

Christine Elizabeth Hayes
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Yale University, Sterling Professor Emerita of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica Sterling Professor of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica 2021- 2023; Robert F. and Patricia R. Weis Professor of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica, 2005-21 (Full 2002-05; Associate 1999-02; Assistant 1996-99); Department chair, 2011-15. Retired June 2023
Princeton University, Assistant Professor of Hebrew Studies, 1993-1996
Yale University, Instructor, spring 1993
UC Berkeley, Teaching Assistant and Instructor, 1989 and 1991

OTHER ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

Caroline Zelaznik Gruss and Joseph S. Gruss Visiting Professor in Talmudic Civil Law, Harvard Law School, Spring 2024
The Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Faculty, Rabbinical Ordination Track, 2024-
Member Academic Collegium, Co-Producing Religion, Princeton IAS and University of Bern, 2023-
Research Fellow, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, Hamburg University, Summer, 2023
Radzyner School of Law, Reichman University, IDC Herzliya, Visiting Professor, June 2023
University of Pennsylvania Law School, Gruss Professor of Jewish Law, spring 2018
Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Fellow in residence, spring 2018
University of Antwerp, 2016 Chair for Jewish-Christian Relations, March 2016
Tel Aviv University Buchmann Faculty of Law, Visiting Professor at the Zvi Meitar Center, December 2015-January 2016; taught intensive 4-week course
Tel Aviv University Law Faculty, Fellow, Mortimer and Raymond Sackler Institute of Advanced Studies, 2015-16
The Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Senior Research Fellow, 2015-
Cardozo Law School, Affiliate in the Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization, 2009-2016

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D., Spring, 1993. Talmudic and Judaic Studies (Dept. of Near Eastern Studies). Exchange student at **Yale University**, 1992
University of California, Berkeley, M.A., December, 1988. Awarded **Distinction**. Exchange student at the **Hebrew University** in Jerusalem, 1987-88
Harvard University, B.A., March, 1984. Study of Religion. **Summa Cum Laude**

SELECTED AWARDS (see additional honors and awards below)

Honorary Doctoral Degree from the Theology Faculty of Lund University, Sweden, May 2023
Elected to the American Academy of Jewish Research, June, 2008
Mellon New Directions Fellowship, awarded 2003 for use in 2005-06

AREAS OF RESEARCH SPECIALIZATION and TEACHING COMPETENCE

Research and Teaching: Rabbinic and Talmudic Studies. Talmudic Law. History and Literature of Judaism in Late Antiquity. Hebrew Bible. Midrash.

Additional Teaching areas: Second Temple Judaism. Medieval Jewish Exegesis. Legal Theory. Hebrew and Aramaic Languages.

BOOKS

Laughter, Humor, and Play in Rabbinic Literature (working title) in progress

What's Divine About Divine Law? Early Perspectives. Princeton University Press, 2015.

- Winner of the **2015 National Jewish Book award** in the category of Scholarship;
- Winner of the **2016 Jordan Schnitzer award** from the Association for Jewish Studies;
- Winner of the **2016 PROSE award** in the category of Theology and Religious Studies, given by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing (PSP) Division of the Association of American Publishers (AAP).
- Marginalia Interview: “Christine Hayes on the Nature of Divine Law” can be heard at <http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/first-impressions-92-christine-hayes-nature-divine-law/>

Introduction to the Bible. Yale University Press, 2012.

The Emergence of Judaism: Classical Traditions in Contemporary Perspective. Fortress Press, 2010.

Gentile Impurities and Jewish Identities: Inter-marriage and Conversion from the Bible to the Talmud, Oxford University Press, 2002. Finalist, 2003 National Jewish Book Award.

Between the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmuds, Oxford University Press, 1997. Awarded the Salo Baron Prize for a first book in Jewish Thought and Literature, by the American Academy for Jewish Research, 1999.

EDITED VOLUMES

What is Talmud? Harvard University Press, forthcoming 2025.

The Literature of the Sages: A Revisioning, Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum, new series. Leiden: Brill, 2022.

Classic Essays in Early Rabbinic Culture and History. Routledge Press. Spring, 2018.

The Cambridge Companion to Judaism and Law. Cambridge University Press (UK), March 2017.

CO-EDITED VOLUMES

The Faces of Torah: Studies in Texts and their Contexts in Ancient Judaism in honor of Steven Fraade. Co-editors Tzvi Novick and Michal Bar-Asher Siegal. JAJ Supplements, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht. 2017.

The Interaction of Jewish and Other Legal Systems from Ancient to Modern Times. Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Jewish Law Association. Co-editor Amos Israel. 2014.
Current Issues in Priestly and Related Literature: The Legacy of Jacob Milgrom and Beyond. Sub-editor. SBL Press, March 2015.

ANTHOLOGIES

- “Rabbinic Literature” in Carol Bakos (ed.) *Ancient Judaism*, vol 2, *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization: Anthology of Primary Sources, Documents, Texts, and Artifacts in 10 vols*, James E. Young (ed.), (New Haven: YUP, 2022).
- “Halakah” in Carol Bakos (ed.) *Ancient Judaism*, vol 2, *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization: Anthology of Primary Sources, Documents, Texts, and Artifacts in 10 vols*, James E. Young (ed.), (New Haven: YUP, 2022).
- “Real and Imagined Others” in Carol Bakos (ed.) *Ancient Judaism*, vol 2, *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization: Anthology of Primary Sources, Documents, Texts, and Artifacts in 10 vols*, James E. Young (ed.), (New Haven: YUP, 2022).

TRANSLATIONS:

- Mishnah Tractate Avodah Zarah, in *The Oxford Annotated Mishnah*, ed. Sh. Cohen and H. Lapin (Oxford University Press), 2022.
- Ephraim Urbach’s “The *Derashah* as the Basis for the *Halakhah* and the Problem of the *Soferim*,” in *Classic Essays in Early Rabbinic Culture and History*, ed. Christine Hayes. Routledge Press, 2018. Originally published as *הדרשה כיסוד ההלכה ובעיית הסופרים*, *Tarbits* 27:2-3 (1958) 166-182.

ON-LINE COURSE/PODCASTS

- TEXTing, a podcast of the Shalom Hartman Institute, recurring guest. Episodes:
- “[To Laugh or to Cry](#),” February 2024.
 - “[Loss and Uncertainty](#),” January 2024.
- Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. 24 lecture Yale College course with supplemental materials.
<http://oyc.yale.edu/religious-studies>
- “[The Conversion Episode](#),” *Adventures in Jewish Studies*, The Association of Jewish Studies podcast, Season 2, episode 5.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- “Rabbinic Literature: To See and See Again,” in *NTT Journal for Theology and the Study of Religion*, forthcoming.
- “Jews and Judaism in the Roman Empire, 284-641.” In *The Oxford History of the Roman World*, vol 11, Late Antiquity: Religion, Culture, and Society, ed. Noel Lenski, David Potter, Nathan Rosenstein. Oxford UP. Forthcoming, 2024.
- “Seas of Ink and Reeds for Pens: The Migrations of a Topos of Inexhaustibility,” in *Making History: Studies in Rabbinic Literature, History, and Culture in Honor of Richard L. Kalmin*, eds. Carol Bakos and Alyssa Gray. 2024.
- “The Principle of Sufficient Reason in Religion,” in *The Principle of Sufficient Reason*, Oxford Philosophical Concepts, eds. F. Amijee and M. Della Rocca. Oxford UP. Forthcoming, 2024.

- “Truth, Goodness, and the Rabbis” in *These Truths We Hold: Judaism in an age of Truthiness*, eds. W. Zierler and J. Garroway. Hebrew Union College Press, 2022, pp. 35-50.
- “Intertextuality and Tannaic Literature: A History,” in *The Literature of the Sages: A Revisioning*, Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum, new series. Leiden: Brill, 2022, pp. 95-216.
- “Negotiating Identities – A Response” in *Negotiating Identities*, ed. Anders Runesson, Cecilia Wassen, Karin Zetterholm, Magnus Zetterholm, JSJ Supplements (Brill, forthcoming 2022).
- “Judging the Law: Rabbinic Perspectives on the Uncivil Law of Rome,” in *Legal Engagement: The Reception of Roman Law and Tribunals by Jews and Other Inhabitants of the Empire*, eds. K. Berthelot, N. B. Dohrmann and C. Nemo-Pekelman (Rome: Ecole Francaise de Rome, 2021).
- “Jewish Legal Interpretation and Legal Reasoning” in *The Jewish Legal Tradition*, ed. Suzanne Last Stone, Ari Mermelstein, Yair Lorberbaum (forthcoming).
- “A Text in Search of a Method: Where is the Talmud in the Scholarship on Jewish Antiquity?” in *Centenary Volume of the American Academy of Jewish Research*, 2020, 104-118.
- “Reading Nomos and Narrative” in *The New Jewish Canon*, ed. Yehuda Kurtzer (Academic Studies Press, 2020).
- “Halakhah between Historicism and Dogmatism,” *Villanova Law Review*, 64:5 (2019), pp. 679-685.
- “Roman and Jewish Law: Looking for Interaction in all the Right Places. *Law and History Review*, 37:4 (2019), 955-959.
- “Roman Power through Rabbinic Eyes: Tragedy or Comedy” in *Reconsidering Roman Power: Roman, Greek, Jewish and Christian Perceptions and Reactions*, ed. Katell Berthelot (Rome: Ecole Francaise de Rome, 2019), 443-71.
- “Thiessen and Kaden on Paul and the Gentiles” in *Journal for the Study of Paul and His Letters*, 7 no 1 - 2 (2018) pp 68-79.
- “Inventing Rabbis” in *Early Judaism: New Insights and Scholarship*, ed. Frederick Greenspahn, (New York: New York University Press, 2018), pp. 199-226.
- “The Complicated Goy in Classical Rabbinic Sources” in *Perceiving the Other*, eds. Michal Bar Asher Siegal, Matthew Thiessen (Mohr Siebeck, 2017), pp 147-167.
- “Heaven on Earth: The World to Come and its (Dis)locations” in *Olam he-zeh v'olam ha-ba: This World and the World to Come in Jewish Belief and Practice*, ed. Leonard Greenspoon (University of Nebraska Press, 2017), pp. 69-90.
- “Were the Noahide Commandments formulated at Yavne? T. AZ 8(9):4-9 in Cultural and Historical Context” in *Yavne Revisited: the Historical Rabbis and the Rabbis of History*, ed. J. Schwartz, P. Tomson, CRINT series (Leiden: Brill, 2017), pp. 225-264.
- “‘The Torah was not given to Ministering Angels’: Rabbinic Aspirationalism” in *Talmudic Transgressions: Engaging the Work of Daniel Boyarin*, eds. Charlotte Fonrobert, Ishay Rosen-Zvi, Aharon Shemesh, Moulie Vidas, (Leiden: Brill, 2017) pp. 123-60.
- “Law in Classical Rabbinic Judaism,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Judaism and Law*, ed. C. Hayes (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017) pp. 76-127.
- “What is Bavli: A Response,” *The Talmud Blog*, March 29, 2015
<https://thetalmudblog.wordpress.com/?p=4566&shareadraft=5517f70b6f634>

- “‘In the West, they laughed at him:’ The Babylonian Talmud’s Mocking Realists,” in *The Journal of Law, Religion and State* 2:2 (2013) pp. 137-167.
- “Legal Realism and the Fashioning of Sectarians in Jewish Antiquity,” in *Sects and Sectarianism in Jewish History*, University College London (2011) pp. 119-148.
- “Theoretical Pluralism in the Talmud: A Response to Richard Hidary,” in *Dine Yisrael: Studies in Halakhah and Jewish Law* 25 (2010) pp. 257-307
- “Legal Truth, Right Answers and Best Answers: Dworkin and the Rabbis” in *Dine Yisrael: Studies in Halakhah and Jewish Law* 25 (2008) pp. 73-121.
- “What is (the) Mishnah? Concluding Observations” in *Association for Jewish Studies Review* 32 (2008) 2:291-97.
- Response to John Witte’s “More than a Mere Contract” posted to the Religion & Culture Web Forum of the Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion, 2008.
- “The “Other” in Rabbinic Literature” in *The Cambridge Companion to the Talmud and Rabbinic Literature*, ed. Martin Jaffee and Charlotte Fonrobert (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007) pp. 43-269.
- “Rabbinic Contestations of Authority.” *Cardozo Law Review* 28:1 (2006) pp. 123-141. *Text, Tradition, and Reason in Comparative Perspective*, ed. Suzanne Last Stone and Adam Seligmann.
- “Golden Calf Stories: The Relationship of Ex 32 and Deuteronomy 9-10” in *The Idea of Biblical Interpretation*, ed. Hindy Najman and Judith H. Newman (Leiden: Brill, 2004) pp. 45-94.
- “Authority and Anxiety in the Talmuds: Legal Fictions” in *Jewish Religious Leadership: Images and Reality* (New York: JTSA, 2004) vol 1, pp. 127-54.
- “Genealogy, Illegitimacy, and Personal Status: The Yerushalmi in Comparative Perspective.” *The Talmud Yerushalmi and Graeco-Roman Culture III*, ed. P. Schäfer (Tubingen: Mohr, 2003) pp. 73-90.
- “Palestinian Rabbinic Attitudes to Intermarriage in Historical and Cultural Context.” In *Jewish Culture and Society under the Christian Roman Empire*. Ed. Seth Schwartz and Richard Kalmin. (Leuven: Peeters, 2003) pp. 11-64.
- “Do Converts to Judaism Require Purification? M. Pes 8:8 -- An Interpretative Crux Solved.” *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, 9/4 (2002) pp. 327-352
- “Halakhah le-Moshe mi-Sinai in Rabbinic Sources: A Methodological Case Study.” *The Synoptic Problem in Rabbinic Literature*, ed. Shaye J. D. Cohen (Providence, RI: Brown Judaic Studies, 2000) pp. 61-118.
- “Parallelism and Inversion in Lev 21:1b-15” in *Leviticus 17-22*, by Jacob Milgrom. The Anchor Bible. (New York: Doubleday, 2000) pp.1834-1836.
- “Judeophobia: Peter Schäfer on the Origins of Anti-Semitism.” *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, 6/3 (1999) pp. 261-273.
- “Intermarriage and Impurity in Ancient Jewish Sources.” *Harvard Theological Review* 92/1 (1999) pp. 3-36.
- “The Abrogation of Torah Law: Rabbinic Taqqanah and Praetorian Edict.” *The Talmud Yerushalmi and Graeco-Roman Culture*, ed. P. Schäfer (Tubingen: J.C.B. Mohr, 1998) pp. 643-674.

- “Displaced Self-Perceptions: The Deployment of *Minim* and Romans in Bavli Sanhedrin 90b-91a.” *Religious and Ethnic Communities in Later Roman Palestine*, ed. Hayim Lapin. (Potomac, Md: University of Maryland Press, 1998) pp. 249-289.
- “Response to Jacob Neusner.” *Journal for the Study of Judaism*, 27/3 (1996) pp. 324-333.
- “Amoraic Interpretation and Halakhic Development: The Case of the Prohibited Basilica.” *Journal for the Study of Judaism*, 26/2 (1995) pp. 156-168.
- “The Midrashic Career of the Confession of Judah (Genesis xxxviii 26), Part I: The Extra-Canonical Texts, Targums and Other Versions.” *Vetus Testamentum* 45/1 (1995) pp. 62-81.
- “The Midrashic Career of the Confession of Judah (Genesis xxxviii 26), Part II: The Rabbinic Midrashim.” *Vetus Testamentum* 45/2 (1995) pp. 174-187.
- Review Essay on David Kraemer's *The Mind of the Talmud*. *JAGNES* (Journal of the Assoc. of Grad. Near East. Stud.), Fall 1991, pp. 44-48.
- “Word Order in Biblical Aramaic.” *JAGNES* Fall 1990, pp. 2-12.

REFERENCE WORKS -- ARTICLES

- “The Apocrypha in Rabbinic Literature” in *Jewish Annotated Apocrypha*, eds. Jonathan Klawans and Larry Wills (Oxford University Press, 2020).
- “Gentiles, Jewish Attitudes towards” and “Purity and Purification” for *T&T Clark Encyclopedia of Second Temple Judaism*, eds. L. Stuckenbruck and D. Gurtner, 2019.
- Entries for *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* include: “Noah’s wife,” “New Heaven and New Earth,” “Nebo,” “Naomi” (2021); “Mock, Mockery” (2020); “Law” (2017); “Jezebel,” “Joash,” “Judah haNasi,” Joshua ben Hananiah,” Johanan ben Zakkai’ (2016); “Intermarriage” (2015); “Haqhel,” “Huldah” (2014); “Edict” and “Exorcism” (2013); “Gemara.” “Deliverance” (2012); “Abrogation of Torah Law” (2009).
- “Palestinian Talmud” -- entry for *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow (Eerdmans Publishing, 2008).
- “Purity and Impurity, Ritual.” *Encyclopedia Judaica*, ed. M. Berenbaum and F. Skolnik vol 16, 2nd edition (Detroit 2006) pp. 746-56.
- Contributor to the *Oxford Dictionary of Judaism* (New York: Oxford University Press).

ONLINE JOURNALS

- “[Shaming, Disagreement and Purposeful Difference: A Talmudic Teaching](#),” *Sources: A Journal of Jewish Ideas*, Fall 2021
- “The Goy: A Synchronic Proposal.” Review of Adi Ophir and Ishai Rosen-Zvi, *Goy: Israel’s Others and the Birth of the Gentile*, in *Ancient Jew Review*, 2019 at <https://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2019/2/13/the-goy-a-synchronic-proposal>
- “How Faith Effects the Incorporation of the Gentile.” Review of Matthew Thiessen’s *Paul and the Gentile Problem* and David Kaden’s *Matthew, Paul, and the Anthropology of Law*, in *Ancient Jew Review*, 2017 at <https://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2017/6/8/how-faith-effects-the-incorporation-of-the-gentile?rq=hayes>

“A Response to the SBL Forum on *What’s Divine about Divine Law? Early Perspectives*” in *Ancient Jew Review* at <http://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2017/1/1/whats-divine-about-divine-law-sbllaar16>

REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

2024. Gregg Gardner’s *Wealth, Poverty, and Charity in Jewish Antiquity* in *American Historical Review*, forthcoming.
2023. Katell Berthelots’ *Jews and Their Roman Rivals: Pagan Rome’s Challenge to Israel* in *Journal of Late Antiquity*, 16.2 (2023) 561-65.
2021. Matthew Thiessen’s *Jesus and the Forces of Death: The Gospels’ Portrayal of Ritual Impurity within First-Century Judaism* for The Enoch Seminar [Online](#).
2020. Adi Ophir and Ishay Rosen-Zvi. *Goy: Israel's Multiple Others and the Birth of the Gentile* in *AJS Review* 44:1, 190-192.
2015. Daniel Boyarin’s *A Traveling Homeland: The Babylonian Talmud as Diaspora* in *Review of Biblical Literature*.
2009. Judith Hauptman’s *Rereading the Mishnah in Zion* (in Hebrew).
2001. Hyam Maccoby’s *Ritual and Morality: The Ritual Purity System and its Place in Judaism* in *The Jewish Quarterly Review*.
2001. Charlotte Fonrobert’s *Menstrual Purity: Rabbinic and Christian Reconstruction of Biblical Gender* in *The Journal of the History of Sexuality*.
2001. Moshe Benovitz’ *Kol Nidre: Studies in the Development of Rabbinic Votive Institutions* in *The Jewish Quarterly Review*.
2001. Jeffrey Rubenstein’s *Talmudic Stories* in *HaDoar* 80, 4:18-20 (in Hebrew)
2000. Richard Kalmin’s *The Sage in Jewish Society of Late Antiquity* in *The Journal of Biblical Literature*.
1998. Hayim Lapin’s *Early Rabbinic Civil Law and the Social History of Roman Galilee: A Study of Mishnah Tractate Baba’ Mesi’a’* in *The Jewish Quarterly Review* LXXXIX, 1-2 pp. 199-204.
1997. Richard Kalmin’s *Sages, Stories, Authors and Editors in Rabbinic Babylonia* in *The Jewish Quarterly Review* LXXXVII, 3-4, pp. 406-411.
1996. Jeffrey Rubenstein’s *The History of Sukkot in the Second Temple and Rabbinic Periods* in *The Journal of Biblical Literature* on-line.
1995. Angel Sáenz-Badillos’ *A History of the Hebrew Language* in *Shofar* 13, 3: pp. 101-103.
1991. David Kraemer’s *The Mind of the Talmud* in *JAGNES*, Fall, pp. 44-48.
- Several book notes for *Religious Studies Review*.

ACADEMIC LECTURES, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, and COLLOQUIA

- ““Divine Contingency: Law, humor, performance, and play,” Annual Getlin Lecture, **Trinity College, Hartford**, March 2024.
- “Humor and Play in Ancient Rabbinic Literature,” **SUNY Purchase**, March 2024.
- “The Idea(s) of the Talmud,” Online lecture, **University of Lund**, January 2024.
- “Can we Laugh at God: Humor and Play in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam,” Co-Producing Religions Project Colloquium, January 2024.

- “Humor and Play in Rabbinic Literature,” The 2024 John F. Priest Lecture, Florida State University, **Tallahassee**, January 2024.
- “Liberalism, Pluralism and the College Campus,” Kogod Research Center Fellows Conference, NYC, Jan 2024.
- Discussant, “Co-Producing Religions,” AJS annual meeting, San Francisco, December, 2024.
- Respondent, Yael Fisch’s *Written for Us: Paul’s Interpretation of Scripture and the History of Midrash*, SBL annual meeting, San Antonio, 2023.
- “Talmudic Jesters: Humor and Play as Tools of Skepticism,” Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, Hamburg University, **Germany**, August, 2023.
- “Three Faces of Play,” Keynote address for the Early Modern Jewish History Workshop, held online, August, 2023.
- “Skeptical Talmud,” Dialectical discussion with Daniel Boyarin, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, Hamburg University, Germany, July 2023.
- “Against Certainty,” Conference: Sacred Order: The Reliance of Ritual on Norms, the Emergence of Norms from Ritual, Bonn University, **Germany**, July, 2023.
- “Taking Stock: Rabbinic Self-Criticism through Stock Characters,” Workshop on Law, Authority and Criticism in Early Rabbinic Literature, The Harry Radzyner Law School at Reichman University, **Israel**, June, 2023.
- “Jewish Legal Interpretation,” Constitutional Agendas Workshop, The Harry Radzyner Law School at Reichman University, **Israel**, June, 2023.
- “Rabbinic Literature: To See and See Again,” *Understanding Judaism: New Approaches to Rabbinic Literature – A Symposium*, University of **Utrecht, Netherlands**, March, 2023.
- “Does Divinity Make a Difference,” Summer Seminar on Jewish Legal and Political Thought,” Cardoza Law School, NY, June, 2022.
- “Conversion and Roman Citizenship: Mekhilta Yitro to Ex 18:27 as a Case Study,” Conference on the Status of Converts, Ben Gurion University and the French Research Centre in Jerusalem, May, 2022.
- “Holiness,” Presentation to research faculty, Shalom Hartman Institute, NY, Jan 2022.
- “If all the seas were ink...”: The Pre-modern Migrations of a Trope,” AJS Annual Conference, Chicago, Dec 2021.
- “Response, Paul Within Judaism Section,” SBL Annual Conference, Nov 2021 (virtual presentation).
- “Exodus,” Presentation to faculty of **Columbia University** Core Curriculum program, Sept, 2021 (virtual presentation).
- “Divine Contingency: Law, humor, performance, and play,” The Shapiro Lecture and Keynote for the Hayim Perelmuter Conference for Jewish-Christian Dialogue, **Catholic Theological Union, Chicago**, April, 2021 (virtual presentation).
- “Where is an authentic Jewish life possible? Center and diaspora in classical Jewish sources” **College of Charleston, SC**, April, 2021 (virtual presentation).
- “Divine Contingency: Law, humor, performance, and play” **University of Antwerp**, Feb, 2021 (virtual presentation)
- “Divine Contingency: Law, history, performance, and play,” – webinar for students in the Core Curriculum at **Columbia University**, November 2020.

- “The Saga of the Citron: Historical and Global Perspectives,” International Webinar ((300 participants) hosted by the **Israel Historical Society** and **Brandeis University**, September 2020. Respondent to 4 papers.
- “Divine Contingency: Law, history, performance, and play,” keynote address for Archaia, Yale University, September 2020.
- “Does Divinity Make a Difference?” Webinar for the Summer Seminar on Jewish Legal and Political Thought for the Graduate Consortium in Jewish Law and Interdisciplinary Studies, **Cardozo Law School**, August, 2020.
- “Judging the Law: the Rabbis on the Un-civil Law of Rome,” seminar presentation at **Tel Aviv University**, May, 2019.
- “A Journey on the Seven C’s: Conference roundup,” Conference on Negotiating Identities: Conflict, Conversion, and Consolidation in Early Judaism and Christianity (200 BCE-400 CE), **Lund University, Sweden**, May 2019.
- Discussant, Conference on Law and Politics in Jewish Tradition, **George Washington University Law School**, May 2019.
- “Implications of the Rabbinic Idea of Law for Jewish Law and Rabbis,” Norman J. Shachoy Symposium, **Villanova Law School**, February 2019
- “A Text in Search of a Method: Where is the Talmud in the Scholarship on Jewish Antiquity?” American Academy of Jewish Research session, AJS annual conference, **Boston**, December 2018.
- “Rabbi Akiva: The Man, the Myth, the Midrash,” guest lecture, **Yale Divinity School**, September, 2018.
- ““In the Image of God”: Ancient Texts and their Modern Ethical Implications” 3-part lecture series for the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative, July 3-12, Shalom Hartman Institute, **Jerusalem**, July 2018.
- “Romans and Rabbis: Nodes of Interaction and Modes of Transmission,” International Conference, on *The Perception and Reception of Roman Law and Tribunals by Jews and Other Inhabitants of the Empire*, the ERC project *JUDAISM AND ROME*, Maison Méditerranéenne des Sciences de l’Homme, **Aix-en-Provence**, June, 2018.
- Workshop convener and presenter: “Law as Performance and Play,” the **University of Pennsylvania** Law School, April, 2018.
- “The Rabbis as Jesters: Playing in the Face of Epistemic Absolutes,” seminar presentation, the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, **University of Pennsylvania**, March 2018.
- “Divining the Law: Greeks and Jews on law, truth, and moral certainty,” faculty presentation, **University of Pennsylvania Law School**, March 2018.
- “Judaism and the Core Curriculum” – presentation for students in the Core Curriculum at **Columbia University**, March 2018.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses),” The Caroline Zelaznik Gruss and Joseph S. Gruss Lectures in Talmudic Civil Law, **University of Pennsylvania Law School**, January, 2018.
- “Neither One nor None: A Rabbinic Epistemology of Play, Humor and Excess,” **Yeshiva University** Seminar on Ancient Judaism, New York, February, 2018.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses),” **UT Austin**, Austin, TX, January 2018.

- “Humor as Epistemic Barometer in Rabbinic Literature,” seminar paper, **AJS annual conference, Washington D.C.**, December, 2017.
- “Creation in the Image of God: On Social Justice, Floors and Ceilings,” Tzedek Fellowship dinner lecture, **Yale University**, October, 2017.
- “What’s Divine about Divine Law?,” **Southern Methodist University**, Dallas, October, 2017.
- “New Trends in the Study of Rabbis and Romans,” World Congress of Jewish Studies, **Jerusalem**, August, 2017.
- “From *tôrāh* to Torah: Variegated Notions of *Torah* from the First Temple Period to Late Antiquity,” the Ninth Enoch Seminar Nangeroni Meeting. Conference Discussant and Respondent to Review Panel of *What’s Divine about Divine Law: Early Perspectives*, **Camaldoli, Italy**, June, 2017.
- “Contemporary Jewish Identities: How 1967 has (re)shaped Jewish identity in Israel and North America” Conference Discussant, Shalom Hartman Institute Philosophy Conference, **Jerusalem**, Israel, June 2017
- “Roman Power through Rabbinic Eyes: Tragedy or Comedy,” International Conference on “Regarding Roman Power: Imperial Rule in the Eyes of Greeks, Romans, Jews and Christians,” **Rome**, May 2017
- “Divine Law and Community Boundaries in Ancient Judaism,” **UCLA**, April 2017.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses),” The Annual Feibel Lecture, **The Ohio State University**, April, 2017.
- “The Moses of Midrash: God’s Partner or Adversary,” Master Class, **The Ohio State University**, April 2017.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses),” Rice University, March, 2017.
- “Law and Virtue in Ancient Jewish Sources,” Seminar presentation, **Rice University**, March, 2017.
- “A Response to the SBL Forum on *What’s Divine about Divine Law? Early Perspectives*” at the **Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Antonio**, November 2016.
- Panelist, book review session on *Paul and the Gentile Problem*, by Matthew Theissen, and *Matthew, Paul, and the Anthropology of the Law*, by David Kaden. Annual Meeting, **Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio**, November 2016.
- "[Divining the Law: Jews and Greeks and the Search for Solid Ground](#)," Inaugural lecture, Center for Jewish and Israeli Law, **Harvard Law School**, November, 2016.
- “Contemporary Jewish Identities: From Otherness to Exceptionalism” Conference Discussant, Shalom Hartman Institute Philosophy Conference, **Jerusalem**, Israel, June 2015
- “‘The Play’s the Thing’: Performance and Performativity in Rabbinic Literature.” Keynote address for conference on “Talmud: Process and Performance” at **Cornell University**, May, 2016.
- Three part seminar series on divine law presented at **Yeshivat Maharat**, New York, May 29. 16, 2016.
- “What’s Divine about Divine Law?” **University of Pennsylvania**, April, 2016.
- “Divine Law, Revelation and Authority,” Symposium/Book Talk, Slifka Center, **Yale University**, April, 2016.

Series of three lectures for the Institute of Jewish Studies at the **University of Antwerp** and Universitair Centrum Sint Ignatius Antwerpen as the 2016 Chair in Jewish-Christian Relations, March 2016.

“Different Differences: The Complicated Goy in Rabbinic Literature,” conference on “Perceiving the Other: Ancient and Modern Interactions with Outsiders” at **Ben Gurion University**, March 2016.

“Human Dignity in Biblical and Rabbinic Sources,” 4-part series for the Intercontinental Academia, **Jerusalem**, March, 2016.

Respondent, Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar, **University of Pennsylvania**, March, 2016.

“Talmudic Tales in Their Iranian Context,” Roundtable participant, **UCLA**, February, 2016.

“Law and Virtue in Ancient Jewish Sources,” keynote address, **Princeton** Undergraduate Judaic Studies conference, February, 2016.

“Law and Virtue in Ancient Jewish Sources,” Lecture at **Bar-Ilan University**, Tel Aviv, January 2016.

“Rabbis and their Others: Between Reality and Cultural Fantasy,” **Hebrew University** Seminar presentation, January, 2016.

“Law and Virtue in Ancient Jewish Sources,” Law and History Workshop, **Tel Aviv University**, January, 2016.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law?” Judeo-Christian Studies Lecture Series at **Tulane University**, December, 2015.

“Mapping Communities: Israel and the Nations in Biblical and Rabbinic Sources,” Keynote address at Conference on Community at **Notre Dame University**, November, 2015.

“Heaven on Earth: The World to Come and its (Dis)locations,” The Annual Klutznick Lecture at **Creighton University**, October, 2015

“What’s Divine about Divine Law?” **University of Nebraska**, November 2015.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law?” **University of Chicago**, May 2015.

“The (Ir)rationality of Torah,” **Hebrew University Law School**, Jerusalem, May 2015.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law?” **Columbia University** Seminar, April 2015.

“The Flexibility of Torah,” Religious Ethics Colloquium, **Yale Divinity School**, February 2015.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law?” The first annual Flegg lecture delivered at a symposium on my book: *What’s Divine about Divine Law: Early Perspectives*,” **McGill University**, with respondent Professor David Flatto, February 2015.

“Were the Noahide Commandments formulated at Yavneh? T. AZ 8(9):4-9 in Cultural and Historical Context.” Conference on the historical Yavne at **Bar Ilan University**, Ramat Gan, Israel, January 2015.

“Looking in the Mirror: Philo and the Rabbis on Divine Law and Truth,” presented for the Jewish Studies seminar, **Ben Gurion University**, Beer Sheva, Israel, January 2015.

“What is Bavli?” Panel respondent, **Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference**, Baltimore, MD, December 2014.

“We’re No Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Literature,” The Bamberger Lecture at the **Hebrew Union College**, New York City, November 2014.

“Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses)” presented at the **University of Minnesota**, September 2014.

“The Rabbinic Mind and Divine Law” 5 day series of workshops for the Tikvah Project on Jewish Thought, **New York City**, August 2014.

“We’re No Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Literature” Presented to participants in a summer program in Jewish Thought, **Yale University**, July 2014.

“The Land-Diaspora Dichotomy” – lecture and workshop, **Shalom Hartman Institute** Philosophy Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2014.

“The Torah was not given to Ministering Angels’: Rabbinic Aspirationalism.” Conference in honor of Daniel Boyarin held at **UC Berkeley**, CA, April 2014.

“Judaism and the Core Curriculum” – presentation for students in the Core Curriculum at **Columbia University**, March 2014.

Respondent for three papers presented at the Regional Seminar in Ancient Judaism, March 2014.

“[We’re No Angels: Aspirationalism in Rabbinic Literature](#),” The Goldberg Lecture at the **University of Illinois** Urbana-Champaign, March 2014.

“The (Ir)rationality of Torah,” Faculty Workshop, **University of Illinois** Urbana-Champaign, March 2014.

“Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses),” The Albert List Lecture, **Harvard Divinity School**, March 2014.

“Looking in the Mirror: Philo and the Rabbis on Divine Law and Truth,” presented at Philo Conference, **Yale University**, March 2014.

“Inventing Rabbis” Conference on Jewish Origins, **Florida Atlantic University**, February, 2014.

“Divine Law between Athens and Jerusalem,” Slifka Faculty lecture series, **Yale University**, January, 2014.

Moderator and Respondent, “The Relation between History and Philosophy in Jewish Studies: Cooperative? Indifferent? Adversarial?” **AAJR session at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting**, December, 2013

Respondent, “Thinking Legally vs. Thinking Historically” 1-day workshop at the **University of Pennsylvania Law School**, December, 2013.

“Sectarian, Second Temple and Rabbinic Judaism: Contested Voices” presented at the **Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference**, Baltimore, November, 2013.

“Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and three responses)” presented at **Georgetown University**, November, 2013.

“Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and three responses).” The June Baumgardner Gelbart Lecture, **University of South Florida**, October, 2013.

“Immutability in the Hellenistic Near East” presented at the **University of South Florida**, October, 2013.

“Revelation and Divine Knowledge in the Judaic Tradition” presented for the Technologies of Knowledge Seminar, **Yale University**, September, 2013.

“Tradition and Authority in Classic Jewish Sources.” Three workshops for the Tikvah Project on Jewish Thought, **Princeton University**, July 2013.

“The ‘Truth’ about Divine Law” Presented to summer program in Jewish Thought and the Good Society: Politics, Economics, and the Human Person,” **Yale University**, July 2013.

“Truth, Principle and Compromise: Can they Coexist?” Conference Discussant, **Shalom Hartman Institute** Philosophy Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2013.

- “The Moses of Midrash: God’s Partner or Adversary?” **Case Western Reserve University**, May, 2013.
- ““In the West they laughed at him:’ The Babylonian Talmud’s Mocking Realists” presented at the annual Judaic Studies Colloquium, **Yale University**, April 2013.
- “Ancient Discourses of Law” presented for the Ancient Societies Workshop, **Yale University**, February 2013.
- “The Myth of Perfect Torah Observance” presented at the **Society for Biblical Literature Annual Meeting**, Chicago, November 2012.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and three responses).” The Eleventh Annual Gruss Lecture. **New York University Law School** and the Tikvah Center for Jewish Law and Civilization, November 2012.
- “Two Concepts of Divine Law in Antiquity: Implications for Interpretation.” Presented at the Conference on Legal Interpretation and Rabbinic Texts hosted by Bar Ilan University and the Tikvah Center for Jewish Law and Civilization at **NYU**, September, 2012.
- “The Interaction of Jewish and Other Legal Systems from Ancient to Modern Times” delivered at the plenary session of the Jewish Law Association Conference, held at **Yale University**, July 2012.
- “Tradition and Authority.” Three workshops for the Tikvah Project on Jewish Thought, **Princeton University**, July 2012
- “We’re No Angels: Aspirationalism in Rabbinic Literature.” Presented to the summer program in Jewish Thought and the Good Society: Politics, Economics, and the Human Person,” **Yale University**, July 2012.
- “Divine Law in Classical Thought and the Scandal of Rabbinic Resistance” presented at the **Shalom Hartman Institute** Philosophy Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2012
- “Conscious Error: Is Truth Always the Best Policy?” presented at the Conference on Forgetting and Error in Jewish legal Culture, **Harvard Law School**, May 2012.
- “Realism and Nominalism – a Response” presented at the Conference on Halakhah and Reality at **New York University**, May 2012.
- “The Moses of Midrash: God’s Partner or Adversary?” The Hannah A. Quint lecture in Jewish Studies at **Middlebury College**, VT, December, 2011.
- “Biblical Ambiguity and the Midrashic Imagination: The Culpability of Aaron in Ex 32.” Seminar meeting, **Middlebury College**, VT, December 2011.
- “The Kaleidoscope Turns: Continuities and Discontinuities in Ancient and Rabbinic Judaism,” **Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting**, San Francisco, November 2011.
- “Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts (and Three Responses).” The Mytelka Memorial Lecture on Jewish Civilization at **Princeton University**, October 2011
- “Law and Authority.” Three workshops for the Tikvah Project on Jewish Thought, **Princeton University**, July 2011
- “Peoplehood” Conference Discussant, **Shalom Hartman Institute** Philosophy Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2011.
- “What’s So Divine about Divine Law.” A three part lecture series for the **Rochester Clergy Institute**, Rochester NY, March 2011.
- Lecture I -- Divine Law: A Tale of Two Concepts
- Lecture II -- Does Divine Law Assume or Negate Free Will?

Lecture III -- When Reason Can't be Enough... or Can It?

- "The Moses of Midrash: God's Partner or Adversary?" Seminar meeting, **Arizona State University**, March, 2011
- "Canon and the Voice(s) of Authority." The **Drisha Institute** for Jewish Education in New York City, March 2010
- "Words and Law: From the Hebrew Bible." Seminar Presentation, **Princeton University**, February 2010.
- "Legal Empiricism and the Fashioning of Sectarianism in Jewish Antiquity." **Duke University**, January 2010.
- "Methodological Issues in the Interdisciplinary Study of Jewish Law." Graduate Fellows Seminar, **Cardozo Law School**, April 2009, November 2009, 2010, 2011, January 2013
- Respondent to two papers presented on the topic "Rabbis and Others in Conversation." Conference held at **Princeton University**, May 2009.
- "We're no Angels: Aspirationalism in Rabbinic Literature," invited paper for the **Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting** in Rome, July 2009.
- "Legal Empiricism and Sectarian Self-Fashioning in Jewish Antiquity." Conference on Sects and Sectarianism in Jewish History, **University College London**, June 2008.
- "What is Mishnah?" **SBL** annual conference, 2006.
- "Rabbinic Contestations of Authority." Symposium on Text, Tradition, and Reason in Comparative Perspective sponsored by the Program in Jewish Law and Interdisciplinary Studies of **Cardozo School of Law**, Fall 2004.
- "Children's Obligations towards Parents in the Bible and Talmud." Perspectives on Aging Working Group, **Yale University**, May 2004.
- "Hyam Maccoby on Purity." Association for Jewish Studies (**AJS**) annual conference, 2003.
- "The Impact of Editorial Strategies on Evolving Legal Collections." Respondent to three scholarly papers. **AJS** annual conference, 2001
- "Authority and Anxiety in the Talmuds." Conference on Jewish Religious Leadership: Image and Reality. **Jewish Theological Seminary**, Fall 2001.
- "B. Yev 87b-90b: The Bavli's re-presentation of rabbinic authority." **AJS** annual conference, 2000
- Respondent. My second book was reviewed in a session devoted to current books in the field. Society for Biblical Literature (**SBL**) annual meeting, 2000.
- "Genealogy, Illegitimacy, and Personal Status: The Yerushalmi in Comparative Perspective." Conference on the Talmud Yerushalmi and Graeco-Roman Culture. **Princeton University**, November 2000.
- "Competing Calumnies: Contextualizing the Rabbinic Prohibition of Inter-marriage." Rabbinics Colloquium Series. **Washington University**. March 2000.
- "Palestinian Rabbinic Attitudes to Inter-marriage in Historical and Cultural Context" Conference on Jewish Culture and Society under Christian Rome. **Jewish Theological Seminary**, NY, March 2000.
- "Corpse Impurity and the Noahide Covenant in the Theology of H." **AJS** annual meeting, 1999.
- "Do Converts to Judaism Require Purification? M. Pes 8:8 -- an Interpretive Crux Solved." **SBL** annual meeting, 1999.
- "Corpse Impurity and Gentiles: The Rabbinic Evidence." Conference on Rabbinic Thought. The **Melton Center of the Hebrew University**, Jerusalem, Israel. May 1999.

"*Judeophobia: Peter Schäfer on the Origins of Anti-Semitism.*" **AJS** annual meeting, 1998.

"Intermarriage and Impurity in Ancient Jewish Sources." **Rutgers University**, May 1998.

"*Halakhah le-Moshe Mi-Sinai: A Methodological Case Study.*" Conference on the Synoptic Problem in Rabbinic Literature, **Brown University**. March 1998.

"Intermarriage and Impurity: From Bible to Talmud." **AJS** annual conference, December 1996.

"Legal Innovation in the Yerushalmi." Conference on the Yerushalmi in its Greco-Roman Context. **Institut für Judaistik**, Berlin. October 1996.

"The Impurity of Gentiles in Biblical and Post-Biblical Jewish Writings." Invited seminar paper, Biblical Law Section, **SBL** annual meeting, November 1995.

"Reading Readings: History and Hermeneutics in Talmudic Literature." Department of Near Eastern Studies, **Harvard University**, spring 1994.

"From Innovation to Exegesis: Revisionist Rabbinic Accounts of the *Taqqanot* of Rabban Yohanan ben Zakkai." **AJS** annual conference, 1993.

"Exegetical Aberrations and Cultural Reconstruction." **SBL** annual meeting, November 1993.

"Reading in Rabbinic Culture." **SMU** and **University of Tennessee**, 1993.

"Libation Wine and the Israelite Midwife in the Yerushalmi and the Bavli." **NYU** Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, 1992.

PUBLIC-FACING SPEAKING AND WRITING

(LECTURES, WEBINARS, DISTANCE LEARNING, OPINION PIECES)

"Humor in Rabbinic Literature," Princeton Jewish Community Center, Princeton, NJ, March 2024.

"Liberalism, Pluralism and the Campus Atmosphere," Wexner Alumni Institute, February 2024.

Three lecture series with Limmud Oz in Melbourne Australia, September, 2022

"Advanced Midrash: Ruth Rabbah," 3 part series, Rabbinic Torah Seminar, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, July, 2022

"The Ethics of Human Dignity," 3 part series, Rabbinic Leadership Initiative, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, July, 2022.

"Keeping the Truth in Play" – 2 part series, Shalom Hartman Institute, NY, May, 2023.

"The Divine is in the Details," for the "What is Talmud?" Series of the National Library of Israel, February, 2022.

"Purposeful Difference: Talmudic Practices and Principles for Communities in Conflict," Civic and Policy Seminar, Shalom Hartman Institute, NY, February, 2022 (virtual presentation).

"How to Answer a Fool," Valley Bet Midrash, Arizona, February 2022 (virtual presentation).

"Purposeful Difference: Talmudic Practices and Principles for Communities in Conflict," San Francisco Women's Group, November, 2021 (virtual presentation)

"Jewish Ideas and Leadership" Presentation for AJLI Fellows, Columbia University, November 2, 2021

"How to Answer a Fool," Case Western University, October, 2021 (virtual presentation).

"Purposeful Difference: Talmudic Practices and Principles for Communities in Conflict," 2 part webinar, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, July, 2021 (virtual presentation).

"Shame and Dignity in Biblical and Rabbinic Texts," Created Equal Seminar, Shalom Hartman Institute, May, 2021 (virtual presentation).

“Letter 58” in the online project “American Voices, Religious Values. 100 Days. 100 Letters.”
<https://www.valuesandvoices.com/letters-2021/letter-58/> March 2021

Two lectures as Scholar-in-(distant)-Residence, Bnei Torah Congregation, Boca Raton, FL, January 2021.

“How to Answer a Fool,” campus webinar, Shalom Hartman Institute NA, January, 2021.

“The Hermeneutics of Jewish Political Thought” webinar for the Judaism, Citizenship, and American Democracy series, Shalom Hartman Institute NA, October 2020.

“Jewish Identity,” two-part webinar, Shalom Hartman Institute NA, January 2020; repeated July, 2020

“Talking to a Fool,” Shalom Hartman Institute NA, July, 2020

“Identity Ethics,” three-part webinar, Shalom Hartman Institute NA, spring, 2020; repeated summer, 2020.

“The Land of Israel in Jewish Story, History, and Imagination” for the Peace, Democracy, and Leadership Initiative, Yale University, January 2020.

“The ‘Truth’ about Torah,” Symposium proceedings, Hebrew Union College, forthcoming, 2021.

Three part lecture series as scholar in residence for the Davar Institute, Teaneck, NJ, April 5-6, 2019.

“How to Answer a Fool,” Shalom Hartman Institute, D.C. area programming, March 2019.

“How to Answer a Fool,” Westville Synagogue Adult Education, February, 2019.

“‘We’re no Angels:’ Perfectionism in Rabbinic Judaism,” Congregation Bene Jacob, Woodbridge, CT, February, 2019.

“The Land of Israel in Jewish Story, History, and Imagination” for the Peace, Democracy, and Leadership Initiative, Yale University, February 2019.

“The ‘Truth’ about Torah,” The Lucy Dawidowitch Annual Lecture, Congregation Or Zarua, New York, February 2019.

“The Dangers of Absolutism,” Congregation Bene David, Los Angeles, January 2019.

“The ‘Truth’ about Torah,” Congregation Bene David, Los Angeles, January 2019.

“Holiness and Perfectionism in the Bible and Rabbinic Judaism,” Congregation Neve Shalom, Portland, OR, January 2019

“The ‘Truth’ about Torah,” Congregation Neve Shalom, Portland, OR, January 2019.

“Applied Scholarship” – four sessions for the Research Fellows of the Shalom Hartman Institute, New York (January-February, 2019).

Ethics Research Seminar -- led 10 part distance learning discussion seminar on a variety of topics in Jewish ethics for the Shalom Hartman Institute, NY; 2018-19

“Being Right, Being Kind: How to answer a fool,” open lecture on Civil Discourse, Shalom Hartman Institute, **Jerusalem**, July 2018 (currently broadcasting on the Jewish Broadcasting System, USA).

“The Truth about Torah,” *Torat Emet* Symposium, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles, November, 2018.

“Classical Jewish Ethics in Contemporary American Contexts” – series of six remote learning lectures for the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative, Shalom Hartman Institute, New York (fall, 2018).

“The ‘Floor and Ceiling’ of Human Dignity in Jewish Law” Jewish Law Students Association, Yale Law School, November, 2018.

Convened 5 part webinar discussion on Jewish Ethics for the Shalom Hartman Institute, New York (fall, 2018).

“In the Image of God’: The Floor and Ceiling of Human Dignity in Classical Jewish Sources,” University of Pennsylvania Hillel, March 2018.

“Models of Jewish Identity: Memory, Covenant, Holiness,” Webinar for the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, March 2018.

“Where is an Authentic Jewish Life Possible? Center and Diaspora in Classical Jewish Sources,” AJS Distinguished Lecture, Shalom Austin, Austin TX, January 2018.

“Applied Scholarship” – four sessions for the Research Fellows of the Shalom Hartman Institute, New York (Jan 11, 18, Feb 1, 8, 2018).

“Models of Jewish Identity in Classical Jewish Sources,” Wilshire Boulevard Synagogue, Valley Bet Shalom Synagogue, Los Angeles, December 2017.

“‘In the Image of God’ in Classical Jewish Sources: Ethical Implications,” Valley Bet Shalom Synagogue, Los Angeles, December 2017.

“The Dangers of Absolutism,” Los Angeles Rabbinic Bet Midrash, Los Angeles, December, 2017

“Models of Jewish Identity: Memory, Covenant, Holiness,” Webinar for Baltimore area rabbis, December, 2017

“To Step Beneath the Wings: Behind Ruth’s Choice,” Bene Jeshurun Synagogue, New York, June, 2017.

“Forging Jewish Identities: Models and Middles in Jewish Sources,” Bay Area Jewish Professionals/Jewish Family and Children’s Services, San Francisco, March, 2017.

“In the Image of God: Ancient Sources, Modern Implications,” Schnell Seminar, San Francisco, March 2017

“What’s so Divine about Divine Law” Distinguished Scholar Series of the Foundation for Jewish Studies, Washington, D.C., March 2017

“Forging Jewish Identities: Models and Middles in Jewish Sources,” Lola Stein Seminar, Toronto, March, 2017.

“In the Image of God: Ancient Sources and their Modern Ethical Implications,” Jewish Leadership Seminar, Toronto, February, 2017.

“Forging Jewish Identities: Memory, Covenant and *Qedushah*,” West Side Seminar, New York, February, 2017.

“Letter 41” in the online project “American Voices, Religious Values. 100 Days. 100 Letters” <http://www.valuesandvoices.com/letter41/> March 2017

“Hard-heartedness and the Dangers of Absolutism” and “What’s Divine about Divine Law,” Darkhei Noam Synagogue, February, 2017.

“Forging Jewish Identity: Models and Middles in Jewish Sources,” Bene Jeshurun Congregation, New York, January, 2017.

“A time to Weep and a time to Laugh: Sorrow and Joy in Biblical and Rabbinic Tradition,” Adas Israel Congregation, Washington, D.C., January 2017

“In the Image of God: Ancient Sources and their Modern Ethical Implications,” Midtown Seminar, New York, January 2017.

“In the Image of God: Ancient Sources and their Modern Ethical Implications,” Christian Leadership Initiative Distance Learning Program, December 2016

“The Divine Voice and the Human Voice,” First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, Connecticut, December 2016.

Two-part webinar series: “Forging Jewish Identity I: Communities of Memory, Covenant and *Qedushah*” and “Forging Jewish Identity II: Negotiated middles” for the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative of the Shalom Hartman Institute, November 2016.

“Forms of Jewish Identity: Biology, Covenant and Identity,” Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, Israel, July, 2016.

Webinar: “Moses at Sinai - God's Partner or Adversary?” Rabbinic Holiday Series, June, 2016.

“The Dangers of Absolutism,” Manhattan Jewish Community Center, New York, April 2016.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law” presented at Valley Bet Midrash, Scottsdale, AZ April, 2016.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law” presented at Stephen Wise Temple, Los Angeles, CA, February, 2016.

“What’s Divine about Divine Law” presented at Congregation of B’nai Jacob, Woodbridge, CT, February, 2015.

“The ‘Truth’ about Divine Law” – sponsored by Yeshivat Ma’aleh Gilboa; Jerusalem, Israel, January 2015.

“We’re No Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Literature,” Beth El Synagogue Minneapolis, MN, September 2014.

“We’re No Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Literature,” She’arith Yisrael Synagogue, New York, February, 2014.

“New Beginnings” presented at the Slifka Center, parents’ weekend, October, 2013.

“Old Testament Literature in the Ancient Near Eastern Setting” -- presentation for the Theological Summer Intensive for Bishops, Clergy and Laypersons, August, 2013.

“We’re No Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Literature,” Siegel Center for Lifelong Learning, Cleveland, May 2013.

“Living As If” – talk at the Slifka Center Passover Seder, Yale University, Spring 2013.

Two-part Adult Education Series Beth El Temple, Hartford CT, March and April 2013.

“The ‘Truth’ about Divine Law?” presented at The Drisha Institute for Jewish Education in New York City, March 2013.

“The Moses of Midrash: God’s Partner or Adversary?” Stephen Free Wise Synagogue, NYC, January 2012.

“Judah’s Midrashic Career,” Jewish Women’s Learning Center, Phoenix, AZ, March 2011.

“God’s Critics: Ancient Perspectives on Morality and Biblical Law.” The Thomas More Society at Yale University, April, 2010.

“We’re No Angels: Aspirationalism in Rabbinic Literature.” Class for the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s *Taste of Honey* weekend, January, 2010.

“Promises, Promises.” Congregation of B’nai Jacob, Woodbridge, CT, February 2009.

“Of law and Truth: Talmudic Perspectives.” Series of three talks delivered as Scholar in Residence for the Baltimore and Washington Board of Rabbis’ *Yom Iyyun* (Day of Study), May, 2008

“Judah the Patriarch – Villian or Hero? The Midrashic Treatment of Gen 38.” Class for the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven’s *Taste of Honey* weekend, January, 2008.

“Why Should Temple be Spelled with a ‘W’?” Yale Parents Weekend, October 2006.

- “The Talmudic Martin Guerre OR Death of a Legal Fiction.” Presentation to the Fellows of the Whitney Humanities Center. Yale University. November 2005. Also presented to the Fellows of Silliman College. November 2005.
- “Righteousness for Nothing: The Biblical Book of Job.” Parents weekend lecture. October 2005. Series of two lectures as Scholar-in-Residence, Temple Emanuel-El, Orange, CT. April 2005
- Series of three lectures as Scholar-in-Residence, The Egalitarian Minyan of Rogers Park., Chicago, IL. February 2005.
- “Is it Ever Enough: Children’s Obligations towards Parents in the Bible and Talmud.” Taste of Honey Community Education Program, Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven, CT. January 2005.
- “Abrogating Torah Law? The Talmuds Compared.” Day of Study, New Haven Area Rabbis, March 2004.
- “Realizing the Promise: The Legacy of Sinai.” Series of three lectures as Scholar-in Residence for the Town and Village Conservative Synagogue, Manhattan. May 16-17, 2002
- “Innovation in Jewish Law: The Bible in Mishnaic and Talmudic Times.” The Charles B. and Irene B. Jacobs Lecture for the Center for Judaic Studies. University of Hartford. September, 2000.
- “The Torah is not in Heaven: Tradition and Change.” The Matthew Eisenfeld (Yale, '93) Memorial Lecture. Temple Beth-El, Hartford, CT. May, 1999.
- “Law as Theology: The Case of Niddah.” Connecticut Regional Rabbinical Assembly. June, 1997.
- “Divergent Attitudes to Menstruation: Ancient Voices.” National Jewish Women's Conference, 1997.
- “The Moses of Midrash.” Princeton Jewish Center, Lecture Series. Spring, 1995.
- “The Torah is not in Heaven: Tradition and Change.” B'nai Brith Continuing Education. Fall, 1994.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Honorary Doctoral Degree in Theology from Lund University, Sweden, May 2023.
- Winner, 2016 Jordan Schnitzer Award for best book in Biblical Studies, Rabbinics and Jewish History and Culture in Antiquity for *What’s Divine about Divine Law: Early Perspectives*.
- Winner of the 2016 PROSE award in the category of Theology and Religious Studies, given by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing (PSP) Division of the Association of American Publishers (AAP) for *What’s Divine about Divine Law: Early Perspectives*.
- Winner of the 2015 National Jewish Book award in the category of Scholarship, given by the National Jewish Book Council for *What’s Divine about Divine Law: Early Perspectives*.
- Supplemental Fellowship from The Mellon Foundation, 2009
- Affiliate Fellow of the Tikvah Center for Law & Jewish Civilization, NYU, 2009-10
- Affiliate Scholar of the Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization, Cardozo Law School, 2009-
- Elected to the American Academy of Jewish Research, June, 2008
- Sidonie Miskimin Clauss Prize for Teaching Excellence in the Humanities, 2005
- Mellon New Directions Fellowship, awarded 2003 for use in 2005-06
- Finalist for 2003 National Jewish Book Award in Scholarship

The Salo Baron Prize for a first book in Jewish Thought and Literature, (AAJR, 1999)
Hilles Publication Grant, 2001
Lucius Littauer Foundation Publication Grant, 2001
Morse Research Fellowship, Yale University, 1998-1999 academic year

Graduate:

U.C. Chancellor's Dissertation Year Fellowship, 1992-93
Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 1991-92
Taubman Fellowship for Talmudic Studies, 1990-91
Benjamin Goor Prize for essay in Jewish Studies (three times: 1989, 1990, 1991)

Undergraduate: Phi Beta Kappa, John Harvard Honorary Scholarship, Elizabeth Cary Agassiz
Scholar award

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Yale, Princeton, U Penn Law School, Harvard Law School, Tel Aviv
University Law Faculty, Reichman University Law Faculty)

Concepts of Divine Law in Historical Perspective. Law School course.

Humor and Play in Rabbinic Literature. Seminar.

Jewish Identity in the Pre-Islamic Mediterranean World. Spring 2022.

Divine Law in Historical Perspective. Freshman seminar.

Law and Ancient Judaism. Graduate seminar.

Rabbinics Research Seminar. For graduate students in Ancient Judaism.

Required Ancient Judaism Seminar. For students in NT and Ancient Christianity.

The Required Second Temple Judaism Seminar.

Critical Methods in the Study of Talmud. Graduate Seminar.

Biblical Hebrew for Students of Modern Hebrew. Advanced Seminar.

Introduction to the Talmud in Translation. Seminar.

Topics in Bible and Midrash. Text Seminar, Primary Sources (Hebrew/Aramaic).

Biblical Hermeneutics: Gentile Impurity in Jewish Tradition. Seminar.

Talmud Seminar: Sources of Jewish Law and Rabbinic Authority. Text Seminar.

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible. Lecture Course.

Judaism: Continuity and Change. Lecture Course.

Introduction to the Ancient Near East. Lecture Course.

Modern Hebrew; Aramaic

SUMMER SEMINARS AND ADULT EDUCATION

Meah Online, Adult Education Program, Hebrew College. Recorded three modules, August,
2017.

Princeton Summer Seminar, Tikvah Project on Jewish Thought, Summer 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

The Golden Calf Story and its Midrashic Development. Jewish Theological Seminary, Summer
School course, 2001.

Introduction to the Talmud. Princeton Jewish Center, Adult Education class. 1993

The Hearts and Minds of the Rabbis. Marin Jewish Community Center, Adult Education Class.
1991.

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS

“Establishing Your Career: Building the Tenure File,” presentation for the AJS Paula E. Hyman Memorial Mentoring Program, December 2017.
"Flipping the Classroom: How online resources enable pedagogical innovation," University of Chicago workshop series: The Craft of Teaching, May 2015.
“Publishing in Academia,” Early Career Workshop, American Academy for Jewish Research, held at Rutgers University, June 2015.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External Review Committee, Bar Ilan University, School of Basic Jewish Studies, June, 2023.
Advisory board, Maimonides Library for Philosophy and Religion, Brill
Chair, External Review Committee, Religion Department, McMasters University, October 2020.
Board of Trustees, Slifka Center for Jewish Life (2020 – present).
Executive Committee Member, Association for Jewish Studies (ex-officio as Immediate Past President, December 2019-
President, Association for Jewish Studies, December, 2017-2019
Mentor for Yale Landman (PhD. Yeshiva University) through the AJS Paula E. Hyman Memorial Mentoring Program.
ACLS Learned Society Leadership/Governance Seminar, Attendee, September, 2017.
External Review Committee for Boston University, Graduate Division of Religious Studies, October, 2016.
Member, international Advisory Board for the University of Antwerp, Institute of Jewish Studies, 2016-
Member, Editorial Board, *Perspectives on Jewish Texts and Contexts*, DeGruyter, 2016-
Vice President for Program, Association for Jewish Studies, December 2015-2017
Chair, Salo Baron Book Prize committee, for the American Academy for Jewish Research, 2015.
Co-Chair, Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Committee, The National Foundation for Jewish Culture, 2013.
Co-Editor, *Association for Jewish Studies Review*, 2012- present
Editor and author (Rabbinics section), *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*, 2011-present
Advisory Board, *Journal of Ancient Judaism and Supplement*, 2011-present
Advisory Board, *Posen Anthology of Jewish Civilization*, vol 2 (Ancient Judaism), 2011-present
Advisory Board, *Jewish History*, 2012-present
Editorial Board, *Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum*, 2010-present
Conference Program Planning Committee Member, Association for Jewish Studies. 1994-2011.
Elected to the American Academy of Jewish Research (AAJR), 2009
External Review Committee for Religious Studies Department, Emory University, 2009
Nominations Committee, Association for Jewish Studies, 2007, 2009, 2011
External Review Committee for University of Maryland, College Park, Jewish Studies Program, 2004
Advisory Board, *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, Mohr Siebeck (beginning fall 2003)
External Review Committee for Yeshiva University, Talmudic Studies Doctoral Program. 2000-01
Editorial Board Member, Brown Judaic Studies (peer-reviewed monograph series)
Board Member, Association for Jewish Studies. 2001- 2004

Member: National Association of Professors of Hebrew, Association for Jewish Studies, Society of Biblical Literature, American Academy of Religion.
Corresponding Fellow, Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies, Bar Ilan University, Israel.
Yale Judaica Series of the Yale University Press, Advisory Board Member.
NEH Summer Institute for Teachers of Modern Hebrew, Brandeis University. July, 1993.
Referee for several journals including *NTT Journal of Theology and the Study of Religion*, *AJS Review*, *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Hebrew Union College Annual*, *Journal for Jewish Studies*
Referee for manuscripts and/or book proposals submitted to Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, University of California Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, Princeton University Press
Multiple promotion and tenure reviews for Hebrew University, Jewish Theological Seminary, Boston University, Columbia University, Haverford College, Hebrew Union College, Northwestern University, Pennsylvania State University Law School, Rutgers University, Stanford University, UCLA, University of Michigan Law School, University of South Florida, University of Virginia, Hebrew College, UT Austin.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Assistant Director of Graduate Studies, program in Early Mediterranean and West Asian Religions, spring 2023.
Assistant Director of Graduate Studies, Judaic Studies program, 2022-23.
Chair, LCTL 2018-19
Member, Humanities Tenure Appointments Committee, 2016-2018
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, 2016-
Chair, Department of Religious Studies, 2011-2015
Member, Search Committee for Master of Silliman College, 2014-15
Freshman Advisor, Silliman College, 1997-2003, 2010-2012, 2015
Chair, Jehiel R. Elyachar Foundation Travel Fellowship Committee, 2010, 2012
Member, Ganzfried Fellowship Committee, 2010
Acting Chair, Program in Judaic Studies. Fall 2008
Humanities Advisory/Tenure Appointments Committee. 2007
Honorary Degrees Committee. 2006 - present
Humanities Initiative Executive Committee. 2007- 2011
Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center. 2004-2006
Executive Committee, Whitney Humanities Center. 2005-2007
Hebrew Advisory Committee. 2004-present
Hebrew Language and Literature Search Committee. 2005, 2008-9, 2009-10
Yale College Committee on Majors. 2003-2005 (acting chair, fall 2004)
Search Committee for the Yale College Deanship. Spring 2004
Departmental Admissions Committee. Spring 2004
Yale College Committee (University committee on undergraduate education at Yale). 2001-03
Harry S Truman Scholarship Committee. Chair, Fall 2001; Member, Fall 2000
Search Committees (Islam position, fall 1999; Methods and Theory position, 2000-2001; Historical Theology position, 2003-2004; NW Semitics position, 2014-2015)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Judaic Studies. Spring 1997; 1999-2002; spring 2004-2005; 2006-2011
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Religious Studies. 2001-2002
Undergraduate Committee, Department of Religious Studies. 1997-2000; Chair 2001-2
Advisory Committee for Library Policy. 1999-2001
Judaic Studies Advisory Committee. 1996-present
Architecture Jury. Spring, 1997
Guest lecturer/colloquium participant for Directed Studies 2005, 2009-2014

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS -- Primary Advisor:

- Chaya Halberstam**, “Rabbinic Responsibility for Evil: Evidence and Uncertainty” (2004);
Published as *Law and Truth in Biblical and Rabbinic Literature* (Indiana University Press, 2010)
and recipient of Salo Baron prize for a first book, from the AAJR. Dr. Halberstam is a Professor
of Religious Studies at King’s Western University, Canada.
- Michael Tzvi Novick**, “Duties and Ends: On The Structure of Normativity in Tannaitic Judaism”
(2008) published as *What is Good and What God Demands: Normative Structures in Tannaitic
Literature* (Brill, 2010). Dr. Novick is the Abrams Professor of Jewish Thought and Culture in
the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame.
- Michal Bar-Asher Siegal**, “Literary Analogies in Rabbinic and Christian Monastic Sources” (2010)
published as *Early Christian Monastic Literature and the Babylonian Talmud* (Cambridge
University Press, 2012) and recipient of the Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award. Dr. Bar-Asher
Siegal is the Rosen Family Professor in Judaic Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
- Sara Ronis**, “‘Do Not Go Out Alone At Night’: Law and Demonic Discourse in the Babylonian
Talmud” (2015). After a year at Harvard University as a Starr Post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Ronis is
Professor of Theology at St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, TX.
- Jonathan A. Pomeranz**, “Non-Rabbis in the Babylonian Talmud: Rabbinic Representations and
Historical Interpretation” Ph.D. 2016. Dr. Pomeranz subsequently earned a J.D. from Stanford
University and currently practices law.
- Simcha Gross**, “Empire and Neighbors: The Context of Babylonian Rabbinic Identity” (2017). Dr.
Gross was Assistant Professor of History at the University of California at Irvine before joining
the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania.
- Pratima Gopalakrishnan**, “Domestic Labor and Marital Obligations in the Ancient Jewish
Household,” (2019). Dr. Gopalakrishnan is a post-doctoral fellow at UT Austin.
- Rebecca Kamholz**, “The Discourse of Virginity in the Rabbinic Imagination,” (2019).
- Edmond (Shlomo) Zuckier**, “Sacrificial Theology in Rabbinic Literature,” (2020). Dr. Zuckier is a
Research Associate at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies.
- Dexter Brown**, “Homeric and Mosaic Authorship” (tentative title), Ph.D. expected 2023.
- Yonatan Nativ**, “Computational Rabbinics: Form and Terminology in the Babylonian Talmud”
(tentative title), Ph.D. expected 2024.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS -- Secondary Advisor:

- Alan Appelbaum**, “‘I Clothed You in Purple’: The Rabbinic King-Parables of the Third-Century
Roman Empire” (2007). Dr. Appelbaum held Research positions at Yale before retirement.

Gerald (Yehuda) Septimus, “On the Boundaries of Prayer: Talmudic Ritual Texts with Addressees Other Than God” (2008). Dr. Septimus is an ordained rabbi and psychotherapist.

Joshua E. Burns, "The Dissociation of Judaism and Christianity in the Roman Near East, First to Third Centuries C.E.: Historical Sources and Interpretation (2010). Dr. Burns is Associate Professor, Department of Theology, and Associate Dean, Marquette University.

Rachel Scheinerman, “The Development of the Passover Seder” (2017). Dr. Scheinerman served as web editor for the Jewish Review of Books and is an associate editor at My Jewish Learning.

CURRENT DOCTORAL ADVISEES: Shira Eliassian, Tianruo Jiang

PAULA HYMAN MEMORIAL MENTORING PROGRAM: Yael Landman, Assistant Professor,
Jewish Theological Seminary