41ST ANNUAL

CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

December 20 – 22, 2009
Hyatt Regency Century Plaza
Los Angeles, California
The Association for Jewish Studies wishes to thank the Center for Jewish History and its constituent organizations—the American Jewish Historical Society, the American Sephardi Federation, the Leo Baeck Institute, the Yeshiva University Museum, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research—for providing the AJS with office space at the Center for Jewish History.

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# Program Book Contents

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The Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) was founded in 1969 by a small group of scholars seeking a forum for exploring methodological and pedagogical issues in the new field of Jewish Studies. Since its founding, the AJS has grown into the largest learned society and professional organization representing Jewish Studies scholars worldwide. As a constituent organization of the American Council of Learned Societies, the Association for Jewish Studies represents the field in the larger arena of the academic study of the humanities and social sciences in North America. The organization’s primary mission is to promote, facilitate, and improve teaching and research in Jewish Studies at colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning. Its more than 1800 members are university faculty, graduate students, independent scholars, and museum and related professionals who represent the breadth of Jewish Studies scholarship. The organization’s institutional members represent leading North American programs and departments in the field.

The AJS’s major programs and projects include an annual scholarly conference, featuring more than 150 sessions; a peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *AJS Review*, published by Cambridge University Press; a biannual magazine, *AJS Perspectives*, that explores methodological and pedagogical issues; Positions in Jewish Studies, the most comprehensive listing of Jewish Studies job opportunities; Resources in Jewish Studies, an online guide to Jewish Studies programs, grant opportunities, professional development resources, electronic research tools, and doctoral theses; the Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards and Cahnman Foundation Publication Subventions, which recognize outstanding research in the field; and the Legacy Heritage Jewish Studies Project, in cooperation with the Legacy Heritage Fund, in support of innovative public programming.

Membership in the association is open to individuals whose full-time vocation is teaching, research, or related endeavors in academic Jewish Studies; to other individuals whose intellectual concerns are related to the purposes of the association; and to graduate students concentrating in an area of Jewish Studies. Institutional membership is open to Jewish Studies programs and departments, foundations, and other institutions whose work supports the mission of the AJS.

In order to maintain a professional and comfortable environment for its members, conference registrants, and staff, the association requires certain standards of behavior. These standards include, without limitation, courtesy of discourse, respect for the diversity of AJS members and conference attendees, and the ability to conduct AJS business and participate in the AJS conference in a non-threatening, collegial atmosphere. AJS members and conference participants who do not uphold these standards may jeopardize their membership or conference participation. If you have any questions, please speak with an AJS staff person at the conference registration desk; the AJS’s Executive Director, Rona Sheramy; the Vice President for Conference Program, Marsha Rozenblit; or the President of the Association for Jewish Studies, Sara Horowitz.
**AJS Institutional Members, 2009-10**

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Dear Colleagues:

I am delighted to present the program for the Forty-first Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies. This year, the AJS holds its conference in Los Angeles. As has been the case over the past four decades, the annual conference is the most visible of the organization's activities. The program reflects a great deal of creative energy and hard work on the part of many people, and I want to thank all participants for what promises to be a series of rich and rewarding sessions and plenary events. As even a cursory perusal of the program will show you, the AJS Annual Conference continues to flourish. In order to facilitate your experience at the conference, I invite you to read the following information pertaining to program events and functions.

**HOTEL, REGISTRATION, PROGRAM BOOKS, BADGES, AND MEALS**

All sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Los Angeles. Floor plans on pages 15–17 of this Program Book show their location and arrangement. The Sessions at a Glance table on pages 18–24 provides a summary of events with their locations and times. Unless you arranged for advanced shipment, all program books will be distributed on site in Los Angeles at the conference. Conference registrants from the United States and Canada who paid all fees by the November 16 deadline should have received their badges and meal confirmation letters in early December. Attendees coming from outside North America can pick up their badges and meal confirmations at the AJS Registration Desk. Badge covers will be available on-site. Please remember that conference badges must be worn at all times for admission to the sessions and the Exhibit Hall. Security personnel at the entrance to the exhibit and elsewhere in the hotel will be checking badges and will only admit those who have registered for the conference.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

The Annual AJS Business Meeting will take place on Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 AM in Brentwood. All AJS members are invited to attend.

**WELCOME RECEPTION AND ANNUAL GALA BANQUET**

We thank the various Jewish Studies programs, departments, and institutions that have generously co-sponsored the Annual Gala Banquet on Sunday, December 20 at 6:45 PM in the Los Angeles Ballroom (see page 123 for a list of banquet sponsors). Please join us at 6:15 PM in the Plaza Foyer on the Plaza Level for the Welcome Reception, sponsored by the UCLA Center for Jewish Studies.

**PLENARY LECTURE**

This year the Program Committee has arranged for a very exciting plenary lecture that is open to all conference participants. On Sunday, December 20 at 8:00 PM in the Los Angeles Ballroom, immediately following the Gala Banquet, Professor István Deák, Seth Low Professor Emeritus at Columbia University, a scholar of Central European history, and a frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and *The New Republic*, will present: “The Triumph of Compliance? Jewish Survival in Budapest at the Time of the Hungarian Holocaust, 1944-1945.”
FILM SCREENINGS, MUSICAL PERFORMANCE, AND ART EXHIBIT

The AJS Conference will feature several film screenings in the Westwood room, including a special showing on Sunday evening, December 20, at 9:30 pm of *The Jester (Der Purimspiler)*, directed by Joseph Green and Jan Nowina-Przybylski (90 minutes; Yiddish with English subtitles), courtesy of the National Center for Jewish Film. See page 77 for full list of film screenings. The AJS is also pleased to announce a special event on Monday evening, December 21, at 9:30 PM: “A Musical Evening by Jewish-Ottoman Composers,” performed by Münir Beken and Serpil Borazan. This performance is sponsored by the UCLA Amado Program in Sephardic Studies and will take place in Directors I/II on the South Mezzanine Level. Also, the AJS Conference will for the first time feature a video exhibition loop of local Jewish visual art. This exhibit was organized by Carol Zemel of York University, chair of the Jewish Arts division, and was curated by Tal Gozani of the Skirball Cultural Center.

POSTER SESSION

The AJS is pleased to present a Poster Session on Monday, December 21 in the California Showroom (the Book Exhibit Hall). The poster session will feature multimedia presentations by scholars from all fields of Jewish Studies. On December 21, posters will be on display from 8:30 AM–6:30 PM; scholars will be available to answer questions and discuss their research during the formal Poster Session hours of 10:30 AM–12:30 PM. A coffee reception will be held from 10:30 AM–11:00 AM as part of the Poster Session.

BOOK EXHIBIT

The AJS welcomes representatives of leading publishers of Jewish studies scholarship; major foundations supporting Jewish Studies research; and archives and research centers, who will be exhibiting at the AJS Annual Conference. Peruse the latest books in the field, purchase texts at significant discounts, and learn about fellowship, grant, and research opportunities for students and scholars.

SCHOLARS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

The AJS wishes to welcome again the participation of several scholars from Eastern Europe at its Annual Conference, as part of the AJS’s initiative to support and cooperate with Jewish Studies programs in Eastern Europe. The AJS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture and a friend of the AJS for underwriting the costs associated with the Eastern European Scholar Travel Grant Program.

CAUCUSES, MEETINGS, AND RECEPTIONS

The AJS conference provides the opportunity for several caucuses, colloquia, and groups to meet. These special events include the annual AJS Women’s Caucus Breakfast on Monday, December 21 at 7:00 AM; the American Academy for Jewish Research session, “Jewish History and Jewish Thought: Conversation Partners or Two Solitudes?” on Monday, December 21 at 11:00 AM; the Sephardi/Mizrahi Caucus Lunch on Monday, December 21 at 12:45 PM; the Directors of Jewish Studies meeting on Monday, December 21 at 2:00 PM; and the Works-in-Progress Group in Modern Jewish Studies on Tuesday, December 22 at 1:45 PM. For a list of the many sponsored receptions open to all AJS members, see Sunday and Monday evening program events.

EVENTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AND EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS

All graduate students are warmly invited to a Graduate Student Reception held by the AJS in their honor on Monday, December 21 at 9:30 PM in Governors II on the Mezzanine Level. This event will provide graduate students the opportunity to meet informally and to speak with AJS staff and board members. Recipients of AJS Graduate Student Travel Grants will also be introduced and honored at
this gathering. Graduate students and early career scholars are also encouraged to attend “Getting the Ph.D. Published,” a session sponsored by the AJS and the Center for Jewish History. This panel, the third event in the AJS/CJH Professional Development Series, will feature editors and a recently published author speaking on the process of preparing a dissertation for publication; developing a book proposal; identifying appropriate presses for the project; and trends in publishing. Scholars at all stages of their careers are also encouraged to attend the many sessions dedicated to pedagogy and Jewish Studies. Please see the Index (p. 143) for a listing of pedagogy sessions.

INTERVIEWS
The AJS has set aside rooms where institutions may conduct job interviews in comfortable surroundings. AJS policy prohibits the use of private guest rooms for interviews and offers confidential scheduling of interviewing facilities. Pre-reservation with the AJS office is required.

SERVICES
The Senators I and Bel Air meeting rooms have been set aside at 4:00 PM on Sunday, 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Monday, and 7:00 AM on Tuesday to accommodate conference participants who wish to organize egalitarian and traditional religious services, respectively.

CHILDCARE
The Parents Childcare Co-op has made arrangements for affordable childcare in the hotel during conference meeting hours. Pre-registration is required. For further information, please contact Andrea Lieber at lieber@dickinson.edu. The children’s program is funded by a grant from the Center for Cultural Judaism (www.culturaljudaism.org). Please note: the Parents Childcare Co-op is an independent initiative and is not sponsored by nor affiliated with the Association for Jewish Studies. The Association for Jewish Studies assumes no liability for the use of these services.

A PERSONAL NOTE
I would like to extend my warmest welcome to you, the members of the AJS and participants in this year’s program. As always, I am delighted to see long-standing friends and colleagues—veterans of the AJS conferences—and take particular pleasure in welcoming new members and those attending the conference for the first time. The organization, and particularly this 41st Annual Conference, reflects the best of your efforts. The conference provides us with a way to keep up with our own and related fields in Jewish Studies, a function that is particularly important for an interdisciplinary organization such as ours. The formal sessions, as well as the informal discussions with colleagues and friends, nourish our scholarly work and energize our teaching. I would like to express a special thanks to Sara Horowitz, President of the AJS, for her support, and to Rona Sheramy, Executive Director of the AJS, for her dedicated and invaluable attention to all aspects of the program. I also thank Kristin Loveland, former AJS Program and Membership Coordinator; Karen Terry, the new AJS Program and Membership Coordinator; Karin Kugel, AJS Webmaster and Program Book Designer; and Aviva Androphy, AJS Program Assistant, for their hard work and attention to detail. I am grateful to Shaul Kelner for his good judgment and help in adjudicating the Graduate Student Travel Grants. I thank the division heads for the close attention they have given this year’s proposals, the members of the program committee for their wise counsel on the shaping of the program, and other volunteers who have shared their time and expertise. Enjoy the conference. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions for next year’s program.

Sincerely,

Marsha Rozenblit
Vice President for Program
CONFERENCE INFORMATION

CONFERENCE FACILITIES

Hyatt Regency Century Plaza, 2025 Avenue of the Stars,
Los Angeles, California, USA 90067
Phone: (310) 228-1234 | Reservations: (800) 233-1234
www.centuryplaza.hyatt.com

CHILD CARE

The Parents Childcare Co-op has made arrangements with Corporate Kids Events to provide affordable childcare during conference meeting hours.

Pre-registration is required.

The children’s program is funded by a grant from the Center for Cultural Judaism.

Contact Andrea Lieber at (717) 245-1482 or lieber@dickinson.edu to register.

Please note: the Parents Childcare Co-op is an independent initiative and is not sponsored by nor affiliated with the Association for Jewish Studies.

The Association for Jewish Studies assumes no liability for use of these services.

VISITING LOS ANGELES

The AJS website has extensive information about visiting Los Angeles, including transportation to and from the airport, cultural sites and activities, and kosher and vegetarian restaurants near the hotel.

Please see www.ajsnet.org/losangeles.html for details.

NEXT YEAR:

THE 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
December 19–21, 2010 at the Westin Copley Place, Boston
Thank you to the

2009 Program Committee

Marsha L. Rozenblit, University of Maryland, Chair
Christine Hayes, Yale University
Judith Hauptman, Jewish Theological Seminary
Gershon Hundert, McGill University
Paula Hyman, Yale University
Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University
Pamela S. Nadell, American University

Wendy Zierler, HUC-JIR
Shira Kohn, New York University, Student Representative

Sara R. Horowitz, York University, ex-officio
Rona Sheramy, Association for Jewish Studies, ex-officio

2009 Division Coordinators

Bible and the History of Biblical Interpretation
Moshe Bernstein
Yeshiva University

Rabbinic Literature and Culture
Azzan Yadin
Rutgers University

Yiddish Studies
Kathryn Hellerstein
University of Pennsylvania

Modern Jewish Thought and Theology
Ken Koltsun-Fromm
Haverford College

Jewish History and Culture in Antiquity
Seth Schwartz
Jewish Theological Seminary

Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, Literature, and Culture
David Berger
Yeshiva University

Modern Jewish History in Europe, Asia, Israel, and Other Communities
Derek Penslar
University of Toronto

Modern Jewish History in the Americas
Beth Wenger
University of Pennsylvania

Israel Studies
S. Ilan Troen
Brandeis University

Holocaust Studies
Jack Kugelmass
University of Florida

Jews and the Arts
Carol Zemel
York University

Social Sciences, Anthropology, and Folklore
Theodore Sasson
Middlebury College / Brandeis University

Gender Studies
Chava Weissler
Lehigh University

Linguistics, Semiotics, and Philology
Benjamin Hary
Emory University

Special Topics, Interdisciplinary
Andrea Most
University of Toronto
The Association for Jewish Studies is pleased to announce the recipients of the

2009 JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS

In the Category of Jews and the Arts:
STEVEN FINE, Yeshiva University
Art and Judaism in the Greco-Roman World:
Toward a New Jewish Archaeology
(Cambridge University Press)

In the Category of Biblical Studies, Rabbinics, and Archaeology:
BENJAMIN D. SOMMER, Jewish Theological Seminary
The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel
(Cambridge University Press)

Please join the AJS for a reception in the authors’ honor on Sunday, December 20, at 9:30 pm in the Constellation Ballroom Foyer.

Information and application procedures for the 2010 competition will be available on the AJS website (www.ajsnet.org) in February of 2010.

Support for this program has been generously provided by the JORDAN SCHNITZER FAMILY FOUNDATION OF PORTLAND, OREGON.
The Association for Jewish Studies welcomes the recipients of the

2009 Eastern European Scholar Travel Grants

Mihai Mindra
(University of Bucharest)
“Strategies of Assimilation and Dissimilation in Interwar Jewish-Romanian Literature”

Michaela Mudure
(Babes-Bolyai University)
“Marta Izsak or What It Means to Be a Jewish Poetess in Romania”

Daria Semchenkova
(Institute of Linguistics, Russian Academy of Sciences)
“Number Symbolism in Phraseological Contexts in Hebrew”

Marzena Zawanska
(Maria Curie-Skłodowska University/University of Warsaw)
“Between the Holy Text and Its Unholy Context: Polemical Overtones in Yefet ben ‘Eli’s Commentary on the Book of Genesis”

The Eastern European Scholar Travel Grant Program has been made possible through the generous support of:

A Friend of the AJS
Taube Foundation
The Association for Jewish Studies is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Cahnman Publication Subvention Grants in support of first books.

**Eugene M. Avrutin**
(University of Illinois)

*Jews and the Imperial State: Identification Politics in Tsarist Russia*
To be published by Cornell University Press

**Yaacob Dweck**
(Princeton University)

*The Scandal of Kabbalah: Leon Modena’s War on Jewish Mysticism*
To be published by Princeton University Press

**Natan Meir**
(Portland State University)

*Kiev, Jewish Metropolis: A History, 1859-1914*
To be published by Indiana University Press

**Marcy Brink-Danan**
(Brown University)

*Cosmopolitan Ethnography: Writing Jewish Difference in Istanbul*
To be published by Indiana University Press

Support for these grants has been generously provided by The Cahnman Foundation of New York.
The Association for Jewish Studies is pleased to announce that it awarded more than 50 travel grants to support scholars presenting research at the AJS 41st annual conference.

The AJS thanks its members and the following foundations and institutions for supporting the AJS Travel Grant Program:

- CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY
- CHARLES AND LYNN SCHUSTERMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION
- LUCIUS N. LITTAUER FOUNDATION
- MAURICE AMADO FOUNDATION
- POSEN FOUNDATION
- TAUBE FOUNDATION
- TIKVAH FUND
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## Sessions at a Glance

**Sunday, December 20, 2009**

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<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>3.9 Bruno Schulz: Reclaiming Diaspora</td>
<td>4.9 Jews in Disguise: Passing, Hiding, Cross-Dressing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encino</td>
<td>3.10 The Dead Sea Scrolls in Context</td>
<td>4.10 Marshall Sklare Memorial Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palisades</td>
<td>3.11 Immigrant Composers in America</td>
<td>4.11 Jewish Consumer Culture in Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherman Oaks</td>
<td>3.12 Women in Rabbinic Literature</td>
<td>4.12 A New Sound in Hebrew Poetry and Prose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governors I</td>
<td>3.13 Double Consciousness after Haskalah</td>
<td>4.13 Continental Philosophy and Jewish Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governors II</td>
<td>3.14 Rosenzweig and Arendt</td>
<td>4.14 Jewish Identity in 20th-Century America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>3.15 “Surviving Remnant” and the Holocaust</td>
<td>4.15 Israeli–Arab Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senators II</td>
<td>3.16 1958 in Israeli Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SUNDAY EVENING

6:15 PM – 6:45 PM  
_Plaza Foyer_

**WELCOME RECEPTION**  
_Sponsored by UCLA Center for Jewish Studies_

6:15 PM – 7:00 PM  
_Westwood Foyer_

**MARSHALL SKLARE AWARD RECEPTION**

6:45 PM – 8:00 PM  
_California Ballroom_

**GALA BANQUET**

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
_California Ballroom_

**PLENARY ADDRESS**  
István Deák: *The Triumph of Compliance?*

9:30 PM – 11:00 PM  
_Westside Room_

**FILM SCREENING:**  
*The Jester (Der Purimspiler)*

### MONDAY MORNING

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM  
_Los Angeles Ballroom_

**GENERAL BREAKFAST**

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM  
_Westside Room_

**WOMEN’S CAUCUS BREAKFAST**

### MEETING ROOMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Room</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Santa Monica | 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM | 5.1  
 |              |  
 | Beverly Hills |            | 5.2  
 |              |              | War in the Israeli Literary Imagination  
 | Olympic I    |            | 5.3  
 |              |              | Identity, Engagement, and Outreach  
 | Olympic II   |            | 5.4  
 |              |              | Space and Place in Jewish Studies  
 | Constellation I |          | 5.5  
 |              |              | The Survey Course beyond Jewish Studies Departments  
 | Constellation II |        | 5.6  
 |              |              | Biblical Literature in its Ancient Setting  
 | Westwood     |            | 5.7  
 |              |              | Sobibór: The History of a Hidden Death Camp  
 | Pacific      |            | 5.8  
 |              |              | Philosophy: Maimonides to 14th Century  
 | Brentwood    |            | 5.9  
 |              |              | American Jews and the State  
 | Encino       |            | 5.10  
 |              |              | Alliance Israélite Universelle: Education within/beyond Borders  
 | Palisades    |            | 5.11  
 |              |              | Borders and Transactions in Rabbinic Literature  
 | Sherman Oaks |            | 5.12  
 |              |              | Southern/Northern Hemisphere Transnationals  
 | Governors I  |            | 5.13  
 |              |              | Monotheism and Its Discontents  
 | Governors II |            | 5.14  
 |              |              | The Bavli in its Sasanian Context  
 | Park         |            | 5.15  
 |              |              | Modern Encyclopedia in Jewish Studies  

*See p. 43 for other receptions.*
## Monday, December 21, 2009

### Rooms at a Glance

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Showroom</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Room</th>
<th>Monday 11:00 AM – 12:45 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Santa Monica</td>
<td>7.1 Jewish History and Thought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>7.2 The Kibbutz in Comparative Perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic I</td>
<td>7.3 Measuring Identity and Religiosity among American Jews</td>
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<td>Olympic II</td>
<td>7.4 Islamic Influence on Jewish Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constellation I</td>
<td>7.5 Centering of the Bible in 17th-Century Amsterdam</td>
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<td>Constellation II</td>
<td>7.6 The Five Original Colleges of Jewish Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westwood</td>
<td>7.7 Holocaust Consciousness in Postwar America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>7.8 New Perspectives on Holocaust Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>7.9 Violence in Rabbinic Discourse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encino</td>
<td>7.10 Israel in/and Contemporary Literature in America and France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palisades</td>
<td>7.11 Audience and Language in Yiddish Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherman Oaks</td>
<td>7.12 Jews in the High and Later Roman Empire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governors I</td>
<td>7.13 Liberals and Antisemitism in Modern Germany</td>
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<td>Governors II</td>
<td>7.14 Messianism and Messianic Ideas in the Middle Ages</td>
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<td>Park</td>
<td>7.15 South African Jewish History</td>
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### Monday Lunch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>AAJR FELLOWS LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senators II</td>
<td>SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI CAUCUS LUNCH</td>
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<td>Los Angeles Ballroom</td>
<td>GENERAL LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westwood</td>
<td>TEACHING, INQUIRY, TEXTS: NEW APPROACHES TO JEWISH EDUCATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encino</td>
<td>PEDAGOGY WORKING GROUP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherman Oaks</td>
<td>THE PRACTICE OF ACADEMIC MENTORING</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEETING ROOM</td>
<td>MONDAY 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Monica</td>
<td>8.1 Getting the Ph.D. Published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>8.2 Israel in the Eyes of Diaspora Jews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic I</td>
<td>8.3 Taubes's Political Theology in Light of Carl Schmitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic II</td>
<td>8.4 Intermarriage and Jewish Trajectories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constellation I</td>
<td>8.5 Directors of Jewish Studies</td>
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<td>Constellation II</td>
<td>8.6 Jewish Intellectual History in Medieval Iberia</td>
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<td>8.7 Imagining the Holocaust</td>
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<td>Pacific</td>
<td>8.8 Philosophical Perspectives on Biblical Texts</td>
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<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>8.9 Age of Haskalah: Radical (Jewish) Enlightenment</td>
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<td>Encino</td>
<td>8.10 Rabbinic Pedagogy and Textuality</td>
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<td>8.12 Jews in the Postbellum South</td>
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<td>8.13 Jewishness in 20th-Century Writing</td>
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<td>8.14 Eastern European Jewish Scholars</td>
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<td>Park</td>
<td>8.15 Hebrew Literature in Comparative Perspective</td>
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<td>TUESDAY MORNING</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 7:30 PM</td>
<td>7:30 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>EARLY EVENING RECEPTIONS</td>
<td>Los Angeles Ballroom</td>
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<td>9:30 PM - 10:30 PM</td>
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<td>LATE EVENING RECEPTIONS</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:30 AM</td>
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<td>Los Angeles Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEETING ROOM</td>
<td>TUESDAY 10:45 AM – 12:45 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Monica</td>
<td>11.1 Working with Survivor Testimony and Memoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>11.2 Rabbinic Concepts of the Body</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic I</td>
<td>11.3 Rethinking Jewish Theology</td>
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<td>Olympic II</td>
<td>11.4 Social Attitudes and Cultural Constructions in Biblical Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constellation I</td>
<td>11.5 Jews and State in East Central Europe</td>
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<td>Constellation II</td>
<td>11.6 Recovering Jewish Women’s Texts</td>
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<td>Westwood</td>
<td>11.7 Jewish Families in Austria, 1918–1938</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>11.8 Hebrew Culture and Its Formative Others</td>
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<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>11.9 Religion, Politics, Ethics</td>
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<td>Encino</td>
<td>11.10 The Politics of American Jewish History</td>
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<td>Palisades</td>
<td>11.11 The Yiddish Press</td>
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<td>Sherman Oaks</td>
<td>11.12 Jews in Medieval/Early Modern Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governors I</td>
<td>11.13 Space, Place, and Gender in Hebrew Fiction</td>
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<td>Governors II</td>
<td>11.14 Jewish Mysticism in the Contemporary World</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>11.15 Religious Life of the Sephardim</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Sunday, December 20, 2009

**General Breakfast** 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM  
*Los Angeles Ballroom*

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

**Registration** 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM  
*California Lounge*

**AJS Business Meeting** 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM  
*Brentwood*

**AJS Board of Directors Meeting** 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM  
*Directors I/II*

**Book Exhibit** 1:00 PM – 6:30 PM  
*California Showroom*

(List of Exhibitors, p. 79)

**Film Screenings** 9:30 AM – 6:30 PM  
*Westside Room*

(List of Films, p. 77)

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**Session 1, Sunday, December 20, 2009**  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

1.1  
*INVERSIONS: RHETORICS IN THE RADICAL CRITIQUE OF ISRAEL*

**Chair:** Kenneth Waltzer (Michigan State University)

- Reconstructions of “Jewish Morality” in Radical Critiques of Israel  
  David Seymour (Lancaster University)
- Europe and Antisemitism: The Grammar of Denial in Radical Critiques of Israel  
  Robert Fine (University of Warwick)
- Conceptualizations of “The Holocaust” in Radical Critiques of Israel  
  David Hirsh (Goldsmiths, University of London)

1.2  
*JEWS–MUSLIM AND JEWS–FRENCH RELATIONS IN FRANCE IN THE WAKE OF THE SECOND INTIFADA*

**Chair and Respondent:** Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

- Grapes of Wrath or Concord in French Sephardic and Arab Movies?  
  Dinah Assouline Stillman (University of Oklahoma)
- Between the Banlieues and the Israeli–Palestinian Conflict  
  Johann Sadock (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- Contested Ground: The Arab–Israel Conflict, Antisemitism, “Communitarianism,” and Jewish Identities in Contemporary France  
  Steven Uran (Centre national de la recherche scientifique)
1.3  **Olympic II**

**BLURRING THE BOUNDARIES: RELIGIOSITY AND SECULARISM IN ISRAEL IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

*Chair:* Uri Cohen (Columbia University)

**Transitioning from Religious vs. Secular to Multiple Identities in Israeli Jewish Consciousness**  
Adina Newberg (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

**Messianic Mysticism and Political Pragmatism in the Teachings of Rabbi Yehuda Amital**  
Motti Inbari (University of North Carolina)

**Coming to Terms with a Religious Upbringing in Religious Zionist Poetry**  
David C. Jacobson (Brown University)

1.4  **Constellation I**

**OUT OF THE ARCHIVE AND INTO VIEW: ALTERING OUR VIEW OF LATIN AMERICAN JEWISH AND SEPHARDIC LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

*Sponsored by the Latin American Jewish Studies Association*

*Chair:* Naomi Eva Lindstrom (University of Texas)

**Iulius Popper: The Making of a Patagonian King**  
Nora Glickman (Queens College/The Graduate Center, CUNY)

**Accented Anthropomorphism: The Work of Frans Krajcberg**  
Laura Felleman Fattal (Temple University)

**Jews in (Cyber)Space: Sephardic Virtual Communities and Their Survival**  
Kenya Dworkiny Mendez (Carnegie Mellon University)

1.5  **Constellation II**

**JEWS AND THEIR NEIGHBORS IN EASTERN EUROPE**

*Chair and Respondent:* Eugene Michael Avrutin (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

**Confronting the State Together: Absolutism and the Triangulation of Polish–Jewish Relations**  
Glenn Dynner (Sarah Lawrence College)

**Russian Neighbors: Zionists in Russia Reflect**  
Brian J. Horowitz (Tulane University)

**Jewish Neighborly Relations in Post-World War II Ukraine**  
Elana Jakel (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

1.6  **Westwood**

**ART AND IDENTITY IN AMERICA**

*Chair:* Judith F. Rosen (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

**George Segal and the Book of Genesis**  
Samantha Baskind (Cleveland State University)

**Post-World War II American Judaism at the Movies**  
Rachel Gordon (Harvard University)

**Lionel Trilling, the Jewish Cosmopolite: The Journey Abandoned**  
Harvey Teres (Syracuse University)
1.7  
**Pacifi c**  
**HOMEWARD(S) BOUND: JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN POSTWAR GERMANY, 1945–1957**  
*Chair:* Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union)  
“The same but different”: Jewish War Brides and Jewish Female DPs in Postwar Germany, 1945–1950  
Robin Judd (Ohio State University)  
Unity through the Formative Force of German Jews? The Central Council of Jews as Connective Encounter  
Andrea Sinn (Ludwig Maximilians University Munich)  
Separation through Daily Interaction? Economic Competition as a Barrier to Jewish DP Integration  
Kierra Cargo-Schneider (University of California, Los Angeles)

1.8  
**Brentwood**  
**PRIMO LEVI, THE HOLOCAUST, AND THE PURPOSE OF WITNESS: REFLECTIONS AND REAPPRAISALS**  
*Chair:* Sharon Portnoff  (Connecticut College)  
Primo Levi and the Narrative of Self  
Nancy Harrowitz (Boston University)  
Primo Levi’s Island of Humanity: Conscience, Subjectivity, Testimony  
Marie Baird (Duquesne University)  
On Primo Levi and the Periodicity of Genocide  
Johan Ahr (Hofstra University)  
*Respondent:* Marla Stone (Occidental College)

1.9  
**Encino**  
**STRANJEWS IN FRENCH PHILOSOPHY**  
*Chair:* Galili Shahar (University of Florida)  
Being Jewish in French Philosophy after Auschwitz: Vladimir Jankélévitch and the Question of Forgiveness  
Jonathan Judaken (University of Memphis)  
Stranjews: From Levinas to Derrida  
Dragan Kujundzic (University of Florida)  
The Geo-political Turn of Levinas  
Santiago Slabodsky (St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan)  
*Respondent:* Annette Aronowicz (Franklin & Marshall College)
1.10 Palisades

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MYSTICISM AND SPIRITUALITY IN TEXT AND PRACTICE

Chair and Respondent: Elliot K. Ginsburg (University of Michigan)

From ELohenu to SpirEL Dynamics: An Evolution of God-consciousness in Contemporary Jewish Mysticism
Aubrey L. Glazer (Independent Scholar)

Ana b’Koach Hits the Israeli Pop Charts: New Trends in Israeli “Secular” Spirituality
Galeet Dardashti (University of Texas at Austin)

The Ambivalence of Bittul: Ethnographic Reflections on a Mystical Tension in Contemporary Habad
Don Seeman (Emory University)

1.11 Sherman Oaks

BETWEEN ARRIVAL AND RETURN: THE IMPACT OF WORLD WAR II ON CZECH JEWISH IDENTITY

Chair and Respondent: Michlean Amir (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

The Czechoslovak Government-in-Exile and the Shaping of Jewish Identity during and after World War II
Jan Lanicek (University of Southampton)

To Terezín and Back: Czech Jews and Their Sense of Place between Theresienstadt and Postwar Czechoslovakia
Anna Hajkova (University of Toronto)

Weil’s Return
Jindrich Toman (University of Michigan)

1.12 Governors I

MEDIEVAL JEWISH CULTURE

Chair: Maud Kozodoy (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Evolution of Story and Its Impact on Scriptural Exegesis in the Middle Ages
Rachel Mikva (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Jewish Astrological Myths
Piergabriele Mancuso (Boston University)

1.13 Governors II

NOT SO FUNNY: SATIRE AND REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISHNESS IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICA

Chair: Marsha Dubrow (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

To Be a Jew: Nathanael West and Modern Jewish Identification
Omar Augustin Moran (Claremont Graduate University)

Satire in Jewish American (Post-) Holocaust Fiction
Steven Fink (Ohio State University)
Session 2, Sunday, December 20, 2009

2.1 TEACHING JUDAIC STUDIES IN A NON-JEWISH SETTING
Chair: Jodi Eichler-Levine (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)
Discussants: Alan J. Avery-Peck (College of the Holy Cross)
Leonard J. Greenspoon (Creighton University)
Ellen M. Umansky (Fairfield University)
Katja Vehlow (University of South Carolina, Columbia)

2.2 NEW YORK JEWISH HISTORY REVISITED
Chair: Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)
Discussants: Jeffrey S. Gurock (Yeshiva University)
Diana Linden (Pitzer College)
Anne Polland (Eugene Lang College, New School for Social Research)
Howard Rock (Florida International University)

2.3 RABBINIC LITERATURE: ANCIENT PREDECESSORS AND LATE REPERCUSSIONS
Chair: Arkady Kovelman (Lomonosov Moscow State University)
Apocalypticism in Pesiqta Rabbati and Its Christian Intertexts
Rivka Ulmer (Bucknell University)
Maimonides and the Talmud: A Paradoxical Relationship
Ari Bergmann (Columbia University)
2.4  
**Olympic II**  
**ISSUES IN HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS**  
*Chair:* Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal (Yale University)  
**Shifting Grammar in the Bible's Representation of Human and Divine Anger**  
Deena Elana Grant (Barry University)  
**Number Symbolism in Phraseological Contexts in Hebrew**  
Daria Semchenkova (Institute of Linguistics, Russian Academy of Sciences)

2.5  
**Constellation I**  
**CAPRICIOUS COUSINS AND UNRELIABLE UNCLEs: JEWS AND NON-JEWS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION WITHIN EARLY MODERN JEWISH COMMUNITIES**  
*Chair and Respondent:* Adam Teller (University of Haifa)  
**The Economic Impact of the *Kehillah* Considered in Different Local Legal Contexts and Cultures**  
Evelyne Oliel-Grausz (Sorbonne)  
**Going to Court: Conflict Resolution among Jewish Merchants in Eighteenth-Century Central Europe**  
Cornelia Aust (University of Pennsylvania)  
**The Role of the “State” in Mediating Intracommunal Conflict: A Case Study of Sephardim in Mid-Seventeenth-Century Amsterdam**  
Jessica Vance Roitman (Birkbeck College, University of London)

2.6  
**Constellation II**  
**DEMOGRAPHY: SMALL TOWNS, BIG CITIES, NATIONAL COMPARISONS**  
*Chair:* Shawn Landres (Jumpstart)  
**Boundaries, Institutions, and Contents: A New Look at Jewish Identification in the United States and Elsewhere**  
Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
**Jewish Identity on the Suburban, Urban, and Rural Frontiers: The Effects of Community Size**  
Matthew Boxer (Brandeis University)

2.7  
**Westwood**  
**POLISH–JEWISH RELATIONS AS THEY EMERGE IN AUTHENTIC VOICES FROM THE HOLOCAUST**  
*Chair:* Natalia Aleksiun (Touro College)  
**Polish–Jewish Relations as Described in David Boder’s Interviews**  
Rosemary Horowitz (Appalachian State University)  
**The Polish Underground Press and the Jewish Question, 1940–1944**  
Joshua Zimmerman (Yeshiva University)  
**Writing the Self and the Limits of Ideology: Maria Dąbrowska’s Jewish Problem**  
Rachel Feldhay Brenner (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
2.8

**JEWISH IRANIAN WOMEN'S WRITING**

*Chair:* Houman Sarshar (Center for Iranian Jewish Oral History)

**The Things They Left Behind**
Judith L. Goldstein (Vassar College)

**Diversity in Jewish Iranian-American Women's Writing**
Nasrin Rahimieh (University of California, Irvine)

**Tales Untold: Memoirs and Novels by Jewish Iranian Women**
Jaleh Pirnazar (University of California, Berkeley)

**Gina Nahai: Reclaiming Jewish Iranian Identity in the American Diaspora**
Moigian Behmand (Dominican University of California)

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2.9

**SPEAKING IN TONGUES: VARIETIES OF EXPRESSION AND AUTHENTICITY IN THE STUDY OF CONTEMPORARY JEWS AND THEIR JEWISHNESS**

*Chair:* Emily Budick (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Narrative, Voice, and Authenticity: A Feminist Approach to the Study of Jewish Identities**
Debra Renee Kaufman (Northeastern University)

**Voices from the Edge: Authenticity as an Element in the Boundary Formation among Young American Jews**
Bethamie Horowitz (New York University)

*Respondent:* Shaul Kelner (Vanderbilt University)

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2.10

**TRANSFORMATIONS OF MODERN JEWISH POLITICS**

*Chair:* Daniel B. Schwartz (George Washington University)

**German-Jewish Negotiations: Religious Registration, Denominationalism, and Secularization in Late Nineteenth-Century Germany**
Deborah Anna Brown (University of California, Los Angeles)

**The First World War, German Nationalism, and the Transformation of German Zionism**
Stefan Vogt (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**The Jewish Labor Bund after 1945: A Reappraisal**
David Slucki (Monash University)

**1968 and the Central European Jewish Intelligentsia: Historical Turning Point?**
Malachi Hacohen (Duke University)

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2.11

**TRAVEL AND ETHNOGRAPHY IN YIDDISH LITERATURE**

*Chair:* Ellen D. Kellman (Brandeis University)

**Jews in Search of the Exotic: The Peculiar World of Twentieth-Century Yiddish Travelogues**
Yuri Vedenyapin (Columbia University)

**Yiddish on the Pampas**
Lee Williams (Touro College South)

**“What it means to be Benjamin”: The Picaresque Hero and Jewish Social Pathology**
Miriam Udel (Emory University)
2.12  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009**  
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM  

**Sherman Oaks**

**JEWS CHILDREN AFTER THE HOLOCAUST**

Chair: Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)

**Predictable and Unpredictable Possibilities of a New Life: The Rescued Jewish Children in Postwar Poland**
Joanna B. Michlic (Brandeis University)

**Jewish Comedy after Auschwitz? The Case of Unzere Kinder (Our Children)**
Gabriel N. Finder (University of Virginia)

**Trauma, Childhood, and the Holocaust in Postwar Hungarian Cinema**
Catherine Portuges (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

**Respondent:** Diane Wolf (University of California, Davis)

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2.13  

**Governors I**

**GENDER, COMMUNITY, FAMILY: PERSPECTIVES ON JEWISH MASCULINITY AND FEMININITY IN THE AGE OF IMMIGRATION**

Chair: Maura Hametz (Old Dominion University)

**“A hopeless and dejected lot”: Jewish Masculinity, Migration, and the Family in Britain, 1881–1914**
Hannah Ewence (University of Southampton)

**Women’s Work: Jewish Women’s Philanthropy and Gender Identity in Late Nineteenth-Century Chicago**
Hannah Farmer (University of Southampton)

**The Personal Is Political: The Autobiography of Rose Pastor Stokes**
Regina Morantz-Sanchez (University of Michigan)

**Respondent:** Susan L. Tananbaum (Bowdoin College)

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2.14  

**Governors II**

**THE FLESH MADE WORD: CONCEPTIONS OF THE BODY IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT**

Chair: Claire Sufrin (Northeastern University)

**Religion of Embodied Reason: Hermann Cohen and the Methodological Significance of the Body**
Daniel Weiss (University of Virginia)

**Encounter and Embodiment in Martin Buber’s Philosophical Anthropology**
William Plevan (Princeton University)

**The Politics of Carnal Israel: Jewish Bodies, Theology, and Genocide**
Elliot Ratzman (Temple University)

**Respondent:** Asher D. Biemann (University of Virginia)
ISSUES IN GENESIS AND ITS INTERPRETATION
Chair: Steven P. Weitzman (Stanford University)
Between the Holy Text and Its Unholy Context: Polemical Overtones in Yefet ben ‘Eli’s Commentary on the Book of Genesis
Marzena Bogna Zawanowska (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University/University of Warsaw)
The Death of Isaac
Tzemah Yoreh (American Jewish University)
Abraham: A God-fearing Man or a Knight of Faith
Charlotte Katzoff (Bar-Ilan University)

GENERAL LUNCH  1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Los Angeles Ballroom
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

Session 3, Sunday, December 20, 2009  2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MYTHIC ZION: ENVISIONING BIROBIDZHAN ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC
Chair: David Shneer (University of Colorado)
Mythic Zion: Envisioning Birobidzhan as a Jewish Utopia
Matthew B. Hoffman (Franklin & Marshall College)
Between Two Zions: Semyon Gekht’s A Steamship Sails to Yaffo and Back and the Soviet Wandering Jew
Sasha Senderovich (Harvard University)
Birobidzhan and the American Jewish Community: The Campaign to Settle Children Orphaned by the Holocaust in the Jewish Autonomous Region
Henry Srebrnik (University of Prince Edward Island)

JEISH PAST, JEWISH PRESENT, JEWISH FUTURE: THE ROLE OF THE HISTORIAN
Chair: Yehuda Kurtzer (Brandeis University)
Discussants: David Berger (Yeshiva University)
Robert Chazan (New York University)
Robin Judd (Ohio State University)
Aaron D. Panken (HUC-JIR)
Jack Wertheimer (Jewish Theological Seminary)
3.3 **MAJOR ISSUES IN THE HISTORY OF THE KIBBUTZ**
*Chair and Respondent:* Eliezer Ben-Rafael (Tel-Aviv University)

- **One Hundred Years of Kibbutz: Gender, Utopia, and Social Change**
  Sylvie Bijaoui (The College of Management Academic Studies)

- **Kibbutz and Aliyah: Symbiotic Relations**
  Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel)

- **“To put a skullcap on the kibbutz head”: Attempts to Install Jewish Tradition into Kibbutz Life**
  Dina Porat (Tel-Aviv University)

3.4 **APPROACHES TO TEACHING “INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH STUDIES”**

*Sponsored by the AJS Working Group on Pedagogy*

*Chair:* Justin Cammy (University of California, Los Angeles/Smith College)

*Discussants:*
- Todd M. Endelman (University of Michigan)
- Cecile E. Kuznitz (Bard College)
- Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)
- Bruce Rosenstock (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
- Miriam Udel (Emory University)

3.5 **(RE)ARTICULATING THE SEPHARDIC AMERICAS**

*Chair:* Joëlle Bahloul (Indiana University)

- **The Sephardic Presence in the Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Colombian Caribbean**
  Paula Daccarett (Independent Scholar)

- **Making Jews “Sephardic” in Early Twentieth-Century New York**
  Devin Naar (Stanford University)

- **Reconfiguring Identities: Zionism and Sefaradismo in Argentina, Post-1948**
  Adriana Brodsky (St. Mary’s College of Maryland)

- **Árabes vs. Árabes Light: Ethnonyms and the Sephardi–Mizrahi Distinction in Mexico City**
  Evelyn Dean (Indiana University)

3.6 **TURNING OVER KIDDUSHIN**

*Chair:* Rachel R. Adler (University of Southern California)

- **By Any Other Name?: Kiddushin, Same-Sex Relationships, and Halakhic Discourse in the Liberal Movements**
  Gail Labovitz (American Jewish University)

- **Consenting to Sex in the Framework of Marriage as Acquisition and the “Softer Patriarchy”**
  Melanie Malka Landau (Monash University)

- **“Getting married” and “Saying ‘I do’”: Kiddushin and the Theory of Speech Acts**
  Ariella Radwin (University of California, Los Angeles)

*Respondent:* Aryeh Cohen (American Jewish University)
3.7 Westwood

CRYPTO-JUDAISM IN THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES: ASSESSING THE EVIDENCE
Chair: Jane S. Gerber (The Graduate Center, CUNY)
Assessing the Evidence for the Existence of Crypto-Judaism in the Southwestern United States
Seth D. Kunin (Durham University)
Genetic-Ethnographic Research on Verifiable and Purported Crypto-Jews: Solving the Cultural Puzzle
Judith Neulander (Case Western Reserve University)
Genetic-Ethnographic Research on Verifiable and Purported Crypto-Jews: Solving the Genetic Puzzle
Wesley Knight Sutton (New York University)

3.8 Pacific

CATEGORIES, BOUNDARIES, AND BORDERS IN JEWISH CULTURAL STUDIES
Chair and Respondent: Jonathan Freedman (University of Michigan)
The New “New Pluralism”
Dean Franco (Wake Forest University)
Disappearing Jews and the Challenges of Cultural Studies
Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)
J/je/jew/juif/Jude: The Translated Jew
Leslie Morris (University of Minnesota)

3.9 Brentwood

BRUNO SCHULZ: RECLAIMING DIASPORA
Chair: Maya Balakirsky-Katz (Touro College)
Into the Now: Post-Theological Adaptations of the Messianic in Bruno Schulz and Walter Benjamin
Karen Underhill (University of Chicago)
Bruno Schulz’s Booke of Idolatry: Jewish Modernism and Jewish Desire
Carol Zemel (York University)
Judaism as Surrealism: Wojciech Has’s Cinematic Treatment of Bruno Schulz in The Hourglass Sanatorium (1973)
Andrew Ingall (The Jewish Museum, New York)
THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS IN CONTEXT
Chair: Hindy Najman (University of Toronto)
Purity as Separation: Comparing the Dead Sea Scrolls, Rabbinic Literature, and the New Testament
Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)
Taming the Wild and Wilding the Tame: The Shifting Relationships between Humans, God, and Nature in the Qumran and Rabbinic Calendars
Ron H. Feldman (Graduate Theological Union)
Connecting the Dots in the History of Halakhah: The Restriction on Thinking about Labor on the Sabbath in the Dead Sea Scrolls, Jubilees, and Rabbinic Literature
Alex P. Jassen (University of Minnesota)
The Current State of the Archaeological Debate at Qumran
Robert R. Cargill (University of California, Los Angeles)

JEWISH COUNTERPOINTS: IMMIGRANT COMPOSERS IN THE EARLY-TO MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
Chair: Hasia R. Diner (New York University)
Composer Leo Zeitlin in New York
Paula Eisenstein Baker (University of St. Thomas, Houston)
From Immigrant to Insider: The American Journey of Jewish Cultural Catalyst and Composer Lazar Weiner
Marsha Dubrow (The Graduate Center, CUNY)
Between Reform Temples and MGM Studios: Jewish Emigrant Composers and American Modernism
Assaf Shelleg (Washington University in St. Louis)

REAL AND IMAGINED WOMEN IN RABBINIC LITERATURE
Chair: David Brodsky (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)
“The wise woman from Saida”: The Silent Dialogue between Aggadah and Halakhah Regarding Women and Marriage
Arnon Atzmon (Bar-Ilan University)
Becoming Human: Some Rabbinic Conceptions of Embryology and Fetal Development
Tirzah Meacham (University of Toronto)
Gentile Midwives and Wet-nurses and Dead Jewish Babies: B. Avodah Zarah 26a
Michael Pitkowsky (Jewish Theological Seminary)
3.13  **Governors I**

**SELF/ANTI-SELF: JEWISH DOUBLE CONSCIOUSNESS AFTER THE HASKALAH**
*Chair:* Alice Nakhimovsky (Colgate University)

**Playing House: Family Fictions and the Poetics of Personality in the Correspondence between Sholem Aleichem and Mendele the Bookpeddler**  
Olga Litvak (Clark University)

**Portrait of the Artist as a Young Idiot: Sholem Aleichem’s *Di freylakhe kompanye***  
Marcus Moseley (Northwestern University)

**The Third Sex: Jewish Feminism and the Question of Public and Private in the Age of Collectivist Politics**  
Kenneth B. Moss (The Johns Hopkins University)

*Respondent:* Alyssa P. Quint (Princeton University)

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3.14  **Governors II**

**ROSENZWEIG AND ARENDT**
*Chair:* Hava Tirosh-Samuelson (Arizona State University)

**“The best path to Marcionism”: Franz Rosenzweig’s Conversions Reconsidered**  
Benjamin Pollock (Michigan State University)

**“The light of the public obscures everything”: Arendt and the Public Threat of Political Theology**  
Benjamin Aldes Wurgaft (University of California, Berkeley)

**“That a beginning be made . . .”: On Messianic Strains in the Work of Hannah Arendt**  
Daniel Brandes (University of King's College)

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3.15  **Park**

**SURVIVAL, JUSTICE, AND REHABILITATION: THE “SURVIVING REMNANT” AND THE HOLOCAUST**
*Chair:* Gabriel N. Finder (University of Virginia)

**“Justice, justice shalt thou pursue”: Jewish Displaced Persons and the Question of Retributive Justice in Allied-Occupied Germany**  
Laura Jockusch (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**Reimagining the Unimaginable: Memory, Theater, and Rehabilitation in the Displaced Persons’ Camps**  
Margarete Feinstein (Claremont McKenna College)

**Soviet Central Asia and Iran: Sites of Refuge and Relief for European Jews during World War II**  
Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union)

*Respondent:* Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)

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3.16  **Senators II**

**1958, ONE YEAR IN ISRAELI LITERATURE: REFLECTIONS ON HISTORIOGRAPHY**
*Chair and Respondent:* David C. Jacobson (Brown University)

**Presenter:** Arnold J. Band (University of Los Angeles, California)

*Respondent:* William Cutter (HUC-JIR)
Session 4, Sunday, December 20, 2009

4.1 Santa Monica

PAST PROGRESSIVE, FUTURE MORE PERFECT: PROSPECTS FOR THE STUDY OF JEWISH ANTIQUITY AT THE AJS AND BEYOND

Chair: Ra’anan Boustan (University of California, Los Angeles)

Discussants: Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)
Paula Fredriksen (Boston University)
Hindy Najman (University of Toronto)
Michael D. Swartz (Ohio State University)
Steven P. Weitzman (Stanford University)

4.2 Beverly Hills

HOLOCAUST HISTORY AND HOLOCAUST MEMORY FROM THE POSTWAR PERIOD TO THE PRESENT

Chair: Gabriel Finder (University of Virginia)

“Children don’t lie!” Children’s Testimonies as Historical Sources
Boaz Cohen (Western Galilee College/Shaanan College)

Embodied Memory: The Mediation of Archived Holocaust Testimony in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Noah Shenker (McMaster University)

Creating Collective Memory: The Postwar Lives of Hidden Children
Diane Wolf (University of California, Davis)

Displaced Children: Life in America after the Holocaust
Beth Cohen (California State University, Northridge)

4.3 Olympic I

JEWISH MILITARY AND CIVIL EMPOWERMENT DURING THE GREAT WAR

Chair: Robin Judd (Ohio State University)

Jewish Empowerment during the Great War: The Halakhic Dimension
Stuart Cohen (Bar-Ilan University)

The Symbol of the “Promised Land” as a Source of Jewish Empowerment during the Great War
Michael Keren (University of Calgary)

Seizing the Day: Jewish Self-Government in Russia during the Great War
Simon Rabinovich (Boston University)

The Experience of Jewish Soldiers in the German Army in the Great War
David Fine (The Graduate Center, CUNY)
4.4  
**Olympic II**

**CREATING A CANON IN AMERICAN JEWISH WOMEN’S WRITING**  
*Chair:* Judith R. Baskin (University of Oregon)  
*Who’s in and Who’s out and How Do We Decide? Framing a Discussion of Teaching Jewish Women's Writing*  
Judith M. Lewin (Union College)  
*From Dr. Fried to Sarah, Tig, and Miri: Female Jewish Identities in Joanne Greenberg's Four Decades of Fiction*  
Gail Sherman (Reed College)  
*Canon Fodder? The Case of Linda Pastan*  
Anne Lapidus Lerner (Jewish Theological Seminary)

4.5  
**Constellation I**

**JEWS AS MUSLIMS/MUSLIMS AS JEWS**  
*Chair and Respondent:* Susan Miller (University of California, Davis)  
*Fashioning Imperial Citizens in Turkish Style: Ottoman Jews and Auto-Orientalism*  
Julia Cohen (Vanderbilt University)  
*Common Culture, Survival Strategy, or Useful Foil? Jews and Muslimness in Twentieth-Century France*  
Ethan Katz (University of Cincinnati)  
*Performing Cosmopolitanism: Turkish Jews, Secularism, and Islam in Istanbul*  
Marcy Brink-Danan (Brown University)  
*Masquerade Politics: Berbers, Jews, and Racial Passing in Southern Morocco*  
Paul Silverstein (Reed University)

4.6  
**Constellation II**

**DID THE JEWS HAVE A RENAISSANCE?**  
*Chair:* Naomi Grunhaus (Yeshiva University)  
*Language, Rhetoric, and the Question of a Jewish “Renaissance”*  
Daniel Stein Kokin (University of Oregon)  
*Did Ashkenazic Women in Northern Italy Have a Renaissance? New Evidence from an Early Yiddish Manuscript (1504)*  
Harry Fox (University of Toronto)  
*Was There a Canon of Bible Commentaries in Early Modern Italian Jewish Culture?*  
Adam B. Shear (University of Pittsburgh)
4.7  
**MEMORY AND PLACE**

*Chair:* Shelley Hornstein (York University)

**From Buczacz to Szibucz: Memory and Commemoration of Place in *A Guest for the Night* by Agnon**
Shirli Sela-Levavi (Rutgers University)

**Midrash, Memory, and Dream: Jacob’s Ladder, the Temple Mount, and the Foundation Stone of the World**
Rachel Adelman (Miami University)

**“Jewish Town” Built in the Twentieth Century: The New Leopold Town in Budapest during the 1930s**
Rudolf Klein (Saint Stephen University)

*Respondent:* Berel Lang (Wesleyan University)

4.8  
**NARRATIVE VOICE IN THE REDACTION OF RABBINIC TEXTS**

*Chair:* Richard Hidary (Yeshiva University)

**“This Mishnah was taught in the days of Rabbi”: On the Development of the Terms *Mishnah* and *Talmud* in the Bavli and Yerushalmi**
Aaron Neale Amit (Bar-Ilan University)

**The Role of the “One Hasid” Stories in Halakhic Contexts in the Babylonian Talmud**
Yonatan Feintuch (Bar-Ilan University)

**A Story in Three Contexts: On the Relation of Halakhic and Non-Halakhic Material in the Redaction of Rabbinic Works**
Binyamin Katzoff (Bar-Ilan University)

**Humor, Violence, and Resignation: Elijah Tries to Bring the Messiah**
Kris Lindbeck (Florida Atlantic University)

4.9  
**JEWS IN DISGUISE: PASSING, HIDING, CROSS-DRESSING**

*Chair:* Edna Nahshon (Jewish Theological Seminary)

**Remarkable Self-Possession: Disguise and Personal Power in Biblical Narrative**
Lori H. Lefkovitz (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

**White Face, White Noise, White Christmas: Irving Berlin’s *Holiday Inn***
Elliott Shapiro (Cornell University)

**Self-Inflicted Wounds: The Fantasized Witness of Binjamin Wilkomirski**
Gordon Tapper (LaGuardia Community College, CUNY)

**Performing Jewish Memory in Tykocin: From *Purimspiel* to Polish Masquerade**
Brigitte Sion (New York University)

4.10  
**MARSHALL SKLARE MEMORIAL LECTURE**

*Sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry (ASSJ)*

*Chair:* Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)

**Social Networks and Jews**
Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)

*Respondent:* Paul Burstein (University of Washington)
4.11 **Palisades**

**BUYING AND SELLING IN THE METROPOLIS: SITES OF JEWISH CONSUMER CULTURE IN MODERN GERMANY**

Chair and Respondent: Sharon I. Gillerman (HUC-JIR)

Down and Out in Berlin: Patterns of Consumption and Violence in the Scheunenviertel after World War I  
Molly Loberg (California Polytechnic State University)

Between Zwickau and Jerusalem: Salman Schocken, Modern Consumption, and the Search for Jewish Culture  
Paul Lerner (University of Southern California)

Jewish Women in Style: Promoting Consumer Goods in Weimar Jewish Periodicals  
Kerry Wallach (University of Pennsylvania)

4.12 **Sherman Oaks**

**SEMINAR: A NEW SOUND IN HEBREW POETRY AND PROSE**

Chair: Olga Litvak (Clark University)

The Poetics and Politics of a New Sound in Hebrew Poetry  
Miryam Segal (Queens College, CUNY)

The Politics of Prose and the Politics of Poetry: Inside the Struggle over Ashkenazic Hebrew Pronunciation  
Rachel Albeck-Gidron (Bar-Ilan University)

Respondents: Shmuel Bolozky (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)  
Vered Shemtov (Stanford University)

4.13 **Governors I**

**CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY AND THE DEMAND OF JEWISH LITERATURE**

Chair: Monica Osborne (University of California, Los Angeles)

Discussants: Menachem Feuer (Ryerson University)  
Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University)  
Adam Zachary Newton (Yeshiva University)

4.14 **Governors II**

**SCHOOL, CAMP, STUDENT MOVEMENT: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CREATING JEWISH IDENTITY IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICA**

Chair: Jeffrey S. Gurock (Yeshiva University)

Recreation and Identity Creation: The Early History of Camp Cejwin  
Miriam Heller Stern (American Jewish University)

Defining and Defending American Orthodox Girlhood: The Case of the Bais Yaakov Schools  
Leslie Ginsparg (New York University)

The Soviet Jewry Movement and the Transformation of American Jewish Identity  
Jonathan Krasner (HUC-JIR)
THE ISRAELI–ARAB CONFLICT: CONSCIOUSNESS AND CONCILIATION
Chair: Mark Raider (University of Cincinnati)
The Formation of National Consciousness among Israelis and Palestinians: Uses and Constraints of the Past
Jacob Lassner (Northwestern University)
Who Is Pharaoh, Who Are the Slaves? Introducing the Arab–Israeli Conflict into Passover
Corinna R. Kaiser (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Interlocking Conflicts: The Impact of the Palestinian Issue on Jewish–Arab Relations inside Israel
Yitzhak Reiter (Ashkelon Academic College)

Sunday, December 20, 2009  Evening Program

MARSHALL SKLARE  6:15 PM – 7:00 PM  Westwood Foyer
AWARD RECEPTION
Sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry; Brandeis University Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies; Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion; and Yale University Program in Judaic Studies. Open to all conference registrants.

WELCOME RECEPTION  6:15 PM – 6:45 PM  Plaza Foyer
Sponsored by UCLA Center for Jewish Studies. Open to all conference registrants.

GALA BANQUET  6:45 PM  Los Angeles Ballroom
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)
Sponsored by:
California State University at Northridge, Jewish Studies Interdisciplinary Program
Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion
Indiana University, Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program
Jewish Theological Seminary, The Graduate School
Northwestern University, The Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies
San Francisco State University, Department of Jewish Studies
Stanford University, Taube Center for Jewish Studies
Tablet Magazine
Tulane University, Jewish Studies Program
University of Arizona, Arizona Center for Judaic Studies
UCLA, Center for Jewish Studies
UCLA, Maurice Amado Program in Sephardic Studies
University of Chicago, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies
University of Hartford, Maurice Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies
University of Michigan, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies
**PLenary Session** 8:00 PM  
*Los Angeles Ballroom*  
*Introduction: Marsha Rozenblit (University of Maryland)*  

**THE TRIUMPH OF COMPLIANCE? JEWISH SURVIVAL IN BUDAPEST AT THE TIME OF THE HUNGARIAN HOLOCAUST, 1944-1945**  
Professor István Deák (Seth Low Professor Emeritus, Columbia University)  

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**Film** 9:30 PM  
*Westside Room*  
**THE JESTER (DER PURIMSPILER)**  
Yiddish, with English subtitles (1937)  
Directed by Joseph Green and Jan Nowina-Przybylski (90 minutes)  
Film courtesy of the National Center for Jewish Film.  

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**JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS RECEPTION** 9:30 PM  
*Constellation Foyer*  
*In honor of the 2009 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award recipients. Sponsored by the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation and the Association for Jewish Studies. Open to all conference registrants.*  

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**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF ISRAEL RECEPTION** 9:30 PM  
*Olympic Foyer*  
*To introduce AJS members to The Open University’s various courses and programs in Jewish Studies. Sponsored by The Open University of Israel. Open to all conference registrants.*  

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**Monday, December 21, 2009**

**GENERAL BREAKFAST** 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM  
*Los Angeles Ballroom*  
*(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)*

**WOMEN’S CAUCUS BREAKFAST** 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM  
*Westside Room*  
*(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)*

**AJS REVIEW EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING** 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM  
*Regents*

**REGISTRATION** 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM  
*California Lounge*

**BOOK EXHIBIT** 9:00 AM – 6:30 PM  
*California Showroom*

**FILM SCREENINGS** 10:30 AM – 6:30 PM  
*Westside Room*
Session 5, Monday, December 21, 2009

5.1 MYSTICISM IN CONTEXT
Chair: Glenn Dynner (Sarah Lawrence College)
Heikhalot Literature and the Boundaries of Rabbinic Culture
Ra’anan Boustan (University of California, Los Angeles)
The Politics of Secrets: Thirteenth-Century Kabbalah in Context
Hartley Lachter (Muhlenberg College)
Cet obscur objet du désir: Jakub Frank and the Black Madonna of Czestochowa
Pawel Maciejko (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
A Redeeming Context: Hasidic Piety and East European Jewish Book Culture
Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern (Northwestern University)
Respondent: Matt Goldish (Ohio State University)

5.2 WAR IN THE ISRAELI LITERARY IMAGINATION
Chair: Rachel S. Harris (University at Albany, SUNY)
All Quiet Flows the Jordan? Russian and Israeli War Novels, 1940–1960
Shai Ginsburg (Duke University)
Syndicating a View of War: Dina Rubina and the Case of Russian Immigrants
Anna P. Ronell (Wellesley College)
From IDF to .pdf: War Poetry in the Israeli Digital Age
Adriana Jacobs (Princeton University)
Respondent: Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)

5.3 NEXT GENERATION: IDENTITY, ENGAGEMENT, AND OUTREACH
Chair: Fern Chertok (Brandeis University)
Taglit-Birthright Israel: Where Does the Journey Lead?
Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University)
J-How: Organizational Strategies for Reaching Los Angeles Jews in Their Twenties and Thirties
Julie Childers (Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles)
Hipster Frumkeit: Cosmopolitan Jewish Young Adults Choosing Parochialism in San Francisco's Mission District
Tobin Belzer (University of Southern California)
Young Adult Jewish Identities
Theodore Sasson (Middlebury College)
5.4  
**SPACE AND PLACE IN JEWISH STUDIES**  
*Chair:* Barbara Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
The Limits of Space and Place: Spatial Categories and the Case of Rabbinic Urban Boundaries  
Gil P. Klein (Franklin & Marshall College)  
Space for Reflection: Urban Environments, Synagogues, and Methodological Approaches to Jewish History  
Saskia Coenen Snyder (University of South Carolina)  
Rhythmanalysis and the Jewish City: Representations of Jewish Urban Rhythms  
Vered Shemtov (Stanford University)  
Spatial Practice and Diasporic Imaginings: The Structural Dynamics of Israel Experience Tourism  
Shaul Kelner (Vanderbilt University)  
*Respondent:* Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)

5.5  
**TEACHING THE SURVEY COURSE: THE PEDAGOGY OF INCLUDING MEANINGFUL JEWISH SUBJECT MATTER IN SURVEY COURSES OUTSIDE THE JEWISH STUDIES DEPARTMENT**  
*Chair:* Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)  
*Discussants:*  
Hasia R. Diner (New York University)  
Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)  
Kenneth R. Seeskin (Northwestern University)

5.6  
**BIBLICAL LITERATURE IN ITS ANCIENT SETTING**  
*Chair:* Benjamin D. Sommer (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
What Is a Scribe?  
Robert Kawashima (University of Florida)  
Warrior Culture in Early Israel and the “Voice” of David in 2 Samuel 1  
Mark Smith (New York University)  
The Gideon Story as an Expression of the Sovereign’s Day of Conquest  
Shawn Zelig Aster (Yeshiva College)  
Esther and Benjaminite Kingship: A Study in Allusion  
Yitzhak Berger (Hunter College, CUNY)

5.7  
**RETURN TO SOBIBÓR: UNCOVERING THE HISTORY OF A HIDDEN DEATH CAMP**  
*Chair:* Michael G. Berenbaum (American Jewish University)  
Erasing History: Sobibór, Jewish History, and the Holocaust  
Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)  
Return to Sobibór: Using Archaeology and Geophysics to Aid Historical Research  
Richard A. Freund (University of Hartford)  
Narrating Sobibór: Reflections on the Representation of Jewish Heroism  
Stuart Liebman (Queens College/The Graduate Center, CUNY)
5.8

PHILOSOPHY AND PHILOSOPHIC CULTURE FROM MAIMONIDES TO THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY
Chair: Aaron W. Hughes (University at Buffalo, SUNY)

Philosophy as a Way of Life in the Writings of Moses Maimonides: A Study in the Philosophical Virtues
Elisha Russ-Fishbane (Princeton University)

The Apex of Philosophic Culture in Hebrew: East of the Rhône in the Fourteenth Century
Gregg Stern (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Faraj Ben Sâlim and the Jewish Translators of the Thirteenth-Century Kingdom of Sicily: Jewish Philosophy, Islamic Science, and the Politics of Translation
Lucia Finotto (Brandeis University)

The Moral Epistemology of Moral Tradition: A Defense of a Maimonidean Thesis
Jonathan Aaron Jacobs (Colgate University)

5.9

AMERICAN JEWS AND THE STATE
Chair: Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)

Constitutionality in California: National Jewish Organizations and the Battle over State-Sponsored Legislation to End Discrimination in the Greek System
Shira Kohn (New York University)

“It makes no difference whether a man’s name be Kaz or Cohen or Montmorency”: Jews and Name-Changing in the United States in World War II
Kirsten L. Fermaglich (Michigan State University)

The Representative of American Jewry: The World War I Jewish Welfare Board and State Power
Jessica S. Cooperman (Muhlenberg College)

Respondent: Eric L. Goldstein (Emory University)

5.10

Chair: Joy A. Land (University of Connecticut, Stamford)

Universalism in Conflict with National Interests: The Ideas of the Alliance Israélite Universelle in Galicia, 1860–1918
Bjoern Siegel (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Competing for Mendelssohn’s Legacy: German Jewish Pedagogy within the Alliance Israélite Universelle
Carsten L. Wilke (University of Duisburg, Germany)

Spanish Colonialism in Morocco and the Alliance Israélite Universelle (1898–1936)
Isabelle Rohr (Rowan University)

The American Friends of the Alliance: France, French Colonialism, and Sephardic Identity in the United States
Nadia Malinovich (Sciences-Po, Paris)

Respondent: Jeffrey Haus (Kalamazoo College)
5.11 Palisades

BORDERS AND TRANSACTIONS IN RABBINIC LITERATURE
Chair: Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Light on the Mishnah from Roman Law: The Case of mKetubbot 13:7
Leib Moscovitz (Bar-Ilan University)

Rabbinic Fences and Halakhic Neighbors: Local Geography in Rabbinic Legislation
Yehuda Kurtzer (Brandeis University)

Rabbinic Trade Regulations: An Economic Perspective
Yehudah Cohn (Oxford University)

5.12 Sherman Oaks

SOUTHERN/NORTHERN HEMISPHERE TRANSNATIONALS: THE JEWISH CONNECTION
Sponsored by the Western Jewish Studies Association
Chair: Lawrence Baron (San Diego State University)

Pacific Rim Transnationals: The Untold Story of How Jews from Down Under Influenced the Birth of San Francisco Jewry
Ava F. Kahn (California Studies Association)

Creating Transnational Connections: Australia and California
Suzanne D. Rutland (University of Sydney)

Prairie and Pampas: Jewish Settler Narratives from the North Dakota Plains and the Argentine Pampas
Eleanor Kaufman (University of California, Los Angeles)

Respondent: Adam Mendelsohn (College of Charleston)

5.13 Governors I

MONOTHEISM AND ITS DISCONTENTS
Chair: Elliot Ratzman (Temple University)

Humane Intolerance: Kant, Cohen, and the Monotheism Debate
Robert Erlewine (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Monotheism as a Political Problem: A Case for Biblical Exceptionalism
Bruce Rosenstock (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Different Universalisms, Universal Differences: Moses and Paul
Eliza F. Slavet (University of California, San Diego)

Respondent: Martin Kavka (Florida State University)
5.14  THE BAVLI IN ITS SASANIAN CONTEXT  
Chair: Robert Brody (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
Fifth- and Sixth-Century Redactions Compared: The Bavli, the Pahlavi Videvdad, and Herbedestan  
Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)  
Hirhurei ‘aveirah ke-‘aveirah damei (Thoughts of Sin Are Akin to Sin): The Importance of Good Thoughts in Zoroastrianism and the Development of a Babylonian Rabbinic Motif  
David Brodsky (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)  
King Herod in Ardashir’s Court: The Bavli Story of Herod (Bava Batra 3b–4a) in Light of Sasanian Sources  
Jeffrey L. Rubenstein (New York University)  

5.15  THE MODERN ENCYCLOPEDIA IN JEWISH STUDIES  
Chair: Zachary Baker (Stanford University)  
Discussants: Gershon Hundert (McGill University)  
Phillip Lieberman (Vanderbilt University)  
Norman Stillman (University of Oklahoma)  

Poster Session/Book Exhibit  10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  
California Showroom  

COFFEE BREAK  

Session 6.1, Monday, December 21, 2009  10:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
California Showroom  

POSTER SESSION  
Creatures from before the Flood: Reconciling Science and Genesis in Ha-Tsefirah  
Jeffrey C. Blutinger (California State University, Long Beach)  
Cristiana Facchini (University of Bologna)  
Becoming Persian: Illuminating Iranian American Jewish life in Los Angeles by Shelley Gazin  
A Council on the Humanities Documentary Project  
Shelley Gazin (Independent Artist)  
The Forgotten: Soviet Holocaust Films  
Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)  
If Jeremiah Wrote It, It Must Be OK: On the Attribution of Lamentations to Jeremiah in Early Rabbinic Texts  
Jason Kalman (HUC-JIR)  
Jewish Homegrown History as Social Network  
Marsha Kinder (University of Southern California)
Jewish Women and Family Law: Yemen and Palestine
Bar-Zion Eraqi Klorman (The Open University of Israel)

Spiritual but Not Religious: Gender Ramifications of Faith among Secular Israeli Jews
Hagar Lahav (Sapir College)

Tomer Levi (Brandeis University)

On-Line Resources for Latin American Jewish Studies
Naomi Eva Lindstrom (University of Texas)

Ashkenazi Minhagim Literature in the Century before the Black Plague
Rachel Zohn Mincer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Strategies of Assimilation and Dissimilation in Interwar Jewish-Romanian Literature
Mihai Mindra (University of Bucharest)

Marta Izsak or What It Means to Be a Jewish Poetess in Romania
Michaela Mudure (Babes-Bolyai University)

Close Encounters in Sephardic and Latin American Jewish Studies: Resources for Scholarship and Teaching
Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University)

Toward Polish Jewry’s Social Death
Meghann Theresa Pytka (Northwestern University)

Animating the Collection: JAMS Preserve, ARKS Salvage
Technology sponsored by the Posen Foundation
Melissa Shiff (University of Toronto)

Translator of Empire: Semyon Fridlyand in the Soviet Union
Technology sponsored by the Posen Foundation
David Shneer (University of Colorado)

Session 7, Monday, December 21, 2009

7.1 Jewish History and Jewish Thought: Conversation Partners or Two Solitudes?
Santa Monica
Sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research
Chair: Derek J. Penslar (University of Toronto)

Jewish Philosophers and Jewish Historians: Can We Learn from Each Other?
David Novak (University of Toronto)

Jewish Emancipation: Between Theory and Practice
David J. Sorkin (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Jewish Political Theory between Philosophy and History
David N. Myers (University of California, Los Angeles)
Respondent: David J. Biale (University of California, Davis)
7.2  
**THE KIBBUTZ IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES**  
Chair and Respondent: Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel)  
Connections between Kibbutzim and Communes  
Yaakov Oved (Tel Aviv University)  
Degania and Tel Aviv at 100: An Analysis of the Revision in Historiographic Primacy  
Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)  
Sejera and Degania: The Beginnings of Collective Settlement  
Shulamit Reinhart (Brandeis University)  
The First Kibbutz and the Borders of the Jewish State  
Rachel Havrelock (University of Illinois at Chicago)

7.3  
**MEASURING IDENTITY AND RELIGIOSITY AMONG AMERICAN JEWS: DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS FROM NATIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY STUDIES**  
Sponsored by the Berman Institute-North American Jewish Databank  
Chair: Tobin Belzer (University of Southern California)  
Variations in Jewish Identity: Comparing American and Israeli Jews  
Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut at Storrs)  
Barry A. Kosmin (Trinity College)  
How Not to Do Jewish Population Studies  
Ron Miller (North American Jewish Data Bank)  
Temporal Changes in Basic Measures of Demography and Religiosity in the Results of Local Jewish Community Studies  
Ira Sheskin (University of Miami)  
Antisemitism in the United States: Perception vs. Reality  
Jerome A. Chanes (Brandeis University)

7.4  
**ISLAMIC INFLUENCE ON JEWISH ARTS**  
Chair: Carol Zemel (York University)  
Fatimid Manuscripts in Hebrew and Arabic  
Vivian B. Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
Longing for God in Medieval Jewish Poetry  
Yudit K. Greenberg (Rollins College)  
A Temple of Art on Second Avenue  
Edna Nahshon (Jewish Theological Seminary)
7.5  
**Constellation I**

**THE CENTERING OF THE BIBLE IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY AMSTERDAM: RELIGION, POLITICS, AND SCHOLARSHIP**

*Chair and Respondent:* Miriam Bodian (University of Texas at Austin)

- Uriel da Costa, the Bible, and the Rabbis
  Matt Goldish (Ohio State University)
- Saul Levi mortar: A Jewish Reader of the New Testament
  Benjamin Fisher (University of Pennsylvania)
- Seventeenth-Century Sephardim on the Bible as a Source of Political Law
  Anne Oravetz Albert (Brown University)

7.6  
**Constellation II**

**THE FIVE ORIGINAL COLLEGES OF JEWISH STUDIES: YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW**

*Chair:* Rela Mintz Geffen (Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University)

*Discussants:*
- Brian D. Amkraut (Siegal College of Judaic Studies)
- Dean Phillip Bell (Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies)
- Daniel Lehmann (Hebrew College)
- Jonathan Krasner (HUC-JIR)
- Jonathan Rosenbaum (Gratz College)
- Valerie Thaler (Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University)

7.7  
**Westwood**

**FACING THE TRAGEDY: HOLOCAUST CONSCIOUSNESS IN POSTWAR AMERICA**

*Chair:* Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)

- Why Remember: The Multiple Contexts of Holocaust Commemoration, 1945–1962
  Hasia R. Diner (New York University)
- “Have we given up a single luxury for their sake?”: Grappling with Upward Mobility in a Post-Holocaust Era
  Rachel Kranson (New York University)
- Raising Awareness by Fundraising: The Holocaust in American Jewish DP Docudramas
  Lawrence Baron (San Diego State University)

7.8  
**Pacific**

**NEW PERSPECTIVES ON HOLOCAUST ISSUES**

*Chair:* David Alan Patterson (University of Memphis)

- “At the end of the day it is always the Jews who are to blame”: Jan Assmann on the Rise of Monotheism and Antisemitism
  Alon Segev (Universität zu Köln)
- Dostoevky’s The Jewish Question: Some Russian Origins of the Equation between Judaism and Nazism
  Susan McReynolds (Northwestern University)
- Ties That Bound: Edna Ferber’s Sponsorship of Refugees from Nazi Germany
  Laurel Leff (Northeastern University)
7.9  BRENTWOOD

SHARPENED ARROWS: VIOLENCE IN RABBINIC DISCOURSE
Chair: Jane Kanarek (Hebrew College)
Ritual Failure and Violence in the Mishnah’s Accounts of Temple Ritual
Naftali Cohn (Concordia University)
Phinehas, Baal Peor, and Rabbinic Judicial Procedure
David Bernat (Hebrew College)
Ish milhamah: Masculinity and Theomachy in the Bavli’s Bet Midrash
Aryeh Cohen (American Jewish University)

7.10  ENCINO

ISRAEL IN/AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IN AMERICA AND FRANCE
Chair and Respondent: Sara R. Horowitz (York University)
Letters to America: Reuven Ben-Yosef and the Emergence of American Israeli Literature
Michael Weingrad (Portland State University)
Spying out the Land: Daniel Silva’s Gabriel Allon Series
Laurence D. Roth (Susquehanna University)
Canticles between A. B. Yehoshua’s Friendly Fire and Toni Morrison’s Song of Solomon
Tehilla Altshuler (Harvard University)

7.11  PALISADES

AUDIENCE AND LANGUAGE IN YIDDISH LITERATURE
Chair: Itay B. Zutra (Jewish Theological Seminary)
“A’ is for the Almighty”: Transmitting Values through Hasidic Children’s Yiddish Literature
Ester-Basya Vaisman (University of Washington)
Sholem Aleichem and the Future of Yiddish
Jan Schwarz (University of Chicago)
“The Yiddish People of Poland”: Language and Identity in a Parisian Post-Bundist Memoir
Alan Astro (Trinity University)

7.12  SHERMAN OAKS

JEWS IN THE HIGH AND LATER ROMAN EMPIRE
Chair: Ranon Katzoff (Bar-Ilan University)
Sitting with Scorners: Early Jewish and Christian Critiques of Roman Leisure
Loren R. Spielman (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Christian Destruction of Synagogues in Late Antiquity: New Evidence from Asia Minor and Its Historiographic Significance
Steven Fine (Yeshiva University)
Nasi as Chief Justice: The Etymology of a Rabbinic Title
David C. Flatto (Pennsylvania State University)
7.13 Liberals and Antisemitism in Modern Germany
Chair: Lisa D. Silverman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
Liberalism, Antisemitism, and Anti-Catholicism in Nineteenth-Century Germany
Alexander Joskowicz (Vanderbilt University)
Liberals, Jews, and Antisemites at German Universities: The Free Students and the Union of German Students
Lisa Zwicker (Indiana University, South Bend)
Between “Assimilation” and “Elimination”: Liberal “Anti-Antisemitism” in the Third Reich
Eric Kurlander (Stetson University)
Respondent: Till van Rahden (Université de Montréal)

7.14 Messianism and Messianic Ideas in the Middle Ages
Chair: Robert Chazan (New York University)
The Point of No Return: On the Marginal Role of the Garden of Eden in Medieval Jewish Eschatology
David Berger (Yeshiva University)
Messianic Readings of the Song of Songs
Maud Kozodoy (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Messianic Figures and Messianic Anticipation in Near Eastern Jewish Society
Arnold E. Franklin (Hunter College, CUNY)

7.15 North and South: South African Jewish History in Global Perspective
Chair: Paul Lerner (University of Southern California)
Going South, Retiring North: The Impact of Colonial Return Migrants on Anglo-Jewry in the Mid-Nineteenth Century
Adam Mendelsohn (College of Charleston)
Jewish Soldiering in the South African War (1899–1902) and the American Civil War (1861–1865)
Richard Mendelsohn (University of Cape Town)
From Local to International: Cape Town’s Jewish Orphanage
Susan L. Tananbaum (Bowdoin College)
Respondent: Ava F. Kahn (California Studies Association)
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2009  12:45 PM – 4:00 PM

GENERAL LUNCH  12:45 PM – 2:00 PM  Los Angeles Ballroom
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AAJR LUNCH  12:45 PM – 2:00 PM  Directors I/II
For the Fellows of the American Academy for Jewish Research

SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI CAUCUS LUNCH  12:45 PM – 2:00 PM  Senators II
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

LUNCHTIME MEETINGS  12:45 PM – 2:00 PM
(Note: These meetings do not include lunch.)

TEACHING, INQUIRY, AND TEXTS: NEW APPROACHES TO JEWISH EDUCATION
Westwood
Sponsored by the Posen Foundation. Light Refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Center for Cultural Judaism.
Chair: Mark Raider (University of Cincinnati)
Discussants: Mark Raider (University of Cincinnati)
Miriam Raider-Roth (University of Cincinnati)
Haim Otto Rechnitzer (HUC-JIR)

PEDAGOGY WORKING GROUP  Encino
Chair: Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)
An informal discussion of how the AJS can support its members’ work as teachers.

THE PRACTICE OF ACADEMIC MENTORING  Sherman Oaks
Sponsored by the AJS Women’s Caucus
Chair: Jane Kanarek (Hebrew College)
Discussants: Richard L. Kalmin (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Rachel S. Harris (University at Albany, SUNY)
Dvora E. Weisberg (HUC-JIR)

Session 8, Monday, December 21, 2009  2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  Santa Monica

GETTING THE PH.D. PUBLISHED
Sponsored by the Association for Jewish Studies and the Center for Jewish History
Chair: Dean Phillip Bell (Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies)
Discussants: Jennifer Hammer (New York University Press)
Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)
Janet Rabinowitz (Indiana University Press)
Kathryn Wildfong (Wayne State University Press)
HOW CAN WE SING IN A STRANGE COUNTRY? ISRAEL IN THE EYES OF 
DIASPORA JEWS
*Chair:* Theodore Sasson (Middlebury College)

The Connected Other: Perceptions and Meanings of Israel for Diaspora Jews
Shirah Hecht (Independent Scholar)

Subversives and Survivalists: Campus Zionism in Early Postwar America
Emily Katz (University of California, Irvine)

“Without alienation there can be no politics”: American LGBT Jews and Their 
Perceptions of Israel
Caryn Aviv (University of Denver)

Israeli Diplomats and Diaspora Jewry: Divergences and Convergences in Reaching a 
Modus Vivendi in the Early Years of the State
Natan Aridan (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Respondent: Sara Abosch (University of Memphis)

JACOB TAUBES’S POLITICAL THEOLOGY IN LIGHT OF HIS RELATIONSHIP 
TO CARL SCHMITT
*Chair:* Randi Rashkover (George Mason University)

Jacob Taubes–Carl Schmitt: Thinking in Correspondence
Martin Treml (Zentrum für Literaturforschung)

Time for Taubes: Between Destruction and the Law
Nitzan Lebovic (University of California, Los Angeles)

Malediction and Verheißung: Jacob Taubes’s Pauline Curses
Arnd Wedemeyer (Princeton University)

FROM THE CHUPPAH TO PARENTHOOD: MULTIDISCIPLINARY 
PERSPECTIVES ON INTERMARRIAGE AND JEWISH TRAJECTORIES
*Chair:* Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

Mutually Beneficial
Bruce A. Phillips (HUC-JIR)

Guarding the Gates on Shifting Sands: Rabbis, Intermarriage, and Officiation
Fern Chertok (Brandeis University) and Benjamin Phillips (Brandeis University)

The Jewish Masculine Mystique: Interfaith Romance and Fatherhood in American Life
Keren R. McGinity (University of Michigan)

Non-Jewish Women as Heads of Jewish Families
Jennifer Thompson (Emory University)

Respondent: Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)

DIRECTORS OF JEWISH STUDIES
*Chair:* Arnold DaShesfsky (University of Connecticut at Storrs)

Discussants:
Carol Bakhos (University of California, Los Angeles)
David J. Biale (University of California, Davis)
Jody Myers (California State University, Northridge)

Respondent: Pamela S. Nadell (American University)
8.6  
**JEWISH INTELLECTUAL HISTORY IN MEDIEVAL IBERIA**

*Chair:* Ross Brann (Cornell University)

**Thirteenth-Century Exegesis and Linguistics: Castilian and Arabic Glosses in a Hebrew Commentary on Proverbs**

Esperanza Alfonso (CSIC–Spanish National Research Council)

**Abraham ibn Ezra’s Commentary on the Minor Prophets**

Francisco Javier del Barco (CSIC–Spanish National Research Council)

**In Praise of God, in Praise of Man: Hebrew Panegyric in Medieval Iberia**

Jonathan Decter (Brandeis University)

**The Andalusi Mirror: Hebrew Classical Literature in Fifteenth-Century Spain**

Arturo Prats Olivan (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

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8.7  
**WHAT IF? IMAGINING THE HOLOCAUST AS FUTURE AND PAST HISTORY**

*Chair:* Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)

**A British Writer and the Jewish Question: An Early Response to the Holocaust**

Alexis Pogorelskin (University of Minnesota-Duluth)

**Just Folks Homesteading: Philip Roth's *The Plot against America***

Brett A. Kaplan (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

**After the Fact: Retrospective Film and Fiction of the Holocaust**

Phyllis Lassner (Northwestern University)

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8.8  
**PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVES ON BIBLICAL TEXTS**

*Chair:* Martin Kavka (Florida State University)

**Sacred Possessions: Distributional Justice in Leviticus and Deuteronomy**

Chaya Halberstam (Indiana University)

**Spinoza and the Problem of Tanakh Epistemology**

Douglas Yoder (Azusa Pacific University)

**The Interrelation of the Individual and the Collective in Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Biblical Commentary**

Shlomo Chertok (Independent Scholar)

**Ricoeur and Translating the Bible**

Mark I. Dunaevsky (Independent Scholar)

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8.9  
**RADICAL (JEWISH) ENLIGHTENMENT: ORIGINS AND TRANSFORMATIONS IN THE AGE OF HASKALAH, 1650–1900**

*Chair:* Adam B. Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

**Radical Thought and (Other) Jewish Enlightenments in the Dutch Republic, 1650–1830**

Irene Zwiep (University of Amsterdam)

**Tradition, Argument, and Critique in the Early Haskalah**

Andrea Schatz (King’s College London)

**The First Radical Maskil? Spinoza’s Shadow and Jewish Enlightenment**

Daniel B. Schwartz (George Washington University)

*Respondent:* Abraham Socher (Oberlin College)
8.10  RABBINIC PEDAGOGY AND TEXTUALITY

*Chair:* Martin S. Jaffee (University of Washington)

“Go teach verse to your son”: Rabbis and Schoolteachers in Rabbinic Babylonia
Barry Wimpfheimer (Northwestern University)

Imparting Intellectual Skills vs. Replicating Cultural and Social Identity
Elizabeth Alexander (University of Virginia)

Pedagogy and Legal Language: A Case Study
Tzvi Novick (University of Notre Dame)

Pedagogy, Hyperbole, and Rabbinic Ethical Instruction
Jonathan Schofer (Harvard Divinity School)

*Respondent:* Steven D. Fraade (Yale University)

8.11  JEWS ON SOVIETS, SOVIETS ON JEWS, 1930s–1950s

*Chair:* Victoria Khiterer (Millersville University)

Our Man in Moscow: Hayyim Shoshkes’s 1936 Travelogue to the Soviet Union
Jack Kugelmass (University of Florida)

Between Class War and Antisemitism: Roshal’s Film *Sem’ia Oppengeim* (1939) in Context
Jonathan S. Skolnik (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

A Day of Feasting and Gladness? Jews in the Eyes of Soviet Leadership and Society Immediately after Stalin’s Death
Samuel Barnai (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

*Respondent:* David Shneer (University of Colorado)

8.12  RACE, RELIGION, AND REPRESENTATION: JEWS IN THE POSTBELLUM SOUTH

*Chair:* George Sanchez (University of Southern California)

A Tale of Two Cities: Race, Riots, and Religion in New Bern and Wilmington, North Carolina, 1898
Leonard Rogoff (Jewish Heritage Foundation of North Carolina)

Representing Religion: Judaism within Postbellum Southern Culture
Rachel Bergstein (Yale University)

Representations of the Jewish Merchant in the Postbellum South
Michael Cohen (Tulane University)

Mayor Herman Myers and the Politics of Jewish Identity in Savannah, Georgia
Lauren B. Acker (University of California, Los Angeles)

*Respondent:* Marni Davis (Georgia State University)
8.13 Governors I

NAVIGATING JEWISHNESS IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN WRITING

Chair: Ezra Cappell (University of Texas at El Paso)
Walter Benjamin and Hannah Arendt’s Schlemiels
Menachem Feuer (Ryerson University)
Woolf’s Jews: Outside the Society of Outsiders
Mia Spiro (York University)
Other: Semitic American Mother of Black Daughters
Megan Williams (University of Kansas)

8.14 Governors II

ISSUES OF IDENTITY AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWISH SCHOLARS

Chair: Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)
Creating a Nationalist Scholarship in Yiddish: The Cultural Work of Zelig Hirsh Kalmanovitch, 1908–1915
Joshua M. Karlip (Yeshiva University)
The Place of History: Historical Writing on Vilna in the Interwar Period
Cecile E. Kuznitz (Bard College)
Touring Jewish Antiquities in Interwar Poland: Jewish Historians and the Writing of Guide Books
Natalia Aleksiun (Touro College)
Jewish Scholars and the Fascist Accusation: The Recurring Rupture of International Yiddish Scholarship under Soviet Domination
Mark L. Smith (University of California, Los Angeles)

8.15 HEBREW LITERATURE IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Ari Ofengenden (Monash University)
From Rhymester to Poet? The Paradoxical Rejection of Folk Performance in Haskalah Literature
Zehavit Stern (University of California, Berkeley/Graduate Theological Union)
Improving Literature, or the Jewish Writer and His Gentile Inspiration
Andrey Bredstein (University of Texas at Austin)
The Shylock Palimpsest: A Twentieth-Century Hebrew Reframing of Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice
Yael Chaver (University of California, Berkeley)
Without God’s Help: The Life of Lazarillo de Tormes and the Life of Elyakum
Irit Aharony (Harvard University)

Book Exhibit  4:00 PM – 4:30 PM  Los Angeles Showroom
Coffee Break

Division Meetings  4:00 PM – 4:30 PM  See p. 76 for locations.
An opportunity to meet with division chairs to discuss themes for the 2010 annual meeting.
Session 9, Monday, December 21, 2009

9.1 VISION, COVENANT, SELF: THE VARIETIES OF HESCHEL’S RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE
Chair: Shaul Magid (Indiana University)
The Political Philosophy of Prophetic Politics: Heschel, Strauss, and Religious Identity in Liberal Society
Akiba J. Lerner (Santa Clara University)
Seeing the Sabbath: Heschel and Visual Judaism
Kenneth Kolton-Fromm (Haverford College)
Self-Transcendence without Mystical Union: On Abraham Joshua Heschel and the Covenanted Self
Shai Held (Harvard University)
The Holy of Holies: Heschel and the Spirituality of the Shtetl
Nathaniel Deutsch (University of California, Santa Cruz)

9.2 TEACHING ABOUT WOMEN AND JEWISH HISTORY
Chair: Melissa Klapper (Rowan University)
Discussants:
Judith R. Baskin (University of Oregon)
Alyssa Goldstein Sepinwall (California State University, San Marcos)
Shulamit S. Magnus (Oberlin College)
Pamela S. Nadell (American University)

9.3 YOUNG ADULTS, LEADERSHIP, AND TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY AMERICAN JEWISH CULTURAL CHANGE
Chair: Jack Wertheimer (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Discussants:
Sarah Bunin Benor (HUC-JIR)
Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)
Ari Y. Kelman (University of California, Davis)
Shaul Kelner (Vanderbilt University)
Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)

9.4 IN/OF/FROM/MADE IN . . . CALIFORNIA, PART I
Chair: Reesa Greenberg (York University)
Nostalgia and Fantasy in Eleanor Antin’s The Last Days of Pompeii, Roman Allegories, and Helen’s Odyssey
Lisa Bloom (University of California, San Diego)
Yiddish Theater and Eleanor Antin’s Photographs of the Ancients
Betti-Sue Hertz (Yerba Buena Center for the Arts)
On Looking for a Rabbi
Shelley Gazin (Independent Artist)
Painting the Jewish Question: R. B. Kitaj on Passion and Memory
Tal Gozani (Skirball Cultural Center)
9.5  
**Constellation I**

**ERICH AUERBACH’S WORLDS**
*Chair and Respondent: Allison Schachter (Vanderbilt University)*

**Figura: The Jewish, the Christian, and the Question of Literature in Erich Auerbach**
Galili Shahar (University of Florida)

**Trajectories of Weimar: Panofsky and Auerbach in Exile**
Emily Levine (Yale University)

**The Courage for Realism: Erich Auerbach and Leah Goldberg**
Naama Rokem (University of Chicago)

**Erich Auerbach, Primo Levi, and Dante’s Love**
Uri Cohen (Columbia University)

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9.6  
**Constellation II**

**STUDIES IN TANNAITIC LITERATURE**
*Chair: Evyatar Marienberg (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)*

**Looking for the Motive: Motive as a Key to Understanding the Biblical Exegesis of the Sages**
Yonatan Sagiv (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Rabbi Akiva and the Emergence of Rabbinic Polysemy**
Azzan Yadin (Rutgers University)

**Textual Traditions of Mishna Shekalim: Palestine, Babylonia, Ashkenaz**
Robert Brody (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**The Hebrew Slave’s Pierced Ear: The Mechilta de-Rabbi Ishmael’s Secondary Use of Earlier Midrashic Materials**
Michal Bar-Asher Siegal (Yale University)

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9.7  
**Westwood**

**OF OTHER CINEMATIC SPACES: TEL AVIV IN HEBREW/ISRAELI CINEMA**
*Chair: Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)*

**“Vayehi Bimey”: Tel Aviv’s Carnivalesque Space, between Utopia and Reality**
Hizky Shoham (Yale University)

**Tel Aviv in Contemporary Israeli Cinema: Narrative Networks, Major Spaces and Minor Strolliers**
Nava Dushi (Lynn University)

**Mothers and Sisters: Tel Aviv as a Transitional Cultural Space**
Miri Talmon-Bohm (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

*Respondent: Barbara Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)*
9.8  
PRIESTS, PROPHETS, AND POETICS IN THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Chair: Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)

Between Exegesis and Story: The Narrative of the Genesis Apocryphon
Moshe J. Bernstein (Yeshiva University)

Divine Governance in the Barkhi Nafshi Poems (4Q434–438)
Aryeh Amihay (Princeton University)

The Addressee of 4QInstruction¹ (4Q418) Frg. 81 as Exalted Priestly Mediator
Joseph Angel (Yeshiva University)

4Q521 and the Messiah
Erik Larson (Florida International University)

9.9  
JEWS/VIOLENCE

Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History Fellowship Program

Chair: John M. Efron (University of California, Berkeley)

Hermeneutics of Despair: Jewish Interpretations of Violence in the First World War
Amos Bitzan (University of California, Berkeley)

“Are you Symon Pediura?”: The Defense of Sholom Schwartzbard
Kelly Johnson (Harvard University)

Fight and Fright: Violence, Fear, and the Jewish Winning of the West
David S. Koffman (New York University)

Sex after Auschwitz
Joshua Lambert (University of Michigan)

French Jews Protest Torture
Jessica Hammerman (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

9.10  
RETHINKING BOUNDARIES IN JEWISH MYSTICISM

Chair: Ephraim Kanarfogel (Yeshiva University)

Jesus as the Teli: Jewish–Christian Antecedents for Abraham Abulafia’s Conception of the
Astrological Serpent
Robert Sagerman (New York University)

Sod ha-‘Ibbur: Judah Hayyat on the 72-Letter Name, Divine Mercy, and Divine Wrath
Brian Ogren (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The Hole in the Sheet, and Other Topics in Sabbatian Kabbalah
David J. Halperin (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Narrative Voice in the Zohar
Eitan P. Fishbane (The Jewish Theological Seminary)
9.11  
**NEGOTIATING MULTIPLE HERITAGES: JEWS AND BLENDED IDENTITIES**

*Chair:* Debra Renee Kaufman (Northeastern University)

**Can the Kitchen God Live Next to the Kiddush Cup?: Adoption and Jewish Identity**
Jennifer Sartori (Northeastern University)

**“It’s not just about the food”: Jewish American and Asian American Marriages**
Helen Kim (Whitman College) and Noah Leavitt (Whitman College)

**Reconciling Multiple Heritages: Young Adult Children of Intermarriage Differentiate between Religious and Ethnic Aspects of Their Identities**
Rachel Rockenmacher (Brandeis University)

*Respondent:* Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)

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9.12  
**EXPLORATIONS OF JEWISH SOCIABILITY IN ITALY BEFORE AND AFTER EMANCIPATION**

*Chair:* Murray Baumgarten (University of California, Santa Cruz)

**Sociability and National Separation in Eighteenth-Century Livorno: A View from the Coffeehouse**
Francesca Bregoli (University of Oxford)

**Jews and Jesuits in a Joint Business: Jewish Paths of Sociabilité and Integration in Eighteenth-Century Modena**
Federica Francesconi (University of California, Los Angeles)

**From the Bimah to the Stage, and Back: Jews, Christians, Synagogues, and Opera in Modern Italy**
Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)

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9.13  
**WRITING DESTRUCTION**

*Chair:* Justin Cammy (University of California, Los Angeles/Smith College)

**“Our blood cries out from the ground”: Archival Holocaust Poetry and the Biblical Encounter**
Leah Wolfson (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

**Art of Healing: Imre Kertész’s Fatelessness**
Susan Derwin (University of California, Santa Barbara)

**Homescapes of Memory, Landscapes of Absence: Recollection and Projection in the Writings of Aharon Appelfeld and W. G. Sebald**
Emily Budick (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Testimony and Taboo: The Perverse Writings of Ka-Tzetnik 135633**
Jeffrey Wallen (Hampshire College)
9.14 Governors II

SPATIAL AND CULTURAL DISLOCATION IN EARLY MODERN POLAND–LITHUANIA
Chair: Kenneth B. Moss (Johns Hopkins University)
Contested Sacred Spaces: The Aftermath of the Expulsion of Jews from Bochnia, 1606
Magda Teter (Wesleyan University)
Flight Risks: Jewish Refugees in Lithuania, 1648–1670
Adam Teller (University of Haifa)
A Neglected (and Unpublished) Book by Ber of Bolechow: Report on a First Reading of Divre Binah
Gershon David Hundert (McGill University)

9.15 Park

TRANSLATION IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY
Chair: Nancy Levene (Indiana University)
Translator as Prophet: Saadya Gaon’s Theory of Translation
Aaron W. Hughes (University at Buffalo, SUNY)
Renaissance Texts in the Third Millennium: Translating Leone Ebreo’s Dialoghi D’Amore into English
Rosella Pescatori (El Camino College)
Do Two Lives Weigh the Same? Translation and Construction of the Talmud from the Brisker Rav to Mishneh Torah
Sergey Dolgopolouski (University of Kansas, Lawrence)
Translating “Spirit” or the “Spirit” of Translation: The Ruach of Maimonides, Spinoza, and Buber
James A. Diamond (University of Waterloo)
## Monday, December 21, 2009 Evening Program

### AJS Perspectives Editorial Board Meeting
- **Time:** 6:30 PM
- **Location:** Regents

### Association for Israel Studies Reception
- **Time:** 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Olympic Foyer
  - *In honor of the annual meeting of the Association for Israel Studies to be hosted at the University of Toronto in May 2010. Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies. Open to all conference registrants.*

### Posen Foundation/Center for Cultural Judaism Reception
- **Time:** 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Constellation Foyer
  - *In honor of the forthcoming publication of the Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization series and to launch the Foundation's website Secular Culture & Ideas. Sponsored by the Posen Foundation and the Center for Cultural Judaism. Open to all conference registrants.*

### Shalom Hartman Institute Reception
- **Time:** 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Senators II
  - *In honor of the inaugural group of fellows selected for the Hartman North American Scholars Circle. Sponsored by the Shalom Hartman Institute. Open to all conference registrants.*

### Tablet Magazine Reception
- **Time:** 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Green Circle Lawn (poolside)
  - *Sponsored by Tablet Magazine, a daily online magazine of Jewish ideas and culture, which launched this year at www.tabletmag.com. Open to all conference registrants.*

### General Dinner
- **Time:** 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Los Angeles Ballroom
  - *(By pre-paid reservation only.)*

### Musical Performance
- **Time:** 9:30 PM
- **Location:** Directors I/II
  - *A Musical Evening by Jewish-Ottoman Composers*
  - *Münir Beken and Serpil Borazan*
  - *Sponsored by the UCLA Maurice Amado Program in Sephardic Studies. Open to all conference registrants.*

### Jewish Theological Seminary Reception
- **Time:** 9:30 PM – 10:30 PM
- **Location:** Park
  - *In honor of JTS faculty, students, and alumni presenting at the AJS Conference, and welcoming all JTS alumni in the area to reconnect with one another. Sponsored by the Jewish Theological Seminary. Open to all conference registrants.*

### Graduate Student Reception
- **Time:** 9:30 PM – 10:30 PM
- **Location:** Governors II
  - *In honor of AJs graduate student members and AJs Graduate Student Travel Grant recipients. Sponsored by the Association for Jewish Studies. Open to all graduate students.*
Tuesday, December 22, 2009

**GENERAL BREAKFAST**  
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM  
Los Angeles Ballroom

(Nota: By pre-paid reservation only)

**AJS PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND DIVISION CHAIRS BREAKFAST MEETING**  
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM  
Directors I/II

**REGISTRATION**  
8:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
California Lounge

**BOOK EXHIBIT**  
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
California Showroom

**FILM SCREENINGS**  
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM  
Westside Room

**Session 10, Tuesday, December 22, 2009**  
8:30 AM – 10:30 AM  
Santa Monica

### 10.1  
**THE KIBBUTZ: PRESENT AND FUTURE**

*Chair:* Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)

*A Hidden Source of the Kibbutz Crisis: The Widening Gap between the Leadership and the Rank and File*

Alon Pauker (Beit-Berl Educational Academic College)

*The Kibbutz and the Disenchanted: Representations in Contemporary Israeli Narratives*

Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)

*Crisis, Reform, and Transformation on the Israeli Kibbutzim, 1990–2009*

Raymond Russell (University of California, Riverside)

*Redefining the Kibbutz: From Non-failure to Non-success*

Eliezer Ben-Rafael (Tel Aviv University)

### 10.2  
**ORTHODOXY REVISITED**

*Chair:* Mark I. Dunaevsky (Independent Scholar)

*Toward a Genealogy of the “Traditional” in Modern Intellectual Jewish History*

Eliyahu Stern (University of Oxford)

*Reappraising the German-Jewish Bible: The Hirsch Chumash*

Alan T. Levenson (University of Oklahoma)

*Dueling Prayerbooks: ArtScroll, Koren, and Contemporary Orthodox Values*

Martin I. Lockshin (York University)

*“Blessed is he who says and does”: Jewish Law, Gender, and Communal Identity*

Jessica Rosenberg (Stanford University)
10.3                       Olympic I

RITUALS AND RELATIONSHIPS OVER THE LIFECOURSE
Chair: Theodore Sasson (Middlebury College)

Creating Ritual Space in a Toronto Jewish Retirement Home
Jillian Gould (Memorial University)

Fathers and Sons: Rethinking the Meaning of the Bar Mitzvah
Simon Josef Bronner (Pennsylvania State University)

Remaining Single in a Family-Oriented Society: Prolonged Singlehood among Israeli National Religious Jews
Ari Engelberg (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

10.4                       Olympic II

APPROACHES TO THE JEWISH LINGUISTIC SPECTRUM
Chair and Respondent: Sarah Bunin Benor (HUC-JIR)

Religious Minorities and Co-Territorial Languages
George Jochnowitz (College of Staten Island)

Germanisms as a Reflection of the Spoken Language in Modern Yiddish Prose
Paul D. Glasser (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research)

Medical Terminology in the Hebrew Tradition: Shem Tov Ben Isaac, Sefer ha-Shimmush, Book 30
Gerrit Bos (Universität zu Köln)

10.5                       Constellation I

THE PLACE OF THE HOLOCAUST IN (AND OUTSIDE) JEWISH STUDIES
Chair: Berel Lang (Wesleyan University)

Discussants: David Engel (New York University)
Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)
Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)
David G. Roskes (Jewish Theological Seminary)

10.6                       Constellation II

IN/OF/FROM/MADE IN . . . CALIFORNIA, PART II
Chair: Monica Osborne (University of California, Los Angeles)

David and Bathsheba Play the Hollywood Bowl
Helen Leneman (University of Amsterdam)

Modernism and Hybridity: Arnold Schoenberg and the Los Angeles Émigrés
Kenneth Hearne Marcus (University of La Verne)

Radio Kabbalah: Wallace Berman and the Question of Reception
Louis Kaplan (University of Toronto)
10.7 THEMES IN RUSSIAN AND SOVIET JEWISH VISUAL ART
Chair: Karen Auerbach (University of Southampton)
The Other Tongue: Assimilation vs. Yiddishkayt in Russian Songs on Jewish Topics
Pavel Lion (University of Michigan)
The Music Theme in Eastern European Synagogue Wall Paintings
Eugeny Kotlyar (Kharkiv State Academy of Design & Arts)
“Collecting the exile”: Forming Collections of Russian Jewish Immigration
Maya Balakirsky-Katz (Touro College)

10.8 STAGING THE BODY, PERFORMING LANGUAGE: ENCOUNTERS IN GERMAN AND HEBREW
Chair: Leslie Morris (University of Minnesota)
Primo Levi: “Thinking in German”
Murray Baumgarten (University of California, Santa Cruz)
Switching the Language, Changing the Subject: Hebrew in Contemporary German Literature
Sebastian Wogenstein (University of Connecticut)
Kafka’s Fatal Performatives
Karyn Ball (University of Alberta)

10.9 POLITICAL THEOLOGY AND JUDAISM IN SPINOZA, MENDELSOHN, AND FACKENHEIM
Chair: Alan Lawrence Udoff (Saint Frances College)
Why Mendelssohn Couldn’t Fathom Lessing’s Political Theology
Martin D. Yaffe (University of North Texas)
Spinoza’s Political Theology in The Ethics
Joshua Parens (University of Dallas)
Fackenheim and the Political Theology of Diabolical Evil
Kenneth Green (University of Toronto)
Emil L. Fackenheim and the Problem of Historicism
Sharon Portnoff (Connecticut College)

10.10 ROME AND THE JEWS: THE FIRST SEVENTY YEARS
Chair: Michael D. Swartz (Ohio State University)
Biblical Influence on Virgil
Louis H. Feldman (Yeshiva University)
Jews and Greeks in First-Century Alexandria
Gaia Lembi (University College London/Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa)
Sejanus’ Anti-Jewish Policies in 30 C.E. (Philo, Legatio ad Gaium, 159–161)
Sandra Gambetti (College of Staten Island, CUNY)
THE RISING OF THE WOMEN: JEWISH WOMEN’S POLITICAL ACTIVISM DURING THE AMERICAN CENTURY
Sponsored by the Jewish Women’s Archive
Chair and Respondent: Marc Dollinger (San Francisco State University)
Respectable Radicals: The National Council of Jewish Women and Activist Philanthropy before World War II
Melissa Klapper (Rowan University)
Red Roots, Radical Fruit: Women Red Diaper Babies in the Civil Rights Movement and the New Left
Elise Wagner McCurties (Michigan State University)
A Moment in Time: Radical Feminism and Jewish Women
Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)

TOMBSTONES
Chair: David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)
Discussants: Michela Andreatta (Ca’ Foscari University)
Michael Brocke (University Duisberg-Essen)
Rachel Greenblatt (Harvard University)
Judith Neulander (Case Western Reserve University)
Daniel J. Schroeter (University of Minnesota)

IRANIAN JEWS AND THEIR MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES: THEIR RELIGIOUS, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL IDENTITY
Chair and Respondent: Mark Kligman (HUC-JIR)
JAPS: First-Generation Jewish–American Persians and Their Hybrid Identity in America
Saba Tova Soomekh (Loyola Marymount University)
The Religious Identity of Iranian Jews in the Post-Revolution Era in the United States
Nahid Pirnazar (University of California, Los Angeles)
Psychosocial Acculturation Process of Iranian Jewry in the Last Thirty Years
Morgan Hakimi (Touro University)

EAST EUROPEAN JEWRY AT THE FIN DE SIÈCLE
Chair: Gilya Gerda Schmidt (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
Agunot, Modernization, and Immigration, 1857–1896
Haim Sperber (Western Galilee College)
Der Eme’ser Yid: Orthodox Politics and Journalism in Fin-de-Siècle Galicia
Joshua Shanes (College of Charleston)
Jews and the Russo-Japanese War of 1904–1905: From the Perspective of Jewish POWs in Japan
Mina Muraoka (Brandeis University)
The “Town Fool”: A Study in Attitudes toward the Mentally Ill in East European Jewish Society and Culture
Natan M. Meir (Portland State University)
10.15

PEDAGOGY AND RABBINICS
Chair: Sergey Dolgopolski (University of Kansas, Lawrence)

Hunting for the Voice: Teaching Midrash in an English Literature Class
Gerda Elata-Alster (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Rabbinics in Unexpected Contexts: Teaching Talmud to Non-Jewish Students
Julia Watts Belser (Missouri State University)

10.16

POLITICS AND IDEOLOGY IN CONSTRUCTING ISRAELI HEROIC AND TRAGIC MYTHS
Chair: Arnold Band (University of California, Los Angeles)

The Media Image of the Israeli Soldier: From Warrior to “Mama’s Boy”?
Elisheva Rosman (Ashkelon Academic College/Bar-Ilan University) and Zipi Israeli (Ariel University Center)

Culpability, Passivity, and the Poetics of Vision in Waltz with Bashir
Todd Hasak-Lowy (University of Florida)

In Other Times: Henrietta and Manya Think the Same in a Way
Zilla Jane Goodman (University of Colorado, Boulder)

Session 11, Tuesday, December 22, 2009

11.1

WORKING WITH SURVIVOR TESTIMONY AND MEMOIR IN WRITING HOLOCAUST HISTORY
Chair: Zev Garber (Los Angeles Valley College)

Naming Names: Nazi Occupation and Atrocity in the Soviet Union as Everyday Life through Survivor Eyes
Stephen A. Connor (Nipissing University)

Jewish Slave Labor: A Study of a Transport from the Skolna Factory Camp in Radom to KL Vaihingen via Auschwitz-Birkenau
Idit Gil (Open University of Israel)

Life Was Not Beautiful: Writing the Lived History of a Neglected Concentration Camp—KL Natzweiler-Struthof
Diana Mara Henry (Independent Scholar)

No Angel at the Fence: Writing the Lived History of a Forgotten Camp—Schlieben, a Buchenwald Aussenlager
Kenneth Waltzer (Michigan State University)
11.2 RABBINIC CONCEPTS OF THE BODY
Chair: David C. Kraemer (Jewish Theological Seminary)
A “mansion in the place of excrement”: Divrei Torah and the Indeterminate Impurity of Bodily Waste in BAVLI 22b–26a
Natalie C. Polzer (University of Louisville)
Changing Meanings of Immersion
Michael Rosenberg (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Controlling Bodies, Policing Borders: Leviticus, Rabbah, and Leprosy
Tammy Jacobowitz (University of Pennsylvania)

11.3 RETHINKING JEWISH THEOLOGY
Chair: Abe Socher (Oberlin College)
Discourse, Practice, and Belief Formation: Rethinking Jewish Theology and Its Epistemological Foundations
Cass Fisher (University of South Florida)
A New Language-Game for Jewish Theology? The Methodology and Theological Lexicon of Eugene B. Borowitz
Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi (Jewish Theological Seminary/HUC-JIR/Hartman Institute)
Poets as Theologians: A. Halfi, A. Gilboa, T. Carmi, and the Act of Creating Poetry
Haim Otto Rechnitzer (HUC-JIR)

11.4 SOCIAL ATTITUDES AND CULTURAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN BIBLICAL ISRAEL
Chair: Chaya Halberstam (Indiana University)
Another Look at Animals in the Hebrew Bible
Elaine Goodfriend (California State University, Northridge/American Jewish University)
The Assembly of Yahweh’s People: Judahite Pilgrimage and Israelite Muster
Stephen Russell (University of California, Berkeley)
Intermarriage in the Hebrew Bible: Gender, Exogamy, and Nation
Esther Fuchs (University of Arizona)
Impurities and Gender in Ezra-Nehemiah
Elizabeth Goldstein (University of California, San Diego)

11.5 JEWS AND THE STATE IN COMMUNIST EAST CENTRAL EUROPE: POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY, AND YUGOSLAVIA
Chair and Respondent: Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)
Clandestine Relief and the Cold War: The Development of a Jewish Relief Program in Post-Stalinist Hungary
Zachary Paul Levine (New York University)
Poland’s Last Blood Libel? The Investigation of a Jewish Taxi Driver and Poland’s Jewish Leadership in a Sensational Murder in Poland in 1957
Karen Auerbach (University of Southampton)
Along Came a Spider: “Of Jewish Descent” and Jewish Policy in Czechoslovakia, 1952-1972
Jacob Labendz (Washington University in St. Louis)
11.6  Constellation II  RECOVERING JEWISH WOMEN’S TEXTS  
Chair: Anita Norich (University of Michigan)  
Fanny Neuda’s *Hours of Devotion*: The Reemergence of a Forgotten Book of Jewish Women’s Prayers  
Dinah Berland (Independent Scholar)  
Words Worthy of Being Shown and Heard: The Diary of Hava Shapiro  
Wendy Ilene Zierler (HUC-JIR)  
Truce Is Never for a Woman: Liana Millu and the Literature of (No) Return  
Stefania Lucamante (The Catholic University of America)  

11.7  Westwood  JEWISH FAMILIES UNDER GROWING PRESSURE: AUSTRIA, 1918–1938  
Chair: Marsha Rozenblit (University of Maryland)  
Jewish Family Enterprises in Interwar Austria: The Examples of Linz, Innsbruck, and Salzburg  
Michael John (University of Linz)  
Perceptions of Jewish/Non-Jewish Interfaith Families in Autobiographies of Viennese Jews (1918–1938)  
Eleonore Lappin (Institute for Jewish History in Austria)  
The Impact of Migration on Jewish Family Life in Vienna, 1918–1938  
Albert Lichtblau (University of Salzburg)  

11.8  Pacific  HEBREW CULTURE AND ITS FORMATIVE OTHERS  
Chair and Respondent: Derek J. Penslar (University of Toronto)  
The Christian Holy Land and the Shaping of a Zionist Sacred Landscape  
Arieh Bruce Saposnik (Arizona State University)  
Babel in Zion: Foreign Languages and the Making of Hebrew Culture  
Liora Halperin (University of California, Los Angeles)  
Race, Religion, and the “Israelites” in Fin-de-Siècle Arab Constructions of the Jews  
Jonathan Gribetz (Columbia University)  

11.9  Brentwood  RELIGION, POLITICS, ETHICS  
Chair: Alan T. Levenson (University of Oklahoma)  
Between Religion and Politics: Rethinking Spinoza’s Idea of the Law  
Benjamin Stahlberg (Colgate University)  
Messianicity without Messianism: Levinas, Eschatology, and Ethics  
Michael Gottsegen (Brown University)  
The Centrality of Social Justice to the Thought of Mordecai M. Kaplan  
Eric Caplan (McGill University)  
Determined to Be Free: Spinoza’s Political Theology of Freedom  
Steven H. Frankel (Xavier University)
11.10  THE POLITICS OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY: A ROUNDTABLE
Chair: Marjorie Feld (Babson College)
Discussants: Michael S. Alexander (University of California, Riverside)
Lila Berman (Temple University)
Shira Kohn (New York University)
Noam F. Pianko (University of Washington)
Marjorie Feld (Babson College)

11.11  THE YIDDISH PRESS
Chair: Matthew B. Hoffman (Franklin & Marshall College)
Discourse Analysis and the Yiddish Press: Some Theoretical Reflections
Gerben Zaagsma (University College London)
The Jewish Daily Forward and Its Female Reading Audience, 1900–1940
Ellen D. Kellman (Brandeis University)
“Darfn arbeter froyen nutzn kinstliche shaynkayt-mitlen?” [Do working women need to use artificial beauty products?]: Women in the 1920s Pro-Soviet Yiddish Press in Canada
Ester Reiter (York University)

11.12  JEWS AND OTHERS IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN TIMES
Chair: Jeffrey Haus (Kalamazoo College)
Medieval Commerce and Commercialization: The Jewish Evidence from Marseilles
Julie L. Mell (North Carolina State University, Raleigh)
Orientalism in the Making? The Case of Early Modern Hebrew Travel Writing
Martin Jacobs (Washington University in St. Louis)
The Frankfurt Jewish Community and the Imperial Aulic Council under Joseph II (1765–1790)
Verena Kasper (Karl Franzens University)
The Question of Jewish Diplomacy: Kalonymos ben Meir and Frederic Barbarossa
Eva Haverkamp (Ludwig Maximilians University Munich)

11.13  SPACE, PLACE, AND GENDER IN CONTEMPORARY HEBREW FICTION
Chair: Nehama Aschkenasy (University of Connecticut at Stamford)
Israeli Women Writers and the End of the Zionist Dream
Rose Levinson (Union Institute and University)
Site and Sight: The Role of Vision in Israeli Literary Representations of Place
Karen Grumberg (University of Texas at Austin)
“From the wildness we feared, from the paleness we are dreaded”: Motherhood in Ronit Matalon’s The Sound of Our Steps
Riki Traum Avidan (Fairleigh Dickinson University)
Escaping the Women’s Section: Gendered Space in Hebrew and Yiddish Literature
Naomi Brenner (Ohio State University)
11.14

JEWS MYSTICISM IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD
Chair: Brian Ogren (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Abraham Heschel vs. Gershom Scholem and Ephraim Urbach on Doing Jewish Intellectual History
Reuven R. Kimelman (Brandeis University)
Sexuality, Jewish Spirituality, and Nature: The New Age Movement and the Jewish Spiritual Renewal Movement in Israel
Rachel Werczberger (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Kabbalistic and Mystical Influences on Contemporary Israeli Poetry and Literature
Tzahi Weiss (University of Chicago/Shalem Center)

11.15

AMSTERDAM TO GREECE: RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE SEPHARDIM
Chair: Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University)
Networks of Support for Eretz Israel and the Building of Trust in the Eighteenth Century
Matthias B. Lehmann (Indiana University)
Jews of Iran and Rabbinical/Talmudic Literature: Preliminary Notes
Daniel Tsadik (Yeshiva University)
The Sea Activities of the Jews of Thessaloniki and Greece
Yitzchak Kerem (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Entering “The Observant’s Guild”; The Bar Mitzvah Celebration in Western Sephardi Communities in the Early Modern Period
Julia R. Lieberman (St. Louis University)

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GENERAL LUNCH 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM
Los Angeles Ballroom
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AJS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 12:45 PM – 3:00 PM

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Session 12, Tuesday, December 22, 2009 1:45 PM – 3:45 PM

12.1

NEW APPROACHES TO HASIDIC SPIRITUALITY
Chair: Joshua Shanes (College of Charleston)
Dream and Torah-Text in Hasidic Thought
Aryeh J. Wineman (Independent Scholar)
Eschatology and Jewish Law in Lubavitch-Hasidic Thought
Ilan Fuchs (Tulane University)
Shifting Ideologies of Orality and Literacy in Their Historical Context: Rebbe Nahman of Breslav’s Embrace of the Book in 1804–1805
David Siff (Independent Scholar)
Shneur Zalman’s Radical Reversal of Or Hozer in Igeret ha-Kodesh
David Seidenberg (Independent Scholar)
12.2 **RABBINIC WORLDVIEW**  
*Chair*: Natalie C. Polzer (University of Louisville)  
*Indeterminacy and Codification in the Palestinian and Babylonian Talmuds in Light of Roman and Sasanian Legal Cultures*  
Richard Hidary (Yeshiva University)  
*Socratic Torah: Rabbinic Dialogues with Non-Jews in Late Antiquity*  
Jenny Labendz (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
*Constructing Repugnance: Legal and Ethical Dimensions of Rabbinic Shame (Bushah)*  
Jonathan Crane (University of Toronto)

12.3 **ISRAELI AND JEWISH IDENTITIES: THE SECULAR, THE SEPHARADI, AND THE SATISFIED**  
*Chair*: Rachel Havrelock (University of Illinois at Chicago)  
*Identifying Indicators for Secularism in Israel and among Diaspora Jews*  
Ariela Keysar-Coy (Trinity College)  
*What Is a Sepharadi? A Debate between Rabbi Ovadiah Yosef and Rabbi Eliyahu Zinni*  
Joseph Ringel (Brandeis University)  
*“The Mediterranean Option”: Nostalgia, Pragmatism, or Political Escapism*  
Gil Hochberg (University of California, Los Angeles)

12.4 **JEWISH DEMOGRAPHY AT THE ANTIPODES**  
*Chair*: Matthew Boxer (Brandeis University)  
*Estimating the Number of Jews in the United States with Cross-Survey Analysis*  
Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)  
*Jewish Values in the First Decade of the Twenty-First Century: Comparing Australian and American Survey Findings*  
Andrew Barry Markus (Monash University) and Nicky Jacobs (Monash University)  
*Evaluating the Use of Opt-in Consumer Internet Panels for Surveys of American Jews*  
Benjamin Phillips (Brandeis University)

12.5 **MUSIC AND LITERATURE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN**  
*Chair*: Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)  
*Hiding or Harmonizing: Turkish Synagogue Music in Political Perspective Today*  
Maureen Jackson (University of Washington)  
*“En Estambul avia--c’est la danse nouvelle”: A Song as Microcosm of Early Twentieth-Century Sephardic Life*  
Judith R. Cohen (York University)  
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Peter Margolis (Temple University)

Beatrice Gurwitz (University of California, Berkeley)

12.10

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS IN MODERN JEWISH STUDIES

Chairs: Todd Hasak-Lowy (University of Florida)
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Discussant: Marcy Brink-Danan (Brown University)
Across the River (Israel 2009) Written and directed by Duki Dror. 56 minutes. (Amharic and Hebrew with English subtitles.)

As Seen Through These Eyes (USA 2008) Written and directed by Hilary Helstein. Narrated by Maya Angelou. 70 minutes.

La Cámara Oscura (Argentina 2008) Directed by María Victoria Menis. 86 minutes. (Spanish and Yiddish with English subtitles.)

Chronicle of a Kidnap (Israel 2008) Written and directed by Nurit Kedar. 55 minutes. (Hebrew and English with English subtitles.)

Dubak - A Palestinian Jew (Israel 2008) Written and directed by Ella Alterman. 60 minutes. (Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Eli and Ben (Israel 2009) Directed by Ori Ravid. 89 minutes. (Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Gut Shabbes Vietnam (Israel 2009) Written and directed by Ido and Yael Zand. 52 minutes. (Hebrew and English with English subtitles.)

Herskovits at the Heart of Blackness (USA 2009) Directed by Llewellyn M. Smith. 54 minutes.

The Jester /Der Purimspiler/ (Poland 1937) Directed by Joseph Green and Jan Nowina-Przybylski. 90 minutes. (Yiddish with new English subtitles.)

Paying for Justice (Israel 2007) Directed by Guy Meroz and Orli Vilnai-Federbush. 58 minutes. (Hebrew and English with English subtitles.)

Rachel de la Comédie-Française (France 2003) Directed by Judith Wechsler. 52 minutes. (French with English subtitles.)

Rashevski’s Tango (Belgium/France/Luxembourg 2003) Directed by Sam Garbarski. 100 minutes. (French and Hebrew with French subtitles.)

Refusenik (USA 2007) Written and directed by Laura Bialis. 117 minutes. (English, Russian, and Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Tel Aviv–Jaffa (Israel 2009) Directed by Gabriel Bibliowicz. 125 minutes. (Hebrew with English subtitles.)

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The Arizona Center for Judaic Studies is honored to be a sponsor for the Association of Jewish Studies Gala Banquet & Plenary Lecture

The Arizona Center for Judaic Studies’ mission is to contribute to the overall mission of The University of Arizona by promoting advanced scholarship in the various fields of Judaica, by translating faculty research into dynamic undergraduate and graduate instruction, and by contributing to the community through educational outreach and professional advising. Our goal is to transmit, interpret, and critique Jewish historical, religious, literary, and cultural traditions for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Arizona Center for Judaic Studies offers courses in Modern and Biblical Hebrew, Ancient Israel, Women in Judaism, Modern Israel, Holocaust Studies and Jewish History. Judaic Studies also offers our students internships, outreach possibilities, Hebrew credit by exam and many travel scholarships to be used in conjunction with accredited educational programs in Israel.

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The UCLA Center for Jewish Studies, established in 1994, is the largest home to academic scholarship and public education in Jewish Studies on the West Coast. With an impressive roster of faculty, a steady stream of distinguished visiting scholars, and a renowned library collection, we are a crossroads of cutting-edge research and teaching in Jewish Studies in North America. Located in the heart of Los Angeles, the Center embodies the flourishing, multi-faceted Jewish culture and history of the city itself.

Through a vast range of public programs, research projects and courses, the Center aims to bring the past into conversation with the present – by adding historical depth to contemporary issues and contemporary relevance to historical study. The Center possesses particular strength in biblical, late antique, and modern Jewish studies. A sizable number of the twenty-six affiliated CJS faculty offer courses on subjects ranging from Iranian Jewry to biblical archeology, from Jews in Film to Jews in Italy, and from the Dead Sea Scrolls to Kabbalah. Striving to grasp the Jewish experience through world-class research and instruction, the Center serves both the UCLA community and the broader public.

Carol Bakhos
Acting Director, UCLA Center for Jewish Studies
The University of Chicago is a leading center of multidisciplinary scholarship and education in Jewish Studies broadly conceived. The varied fields of Jewish Studies are pursued in departments as diverse as Germanics, History, Music, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Philosophy, Political Science, Slavic Language and Literature, the Committee on Social Thought, and the Divinity School. Our special strengths lie in the interdisciplinary sub-fields of Bible, ancient near eastern history, culture, archeology, and the history of scriptural interpretation; medieval Jewish thought and intellectual history; German-Jewish literature and culture; and modern Jewish history, philosophy, and culture.

The Chicago Center for Jewish Studies was created in 2009 to catalyze and cultivate dialogue among the numerous disciplines, scholars, and students engaged in Jewish Studies at Chicago. Building on the particularly theoretical and interdisciplinary intellectual culture of the University, the Center aims to foster rich conversations among the disciplines that raise new questions and make unexplored connections and is actively developing new models for undergraduate and graduate education in Jewish Studies.

Students interested in pursuing graduate level Jewish Studies at Chicago should apply to the appropriate department for admission. They should also consult with Center faculty about the many opportunities at the University to pursue research that crosses departmental boundaries and integrates multiple disciplinary approaches. The Center is developing institutional structures to enhance students’ departmental training and awards dissertation year fellowships and travel and research grants to graduate and undergraduate students.

For more information about the Center, email us at: ccjs@uchicago.edu.
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Theme 2011-2012

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Head Fellow Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan

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Past fellows have come to the Frankel Institute from such diverse fields as law, European and American Jewish history, archaeology, and anthropology and include such notable scholars as Anthony Bale, Shlomo Berger, Alexandre Kedar, Scott Lerner, Barbara Mann, Chava Weissler, Aharon Oppenheimer, Leora Auslander, and Hana Wirth-Nesher.

For more information and application materials contact
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(734) 763-9047 or JudaicStudies@umich.edu
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The Center is made up of 35 faculty and staff from 17 departments, with interests in the Humanities, the Social Sciences, Education, Law, and the Arts. The Center offers a Major (with a separate track available in Education and Jewish Studies) and a Certificate in Jewish Studies. Some scholarship support is available at the undergraduate and graduate level.

For information about the Center’s programs, including its annual Greenfield Summer Institute and the Conney Project in Judaism and the Arts, please contact:

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