

David Blumenthal to deliver second of three Maimonides Lectures

April 24, 1986

Dr. David R. Blumenthal, holder of the endowed chair in Judaic Studies at Emory University, will deliver the second of the three Maimonides Lectures sponsored by the Judaic Studies Program at the University of California, San Diego on Tuesday, May 6.

Blumenthal, chairperson of the Department of Religion at Emory, will speak on "Maimonides--Astrophysicist, Philosopher, and Mystic" at 7:30 p.m. in Liebow Auditorium at the School of Medicine. Admission is free.

The series is also sponsored by the Taubman Institute of Sephardic Studies and the Bruner Foundation, and honors the 850th anniversary of the birth of one of the greatest Jewish intellectuals, Moses Maimonides.

Although Maimonides, who lived from 1135-1204, is best known as a rabbinical scholar, he was also a physician, philosopher, mystic, writer and an astrophysicist. The lecture series examines these less well-known aspects of his life.

Blumenthal is a special adviser to the chairman of the Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington, D.C., and director of the Fred R. Crawford Witness to the Holocaust Project.

He is currently working on a book on Maimonides' mysticism, and is the author of a two-volume set, "Understanding Jewish Mysticism."

The final lecture in the series, by Dr. Victor Goodhill, professor of surgery at the UCLA School of Medicine, is "Maimonides--Personal and Communal Physician." Goodhill will speak on Thursday, May 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Liebow Auditorium.

Goodhill is an otologist but has maintained a personal interest in Maimonides' career as a physician. He has written a book on the subject, "Maimonides--Modern Medical Relevance."

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