



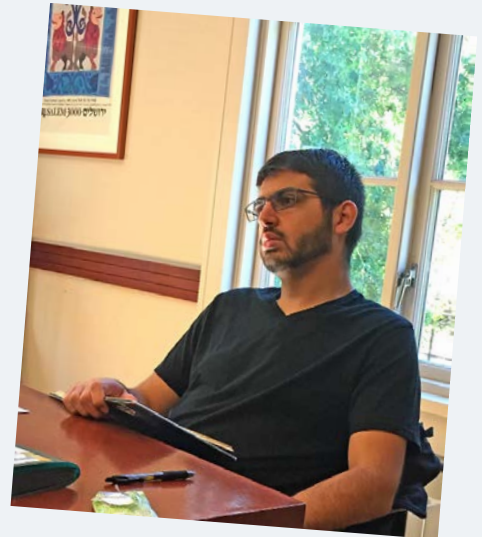
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



RONALD O. PERELMAN
INSTITUTE FOR JUDAIC STUDIES

Program in
JUDAIC STUDIES

SPRING 2017



RONALD O. PERELMAN INSTITUTE FOR JUDAIC STUDIES

I am delighted to have the opportunity to establish this program, which will shape intellectual concepts in the field, promote interdisciplinary research and scholarship, and perhaps most important, bring Jewish civilization to life for Princeton students—

Ronald O. Perelman



In 1995 financier and philanthropist Ronald O. Perelman, well known as an innovative leader and generous supporter of many of the nation's most prominent cultural and educational institutions, gave Princeton University a gift of \$4.7 million to create a multidisciplinary institute focusing on Jewish studies. The establishment of the Ronald O. Perelman Institute for Jewish Studies produced the first opportunity for undergraduate students to earn a certificate in Jewish Studies, strengthening Princeton's long tradition of interdisciplinary studies and broad commitment to Jewish culture. The gift from Mr. Perelman, chairman and chief executive officer of MacAndrews and Forbes Inc., also supports a senior faculty position—the Ronald O. Perelman Professor of Jewish Studies—and a wide variety of academic and scholarly activities that bring together leading scholars to examine Jewish history, religion, literature, thought, society, politics and cultures.

FACULTY

Executive Committee

Leora Batnitzky, *Religion*

Yaacob Dweck, *History*

Jonathan Gribetz, *Near Eastern Studies*

Martha Himmelfarb, *Religion*

William C. Jordan, *History*

Stanley N. Katz, *Woodrow Wilson School*

Eve Krakowski, *Near Eastern Studies*

Lital Levy, *Comparative Literature*

Marina Rustow, *Near Eastern Studies*

Esther Schor, *English*

Moulie Vidas, *Religion*

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Jill S. Dolan, *English*

Anthony Grafton, *History*

Irena Gross, *Slavic Languages*

Jan T. Gross, *History*

Hendrik Hartog, *History*

Wendy Heller, *Music*

Daniel Heller-Roazen, *Comparative Literature*

Daniel Kurtzer, *Woodrow Wilson School*

AnneMarie Luijendijk, *Religion*

Deborah Nord, *English*

Sarah Pourciau, *German*

Anson G. Rabinbach, *History*

Lawrence Rosen, *Anthropology*

Stacy E. Wolf, *Lewis Center for the Arts*

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Stanley A. Corngold, *German and Comparative Literature*

John G. Gager, Jr., *William H. Danforth Professor of Religion*

Peter Schäfer, *Ronald O. Perelman Professor of Jewish Studies, Religion*

Froma Zeitlin, *Ewing Professor of Greek Language and Literature, Classics and Comparative Literature, Women and Gender, and Judaic Studies*

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Scheide Caldwell House is a little quieter than usual this year, with several of the JDS faculty on leave, but we are delighted to welcome two visitors. Baruch Schwartz, associate professor of Bible at Hebrew University, came to us as the Stewart Fellow in Religion and Judaic Studies for the fall semester, during which he taught "The Five Books of Moses." He is also teaching in the spring, offering a course entitled "Israel's Enslavement and Exodus from Egypt: Exodus 1-15." Yonatan Brafman returns to Princeton in January for calendar year 2017 as a Visiting Associate Research Scholar and Lecturer; he spent 2014-15 here as a Postdoctoral Research Associate before accepting a position as assistant professor of Jewish Thought and Ethics at the Jewish Theological Seminary. This spring he is teaching "Jewish Thought and Modernity: From Spinoza to Levinas."

As the Faculty Updates indicate, it has been a productive year for program faculty. I want to note in particular Esther Schor's book, *Bridge of Words: Esperanto and the Dream of a Universal Language* (Metropolitan Books, 2016).

I am also very pleased to report that Moulie Vidas's book, *Tradition and the Formation of the Talmud* (Princeton University Press, 2014), has been named the finalist (the equivalent of second prize) for the Jordan Schnitzer Book Award for 2016 in the category of Biblical Studies, Rabbinics and Jewish History and Culture in Antiquity.

Finally, I want to call special attention to one event of the many sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies last academic year: the Undergraduate Jewish Studies Conference, which brought 50 undergraduates from all over the United States and Canada to Princeton for a full day of papers. This extraordinarily successful conference was the initiative of a dedicated group of undergraduates led by Ayelet Wenger '17. The students took full responsibility for arranging the conference. The student committee solicited papers, chose among the many submissions, organized the panels, and ran the sessions entirely on its own. I was able to attend only the morning sessions of the conference, but I was deeply impressed by the quality of the papers, of which several would not have been out of place at a faculty conference. For anyone concerned about the future of the humanities, it was a truly uplifting experience. Princeton will host the second such conference early in the spring semester.



Martha Himmelfarb

COURSES

Spring 2016

American Jewish Writers

Esther H. Schor

Bible Now: Bible in Contemporary Israel

Maya Meshel

Invention of the Gentile

Ishay Rosen Zvi

Kabbalah: Concepts and History

David Sclar

Religion and Law

Leora Batnitzky

Problems in Near Eastern Jewish History

Eve Krakowski

Wise Guys: Reading in Biblical Wisdom

Judah Kraut

FALL 2016

Ancient Judaism: Alexander to Islam

Martha Himmelfarb

Comics, Graphic Novels, American Jews

Paul Levitz

The Five Books of Moses

Baruch Schwartz

Introduction to Jewish Culture

Lital Levy

Elementary Biblical Hebrew I

Judah Kraut

Modern Jewish History: 1750–Present

Yaacob Dweck

Stolen Years: Youth under the Nazis

Froma Zeitlin

JDS CELEBRATES “DAWN’S EARLY LIGHT”

In the spring of 2016, we celebrated “*By Dawn’s Early Light: Jewish Contributions to American Culture from the Nation’s Founding to the Civil War*,” a landmark exhibition based on the loans and gifts to Princeton University of Leonard L. Milberg, Class of 1953, in addition to loans from museums, libraries, synagogues and private collections. The opening was marked by a panel discussion on February 14, featuring co-curators Adam Mendelsohn and Dale Rosengarten; Rabbi Meir Soloveichik; Esther Schor, professor of English; and a keynote lecture by Sean Wilentz, Davis Professor of American History. Students in Schor’s seminar, American Jewish Writers, trained as docents and shared their research on these religious and literary texts, ritual objects and rarely-seen paintings with alumni April 13-16, at “L’Chaim! To Life: Celebrating 100 Years of Jewish Life at Princeton.”



Olivia Robbins '16 (l), Leonard L. Milberg '53 and Esther Schor

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2016 Certificate Students:

ATARA COHEN (Religion), **CHRISTINA KESAIEVA** (Politics), **MICHAEL ROCHLIN** (Computer Science),
CHARLOTTE SALL (Sociology) and **MICHAL WISEMAN** (Psychology)



Charlotte Sall



Chrisina Kesaieva with Associate
Professor Yaacob Dweck



Michael Rochlin

CAROLYN L. DRUCKER '80 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Through the generosity of the Drucker family, the Program offers an annual prize for the best senior thesis related to Judaic Studies. First prize for 2016 was awarded to **EU NA NOH** (*English*) for “Imagination in a Catastrophic Time: Crisis and the Ethics of Representing Trauma,” second prize to **ARIEL FUTTER** (*Politics*) for “Does Israel Fit the New Commonwealth Model? Analyzing Israeli Political Development (1948-2016) through the Lens of the Constitutional Revolution.”

Eu Na Noh with Associate
Professor Yaacob Dweck



FACULTY UPDATES

MARK COHEN is currently the Allianz Visiting Professor of Jewish history at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich. His latest book, *Maimonides and the Merchants: Jewish Law and Society in the Medieval Islamic World*, is to be published by University of Pennsylvania Press in the spring of 2017.

JONATHAN GRIBETZ is working on a new book, *Reading Herzl in Beirut: The PLO's Research on Judaism and Israel*, under contract with Princeton University Press. This spring he is teaching a lecture course on the Arab-Israeli conflict and a graduate seminar on modern Middle Eastern intellectual history.

DANIEL HELLER-ROAZEN's new book will appear in March, 2017, *No One's Ways: An Essay on Infinite Naming* (Zone Books). This is a reconstruction of the many roles played by the particle 'non-', from Aristotle to Kant, Homer to Heidegger, with particular emphasis on Salomon Maimon and Hermann Cohen.

WILLIAM JORDAN delivered the Hayes-Robinson Lecture at Royal Holloway College, University of London, on "The Jews and the First Crusade: Conversion and Martyrdom" in March 2016, and was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Bard College at its commencement in May.

EVE KRAKOWSKI spent most of 2016 wrapping up revisions to her first book, *Coming of Age in Medieval Egypt: Women's Adolescence, Jewish Law, and Ordinary Culture* forthcoming with Princeton University Press. In 2016-17 she is on leave studying medieval rabbinic legal documents preserved in the Cairo Geniza, as part of the collaborative project "Documents and Institutions in the Medieval Middle East," funded by the American Council of Learned Societies and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

LITAL LEVY taught at the Institute for World Literature at Harvard University and for the Great Jewish Books program at the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA, during the summer of 2016. Back in Princeton, in fall 2017 she taught Introduction to Jewish Cultures, in addition to directing the undergraduate program in Comparative Literature for the full academic year. Her current research concerns new work on temporality in the political and cultural discourses of Israel/Palestine, as well as ongoing work on the intellectual history of Arab Jews from the late 19th through early 20th centuries.

ANNEMARIE LUIJENDIJK is working on a book, "From Gospels to Garbage," about the owners and readers of the early Christian papyrus fragments found at the ancient Egyptian city of Oxyrhynchus. Among the different scriptural texts are 34 Septuagint fragments



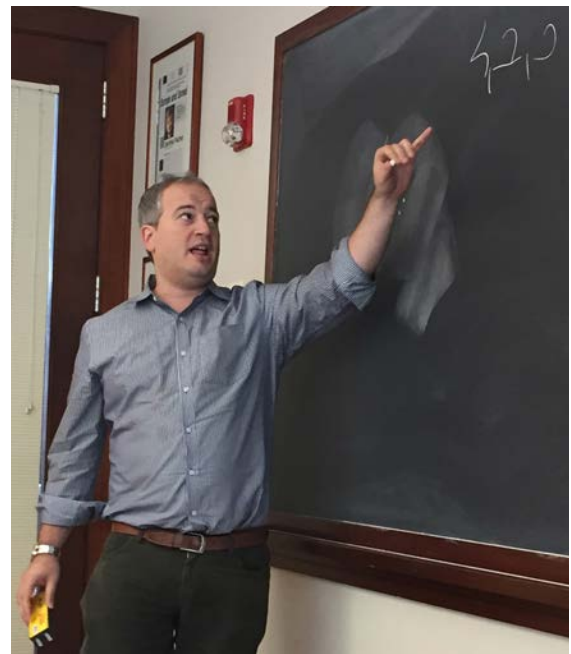
Lital Levy, associate professor of Comparative Literature, teaching Introduction to Jewish Culture

(published so far). She is also editing a volume on Roman and Early Christian Cyprus and completing a commentary on the apostle Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians.

LAWRENCE ROSEN was awarded the J. B. Donne Essay Prize by the Royal Anthropological Institute, for an article entitled "Choice and Chaos: The Social Meaning of an Islamic Art Form." A book entitled *Islam and the Rule of Justice*, which includes chapters about Muslim-Jewish relations, is also in press.

ESTHER SCHOR's history and memoir of the Esperanto movement, *Bridge of Words: Esperanto and the Dream of a Universal Language*, was published in October (Metropolitan/Holt), and has been reviewed in *The New York Times Book Review*, *The New Yorker*, *The LA Review of Books*, *Slate*, *Tablet*, *The Forward*, *Haaretz*, and other publications. She spent two weeks in June as a writer in residence at Beit Venezia in Venice, writing a sequence of poems about Sarra Copia Sullam, the 17th c. Jewish intellectual and writer. An excerpt from the sequence appeared in the first issue of *Paper Brigade*, an annual published by the Jewish Book Council. For *The Jewish Review of Books*, she reviewed "By Dawn's Early Light," an exhibition on Jewish life in the U. S. before the Civil War, sponsored by Leonard L. Milberg '53.

DAVID SCLAR has published an article in the *AJS Review* and presented research at Fordham University, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University of Amsterdam, and Menasseh ben Israel Institute in Amsterdam. Forthcoming articles will soon appear in *Jewish History* and *Jewish Studies Quarterly*.



Judah Kraut, lecturer in Judaic Studies, teaching Elementary Biblical Hebrew I



Eve Krakowski (l), assistant professor of Near Eastern Studies and Program in Judaic Studies; Naphtali Meshel, outgoing associate professor of Religion and Program in Judaic Studies; and Yaacob Dweck, associate professor of history and Program in Judaic Studies, at Class Day 2016

GENESIS RABBAH. December 2016 saw the publication of *Genesis Rabbah in Text and Context*, ed. **Sarit Kattan Gribetz *15, David M. Grossberg *15, Martha Himmelfarb** and **Peter Schäfer** (Mohr Siebeck). The book consists of articles based on papers given at a conference organized by Peter Schäfer and sponsored by JDS that took place here in March 2013. The first two editors are graduate alumni of the Religion Department who were actively involved in the Program in Judaic Studies during their time at Princeton. Kattan Gribetz is now assistant professor in the Department of Theology at Fordham University, while Grossberg is a visiting scholar at Cornell University.

2016 EVENTS

ENDOWED LECTURES

Jeannette Krieger and Herman D. Mytelka Memorial Lecture on Jewish Civilization: “Joshua in Tiberias, Samson in Arbel: Images of the Divine in Non-Rabbinic Galilean Culture of Late Antiquity,” **Elchanan Reiner**, Tel Aviv University

Kwartler Family Lecture: “Karl Marx and the Jewish Question(s),” **Shlomo Avineri**, Hebrew University

Lapidus Family Lecture: “A Conversation with **Deborah Kass**,” multimedia artist

Carolyn L. Drucker '80 Memorial Lecture: “Beyond the Aleppo Codex: Bible Manuscripts from the Cairo Geniza and the Textus Receptus,” **Ben Outhwaite**, Cambridge University

R. James S. Diamond Memorial Concert and Lecture: “Virtuosic Highlights of the Baroque,” **Debbie Diamond**, violin, and **Corey Jamason**, harpsichord

Rose and Isaac Ebel Lecture on the Holocaust: “Allies and Enemies: Jews and Ukrainians Before and During the Holocaust,” **David Engel**, New York University

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

“Canonization of the Hebrew Bible in Light of Qumran Literature,” **Cana Werman**, Ben Gurion University,

“Genre as Gateway to Ancient Prophecy,” **Martti Nissensen**, University of Helsinki,

Footnote, Film Screening and Q and A with Director **Joseph Cedar**

“Hermann Cohen’s Love/Hate Relationship with Spinoza, 1867-1915,” **Frederick Beiser**, Syracuse University,

“A Conversation about Art Restitution Law,” **E. Randol Schoenberg** '88, and screening of *Woman in Gold*

“The Samaritan Version of Saadya Gaon’s Translation of the Pentateuch,” **Tamar Zewi**, University of Haifa

“Three Bodies of God in the Hebrew Bible,” **Mark S. Smith**, Princeton Theological Seminary

“The Jewish Body Multiple: The Modern Mikveh Movement and the Creation of Secular Jewish Subjects,” **Cara Rock-Singer**, Columbia University

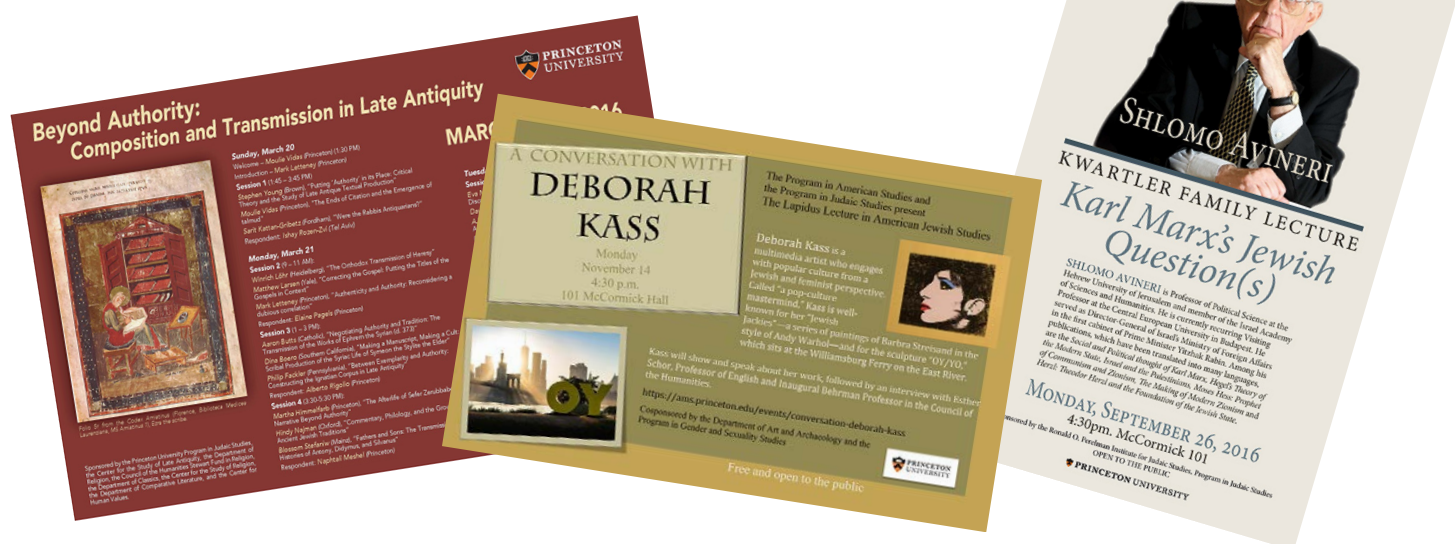
CONFERENCES

By the Dawn’s Early Light: Jewish Contributions to American Culture from the Nation’s Founding to the Civil War
Judaism in Modern Philosophy: Spinoza, Hermann Cohen, and the Legacies of German Idealism

Inaugural Undergraduate Conference on Judaic Studies

Beyond Authority: Composition and Transmission in Late Antiquity

Aesthetic Afterlives: Memory, Transfiguration and the Arts



UPCOMING EVENTS SPRING 2017

Mar 13-17: Jeannette Krieger and Herman D. Mytelka Scholar in Residence, Adam Mendelsohn, Cape Town University

Mar 27, Mar 29: Robert Brody, Hebrew University

Feb 7: *Operation Amram*, film screening followed by Q&A, Shlomo Hatuka

Feb 16: Biderman Lecture, “Your Father’s Interests:’ Emotions, Business and Judaism in the 18th-Century Mediterranean,” Francesca Bregoli, Queens College

Feb. 19: Second Annual Undergraduate Conference on Judaic Studies

RABBI JAMES S. DIAMOND MEMORIAL CONCERT & LECTURE

VIRTUOSIC HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BAROQUE

Featured Performers:
Debbie Diamond, violin
Corey Jamason, harpsichord

Specialists in historic performance on period instruments, they will be performing pieces by Bach, Biber, Castello and Froberger and discussing various aspects of baroque performance practice.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Taplin Auditorium, Fine Hall
Washington Road & Ivy Lane
Princeton, NJ

Sponsored by the Center for Jewish Life, Princeton Hillel and the Music Department of Princeton University and the Program in Judaic Studies

JEANNETTE KRIEGER AND HERMAN D. MYTELKA MEMORIAL LECTURE

Joshua in Tiberias, Samson in Arbel
Images of the Divine in Non-Rabbinic Galilean Culture of Late Antiquity

Wednesday
March 2, 2016
4:30pm, 010 East Pyne
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ELCHANAN REINER
Tel Aviv University

Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PROGRAM IN EUROPEAN CULTURAL STUDIES

presents
A CONVERSATION ABOUT ART RESTITUTION LAW
with
E. Randol Schoenberg '88
Attorney, Republic of Austria v. Altmann, US Supreme Court, 2004

following a screening of
Woman in Gold (2015)

directed by Simon Curtis
starring Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds

101 McCormick Hall
May 11, 2016
7:30 PM
free and open to the public

Co-Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Department of Art & Archaeology, Center for Jewish Life, University Center for Human Values, and Princeton University Art Museum

Lance Kishita, Patron of Randol Schoenberg, 2011

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

"Hermann Cohen's Love/Hate Relationship with Spinoza, 1867-1915"

Frederick Beiser
Syracuse University

Frederick Beiser is a leading contributor to work on the history of modern philosophy, especially the history of German philosophy and the English Enlightenment. His books on German Idealism, post-Kantian philosophy, Neo-Kantianism, and German Romanticism, have changed the English-language landscape of the field. Beiser has been the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, both for his scholarship and for his undergraduate teaching, including a Guggenheim fellowship (2004), NEH Faculty Fellowship (1999-2000) and the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany (2015).

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THE 38TH ANNUAL CAROLYN L. DRUCKER MEMORIAL LECTURE

Beyond the Aleppo Codex: Bible Manuscripts from the Cairo Geniza and the Textus Receptus

BEN OUTHWAITE
Joint Head of Special Collections, Head of the Geniza Research Unit, Cambridge University Library

Biblical scholars should be familiar with the great medieval codices such as Aleppo or Leningrad, which are the foundations of the modern scholarly editions of the Hebrew Bible, but the remarkable collection known as the Cairo Geniza has preserved thousands of lesser medieval Bible manuscripts, from the earliest every bit as good as Aleppo or Leningrad. What can these lesser texts about the text reveal about the commentary of scribes and scholars who produced them?

Tuesday, MARCH 29, 2016 • 4:30 p.m.
Free and Open to the Public

Sponsored by the Department and Program in Near Eastern Studies and the Program in Judaic Studies, Ronald O. Perleman Institute of Judaic Studies

Aesthetic Afterlives: Memory, Transfiguration and the Arts

September 9-10, 2016
9:30am - 6:30pm
219 Aaron Burr Hall
Princeton University

A National Council on the Humanities grant
Jonathan M. Hoberman, Chair of the College and Professor of History and African American Studies, Princeton University

Invited Speakers: High Conspicuous Honor College, Princeton University

Andrew Ross (University of Illinois)
Alan Ripstein (University of Illinois)
Barbara Herrnstein Smith (University of Illinois)
Giovanna Marchese (Princeton University)
Dale Gribble (Princeton University)
Michael A. S. Lee (Princeton University)
Lorenz Böttger (Princeton University)
Lyle L. Larson (Princeton University)
Pavel Steinhilber (Princeton University)
Adam Smith (Princeton University)
Jeremy Taylor (Princeton University)
Suzanne L. Spitzer (Princeton University)
Tara M. Sheehy (Princeton University)
Victoria Kuznetsov (Princeton University)

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THE ROSE AND ISAAC EBEL LECTURE

ALLIES AND ENEMIES: Jews and Ukrainians Before and During the Holocaust

DAVID ENGEL
New York University

David Engel is Greenberg Professor of Holocaust Studies, Professor and Chair of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, and Fellow of the Goldenberg Center for Jewish Studies, and a Senior Lecturer at New York University. He is also a Senior Lecturer at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. He is the author of seven books and more than seventy articles on aspects of modern Jewish history and politics, the Holocaust, and interethnic relations in eastern Europe.

Monday
DECEMBER 5TH
4:30pm • E. Pyne Auditorium

Sponsored by the Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies, Program in Judaic Studies

UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER FUNDING

RACHEL BRILL '19

This summer I had the wonderful opportunity, through Princeton Internships in Civic Service, to be the development department intern at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. For a long time I have aspired to work in a museum, but before this internship I did not know very much about how museums function or what “development” entailed. Now I have gained a much deeper appreciation for museums as nonprofit institutions.



Rachel at the National Museum of Jewish History

As an intern I helped the department in several areas. One of my major tasks was prospect research, which involved finding background information on potential donors. I also took charge of social media for Young Friends, the museum’s social group for people 21 to 40 years old. I helped plan, promote, set up and run a major event for Young Friends, called “A Midsummer’s Eve.” It was a fun night of music and dancing in celebration of Tu B’Av, the Jewish holiday of love.

Altogether, my internship at the National Museum of American Jewish History was an extremely rewarding experience. I learned about development, as well as other aspects of museum and nonprofit work, and I learned about the history of American Jewry, in which I’m proud to play my small role. This was a great internship, and I am very thankful to have been given this opportunity.

NATALIE FAHLBERG '18

This past summer, I attended Hebrew University and took a course entitled “Religion in the Holy Land: Faith’s Role in Peace and Conflict.” During the class, I was able to learn about religious conflict in the Middle East from experts in various religious fields. It was interesting for me as a Christian, to delve deeper into Judaism and Islam, and understand how different faiths can be used as forces for both good and evil. I enjoyed being able to visit religious sites, as well as sites of religious conflict. Overall, I learned a great deal about how misunderstood the three monotheistic faiths are, and how they can be used in a potential peace process.

Additionally, while I was in Israel I began research on a potential senior thesis project topic. I interviewed 12 women who had served in the Israeli Defense Forces about their time in the military. Some had completed their service, while others were still serving; some had served in combat positions and others had not. I especially appreciated the opportunity to speak with them about their time in the military, as I am an ROTC cadet with plans for active duty in the U.S. Army after graduation. I am very thankful for the JDS funding that made my studies and research possible!

MIKAELA GERWIN '19

With my grant I was able to attend the Princeton in Spain program. I lived for five weeks in Toledo, the medieval city of Jews, Christians and Muslims. I studied Sephardic Jewry, specifically in conjunction with Christian mystics before the expulsion of the Jews. I also looked some into documents about Jews from after the Spanish Civil War, during Franco’s dictatorship. I attended Sabbath services several times at the central synagogue of Madrid and ate

the Sabbath meal with the Jews there, most of whom were French Jews who had left France because of anti-Semitism and found a better attitude towards Jews in Spain.

The main research I did for my class assignment while there focused on La Sinagoga del Transito, the “Transit Synagogue,” also known as the Synagogue of Samuel ha-Levi, a museum of Sephardic Jewry and of the synagogue, now Museo Sefardi. I worked with the head of the museum, Santiago Palomero, and the head of communications, Carmen Nogales, researching and learning about the development of the museum and giving them some suggestions on their exhibitions. Specifically, I worked on how to make the exhibition recognize the living Judaism today and not simply display Judaism as a destroyed tradition.

BECCA KEENER '17

I spent two weeks in Israel conducting research at Amnesty International in Tel Aviv and Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I focused on the current state of minority rights and looked into recent cases that exemplify forms of exclusion and inclusion. At Amnesty I learned about the practical effects of laws concerning minorities, particularly regarding housing rights. The campaign members I spoke with were engaged in advocacy against the demolition of unrecognized Arab villages.

My discussions with Professor Michael Karayanni at Hebrew University were focused on the complex relationship between liberalism and the rights of minority religious communities in Israel. Liberalism is, at the same time, invoked to protect Jews from the religious establishment and to justify minority religious communities' subservience to their religious authorities. Having investigated both the theoretical and practical aspects, and

realizing the multifaceted challenges involved in advocating for “minority rights” as such, I decided to look into how international human rights law can be used to argue for the housing rights of Israeli Arabs individually, within a liberal framework, thus creating a legal precedent applicable to the rest of the population. .



Jonathan

JONATHAN LEBEAU '18

From June through August 2016, I was a student at the Ulpan Gordon Language School in Tel Aviv, studying Hebrew. At Princeton I had completed all available Hebrew classes, beginning at the 100 level working my way up to 300 level courses. The Hebrew I learned was formal, literary; however, Israelis often employ a contemporary dialect, and so I felt could still improve my speaking..

Ulpan Gordon proved to be the solution for such a gap. Thanks to my experience at Princeton, I placed into the highest course level, where the course focused on advanced Hebrew syntax and reading Hebrew literature (poetry and prose) and newspaper articles. Ulpan is typically meant for new immigrants in Israel seeking

continued



Natalie in Jerusalem

to learn Hebrew, meaning the class aimed to prepare students with the necessary language for life in Israel. We learned phrases and modern grammatical constructs. By the end of the course, I felt like my Hebrew was strong enough to get around Israel on my own.

ERIN LYNCH '18

This past summer I received Judaic Studies funding to explore and study “Identity, Location and Space: Judaism in Post-Soviet Cuba and Eastern Europe,” conducting a series of oral histories and took photos of the Jewish community and Jewish spaces in Havana and Berlin.



Simon Goldstein, interviewed by Erin in Havana

Through this project, I explored the idea of how multiple identities can become dislocated after and during historical changes or periods of ideological transition or transformation. My discussions really made me radically re-evaluate the way I understand identity and ideology, and the way the two interact. My time in Berlin also taught me a great deal about memory, and how the state can help to develop a critical memory.

ALICE MAIDEN '19

This summer I had the incredible experience of working as Academic Liaison intern at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. I helped run the summer internship program and prepare for the fall, which allowed me to meet and connect with other interns and many different types of staff. I had the challenge and excitement of working fairly independently, making decisions and outlining my work day by myself, but under the close, caring supervision of Ethel Weinberg, MD, and Judy Finkel, PhD. I managed the seminar program, contacting staff speakers for our weekly educational session about nonprofits. My supervisors also encouraged me to experiment

with research, writing and multimedia, and work briefly with Education, Marketing and Development to find an interdisciplinary project. I got to learn so much about nonprofit work and museums, and at the same time was challenged to find my direction and find a project that would make an impact on the museum.

The internship was educationally enriching, in that I had hands-on experience that educated me about museum work. My writing was put to use in donor reports; my work in the seminar series had the direct outcome as the seminars took place; I helped give tours; my design work was used in family booklets this summer. I saw the direct impact of what I did, so I learned as I went. The museum was welcoming and friendly, and staff treated us like colleagues and I felt like one. I am indebted to Judaic Studies for the funding that made these incredible experiences, valuable lessons and strong connections possible. Thank you so very much for filling this summer with experiences I will remember for the rest of my life.

MAYA ROSEN '17

My thesis focuses on the medieval roots of Christian Hebraism in England, and I spent three weeks this summer in archives in Oxford, Cambridge, London and Manchester, looking at Jewish religious texts in Hebrew with Latin annotations. One of the most exciting parts of my research was trying to understand how medieval Christians in

England were able to learn Hebrew, especially given the absence of Jews from England during this time period.

The manuscripts that I studied this summer confirm that a high level of Hebraic scholarship was current in England earlier than most scholars generally think, and it points to a native tradition of Hebrew scholarship in England from early medieval monasteries to the rise of Hebrew studies in the universities in the early 1500s. Many of the bilingual Hebrew-Latin biblical texts that I found used a grammaticalized translation, meaning that individual units of different words were glossed. In this way, it is possible to begin to reconstruct the linguistic education of these medieval Christians. There are similar questions to be asked about Christian knowledge of Jewish religious practice and interpretive history in this time period. The manuscripts I examined have not been digitized and are invaluable to my research, and so I am very thankful to the Program in Judaic Studies for making this project possible.



Hebrew text with Latin annotations

YONI SCHOENBERG '19

This past summer I volunteered as an Emergency Medical Technician for Magen David Adom, Israel's emergency response service. Before volunteering, I took a 10-day intensive course during which I learned life-saving techniques, including CPR, first aid and trauma care. The cost of the course was covered, thanks to the generous grant that I received from the Judaic Studies Program.



Yoni (standing, second from r) and EMT team

As a volunteer on the ambulance, I took five or six eight-hour shifts per week for three weeks. I helped car-crash victims, stroke patients, pregnant mothers and a plethora of others in need of medical attention. By the end, I felt that I had a better grasp of both healthcare in Israel and the world of emergency medicine.

Perhaps more important, though, was my immersion in Israeli society. My Hebrew improved immensely. Additionally, since medical emergencies do not discriminate, I interacted with Israelis from all walks of life and backgrounds. I gained a lot from my short conversations in the ambulance with those who were different than myself, whether it was the Holocaust survivor from Jerusalem or the Arab from Jericho. Magen David Adom was truly an unforgettable experience.

DANIEL SCHWARTZ '19

This summer I interned at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Although Tel Aviv is the cosmopolitan capital of Israel, Jerusalem is its cultural, ethnic and spiritual capital. As someone who feels a special sense of belonging in the Jewish state I always love spending time in Israel, I find meaning most in Jerusalem, where I can feel Israeliness and Judaism expressed most vibrantly.

continued

My internship was fantastic. I feel very fortunate to have spent time at the Hartman Institute, which is devoted to serious, pluralistic Jewish thought and research, and is actively attempting to elevate the public Israeli discourse. It does this by promoting “values-based” studies and conversations that focus not only on the geopolitical or socioeconomic reality that Israelis find themselves in, but also on the Jewish and human values that Israelis ideally



Daniel (r) and friends at the Hartman Institute

want to see form their society. The institute makes this mission a reality by employing researchers in relevant fields and running programming all across Israel and the United States, in schools, synagogues, and beyond.

My internship had two parts: I participated in various institute programs, learning from scholars about the Israel we imagine, Jewish identity in North America, and a host of other topics. When not in programs, I spent all my time researching and editing for Yossi Klein Halevi, a

Hartman senior fellow who has written extensively about Israeli history, culture and spirituality. This summer was one of the most meaningful ones of my life, and I thank everyone who made it a possibility.

ELAN SYKES '18

I spent almost six weeks studying colloquial Arabic at Givat Haviva in Israel's Wadi Ara region. My day-to-day schedule revolved around five hours of class, half focusing on speaking skills and half on grammar. After class, Givat Haviva had a different cultural activity for every day of the week: watching movies in Arabic, visiting different towns in Wadi Ara, visiting our teachers' houses, going to the beach in Caesarea, and participating in other workshops. I lived in a small house on Givat Haviva's campus with three other American students taking the course, and around 10 Israeli Jews commuted in for the course as well. On the weekends I was able to visit family in Jerusalem and Princeton friends working in Tel Aviv. I came in knowing only Princeton-taught Modern Standard Arabic, a very formal branch of the language, and unable to understand everyday speech in any dialect. Learning the rural Palestinian style of Levantine Colloquial, with some urban variants, allowed me after less than two months to speak at a fairly high level with my teachers and residents of the towns around Givat Haviva, as well as at home in Jerusalem.

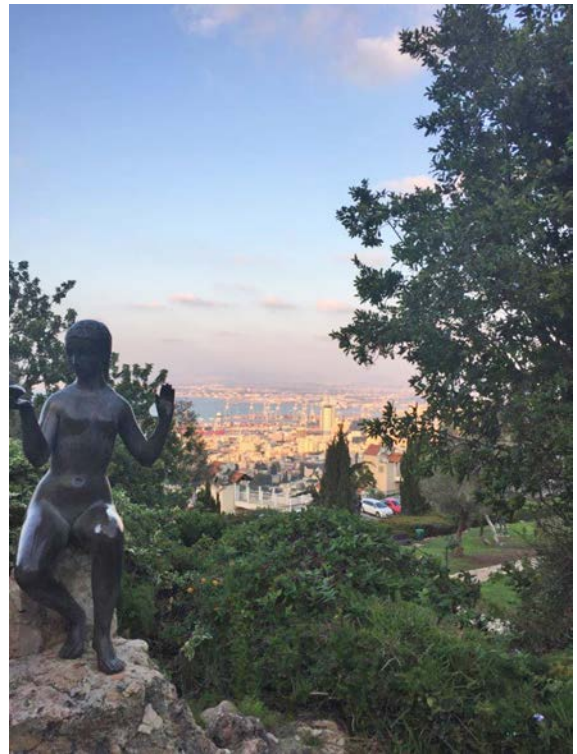
DANIEL TEEHAN '17

This summer, with the help of JDS, I traveled to Israel and Palestine for 10 weeks. My time there was split between doing an intensive Hebrew Ulpan at the University of Haifa and traveling around the country doing research for my senior thesis. The Ulpan was an amazing experience I would not have been able to have at Princeton. Learning the language in a context where it was spoken was a categorical upgrade in terms of retention and conversational skills. By the end of the program, I was able to attend a one-woman play performed entirely in Hebrew and understand about 90 percent of what was being spoken. This increase in comprehension, speaking, reading and writing was both exciting for me personally and useful academically, as I will now be able to incorporate more Hebrew sources into my thesis.

For the second half of the summer, I traveled throughout the country – to Nazareth, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Acre and elsewhere – conducting research for my thesis about political theater in Israel and Palestine. I was able to meet with more than 20 actors, directors, playwrights and artistic directors; visit more than 10 different theaters; and attend three productions. I also conducted 17 interviews, totaling more than 20 hours of recorded conversation, all of which will be useful as I write my thesis. It was personally very exciting and fascinating to be able to travel to a place that I have spent a significant amount of time reading about and discussing. All of this was facilitated and greatly helped by the funding contribution of JDS, and for that I am quite grateful.

AYELET WENGER '17

This summer I was able to study at the CUNY Summer Latin Institute with the help of the Program in Judaic Studies. It was a terrific experience. We covered the basics of Latin grammar in five weeks and spent the next five weeks reading through some of the greatest Latin poetry and prose writers. I spent quality time with Cicero, Sallust, Vergil, Horace, Tacitus and others. I terrified innocent passersby by practicing my recitation of Dido's dying words in Fort Tryon Park. I became convinced that there exists in the world no worthwhile piece of knowledge that cannot fit on a flashcard. I am excited to continue my study of Latin this semester and delighted about all of the areas of Judaic Studies that Latin can open up to me.



Daniel's view of Haifa

ELIANA YASHGUR '19

This summer I examined the possibilities inherent in using psychological findings to improve Jewish education. While interning at a conflict resolution nonprofit, I assessed the needs of individuals who presented particular interpersonal conflicts to our organization and organized mediation sessions for them. I improved my social problem-solving skills, finding creative ways to guide people to use various communication techniques in order to solve their conflicts. Simultaneously, I reviewed psychological literature relevant to conflict resolution and sought ways to implement these ideas into Jewish education. I looked at Jewish text sources discussing interpersonal laws and values, focusing on the ways that these laws and values can be implemented in the social group.

When I had to help a client regarding an incident in which her neighbor's pet walked onto her lawn and caused some damage, this instantly reminded me of the tort law extensively discussed in the Talmud, as the example above is paradigmatically used in talmudic discussions. My goal was and continues to be to figure out how to convey interpersonal Jewish values to children in the school setting in ways that engage their intellectual, emotional and social skills, integrating textual study with psychological interventions aimed at putting these values and precepts into practice. Such interventions include creating and enforcing combined descriptive and injunctive social norms that inspire interpersonal respect, and developing a program aimed at encouraging positive speech. Being able to see these principles in action this summer has given me hope that it is possible to use such techniques to create real social change. I wrote a plan addressing how Jewish day schools can put these principles into practice, and I continue to add to this project as I go forward in my psychology studies in school. As I tweak and add to this "curriculum," I work with others involved in Jewish education.

GRADUATE SUMMER FUNDING

A. J. BERKOVITZ, RELIGION

Thanks to the generous support of the Program for Judaic Studies, my summer was extremely productive. In addition to continuing to study ancient Greek, a language relevant to my work, I was able to participate in a conference in Cambridge, England, called “Christianity and the Talmud.” The organizers required the submission of a pre-circulated paper, and this encouraged me to complete an entire dissertation chapter. A version of this paper will be published in the conference’s volume. Thanks to JDS, I was also able to partake in the Katz Center’s summer graduate seminar called “Shaking Foundations.”

JOSH CALVO, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

For the summer of 2016, I worked intensively on readings in Modern Hebrew literature, while living in Jerusalem. I met biweekly with a fellow PhD student, Shai Huber, at the Hebrew University, to assess my linguistic progress and discuss the texts she and I had chosen to work on. I read roughly a book per week over my two-month stay in Israel, covering examples across the full range of modern Hebrew literature, with a healthy helping of canonical novels and stories from Israel’s early decades by such authors as Amos Oz, Yehoshua Kenaz, Yehudit Hendel and Yeshayahu Koren. I also began translating the massive, magical, impenetrable Mizrahi novel *Aqud* (Bound) by Albert Swissa—after having met with author in person and secured his approval.

My time in Israel was extremely productive in bringing my Hebrew to where I’ve long wanted it to be: I now feel comfortable picking up most any modern text and diving in. I am thus indebted to the Jewish Studies Program for funding the opportunity for me to focus on my literary Hebrew and to enjoy a summer of literature.

ELENA DUGAN, RELIGION

This summer I was fantastically lucky to have the opportunity to explore new facets of Judaic Studies in new languages and new places, funded by the Judaic Studies Program. I presented some of my work at the Graduate Enoch Seminar in Austin, Texas, where I engaged with scholars and graduate students in Second Temple Judaism, early Christianity and early Islam. I got feedback on my research in Second Temple astronomical literature, and explored new avenues of inquiry, especially in the world of early Arabic literature. Afterwards, I took two courses at the Syriac Institute in Piscataway, NJ, which not only equipped me with competencies in new dialects and languages, but also introduced me to the world of Late Antique and Early Medieval manuscript studies.

I was honored to be part of a cutting-edge workshop in Heidelberg, where we studied the sacrificial systems of the Hebrew Bible and Vedas. We worked with graduate students in South Asian Studies from Heidelberg, not only by reading texts in Sanskrit, Hebrew and other languages, but also by trying to reconstruct the basic ritual elements of sacrificial practices. I also pursued independent work, becoming acquainted with Judeo-Arabic and preparing an English translation of a previously untranslated Maimonidean autograph on the biblical systems of impurity.

Returning to Princeton, I was included in a week-long intensive on Greco-Arabic, which further opened my eyes to the rich and diverse conversations taking place between Jews, Christians and Muslims in the Late Antique and early Islamic Near East.

JONATHAN HENRY, RELIGION

Thanks to the generous funding I received from the Program in Judaic Studies for summer research and travel, I was able to network with international colleagues, advance my research, and enrich my ability to write and teach.

First, in Germany I participated in a seminar on Lived Ancient Religions at Erfurt University, with a focus on Religion and the Polis in the Ancient World. Besides presenting some of my dissertation research, I visited the oldest standing synagogue in Europe. Next I went to Rome, where I studied an important codex, and I will give

a presentation about my findings at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature this fall. I spent time visiting other locations that will help inform how I read ancient accounts about Jews, Christians and others who interfaced with Rome.

I am most grateful for the commitment to scholarship that lies behind the disbursement of these awards. My thanks to those whose generosity and diligent efforts made all of this possible.

Tzvi (Ari) Lamm

Generous funding from Princeton facilitated my work this summer with Skill Silo's private tutoring system, which pairs customers with language instructors for a one-on-one, customizable, language acquisition program. I used the funds to structure my learning so as to be able to work on papers and research projects at the same time. I also was able to build a program that catered specifically to my need to read modern German scholarly articles.

We began our lessons going through the basic grammar of modern German. During the last several weeks, we shifted to practical reading experience, both guided and under exam conditions. I selected all the texts for the course (either classic or cutting edge articles in early Christianity, rabbinic Judaism, etc.), and we would decipher them with rigorous attention to syntax and vocabulary building. I could take a "practice exam," and then submit the exam to my instructor for grading. I am extremely proud to report that, having passed the German exam, I am now certified in German reading proficiency. As I proceed with my doctoral studies in the Religions of Mediterranean Antiquity, a serious working knowledge of modern German is extremely helpful.



Jonathan in Rome

Mark Letteney, Religion

Thanks to the generous support of the Program in Judaic Studies, I was able to return this summer to the Jezreel Valley in Israel to serve as a staff member on the Jezreel Valley Regional Project's archaeological survey of the area around Tel Shimron. The tel is known to have occupation layers from the pottery Neolithic through the Crusader era, including a large Bronze Age settlement, but it has never been excavated. This summer my team devised a new field methodology that produces contiguous data for both survey and excavation, bringing together conceptually two operations that have been considered historically as separate archaeological activities. We built a database that incorporates the ability to record multiple visits to the same landscape, and to integrate geophysical, geospatial and photogrammetric models for visualization and analysis. A publication detailing this new methodology and accompanying technology is forthcoming.

Over the course of our four-week season, we surveyed just over six square kilometers of area, identifying 1,071 new permanent features on the landscape and collecting over 3,000 bags of samples and artefacts. Next season we will continue our survey of the Jezreel Valley in the area around Abu Shusha/Tel Jazar, and I will return to Legio to oversee an excavation area on the site of the Roman 6th Legion. I would like to thank the Program in Judaic Studies for making my participation in these projects possible.

Ron Sadan, German

This summer I attended the Leo Baeck Summer University at the Humboldt University in Berlin, with generous support from the Princeton Program in Judaic Studies. The 6-week summer course included daily seminars on German-Jewish social and intellectual history, alongside meetings with representatives of organizations tied to contemporary Jewish life in Berlin. Discussions with the leaders of the International Holocaust Remembrance

continued

Alliance and the Kreuzberg Initiative against Anti-Semitism were particularly striking to me, as were presentations by curators and filmmakers whose works probe questions of politics and identity in Germany. My own research, aided by collections at the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin, culminated in a paper on 1920s political culture in Berlin and Vienna that I presented at the end of the course.

SHEERA TALPAZ, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

This summer and fall, I used the Program in Judaic Studies' generous funding to continue engaging in Arabic language study, which is pivotal to my dissertation on the national poets of Israel/Palestine. Although I had initially intended to attend the Middlebury Summer Language School program once again, I ultimately decided to focus my attention on writing my dissertation, while also working on my Arabic language skills.

I met with Youniss El-Cheddadi, a native Moroccan and language expert who teaches Arabic at the University of California San Diego and San Diego State University, for weekly tutoring sessions. Together, we read Arabic articles on various current events and conversed in Fus'ha (formal Arabic). We also read and translated poetry and essays by Mahmoud Darwish and Anton Shammas, writers who play a significant role in my dissertation. For homework, I read, wrote recapitulations of articles, and completed other related exercises. I thank you to the program for funding my studies, allowing me to work privately with a fine teacher who has addressed my individual needs.

MARC VOLOVICI, HISTORY

I am deeply grateful to the Program in Judaic Studies for the generous summer grant, which enabled me to spend three weeks in Jerusalem, where I examined several archival collections stored in the Central Zionist Archives, as well as in the National Library Archives. I was able to find different documents pertaining to my dissertation project, which explores the image and function of the German language in Jewish nationalism since the late 19th century. Additionally, I participated in a three-day annual conference organized by the Association for Israel Studies, which was held this year in Jerusalem. I presented a paper that examined the linguistic, ideological and theological challenges faced by early 20th-century Jewish nationalists when trying to translate Jewish national texts from German into Hebrew.

ALEXANDER WAMBOLDT, ANTHROPOLOGY

In June 2016 I travelled to New Orleans to the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, to present my work on Israeli divorce, legal issues associated with agunot, and emergent legal strategies. On a three-part panel on Illegalities, Penalty and Security, I had the opportunity to share my work on get-refusal tort law in Israel, with scholars working across the world on new cultural reactions to changing standards of the law and criminality. I was able to add the perspectives of Israelis who are negotiating nascent understandings of religious rights and domestic abuse under the law with other scholars working on similarly shifting terrains of criminality elsewhere in the world. These conversations can lead to longer engagements regarding family law and its particular forms in Israel with other scholars in anthropology, legal studies and sociology.

This work is part of my larger doctoral research surrounding changes in Israeli society brought about by new practices of family law, and new understandings of kinship. My dissertation is composed of ethnographic field world among couples and their families in Israel, in addition to matchmakers, marriage-rights activists, religious clergy, state officials, and the clients of all of the above, conducted between 2013 and 2015. This work was previously made possible by generous help from the Program in Judaic Studies, and the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies.



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