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WORK HISTORY

University of Connecticut

Professor, Hebrew & Judaic Studies and Comparative Literature
 Dept. of Literatures, Cultures and Languages, August 2012 –

Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion (Cincinnati, OH)

Professor, Hebrew Literature, 2001-2012.

Associate Professor, 1996-2001; Assistant Professor, 1993-1996.

Courses include introductory surveys and electives in medieval and modern Hebrew literature; I have covered the medieval Jewish history survey and will cover a required survey on the prophetic literature of the Bible in the spring 2011.

University of Maryland, Dept. of Hebrew and East Asian Languages (College Park, MD)

Visiting Lecturer, 1992-1993.

Courses: Biblical Poetry; Modern Israeli Fiction; Hebrew Bible as Literature;
 Holocaust Fiction.

New York University - General Studies Program (NY, NY), 1990-1992.

Adjunct: Introd. to Ancient Western Civilization; Medieval & Renaissance Civilization;
 Student advisement; Higher Education Opportunities Program (HEOP) instruction.

Manhattan School of Music, Humanities Department (NY, NY), 1990-1992.

Adjunct: The Artist & Social Responsibility; Readings on Art and Performance Theory.

Colgate University – Dept. of Philosophy & Religion (Hamilton, NY)

Visiting Instructor and Chaplain to Jewish Students, 1987-88.

Courses: The Bible as Literature; GNED (General Education) Introduction to Western Civilization; Israeli Fiction.

EDUCATION

October 1991 - Ph.D., English & Comparative Literature (M.Phil., honors, 1986; M.A., 1978)

Columbia University, NY, NY. Dissertation: *Mu'arad&a as a Key to the Literary Unity of the Muwashshah&*, supervised by Joan Ferrante (with Pierre Cachia of Columbia and Menahem Schmelzer of the Jewish Theological Seminary).

May 1983 - Rabbinic ordination (M.A.H.L., 1981) Hebrew Union College - NY.

May 1976 - B.A., Mathematics, *magna cum laude*, Brown University, Providence, RI.

AWARDS

2009-10 : New York Public Library, Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, fellow.

Spring 2006: John Simon Guggenheim Foundation fellowship (awarded spring 2004).
 Spring 2005: American Philosophical Society, sabbatical grant.

2004-05 : Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, NJ (fall member, spring visitor).
 Spring 2000: National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, NC, fellow.
 Fall 1999 : Shelby Cullom Davis Center, Princeton University, NJ, fellow.
 1988-1989 : National Foundation for Jewish Culture, dissertation fellowship.
 1986-1987 : Fullbright Foundation dissertation fellowship (Jerusalem)
 1983 : Lady Davis Foundation Fellowship trust (not used)
 1980-1983 : HUC-JIR: Rabbi Harold Gordon Memorial Prize for general excellence (1982);
 Rabbi Hugo Hahn Memorial Prize in History (1982); Rebekah Kohut Memorial Prize for best
 essay on Hebrew Poetry (1982); Rebekah Kohut prize in Bible (1980); Aaroni Prize in Modern
 Hebrew (1980).

PUBLICATIONS and PAPERS

BOOKS, PUBLISHED LECTURES.

No Place of Rest: Medieval Jewish Literature, Expulsion, and the Memory of France (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009).

Beautiful Death: Jewish Poetry and Martyrdom in Medieval France (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2002).

Trial by Fire: Burning Jewish Books. (Published lecture) Lectures on Medieval Judaism at Trinity University, Occasional Papers, III (Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications, Western Michigan University, 2000). 35pp.

ARTICLES, ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

“Prison Prologues: Jewish Prison Writing from Late Medieval Aragon and Provence,” *Journal of Medieval Religious Cultures* 38.2 (2012): 137-58 (forthcoming, 2012).

“Seeing the Blind: The Lament for Uri haLevi and Hysterical Blindness among Medieval Jews,” forthcoming, special issue of *Jewish Studies Quarterly* edited by Eli Yassif (2013).

“Moses Rimos: Poems and Recipes of a Jewish Physician in Italy,” in press, *The Experience of Jewish Liturgy: Studies Dedicated to Menahem Schmelzer*, ed. Debra Blank (Leiden: Brill, 2011), 63-81.

“Moses of Roquemaure: Poetry, Polemic, and Conversion,” in *Giving a Diamond: Essays in Honor of Joseph Yahalom on the Occasion of his 70th Birthday*, eds. Wout van Bekkum, Naoya Katsumata (Leiden: Brill – *Études sur le Judaïsme Médiéval* XLIX, 2011), 279-92.

“Meir Alguades: History, Empathy, and Martyrdom,” *Religion and Literature*, ed. Kathryn Kerby-Fulton (South Bend, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2010), 185-209.

“Moses Rimos: Poetry, Poison and History,” *Italia* 20 (2010): 67-91.

“Theory and Practice: A Jewish Physician in Paris and Avignon,” *Association for Jewish Studies Review* 33.1 (April 2009), 135-154.

“Poetry, Medieval: Christian Europe.” Entry, *Cambridge Dictionary of Judaism & Jewish Culture*, ed., Judith Baskin (Cambridge, 2011), 480-82.

“Recall from Exile: Literature, Memory and Medieval French Jews,” *Jewish Quarterly Studies*, 15.3 (2008), 225-240.

“God’s Forgotten Sheep: Jewish Poetry and the Expulsion from France (1306),” *Masoret haPiyut* 4, eds. Benjamin Bar Tikva and Ephraim Hazan (Ramat Gan: Bar Ilan University, 2008), 55*-82*.

“The Jewish Martyrs of Grenoble: Martyrdom and Biography,” ed. Philip Soergel, *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History: Nation, Ethnicity, and Identity in Medieval and Renaissance Europe* (NY: AMS Press, 2006), 1-25.

“On the Borders of Exile: The Poetry of Solomon Simhah of Troyes,” in Teodolinda Barolini, ed., *Medieval Constructions in Gender and Identity: Essays in Honor of Joan M. Ferrante* (Tempe, Arizona, Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2005), 69-86.

“A Proper Diet: Medicine and History in Crescas Caslari’s *Esther* (1327),” *Speculum* 80.2 (2005): 437-63.

“Hebrew Poems for ‘the Day of Shutting In’: Problems and Methods.” *Revue des Études Juives*. 163/1-2 (Jan-Jun 2004): 111-35.

Entry, “Jewish Hagiography,” *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*. Supplement volume. 2004.

“Signs of Romance: Hebrew Prose in the Twelfth Century Renaissance,” in *Jews and Christians in Twelfth-Century Europe*, eds. Michael A. Signer and John van Engen (Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame, 2000), 221-34.

“Meir of Norwich: Persecution and Poetry among Medieval English Jews,” *Journal of Medieval History* 26.2 (2000): 145-63.

“Jewish Women Martyrs: Changing Representations,” *Exemplaria* 12.1 (2000): 105-128.

“The Troyes Elegies: Jewish Martyrology in Hebrew and Old French,” *Viator* 30 (1999): 201-230.

“Pucellina of Blois: Romantic Myths and Narrative Conventions” *Jewish History* 12:1 (1998):29-46.

Minhag 'Ammi - My People's Prayer Book I - The Sh'ma and its Blessings, ed. Lawrence A. Hoffman (Vermont, Jewish Lights Publishing, 1997). Commentary on medieval perspectives on and interpretations of the standard morning liturgy.

Review-essay, *Women of the Word: Jewish Women and Jewish Writing*, ed. Judith R. Baskin; for *The American Jewish Archives* (Fall-Winter 1996):245-250.

"The Muwashshah-like Zajal: A New Source for a Hebrew Poem," *Medieval Encounters* 1.2 (1995):252-270. Errata, 2.2 (1996).

"Shem Tov Arduziel's Battle of the Pen and Scissors" *Hebrew Union College Annual* 65 (1994): 261-276.

"The Muwashshah and the Borders of Scholarship," *Acta* 19 (1994): 29-43.

"The Current Debate on the Muwashshah," *Prooftexts* 9.2 (1989): 161-177.

Review-essay, "Rebuilding the Sources, Resourceful New Builders," on Barry Holtz, *Back to the Sources, Response* 15.1 (1986): 95-98.

Review-essay, "Alter vs. Frye: Which Bible?" *Prooftexts* 4.1 (1984): 301-308.

TRANSLATIONS

"Yedaiah Bedersi's *Elef Alafin*," in *Studies in Arabic and Hebrew Letters in Honor of Raymond P. Scheindlin*, eds. Jonathan Decker and Michael Rand (NJ: Gorgias Press, 2007), 37-46.

"Martyrs in the Rhineland: Rabbi Eliezer b. Nathan ("Raban"), *O God, Insolent Men*," in Barbara H. Rosenwein, *Reading the Middle Ages: Sources from Europe, Byzantium, and the Islamic World* (Ontario: Broadview Press, 2006), 286-89.

With Kamal Boullata and Mirène Ghossein, *If Only the Sea Could Sleep: Love Poems by Adonis* (København & Los Angeles: Green Integer, 2003).

"The Jewish Martyrs of Blois," annotated translations and introduction; in *Medieval Hagiography: A Sourcebook*, ed. Thomas Head (Garland: 1999; NY & London: Routledge, 2001), 537-61.

Iya, by Shimon Ballas, in *New Writing From Israel*, ed. Ammiel Alcalay (NY: City Lights, 1996):69-99.

With Kamal Boullata, "Transformations of the Lover," by Adonis, *Michigan Quarterly Review* 31.4 (1992): 620-623.

"We Were Like Those Who Dream: Iraqi-Jewish Writers in Israel in the 1950's," by Reuven Snir, *Prooftexts* 11.2 (1991): 153-173.

LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

Forthcoming paper, conference organized by Universitaet Heidelberg, Central European University and the University of Nantes. Conference title: "Religious and Ethnic Identities in the Process of Expulsion and Diaspora Formation (12th-17th Centuries)". June 5-8, 2013 (Budapest).

Forthcoming paper, Association for Jewish Studies, session title: "Mapping Readership: New Directions in Medieval Jewish Culture." Paper title: "Crescas Caslari and Arnau of Vilanova: Translation or Authorship?" December 2012 (Chicago).

Paper, "A Death in Wisdom's Court: Poetry and Martyrdom in Late Medieval Castile." Conference sponsored by the Medieval Institute and History Department of Notre Dame University, in honor of John van Engen. March 9-10, 2012.

Paper – same talk, Conference on "Religious Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge: The Brighter Side of Inter-religious Debates in Medieval Europe." Organized by Gad Freudenthal (Univ. of Geneva) and Harvey James (Ben Gurion University, Israel), Geneva, Switzerland, February 2012.

"An Old French Translation of a Hebrew Piyyut," Conference on Latin and Vernacular Translations of Hebrew Texts in the 12th and 13th Century, University of Ruhr, Bochum Germany, organized by Elisabeth Hollender and Goerge Hasselhoff, September 20-21, 2011.

Paper, "Prison Prologues: Jewish Writing from Prison in Aragon and Provence," 46th International Congress of Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI), May 12-15, 2010.

Lecture, "Seeing the Blind," Medieval Studies Program, Yale University, October 28, 2010.

Lecture, "Seeing the Blind," Jewish Studies Program, Wesleyan University, October 7, 2010.

Lecture, "When the Ending Comes First: The Death of Meir Alguades," CUNY Graduate Center conference on Coexistence in Early Modern Europe, organizers Richard McCoy and Claire Carroll, April 23, 2010.

Lecture, "Seeing the Blind: Misreadings of the Jewish Past," Delaware Valley Medieval Association, Temple University, April 17, 2010.

Lecture, “Mercury’s Scribes” (revised as “Seeing the Blind”), NY Public Library Cullman Center for Writers & Scholars, April 14, 2010.

Paper, “Jewish Poetry and Physicians: The Poem of Moses de Roquemaure”, Medieval Academy of America, Yale University, March 18-20, 2010.

Lecture, “Meir Alguades: History and Poetry,” Ludwig Maximilien University, Munich, Germany, January 20, 2010.

Paper, “Meir Alguades: Revisiting the Sources,” conference on “Religion and Law in the Global Middle Ages,” Center for Medieval Studies, University of Minnesota, October 25, 2009 (forthcoming).

Paper, “Moses Rimos: Poetry, Poison and History,” International Congress of Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 11, 2009.

Lecture, “A Lament for Moses Rimos: Poetry, Poison, and History,” University of Michigan, November 14, 2008.

Paper, “From Paris to Avignon: A French-Jewish physician in the Papal Court,” conference titled “Science and Philosophy in Ashkenazi Culture: Rejection, Toleration and Accommodation,” Institute for Advanced Study and the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, Jan. 8-10, 2008.

Paper, “Theory and Praxis: A Jewish Physician’s Approach to Christian Learning,” Association for Jewish Studies, 39th annual conference, Dec. 16-18, 2007, Toronto, ONT.

Lecture, “Memories of Exile: Jewish Poetry from Medieval Provence,” conference (“The Persistence of Philology”), University of Toronto, March 15-17, 2007.

Plenary Lecture, “Recall from Exile: Literature, Memory and Medieval French Jews (1306),” conference commemorating the 700th anniversary of the expulsion of French Jews, Princeton University, October 19-20, 2006.

Lecture, “Physicians, Poetry and the Plague: Jacob b. Solomon of Avignon,” Hochschule für Judische Studien, Heidelberg, Germany, July 19, 2006.

Paper, “Peretz Trabot: A Hebrew Poet, the Expulsion of 1394, and Memory in Exile.” International Medieval Congress at Western Michigan University, 4-7 May 2006, Kalamazoo.

Lecture, “Refrains in Exile: Jewish Poetry from northern Italy.” Northwestern University, Chicago. March 2006.

Lecture, “Beginning with Alef: Poetry and the Expulsion of the Jews from France (1306).” Judaic Studies Program, Princeton University, March 23, 2005.

Lecture, "Isaac haGorni: the Man, the Myth, and the Manuscript." Institute for Advanced Study, November 15, 2004. A similar version of this talk was given at Boston University, February 23, 2005.

Lecture, "A New Look at a Hebrew Star: Isaac haGorni and MS Munich Cod. Heb.128." University of Pennsylvania, History of Material Texts Seminar, November 8, 2004.

Paper, "Beginning with *Alef*: Hebrew mono-letter poems from medieval Provence." Medieval Hebrew Poetry Colloquium (under the aegis of the European Association for Jewish Studies). Aix-en-provence, June 2004.

Paper, "A Proper Diet: Medicine and History in Crescas Caylar's *Esther* (1327)." 39th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, May 2004.

Lecture, "Jewish Poetry & the Expulsion from France," Medieval Club of NY, April 4, 2003.

Lecture, "God's Forgotten Sheep: Jewish Poetry and the Expulsion from France (1306)." Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, February 14, 2003.

Lecture, "Martyrdom, Exile, and Idealized Biography: Jewish Poetry from Medieval France." Ohio State University, Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies. Nov. 15, 2002.

Paper, "The Poetry of Expulsion: Reuven b. Isaac and the Expulsion of 1306." Leeds International Medieval Congress, Univ. of Leeds, Leeds, UK, July 2002.

Paper, "Holy Week Violence: Ritual and *Mouvance*," International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2002.

Paper, "Hebrew Poems for the 'Day of Shutting In,'" Colloquium on Medieval Hebrew Poetry, sponsored by the European Association of Jewish Studies (EAJS); University of Granada, Granada, Spain, Feb. 10-13, 2002.

Lecture, "On the Borders of Exile: Hebrew Poetry from France and the Expulsion of 1306," Columbia University, NY; Nov. 10, 2001.

Paper, "Jewish Martyrological Poetry and Conversion in Medieval Northern France," Ohio State University conference on *Rabbinic Culture and its Critics: Jews, Heretics, Apostates, and Others*, Oct. 20, 2001.

Paper, "Once and Future Thoughts on the Hebrew *King Artus*," 36th International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), 3-6 May 2001.

Lecture, "Trial by Fire: Burning Jewish Books in Medieval Jewish History and Literature," Trinity University, San Antonio, TX, April 9, 2000.

Paper, "The Voice from the Fire: Hebrew Martyrological Literature from Medieval Europe," Shelby Collum Davis Center, Princeton University, Dec. 3, 1999.

Paper, "Behold the Fire Does Not Burn Us: The Blois Laments (1171)," International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, May 1999.

Lecture, "The Representation of Women in Hebrew Martyrology of the Middle Ages," Tel Aviv University, April 12, 1999.

Lecture, "Jewish Martyrs and Texts" Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, University of Pennsylvania, March 3, 1999.

Paper: "Jonathan and the Magic Book That Failed," European Association for Jewish Studies, Toledo (Spain), July 17, 1998.

Paper: "The Troyes Elegies: Comparing Jewish Martyrs in Hebrew and Old French" International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, May 1998.

Paper, "Medieval Representations of Martyrdom in Prose and Verse," Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, MA, Dec. 1996.

Paper, "Pucelina of Blois: Women Martyrs and Narrative Conventions," Midwest Jewish Studies Colloquium, Ohio State Univ., May 1996.

Paper, "A Sense of Self: Literary Features of Hebrew Martyrological Piyyut in the 12th-13th Centuries," Association for Jewish Studies, Boston MA, Dec. 1995.

Paper, "Questions of Genre and Style in Medieval Hebrew Martyrology," National Association of Professors of Hebrew, Orlando, FLA, May 1995.

Paper, "Narrative Structure in Shimon Ballas' *Iya*," National Association of Professors of Hebrew, Berkeley, CA, May 1994.

Paper, "Shem Tov Arduziel and Medieval Techniques for Representing Interiority," Southern Comparative Literature Conference, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC, October 1992.

REVIEWS

Tobi, Yosef. *Between Hebrew and Arabic Poetry: Studies in Spanish Medieval Hebrew Poetry*. Series: Medieval and Renaissance Authors and Texts 5. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2010. TMR 12.05.01 (online).

Sylvia DiDonato, ed., *Bibliothèque Nationale de France: Hébreu 214 à 259 – Commentaires bibliques*. Volume 3 of *Manuscrits en caractères hébreux conservés dans les bibliothèques de France* (Turnout 2011), TMR 11.11.04 (online).

Sarit Shalev-Eyni, *Jews among Christians: Hebrew Book Illumination from Lake Constance* (Turnhout, 2010), *Speculum* xxx (2012): xxx.

Sylvia DiDonato, *Manuscrits en caractères hébreux conservés dans les bibliothèques de France. Volume 3 – Hébreu 214 à 259, Commentaires bibliques* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2011). *The Medieval Review*, forthcoming.

Sarit Shalev-Eyni, *Jews among Christians: Hebrew Book Illumination from Lake Constance*. (London & Turnhout: Brepols, 2010). *Speculum*, forthcoming.

Kirsten Fudemann, *Vernacular Voices: Language and Identity in Medieval French Jewish Communities* (Philadelphia 2010), *H-France Review* 11, no. 181 (2011): 1-4. <http://www.h-france.net/voll1reviews/voll1no181Einbinder.pdf>

Raymond Scheindlin, *Pilgrimage Poems of Judah Halevi* (Cambridge University 2008). *Conservative Judaism*, vol. 61.4 (summer 2010), 89-91.

Simha Goldin, *The Ways of Jewish Martyrdom* (Brepols 2007). *The Medieval Review* (electronic issue TMR 09.02.06), appeared February 10, 2009.

Dvora Bregman, *The Golden Way. The Hebrew Sonnet during the Renaissance and the Baroque*, transl. Ann Brener (ACMRS, 2006). *Journal of Jewish Studies*, 59.2 (Autumn 2008), 343-45.

Peter Cole, *The Dream of the Poem: Hebrew Poetry from Muslim and Christian Spain* (Princeton University Press, 2007). *Speculum* 83.4 (2008): 973-74.

Francisco Javier del Barco del Barco, ed., *Catálogo de Manuscritos Hebreos de la Comunidad de Madrid* (Madrid: Consejo superior de investigaciones científicas, 2003), Vol. 1. *Manuscripta* 52.1 (2008): 175-79.

Israel Jacob Yuval, *Two Nations in Your Womb: Perceptions of Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages*. *Speculum* 82.3 (July 2007): 780-81.

Ross Brann and Adam Sutcliffe, eds., *Renewing the Past, Reconfiguring Jewish Culture: from al-Andalus to the Haskalah*. SMART (Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Texts), 12.1 (Spring 2005): 87-93.

Tova Rosen, *Unveiling Eve: Reading Gender in Medieval Hebrew Literature*. *Speculum* 80.1 (January 2005): 313-16.

Ephraim Kanarfogel, *Peering Through the Lattices: Mystical, Magical and Pietistic Dimensions in the Tosafist Perio*. *Speculum* 77.1 (January 2003): 213-15.

David Slavitt, transl. and introd., *A Crown for the King by Solomon ibn Gabirol*. *Hebrew Studies* 41 (2000): 348-50.

Leon Weinberger, ed. and transl., *Twilight of a Golden Age: Selected Poems of Abraham Ibn Ezra*. *AJS Review* 24.2 (1999): 389-91.

Norman A. Stillman, *Sephardi Religious Responses to Modernity*. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 118.1(1998):109-110.

Nancy E. Berg, *Exile from Exile: Israeli Writers from Iraq*. *Middle East Studies Bulletin* 31(1997): 114.

Joseph Chetrit, *Written Judeo-Arabic Poetry in North Africa* [in Hebrew]. *Journal of Jewish Studies* 48.1 (1997): 207-208.

Isaac Ben Abu, ed., *Circa 1492: Proceedings of the Jerusalem Colloquium: Litterae Judeaorum in Terra Hispanica*. *Journal of Jewish Studies* 67.2 (1996): 385-387.

Other:

2012 – present: editorial board, *Jewish History*.

2006- present: editorial board, *Prooftexts*.

2006-09: editorial board, *History Compass* (on-line journal: see www.historycompass.com)

2003 – 06: Program chair, Hagiography Society (Kalamazoo sessions).

2003- 12: Editorial board, Hebrew Union College Press.

2001 – 05: *Encyclopedia of Holiness* (Garland), ed. Phyllis Jestice.

2001- present; Advisory Council on Medieval Studies, Princeton University.

1999- present; Editorial board, *Studies in Bibliography & Booklore* (HUC).

Memberships: Association for Jewish Studies, American Historical Association, Medieval Association of the Midwest, Medieval Academy, Hagiography Society.