

From the Director

On the Cover

BRICK IN A SOFT HAT Series 2 No. 1
(Portraiture of Martha Gruening) Date: 2014
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Spring and summer in Ann Arbor remind us of transition—of changes in the daily experience of this small college town, from the weather to the tempo of campus life. It is a time of transition for the Frankel Center and also for me. This is the third and last letter I write as Interim Director. The fall issue of *Frankely*



Speaking will open with words from our wonderful incoming director, Maya Barzilai. Maya joined us in 2009 with a fresh PhD from Berkeley and a dissertation that would become an award-winning book on the storied afterlife of the legend of the Golem in a war-torn 20th century. A comparatist by training, Maya works on Hebrew,

Yiddish, and German cultures—the practice and theory of translation is central to her work. In her research and her teaching she models the energy and innovation of a younger generation of Judaic Studies scholars that will continue to shape the Frankel Center and the whole field for decades to come. It is a comfort to know that I will be leaving the Frankel Center and Institute in her very capable hands.

Near the end of an academic year in which we continued to navigate the pandemic while mounting successful public programs, we were stunned by the news of the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. This is a region with a deep Jewish history and continuing Jewish life. Our colleague and former Director Jeff Veidlinger has just published an important book on the violent interwar history of the region; Mikhail Krutikov does much work in the area, as do I in my work on historical Galicia. We created some new programming including a presentation by Jewish Studies scholar Vitaly Chernovannenko, broadcast from the capital city Kyiv even as it was under attack. A new initiative emerged to bring together faculty, graduate students, and participants from outside the university to discuss questions related to Jews, Ukraine, and Russia in the context of the conflict. This initiative took place under the auspices of the Frankel Institute, and is an example of how we may extend Institute activities during the spring to address a range of different matters beyond those covered by the annual Institute theme.



The beautiful cover of this Spring/Summer issue is a reproduction of a graphic work the Frankel Center has recently acquired from conceptual artist and former Institute fellow Suzi Dessel. Dessel was the first visual artist invited to be part of our Institute fellows group and she did so in 2014 as part of the theme year on Gender and Jewish Life. The piece and the series it is drawn from, "Brick in a Soft Hat," came out of that year of research and discussion, as Dessel re-

searched the Jewish American activist and journalist Martha Gruening (1889–1937), the subject of the series. Gruening was engaged in the suffrage movement, the early Civil Rights movement, and education reform. The pictures in the series acquired by the Frankel Center relate to different aspects of Gruening's commitments and engagements and events in her life, including the police arrest in which an officer described her as a "brick in a soft hat," the phrase inspiring the portraits. We are excited to display some of the pieces from the series in our Institute board room, where the weekly workshops and so many Frankel Center activities take place.

The people at the Frankel Center to whom I am indebted for their support throughout this year are too many to list—our remarkable staff, faculty, and the students themselves have all made this year directing the Center profoundly rewarding. Our donors have played a crucial role in our progress toward all of our goals, and I am incredibly grateful for their help this year. Shachar Pinsker has been indispensable as our Associate Director, and will continue next year.

Thanks to you all, and may we all have a productive, happy, and restorative summer.

Scott Spector, *Interim Director*

Frankel Center Faculty and Students leave 2021 Association Conference for Jewish Studies with Awards and Impactful Learning Experiences

In December, the Frankel Center had a large number of faculty and students participate in the 2021 Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference in Chicago. Frankel Center faculty presented and moderated discussions over the course of the conference. Anita Norich and Deborah Dash Moore were both awarded the 2021 AJS Women's Caucus Mentoring Award, and Devi Mays received a third major award for her book *Forging Ties, Forging Passports: Migration and the Modern Sephardi Diaspora*. The 2021 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award in Modern Jewish History and Culture: Africa, Americas, Asia and Oceania.

Judaic Studies graduate students also attended the conference. Marina Mayorski presented "Popular Ladino Fiction and the Formation of Sephardic Cultural Modernity in the Late Ottoman Empire," Samuel Shuman was a recipient of the 2021–2022 AJS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for his project "Cutting Out the Middleman: Displacement and Distrust in the Global Diamond Industry," Rachel Brunstein attended the conference, and Cassandra Euphrat Weston presented "*Geburt-Kontrol and Oreme Froyen*: Reproductive Politics between Radical and Reform at the 46 Amboy St. Clinic" at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference. Two of these graduate students who received funding to attend the AJS Conference from the Frankel Center shared their experiences and how it enriched their studies.

Rachel Brunstein, a graduate student in the University of Michigan's Jewish Communal Leadership Program (JCLP) through which she is pursuing a Master's in Social Work and a certifi-

cate in Jewish Communal Leadership, was excited to attend the conference because of her interest in the intersection of research and Jewish communal life. Attending the various panels at the conference allowed her to connect others' research to what she's been studying in JCLP, social work, and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan and "deepened [her] understanding of how we look at religious life, and the lack of religiosity, in the American Jewish community."

Cassandra Euphrat Weston, a third-year doctoral student in History and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, presented a paper on Jewish women's organizing in support of birth control in early 20th century Brooklyn. While the unusual pandemic circumstances of the conference caused some improvisational situations due to many last-minute cancellations, Weston describes that the impact of being able to go to Chicago and "attending a conference in-person after nearly two years of all-virtual work was a wonderful experience, particularly as a new COVID surge has now rendered such in-person professional gatherings more difficult once again. I was thrilled



to present my work at a conference in-person for the first time — a wholly different, and much better, experience than presenting virtually. I was able to reconnect with colleagues I knew and meet many more Jewish studies scholars working in my areas of interest, which include Yiddish studies; 20th century Jewish history; and American Jewish history." Weston described this opportunity as a welcoming and encouraging first conference presentation experience.



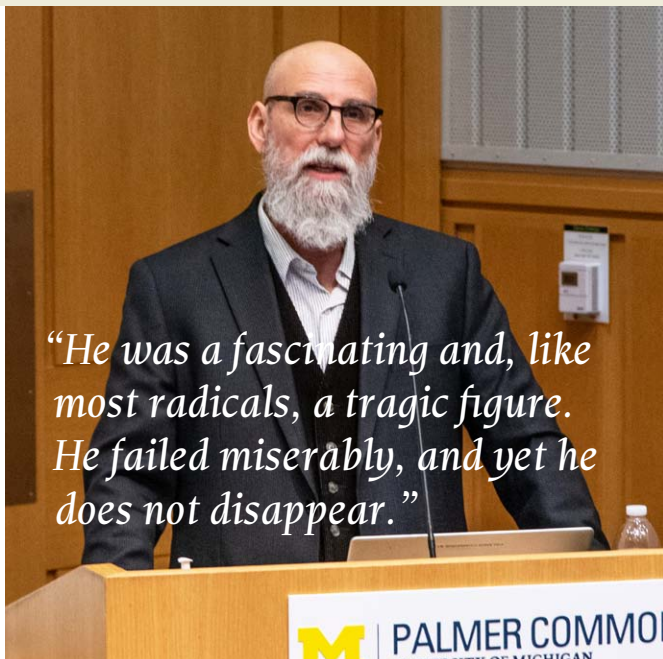
32nd David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs

“‘God Shed His Grace on Thee’ American and Jewish Exceptionalism in the Thought of Meir Kahane”

Dr. Shaul Magid

Shaul Magid, professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College and Senior Kogod Research Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, delivered the 32nd David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs in a hybrid event on April 7, 2022. His most recent book, *Meir Kahane: The Public Life and Political Thought of an American Jewish Radical*, was published by Princeton University Press in 2021, and his lecture explored notions of American exceptionalism and Jewish exceptionalism in the diasporic and Zionist thought of Meir Kahane. His lecture showed how Kahane valued American democracy and viewed America as exceptional while at the same time feeling that America could not ultimately protect the Jews. Alternatively, Jews had their own exceptional status that made them unique among collectives and needed to express that status in a variety of ways, including the establishment of a non-democratic and thus abnormal state. Jewish exceptionalism demanded continued Jewish abnormality, the “normalization” of the Jew viewed as abandoning Jewish exceptionalism.

Magid wanted to introduce Meir Kahane as a figure who has been ignored by scholars but who contributed in interesting ways to postwar Jewish discourse, not only on questions of Jewish militancy and pride, but as a reactionary critic of



“He was a fascinating and, like most radicals, a tragic figure. He failed miserably, and yet he does not disappear.”

American Jewish liberalism. After seven years of living in Kahane’s head, Magid “can say that I really think I understand him. He was a fascinating and, like most radicals, a tragic figure. He failed miserably, and yet he does not disappear.” His research aims to use Kahane to make a larger intervention into postwar American and Israeli Judaism and Jewishness, in this case about navigating the double exceptionalism that many Jews in America embody in different ways.

While Kahane’s worldview is largely rejected, Magid hopes that his book and lecture demonstrate that it has dug some deep roots in the American Jewish subconscious on a variety of issues. He explains that this requires separating his worldview from his militant tactics, which were really just a product of his time. Once one does that, Magid argues that we can see how the things Kahane was talking about in the 1970s have continued to plague American Jews today. Magid also hopes his lecture put Kahane’s worldview in comparative context with other radical movements of the time, specifically on race but also in regard to liberalism, nationalism, and Zionism. In today’s political climate, Magid believes that his chapter on race would be the most important takeaway for his audience, because, he says, “it is there I try to interrogate the ‘grammar of race’ he used to make his point about the Jews and antisemitism. I use critical race theory, and more specifically Afropessimism, as a way to understand what was at stake for

Kahane on race and how he used that to double back to antisemitism and Jewish identity.”

The Belin lecture series was established in 1991 through a generous gift from the late David W. Belin of Des Moines and New York to provide an academic forum for the discussion of contemporary Jewish life in the United States. Previous scholars to hold this honor include Deborah Lipstadt, Samuel Freedman, Ruth Messinger, Jim Loeffler, Beth Wenger, and Lila Corwin Berman, among others. Each year, the lecture is also published in written form in collaboration with Michigan Publishing.



Alumni Profile

Delesiya Davis

Describe your job/graduate school responsibilities:

Currently, I am a 1L attending Howard University School of Law. My responsibilities currently include learning about various topics of the law through reading materials and learning to write legal documents.

What is the most rewarding part of your work or studies?

The most rewarding part about being in law school is the amount of information I am learning about the law. Law school allows me to get a better understanding of why the law is the way it is and corrects misconceptions that I had. Before [I started] law school, I'd come to realize that I'd

missed learning about new concepts in the manner that I had during undergrad. By being in law school, I have been able to get back to learning and thoroughly enjoy it.

Tell us about studying at the Frankel Center:

I absolutely loved the Judaic Studies classes that I took, especially the ones taken with Professor Wollenberg. She is the reason that I majored in Judaic Studies. The classes that she taught and the way that she taught them made the subject interesting to me and made me want to learn more. The classes opened my eyes to a new way of looking at Judaism and taught me a lot about the topic.

“My education . . . taught me to be open-minded and to make appropriate inferences when necessary. Those are the same skills that I use every day in law school.”

How did your education prepare you for your current role?

My education at the University of Michigan, and specifically in the Frankel Center, taught me to be open-minded and to make appropriate inferences when necessary. Those are the same skills that I use every day in law school. I'm always looking into what alternative meaning could apply and making the appropriate inferences to reach the answers that my professors are looking for.

What advice would you give to students who are considering studying Judaic Studies?

Take a class or two in the Judaic Studies department and then make your decision. Personally, I enjoyed my time studying Judaic Studies. I was able to learn a lot about myself and Judaism by doing so.



Graduate Students



Pavel Brunssen published *Football and discrimination: Antisemitism and Beyond* (Routledge 2021) with co-editor Stefanie Schüler-Springorum and “‘Defenders of European Culture’: ‘Refugee Crisis’, Football Hooliganism, and the Right-Wing Shift in Europe.” In *Football and Politics*, edited by James Carr, Martin J. Power, Stephen Millar, and Daniel Parnell and co-authored with Peter Römer and Robert Claus.



Nick Block published “Jüdische Exlibris: Traditionelle Motive und moderne Techniken” in *Jüdische Geschichte & Kultur: Magazin des Dubnow-Instituts*.



Helen Dixon received the Outstanding Faculty Award from East Carolina University in March 2022 and published “The Smells of Eternity: Aromatic Oils and Resins in the Phoenician Mortuary Record” in *The Routledge Handbook of the Senses in the Ancient Near East*, ed. Kiersten Neumann and Allison Thomason, “Making it ‘Count’: Translating your Teaching Innovations into Research Output” in *Ancient Jew Review*, and “How Do Tenure-Track Professors Really Spend Their Work Time?” with Hanna Tervanotko in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. She also won two major national grants: NEH award for “Cemeteries as More than Final Resting Places: How the History of Exclusion and Racism in the US Continues to Haunt African Americans after Death” and NSF in Cultural Anthropology for “Gone and Nearly Forgotten: Reclaiming African American Heritage in Rural Southern Cemeteries”

Vladim Jigoulov published *The Phoenicians Lost Civilizations* (Reaktion Books, Ltd 2022).

Eriva Lehrer published “Jewish Figurines and Holocaust Memory: A Meaning-Making Circuit in (and beyond) the Polish People’s Republic.” In *Diskursbuch Sprachlosigkeit* (ed. by Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, Museum für Völkerkunde Dresden), Leipzig: Hentrich & Hentrich.



Sam Shuman published “Stop the Spread: Gossip, COVID-19, and the Theology of Social Life” in *Religions*.

Faculty

Noah Hysler Rubin, Past Visiting Faculty Member, published “Come to Netanya: A New Reading of Israel’s Planning History” in *Israel–Palestine: Lands and Peoples* and was granted an additional 225,000 NIS for a research he is heading, Jerusalem Archives, carrying it on to its fourth year (granted in total: 1,000,000 NIS).



Anita Norich, Professor Emerita, was featured in the *New York Times* article “How Yiddish Scholars Are Rescuing Women’s Novels From Obscurity” by Joseph Berger and translated *Fear and Other Stories* by Chana Blankshteyn (Wayne State University Press, 2022).



Adi Saleem Bharat gave talks on “Creating and running a Jewish and Muslim Studies research network: Digital networking and social media in the service of academic research and collaboration” at the Fifth Postgraduate Research Training Event and Research Meeting of the Northern UK Jewish Studies Partnership at the University of Manchester (UK) and on

“Perspectives on Race: India and Singapore” with Priya Swamy at the University College Utrecht (Netherlands).



Gabriele Boccaccini published *Paul’s Three Paths to Salvation* (Eerdmans 2020) and its Italian edition *Le tre vie di salvezza di Paolo l’ebreo* (Claudiana 2021). He also published “Protology

and Eschatology in the Enochic Traditions” in *Eschatology in Antiquity: Forms and Functions*, “What Does the Forgiving Jesus Have to Do with the Unforgiving Enoch? Forgiveness of Sins in the Enochic Traditions” in *Torah, Temple, Land: Constructions of Judaism in Antiquity*, and “Jewish Scholarship on the Second Temple Period: From the Renaissance to Albert I. Baumgarten” in *Social History of the Jews in Antiquity*. As the Director of the Enoch Seminar and the Head Fellow at the Frankel Institute, he has been among the organizers and speakers in seven major international conferences the past year.



Deborah Dash Moore was awarded the Association for Jewish Studies Women’s Caucus Mentoring Award and published “A New World Babylon: The United States of America” in *Oxford*

Handbook of the Jewish Diaspora, edited by Hasia R. Diner, “Wonder of Wonders: Rethinking Religion in Manhattan,” in *Church History*, and “Jewish Builders of New York City, 1890–1980” in *The Jewish Metropolis: New York from the Seventeenth to the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Daniel Soyer.



Devi Mays won the Alixa Naff Migration Studies Prize, Dorothy Rosenberg Prize, and the Jordan Schnitzer Prize in the category of Modern Jewish History and Culture: Africa, Americas,

Asia, and Oceania for her book *Forging Ties, Forging Passports: Migration and the Modern Sephardi Diaspora* and published “Avant-Garde Textiles, Jewish Art?,” coauthored with Julia Phillips Cohen and Linsey Labson in *AJS Perspectives* and “Mauricio Fresco: Uncovering the Jewishness of a Mexican Diplomat” in *Jewish Quarterly Review*.

Rafe Neis lead and participated in the panel “Is Spinoza Still Salient? Are the Rabbis Really Relevant? Thinking in the Era of Instrumentalized Knowledge-Making” with Dr. Gilah Kletenik and moderated by Dr. Scott Spector.



Jeffrey Veidlinger published *In the Midst of Civilized Europe: The Pogroms of 1918–1921 and the Onset of the Holocaust* (Metropolitan Books 2021).

Fellows

Marc Herman, 2018–2019 fellow, recently published *Accounting for the Commandments in Medieval Judaism: Studies in Law, Philosophy, Pietism, and Kabbalah*. Études sur le judaïsme médiéval (Leiden: Brill, 2021), coedited with Jeremy P. Brown. Herman will begin a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Humanities at York University next year.

Anthony Bale, 2008–2009, received the Museums Change Lives Award from the Museums Association for his role as academic advisor to the Jewish Museum London for the “Jews, Money, Myth” exhibition and published *Margery Kempe: A Mixed Life* (Reaktion 2021), which was a result of his research at the Frankel Institute. He also published “Curating the past: Blood and money in London” in *Jewish Culture and History*.

Justin Cammy, 2019–2020, was a finalist in the category of Holocaust for critical edition and translation of *Abraham Sutzkever, From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg* (McGill–Queen’s University Press) for the National Jewish Book Award.

Marc Caplan, 2010–2011, became a Senior Research Fellow at Maimonides Centre, University of Hamburg, and published *Yiddish Writers in Weimar Berlin: A Fugitive Modernism* (Indiana University Press 2021) and “Arnold Schoenberg’s Jewish Trauerspiel: Aesthetics, Allegory, and Ethics in Moses und Aron” in *Modernism/modernity*.

Susan C. (Suzi) Dessel, 2013–2014, Artwork by Suzi Dessel, based on research she did as a Frankel Fellow, has been acquired by the Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. The acquisition includes: BRICK IN A SOFT HAT (Portrait of Martha Gruening, No.1), 2013, and BRICK IN A SOFT HAT Series 2 Nos. 1–8 (Portraiture of Martha Gruening), 2014 (No. 2 is featured on the cover of this issue).

Brian Hamm, 2018–2019, published “The Misadventures of Luis Méndez Chávez and the Origins of the Sephardic Colonization Movement” in *Jewish History*, which was a result of his research as a Frankel Fellow.

Martin Jacobs, 2018–2019, published “Flying Camels and Other Remarkable Species: Natural Marvels in Medieval Hebrew Travel Accounts” in *Jews and Journeys: Travel and the Performance of Jewish Identity*. ed. Joshua Levinson and Orit Bashkin.

Amy Kerner, 2019–2020, published “Indios, Negros, and Criollos: The Racial Anxieties of Argentine Yiddish,” in *Jewish Social Studies*.

Miriamne Ara Krummel, 2015–2016, received the AJS Community Grant from the Association for Jewish Studies and published *The Medieval Postcolonial Jew, In and Out of Time* (University of Michigan Press 2022), “Time and the Other: How Common is the ‘Common Era’?” in *The Conversation*, and “The Empire of Time” in *The Academic Minute: WAMC and National Public Radio*.

Jessica Marglin, 2012–2013, published *Al-qīdā’ al-muta’addid: al-yahūd wal-muslimūn fī al-maghrib al-mu’āsir*, translated by Khalid Ben-Srhir (Arabic translation of *Across Legal Lines: Jews and Muslims in Modern Morocco*) (Manshūrāt

kulliyat al-ādāb wal-‘ulūm al-insāniya, Jāmiyat Muḥammad al-ḥāmis 2021) and “Extraterritoriality and Legal Belonging in the Nineteenth-Century Mediterranean” and “Halakhah yehudit be-merḥav yam-tikhoni: Parshat tzeva’ato shel ha-ka’id Nissim Shamama, 1873–1883 [Jewish Law Across the Mediterranean: The Last Will and Testament of Nissim Shamama]” in *Law and History Review*. She also received a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship.

Alex Moshkin, 2020–2021, received the 2021 Salo Baron New Voices in Jewish Studies Award from Columbia University and Fordham University and will begin as Assistant Professor Of Comparative Literature at Koc University.

Josefina Rodriguez-Arribas, 2009–2010, published *Unveiling the Hidden – Anticipating the Future: Divinatory Practices among Jews Between Qumran and the Modern Period* co-edited by Dorian Gieseler Greenbaum (Brill 2021), “Astral Sciences: Jewish Traditions and Practices in the Medieval World,” “Mathematical Instruments in Astrology,” and “Medical Plates in Astrological Medicine” in *Prognostication in the Medieval World: A Handbook*.

Yael Sela, 2020–2021, published “Fashioning Biblical Poetry as a Diasporic Motherland in the Berlin Haskalah” in *Azimuth: Philosophical Coordinates* and is Visiting Affiliated Researcher, Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum, Potsdam University.

Lisa Silverman, 2012–2013, published “Rethinking Jews, Antisemitism, and Jewish Difference in Postwar Germany” in *The Future of the German-Jewish Past: Memory and the Question of Antisemitism*, ed. Gideon Reuveni and Diana Franklin and has been selected as the Michael Hauck Visiting Professor for Interdisciplinary Holocaust Research, Fritz Bauer Institute for the History and Impact of the Holocaust, Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, for the summer semester 2022.

Juan Manuel Tebes, 2017–2018, published *The Desert Origins of God: YHWH’s Emergence and Early History in the Southern*

Levant and Northern Arabia co-edited by Christian Frevel (Ruhr-Universität Bochum 2021), “Les deux Édoms de l’âge du bronze récent” in *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires*, “A Reassessment of the Chronology of the Iron Age site of Khirbet en-Nahas, Southern Jordan” in *Palestine Exploration Quarterly*, “Late Bronze/Iron Age Extramural Shrines of the Arid Southern Levant and the Syro-Arabian Desert Cultic Architecture” in M. Luciani (ed.), *The Archaeology of the Arabian Peninsula 2: Connecting the Evidence*, and “Religion in Northern Hejaz” in *Database of Religious History*. He is also Invited Professor at Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne.

Barry Trachtenberg, 2008–2009, published *The Holocaust & the Exile of Yiddish A History of the Algemeyne Entsiklopedye* (Rutgers University Press 2022) and “Why I Signed the Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism” in *Jewish Currents*.

Nick Underwood, 2019–2020, published *Yiddish Paris: Staging Nation and Community in Interwar France* (Indiana University Press 2022).

Howard Lupovitch, 2008–2009, published *Polin 31 — Poland and Hungary: Jewish Realities Compared* co-edited by Antony Polonsky and Francois Guesnet (Littman Library 2019) and “Neolog: Reforming Judaism in a Hungarian Milieu” in *Modern Judaism*.

Kelley Coblenz Bautch, 2021–2022, served as the Barnett Scholar of the Jewish Studies Program of Brite Divinity School in June 2021, has presented two lectures that are in association with her Frankel Fellow Project. She gave an invited presentation at the University of Notre Dame on “The Missing Matriarchs of 1 Maccabees” and gave a presentation at a juried conference entitled “Advancing to the Ends of the Earth’: Lamenting Domination in 1 Maccabees.”

Joseph Angel, 2021–2022, published “The Second Temple of Jerusalem: Center of the Jewish Universe” in *Jewish Religious Architecture: From Biblical Israel to Modern*

Judaism, “Probing the Jewish Setting of Matthew 11:25–30” in *From Scrolls to Traditions: A Festschrift Honoring Lawrence H. Schiffman*, and “‘Kinsmen or an Alien Race?’: Jews and Samaritans from the Hasmoneans to the Mishnah” in *The Samaritans: A Biblical People*.

Shayna Sheinfeld, 2021–2022, published *Jewish and Christian Women in the Ancient Mediterranean*, co-authored by Sara Parks and Meredith J.C. Warren (Routledge 2021) and “Teaching The Road in the Context of Apocalyptic Studies” in *Approaches to Teaching the Works of Cormac McCarthy*, ed. Stacey Peebles and Ben West.

Ryan Szpiech, 2018–2019, published “Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in Medieval Europe” in *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Europe*, “Turning and Returning: Religious Conversion and Personal Testimony in Medieval Iberian Societies” in *The Routledge Companion to Medieval Iberia: Unity in Diversity*, “Seeing the Substance: Rhetorical Muslims and Christian Holy Objects in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries” in *Interfaith Relationships and Perceptions of the Other in the Medieval Mediterranean*, and “The Book of Nestor the Priest and the Toledot Yešu in the Polemics of Abner of Burgos/Alfonso of Valladolid” in *Polemical and Exegetical Polarities in Medieval Jewish Cultures: Studies in Honour of Daniel J. Lasker*.

Alumni

Deborah Gurt published “Jewish Mobile’s Narrow Bridge” in *Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina Journal* and will be co-project director on a 2022 National Endowment for the Humanities grant for work to expand the infrastructure supporting interdisciplinary humanities projects, especially oral history in local communities.

Andrew Reiter was awarded the H.W Wilson Endowed Presidential Scholarship from the H.W. Wilson Foundation and accepted

admission into the masters program at the University of Texas at Austin’s School of Information. He is currently serving as a research assistant at the Texas Digital Library.

Miriam Saperstein published Issue 3 of *Pollux Journal*, contributed to a research guide called *Women in STEM*, and curated the page of that guide called “Unpacking STEM.”

Elizabeth Weisberg had two abstracts developed with her research team accepted for poster presentation at this year’s San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. She will be representing their team at the symposium and is the lead presenter for one of the posters.

J.H. (Yossi) Chajes was awarded the Volkswagen Foundation Digital Humanities Grant by Lower Saxony, Germany – Volkswagen Stiftung and published *The Visualization of Knowledge in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* co-edited by Marcia Kupfer and Adam Cohen (Brepols 2020), “Re-envisioning the Evil Eye: Magic, Optical Theory, and Modern Supernaturalism,” in *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, “Jacob Şemah, Humanist,” in *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, “The Kabbalistic Diagrams of Gershom Scholem,” *Ars Judaica*, “Spheres, Sefrot, and the Imaginal Astro-nomical Discourse of Classical Kabbalah,” *Harvard Theological Review*, and “Diagramming Sabbateanism,” *Images: A Journal of Jewish Art and Visual Culture*.

Jessica Evans was promoted to Senior Director of Major Gifts, Western States, in the University of Michigan’s Office of University Development.

Anne Kreps was awarded the Mellon Environmental Futures Fellowship by the Mellon/American Council of Learned Sciences and published *The Crucified Book: Sacred Writing in the Age of Valentinus* (University of Pennsylvania Press 2022).

Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Celebrates Class of 2022



The Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies is celebrating the Class of 2022, consisting of 18 minors, six majors, and three graduate certificate students. Several graduates will be continuing their education or seeking jobs in, law, finance, business, public health, and other diverse career paths.

“While I have always felt a strong connection to Jewish traditions, I never understood where they came from and why they were important. Being in the Judaic Studies department opened my eyes to what it means to be Jewish not only in America, but around the world and throughout history. As such, I am now more in touch with my Jewish identity than ever before.” – Noah Fisher, Judaic Studies minor, Winter 2022



David Zwick is the recipient of the Judaic Studies Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award in recognition of his exceptional academic performance and significant contribution to Judaic Studies at the University of

Michigan. Grace Roberts was selected as the first runner-up for the award.



This year's Marshall Weinberg prize, given annually to an outstanding graduate student who is engaged in writing a dissertation, was awarded to **Maggie Carlton**, noting both the originality of her dissertation project, "Warring of the Classes:

Jewish American and African American Mothers between World Wars," and the significance of her contribution to Jewish studies. In her nomination, Professor Deborah Dash Moore highlighted how Maggie draws upon the bodies of scholarship of both African American and modern Jewish history as she "seek[s] to rewrite understanding of gendered processes of minority group acculturation and adaptation to American white Protestant society." The selection committee was deeply impressed with the ways in which the dissertation project goes beyond a comparative study, instead creating a kind of joint history of gender, class, and race as it plays out of two Detroit communities.

"I thought I knew a lot about Judaism, but the Judaic Studies department taught me that Jewish knowledge far exceeds what you learn in Jewish day school. There is so much Jewish history, modernity, and culture within the JS department, and every class is so fun to explore. The professors in the department truly care about their students and their well-being and go out of their way to develop relationships with their students." – Caroline Shrock, Judaic Studies minor, Winter 2022

"Because of the tight-knit, collaborative environment the Judaic Studies department provided me, I found myself able to delve deeper into my Jewish identity and learn more about the history of the Jewish people. While I learned a lot of the history, I was also enriched with knowledge regarding modern-day Judaism." – Melanie Beal, Judaic Studies minor, Fall 2021



Sam Shuman was awarded the Frankel Center's Bernstein Dissertation Award for his extraordinary dissertation, "Cutting Out the Middleman: The Diamond Industry & the Politics of Displacement in a European Port City." This

impressive study focused on the global network of Hasidic diamond brokers, and involved field work over two years in the most important nodes of the industry: Antwerp, Tel Aviv, Mumbai, and New York City. By accessing the industry at a moment he identifies as a profound rupture due to changes in regulation and competition, Shuman sheds light on how a group of Hasidic traders are trained to interact with local populations, and how shifts in the modern trade test the limits of solidarity within the community, just as they reveal the sometimes paradoxical nature of global capitalism.

Rachel Leibovich won the the Outstanding Yiddish Student Award, which is awarded to a student whose classwork and commitment to Yiddish stands out, in recognition of her exceptional contribution in her Yiddish classes.

Graduates with degrees in Judaic studies are moving on to an array of diverse career paths, benefiting from the education they received at the Frankel Center.

The 2022 graduates join a distinguished group of Frankel Center alumni. We wish them the best of luck!



Graduate Certificate

Nadav Linial
Joshua Scott
Jason Wagner

Major

Emily Anfang
Maxwell Russ
Jillian Sturim
Kathryn Todd
Tori Spector
David Zwick

Minor

Melanie Beal
Sophie Einbund
Noah Ente
Noah Fisher
Jordan Galperin
Sawyer Howard
Emme Kierstein
Joshua Kornblum
Ilana Moffet
Allison Monto
Sarah Pomerantz
Josh Robbins
Grace Roberts
Jacob Schuman
Ariana Schwartzberg
Caroline Shrock
Elizabeth Young
Samantha Zuckerberg



Fall 2022 Judaic Studies Course Offerings

CORE COURSES

Judaic 205: What is Judaism?

ELECTIVES

Judaic 261: Lost Books that Rewrote the Bible
Judaic 318: Blackness and Jewishness
Judaic 605: Judaism: Origins, Histories, and Practices

NEW COURSES

Judaic 217: The Bible and the Quran
Judaic 318: Jews and Fashion

For students looking to learn a language, we are continuing to offer Yiddish and Ladino courses.

Executive Committee
Scott Spector, Director
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