Halacha and Technology**

[https://youtu.be/5\\_F\\_SF\\_54tl](https://youtu.be/5_F_SF_54tl)

We started this merging Halacha and Technology class to offer our students the opportunity to view technology through the lens of Halacha. We combine Halacha with modern technology. Ultimately, in the second half of the year, we are all going to choose a project based on Halachic sources and opinions regarding a new technology that we were going to hopefully create in this lab. Once you really understand the principle of how a device works and then also the Halachic rules of Shabbos and how different commentaries can define what's allowed and what's not allowed, you really get to see... a combination of Halacha and engineering that really makes everything you do worth more. Now we have the issue of Gerama which is another major thing that we discussed in the class. Once a month, we meet with Rav Zimmerman from the Zomet Institute and he either gives us some sort of shiur (rabbinic discourse) about Halacha and technology or, more recently, we did presentations on current technology and tried to suggest our own solutions. And he observed and asked questions and was really just interacting with the students... And Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach somewhat agrees with the Maharal and he says that you have to resemble the Menorah of the Beit Hamikdash (Temple). I joined this course because I wanted to merge my passion of Judaism and Halacha with my passion of engineering and technology. In today's world, where everything is technology, we have to bring Halacha and Judaism into that and we have to find a way to connect that. And I think this course is the perfect way to do that. When it's ready to be used you add water to it... If there is a possibility of having a carbon-based... I want the students to be able to evaluate whether each invention was really successful not only reaching the need but to the extent of its success. I want to kind of light a fire in the students so that they will be motivated to get involved themselves and they have been. And thank God, we have seen that they're excited about their projects. And they continue to be excited about the learning that they are doing. And I think for our students who study engineering with me and who spend four years at a Yeshiva day school to have the opportunity to combine their passions, really opens up a world of knowledge for them and a way for them to really discover and contribute to the world around them.