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Editor's Welcome

The lights of Chanukah have finally dwindled and the heat of summer has well and truly arrived (or at least here in Queensland!) Though there's little rest for the busy executive and members of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies: some are busily preparing papers for AAJ2019, others have escaped to cooler climates or are hard at work on other projects, which we're delighted to profile here.

Our AAJS members have been both busy and successful throughout the last few months. Student member Jonathan C. Kaplan (University of Technology Sydney) recently published an excellent piece in *The Conversation* on the relationship between the media, antisemitism and acts of hatred, drawing on his own research into early 20th-century Vienna and exploring parallels in the contemporary world including the recent terrible shootings at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburg. We are pleased to be able to reproduce this piece, thanks to *The Conversation*, in this newsletter.

AAJS members are also being recognized for their excellent research in the government sector as well as public media – we are very pleased to be able to celebrate recent ARC grant success for Dr Avril Alba (University of Sydney), and outline her exciting new project on Holocaust memory in Australian national discourse. Members have also been recognized by their own institutions, including Yona Gilead (University of Sydney), whose book “Dynamics of Teaching and Learning Modern Hebrew as an Additional Language “ was jointly awarded the annual School of Languages & Cultures book prize, and Jennifer Creese, whose work teaching anthropology students about Jewish migrants in Brisbane was recognized with a Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences teaching award.

Work done by AAJS members and their research partners has been in the public spotlight recently: a new report from Emeritus Professor Suzanne Rutland (University of Sydney) and her Bar-Ilan university colleague Professor Zehavit Gross has seen them on a speaking tour around the country, including radio interviews, public forums, and a launch reception at the New South Wales parliament. Suzanne shares some of her reflections on their report and promotion activities in this issue.

Members are also developing their knowledge and networks and sharing their research globally at conferences around the world. Dr Anna Hirsh (Jewish Holocaust Centre) recently attended the

To help you start the new year right, we include a range of Calls for Papers and details of a few relevant Vacancies in the field of Jewish studies overseas. This includes our sister-association, the British Association for Jewish Studies, whose annual conference has a Call for Papers open this month. We highlight some of the new publications in our field which may be of interest – better suited to your library bag than your beach bag, perhaps, but still some great summer reads!

Looking forward to connecting you with many more stories, celebrations and opportunities in Jewish Studies, both nationally and internationally, in 2019!

*Jennifer Creese, University of Queensland
AAJS Newsletter Editor*

“How anti-Semitic stereotypes from a century ago echo today”: Jonathan C. Kaplan for The Conversation

Following the horrific shootings at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburg, AAJS student member and UTS PhD Candidate Jonathan C. Kaplan wrote this powerful, personal piece, drawing on his doctoral research on early 20th century Viennese Jews to explore broader themes of media depiction and hate speech.

Jonathan’s essay has been reproduced for this newsletter, thanks to The Conversation’s Creative Commons license: read the full essay online at <https://theconversation.com/how-anti-semitic-stereotypes-from-a-century-ago-echo-today-106451>.

How anti-Semitic stereotypes from a century ago echo today

November 15, 2018 6.04am AEDT

Author



Jonathan C. Kaplan

Doctoral candidate, University of Technology Sydney

Disclosure statement

Jonathan C. Kaplan's research is supported by an Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship.

A few weeks ago, my parents woke up to find a large, orange swastika daubed in paint on a wooden plank outside their house in Sydney. We have a [mezuzah](#) attached to our front doorpost, so the “dauber” knew we were a Jewish household. At the time, my parents were angry and sad more than frightened.

My family’s experience cannot compare with the hate that burst forth in Pittsburgh several weeks ago, when 11 congregants at the Tree of Life Synagogue were murdered simply because they were Jewish people attending prayer. But we are living in a period of increasing hatred directed at minorities of all kinds, and anti-Semitism is [on the rise](#) across the globe.

The Pittsburgh synagogue gunman, Robert Bowers, raged in online platforms that Jews [were “invaders” trying to destabilise](#) the United States. They were, he said, “an infestation” and “evil”. Bowers’ rants cast Jews in the role of dangerous revolutionaries out to destroy Western civilisation. This has long been a staple perspective of anti-Semitism.

In my research, I have been studying the anti-Semitic images that were commonplace in Vienna early last century. These stereotyped images served to vilify Jewish people, culminating in the removal of most of the Jews from Vienna in 1938.

I believe it is important that we reflect on these upsetting images to consider

how the “mainstreaming” of anti-Semitic ideas and images in popular media can have terrible consequences.

Caricatures in the fin-de-siècle Viennese press

At the turn of the century, the Austrian capital was home to the third-largest Jewish population in Europe after Warsaw and Budapest. Accounting for almost 9% of Vienna’s population, Jews were a highly visible minority. They were also a constant source of conversation and fear within Vienna’s political and civic arenas.

Anti-Semitic caricatures and literary sketches in the Viennese press ran rife from the end of the 19th century until the German annexation of Austria in March 1938.

The cartoons presented a variety of messages that characterised Jews in a number of negative roles: as the binary opposite to Aryan morality and virtuousness, as money-grubbing parvenus, or as attempting to take over large parts of the city. What all these stereotypes had in common was their characterisation of Jewish people as an Other who did not belong within European society.

One caricature from the widely read Viennese biweekly satirical magazine *Kikeriki*, published in 1900, comments on the presence of Jews at elite social events.



Caricature from the satirical magazine *Kikeriki*. Author provided

It depicts Jewish men and women ridiculed for their supposed racial characteristics (a view strongly influenced by the popularity of eugenics and Social Darwinism during this period) and, by satirising the popular dance styles at elite city balls, implies that Jews dominated Viennese elite circles. The image’s caption makes no overt references to Jews, but the visual stereotypes would have made it very clear to the readers what this image was about.



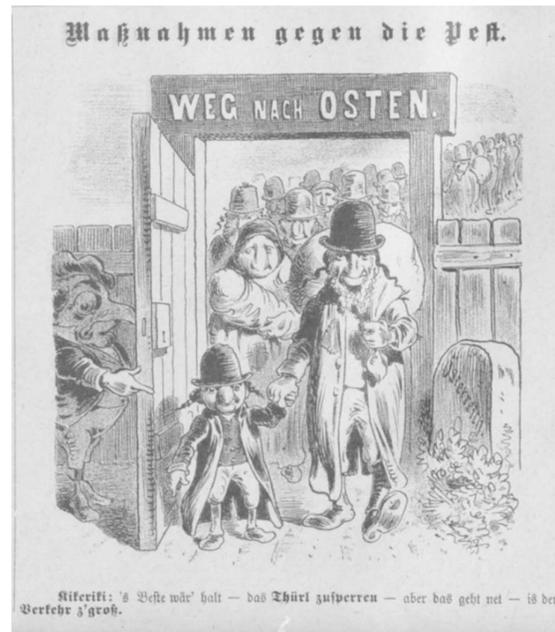
A 1900 cartoon in *Figaro*. Author provided

Another cartoon from 1890 in *Figaro* (not to be confused with the popular

French daily *Le Figaro*) depicts two men meeting on a crowded Viennese street. One of the men, a visitor, asks a local if he would be so kind as to point out the *Judengasse* [Jews' Street]. The latter replies, "Perhaps you can tell me where is it not."

The scene behind these two gentlemen is filled with characters drawn with common Jewish bodily stereotypes: large hooked noses, dark curly hair and thick lips.

Although at this time most Jews living in Vienna spoke German and were adherents to secular German culture, the figure of the *Ostjude* (Eastern Jew) was a typical feature of these cartoons. Anti-Semitic cartoonists, newspaper editors and politicians harnessed a fear connected to an increased Jewish migration from Austria's eastern crownlands and the pogroms of the Russian Empire. Despite the fact that Yiddish-speaking, Orthodox, traditionally attired Jews never accounted for the majority of Vienna's Jewish population, cartoons often depicted them as descending en masse into an unsuspecting "German" city.



Cartoons often depicted Jewish people descending 'en masse' on a city. Author provided

Other cartoons bemoaning Vienna's "Jewification" gave way to those speculating on the revenge that would be meted out to the Jews; not necessarily violence and murder, but other forms such as banishment from the city and its social and political arenas.



A revenge fantasy. Author provided

‘Jewification’ and revenge today

The effects of this tradition of anti-Semitic representation are clear. It took very little for average men and women to turn on their Jewish neighbours and colleagues after the [German Anschluss](#) in March 1938.

Many Viennese Jews were lucky to escape. Some, just under 2,000, found a haven in Australia. They have since, like many other refugees and migrants, contributed to the economic, cultural and political development of Australian culture in the post-WWII period.

Yet the themes of “Jewification” and revenge expressed in these cartoons are, sadly, still relevant today.

In his online rants, for instance, Bowers had [condemned the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society](#) (HIAS) – a Jewish refugee advocacy and support group founded in New York in 1881 – for “bringing in invaders”.

The Hungarian-born Jewish billionaire philanthropist George Soros, meanwhile, has been the target of [anti-Semitic demonisation](#). And in Charlottesville last year, hundreds of mostly young white men marched with torches chanting the Nazi slogan “Blood and Soil” and “Jews will not replace us”.

How we speak about and depict others in the media and social discourse perpetuates long-held stereotypes and ultimately emboldens hate-filled individuals. It is for this reason that we should look to the past – and learn from it.

THE CONVERSATION

ARC Grant Success for AAJS's Dr Avril Alba

Congratulations are due to Dr Avril Alba (University of Sydney) who has been awarded funding of \$172,000 for the Discovery Project "The Memory of the Holocaust in Australia", commencing in 2019.



Above: Successful ARC DP grant winner Dr Avril Alba. Source: University of Sydney

The project aims to produce a cultural history of Holocaust memory in Australia. Contemporary appeals to the memory of the Holocaust in the Australian setting are typically understood to illuminate the injustice of other instances of racial persecution. This project aims to uncover this memory's far more complex and politically potent history. Through detailed archival and cultural analysis of key moments in the development of Australian Holocaust memory, this project will probe the various political and social ends to which this memory has been applied. The project expects to generate a deep and nuanced understanding of the role Holocaust memory has played in shaping some of our most important, and enduring, national conversations.

Avril is no stranger to ARC success: in 2014 she was co-Chief Investigator, with Associate

Professor Jennifer Barrett and Professor A. Dirk Moses, on a three-year ARC Linkage Grant in partnership with the Sydney Jewish Museum, "Australian Holocaust Memory, Human Rights and the Contemporary Museum", which greatly informed the museum's most recent permanent exhibition "The Holocaust and Human Rights" and continuing programs. The new grant will assist Avril in continuing her excellent research program and further strengthen the profile of Holocaust research and Jewish studies in Australia.

University Prizes for AAJS Members

Two AAJS members have been recognized by their university faculties for excellence in teaching, researching and publishing in Jewish studies.

Dr Yona Gilead (University of Sydney), was co-recipient of the School of Languages & Cultures book award, for her 2018 book "Dynamics of Teaching and Learning Modern Hebrew as an Additional Language" (Brill Publishers). Yona's book was selected by the School's research committee as one of the two best publications by its staff in 2018.



Above: Dr Yona Gilead signs her award-winning new book. Source: Y. Gilead.

Student member Ms Jennifer Creese (University of Queensland) was recently the recipient of a 2018 Faculty Teaching Award for tutor excellence from the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, for her work with Anthropology students. Her work with students on studying migration and identity, drawing on her research on Jews in Queensland, was recognized for the strong partnerships she built with other researchers, the University of Queensland Library and University of Queensland Anthropology Museum, enriching the student experience.

Congratulations to both Yona and Jennifer!

A “Triumph” of a Launch for New Book

AAJS member Freda Hodge (Jewish Holocaust Centre) recently celebrated the release of her new book, *Tragedy and Triumph: Early Testimonies of Jewish Survivors of World War II* (Monash University Publishing, 2018) with a launch event at the Jewish Holocaust Centre, Melbourne.

The book is a collection of eyewitness testimonies from Holocaust survivors who gave accounts of their experiences in Yiddish during their time in post-war Displaced Persons camps, originally collected in the Yiddish journal *Fun Letzten Khurbe*. The testimonies lay in the archives of Yad Vashem for approximately 70 years, untranslated and unexplored by historians. This volume presents 30 of the 100 collected testimonies, expertly translated from Yiddish to English by Freda.

The book was officially launched to a keen audience by Professor Emeritus Konrad Kwiet (University of Sydney). Professor Kwiet stressed the historical importance of early testimonies like these, “the most important body of Jewish documents pertaining to the

history of the Holocaust, at a time when memory was still fresh”, without other influences from the media, the testimonies of other survivors, or historians' versions of what had taken place during the Holocaust.

Freda, who has worked in the Testimonies department of the Jewish Holocaust Centre for the past 11 years, is continuing her work in this area, currently translating seven testimonies given by survivors who emigrated from Europe to Australia in 1947. These testimonies, also written in Yiddish, were published in Melbourne by YIVO in 1949 but have remained unexplored by historians since, and will give vital clues into both the Holocaust experience and Australian post-war migration experiences.

Tragedy and Triumph is currently available for purchase through Monash University Press (RRP \$34.95 AUD).



Above: Freda Hodge with Professor Konrad Kwiet at her book launch. Source: F. Hodge

We’re proud of our members and their work at the AAJS, and we love sharing news of book launches and prizes. If you’ve launched a new publication, share the news in a future edition of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies newsletter!

Gross and Rutland School NSW on SRE

Religious education, or religious instruction, is often a contentious political football for state schools and education departments. However, new support and recognition for special religious education (SRE) is being enjoyed, particularly in New South Wales, with the release of a ground-breaking new report by Professor Zehavit Gross (Bar-Ilan University) and Emeritus Professor Suzanne Rutland (University of Sydney). Amongst their findings, the report indicates evidence-based improvements in students' positive health, welfare and social outcomes linked to religious knowledge.

Professor Gross and Professor Rutland's research project, an independent report commissioned by the "Better Balanced Futures (BBF)", a new organization representing all the faith groups in NSW, which seeks to improve and professionalise the SRE curriculum and pedagogy. One of the key findings of the Gross/Rutland report is, that SRE "brings important psychological benefits to students' mental health and wellbeing and reduces the risk of mental illness", has been flagged by the New South Wales government as particularly important for the next generation. Their work is also set to have an impact in other Australian states, with the Queensland government also reviewing its Religious Instruction (RI) curriculum under the oversight of Professors Gross and Rutland, with wide support from almost 15 different faith group organizational representatives, including Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist and Baha'i groups.

In promoting their research report and partnerships with governments and SRE educational organisations, the researchers have both travelled to Sydney and Brisbane giving public lectures, panel discussions, radio interviews and other appearances across Australia. In Sydney, they were the keynote speakers for a major event held at the NSW

Parliament House with around 800 participants from all the faiths and both the Education Minister, Rob Stokes and Shadow Opposition Minister, Jihad Dib, as speakers. They presented the report to the Premier, Gladys Berejiklian.

Better Balanced Futures wish to bring Professor Gross back to Australia so that she and Professor Emerita Rutland can also speak in Melbourne, to see if Special Religious Instruction can be re-introduced in Victoria – the government decided to close the program two years ago.

The report, "Study of Special Religious Education and its value to contemporary society", can be viewed free online at <http://www.insights.uca.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Executive-Summary.pdf>



Above: Professor Suzanne Rutland (Left) and Professor Zehavit Gross (Centre) present their report to New South Wales premier Gladys Berejiklian. Source: S. Rutland



Above: The authors share their report with a delegation of representatives of the Buddhist faith. Source: S. Rutland

New MOOC on Biblical Archaeology Open

The scholarship on bibliography is rich and vast. A new free online MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), delivered by Bar-Ilan University in Israel through the EdX global course platform, is now open allowing interested learners across the globe to explore the basics of the biblical archaeology of ancient Israel and Judah during the Iron Age (ca. 1200-586 BCE).

The course, nicknamed "IsraelX" is taught by Professor Aren Maier, Professor of Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology of the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel Studies and Professor of Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University (Ramat-Gan, Israel). Director of the Tell es-Safi/Gath Archaeological Project and co-director of the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times, Professor Maier is considered one of the foremost experts on archaeology in Israel.

The course uses cutting-edge, interdisciplinary archaeological research to explore the fascinating field of archaeology, the history of this era, and its major geopolitical actors (e.g. Israel, Judah, Philistine, Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Aram, Moab, Edom, ancient Egypt). Special focus will be given to complex relationship between archaeology, history and the bible, and how modern research interfaces between these different, and at times conflicting, sources. In particular, how can archaeology be used to understand the biblical text (and vice versa).

Students learn from a combination of short video lectures and extensive illustrative materials, on-site discussions at relevant

archaeological locations, 3D images and discussions of relevant archaeological finds.

In addition, it includes interviews with leading researchers in the field, both to discuss specific aspects, finds and sites, as well as to present different sides of debated issues. The course also includes quizzes and other activities to test and apply knowledge. Course content is free for anyone to complete, and Verified Certificates of completion are available for purchase from EdX if required.

The course opened in early December and new content is released weekly until early February; however, with the self-paced content, students can begin learning at any time, so it's not too late to jump in and begin learning more about archaeology and biblical connection in Israel from world-renowned experts!

Find out more, or sign up for free, at <https://courses.edx.org/courses/course-v1:IsraelX+BIBARC101+3T2018/course/>

Have you taken or offered a Jewish Studies course online? Been to a local or international conference, seminar, symposium or colloquium where you shared your work in Jewish Studies or related fields? Share your experiences, memories, highlights and photographs with your colleagues – why not write up a brief essay about your experiences for a future edition of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies newsletter?

Vacancies in Jewish Studies

Mellon Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies and Women's and Gender Studies, Vanderbilt University (USA)

The Programs in Jewish Studies and Women's and Gender Studies at Vanderbilt University invite applications for the position of Mellon Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, and Judaism beginning in the 2019 fall semester. This is a non-tenure-track position with a 3-year appointment. We are seeking a scholar working on women and Judaism in global or transnational contexts from a comparative perspective, in a range of fields including, but not limited to, anthropology, religious studies, and political science.

The successful candidate will have a strong research agenda in Jewish Studies and women and/or gender, and/or sexuality. PhD required; teaching experience preferred. In addition, in accordance with Mellon Foundation guidelines, applicants must have received the Ph.D. no more than four years from the start of the position. Teaching load 2/2. For more information on our programs please visit the program websites at www.vanderbilt.edu.

Applications, including cover letter, CV, writing sample, teaching philosophy (and evidence of effectiveness), and three letters of reference should be submitted. Review of applications will begin on **February 15, 2019**. Apply here: <https://apply.interfolio.com/57501>.

Assistant or Associate Professor, Contemporary Jewish Religion and Globalized Identities, Queens' University (Ontario, Canada)

The School of Religion, Faculty of Arts and Science at Queen's University invites applications for a Tenure-track or Tenured faculty position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor with specialization in Contemporary Jewish Religion and Globalized Identities. The successful candidate will also hold an appointment as the Co-ordinator of the Jewish Studies Program. The preferred starting date is July 1, 2019.

The successful candidate will be expected to: Co-ordinate the Jewish Studies program, teach courses in the School of Religion, promote Jewish Studies in the University and local community, work with a Steering Committee to foster courses related to Jewish Studies in various University departments.

Candidates must have a PhD or equivalent degree completed at the start date of the appointment. The main criteria for selection are academic and teaching excellence. The successful candidate will provide evidence of high-quality scholarly output that demonstrates potential for independent research leading to peer assessed publications and the securing of external research funding, as well as strong potential for outstanding teaching contributions at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and an ongoing commitment to academic and pedagogical excellence in support of the department's programs.

The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2019**. For more details, see <https://www.queensu.ca/religion/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.rlgwww/files/files/Employment%20Opportunities/Queens%20University%20Contemporary%20Jewish%20Religion%20and%20Globalized%20Identities%20Tenure%20Track%20Position.pdf>.

Upcoming Conferences & Calls for Papers

Call for Papers, BAJIS Conference 2019 University of Oxford, 21-24 July 2019: “What is Commentary?”

The annual conference of the British Association for Jewish Studies 2019 will focus on the question, “What is commentary”? This question is central to philology, literature, cultural studies and history, among other disciplines, and is intended to be multidisciplinary in its scope and presentation. The conference theme for BAJIS 2019 focuses on ‘commentary’ from a variety of perspectives: the form and purpose of scholarly commentary; the definition, critique and generation of commentary; commentary and literary criticism; ancient and medieval scholastic traditions and modern productions of film, art and literature; feminist/gender driven commentary – such as the projects seeking to produce a feminist midrash and current feminist commentaries on the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmud; history and politics; commentary and commentators in the academy (the place of philology); commentary and translation; reception of commentary; history; materiality (textual and visual); the relationship between commentary and metacommentary; and whether the concept of commentary is helpful or disruptive with respect to Jewish Antiquity. This topic is intended to reinforce the plurilingual and multidisciplinary nature of Jewish Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

This is an open call for papers. Please note that this includes topics not related exclusively to the theme. Post graduates are encouraged to submit proposals.

All conference correspondence, abstracts and enquiries should be addressed to the BAJIS President Elect for 2019, Professor Hindy Najman, University of Oxford at the following email address: bajisoxford2019@gmail.com

Deadline for paper or session proposals (with three paper proposals and a chair) has been extended to **1 February 2019**. Decisions will be announced by 10 April.

Call for Papers

26th Annual International Conference on Jewish Studies, Moscow, 14 – 16 July 2019

The 26th Annual International conference program will include sections on traditional areas of Jewish studies (Biblical and Talmudic Studies, Jewish Thought, Jewish History, Judeo-Christian Relations, the Holocaust, Israeli Studies, Languages and Literature, Art, Ethnology, Demography, Jewish Genealogy, Museums and Archives, etc.). We also welcome topics that require interdisciplinary approach.

Graduate students and young researchers are invited to take part in the youth panels of the conference, moderated by the leading specialists in their fields of study.

Presentation of last year publications on Jewish studies will also take place. If you wish to submit new published works, please contact us so we will include it in the program.

To apply for the conference please [fill in this online form](#).

The deadline for the submissions is **March, 1, 2019**. We will inform you about the results and send all the organisational details on March 20, 2019.

The time limit for one presenter is 20 minutes (including questions). The Conference will be held in Russian and English. Participants will be provided with accommodation and meals during the Conference.

There are also several travel grants available for graduate students and young researchers (up to 40 years old)

The full program of the conference will be published on our website after May 20, 2019.

For more information:

https://www.sefer.ru/eng/education/international_conferences/26conference.php

Grants & Other Opportunities

Research fellowship opportunities offered by the JDC Archives

The JDC Archives, which holds the institutional records of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee since its founding in 1914, is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for its 2019 fellowship program. In 2019, 6 fellowships will be awarded to senior scholars, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and independent researchers to conduct research in the JDC Archives, either in New York or in Jerusalem. Research topics in the fields of twentieth century Jewish history, modern history, social welfare, migration, and humanitarian assistance will be considered, as well as other areas of academic research covered in the JDC archival collections. For more information, and to apply, visit <http://archives.jdc.org/about-us/fellowships-and-grants-general-information/>. The fellowship awards are USD\$2,000-\$5,000.

The deadline to submit applications is **21 January 2019**.

The JDC Archives' online database with documents, photographs, and a names index is available at <http://archives.jdc.org/search-the-archives/>. Finding aids can be accessed at <http://archives.jdc.org/explore-the-archives/finding-aids/>.

Researches are encouraged to apply for these fellowships and to explore the JDC Archives website for scholarly and teaching materials.

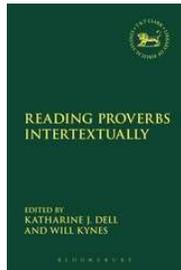
YIVO Institute Fellowships

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, has a number of fellowships on offer to assist researchers in conducting extensive research in its libraries and archives. Fellowships are available in East European Jewish Studies, Baltic Jewish Studies, Polish Jewish Studies, American Jewish Studies, and Eastern European Jewish Arts, Theatre, Music and Literature, and carry generous stipends.

YIVO has extended its fellowship application period until **January 31, 2019**.

More details of fellowships on offer, application requirements and the application online portal are all available at <https://yivo.org/List-of-Fellowships>.

Recent Books of Interest
(Click any ISBN to purchase)



Reading Proverbs Intertextually / Edited by Katharine J. Dell & Will Kynes. Bloomsbury Press, 2018. [9780567667373](https://doi.org/10.1017/9780567667373)

Sitting alongside the partner volumes Reading Job Intertextually (2012) and Reading Ecclesiastes Intertextually (2014) also published in the Library of Hebrew and Old Testament Studies, this addition to the series continues the study of intertextuality in the Hebrew Bible. Dell and Kynes provide the first comprehensive treatment of intertextuality in Proverbs. Topics addressed include the intertextual resonances between Proverbs, and texts across the Hebrew canon, as well as texts throughout history, from the Dead Sea Scrolls to African and Chinese proverbial literature. The contributions, though comprehensive, do not provide clear-cut answers, but rather invite further study into connections between Proverbs and external texts, highlighting ideas and issues in relation to the extra texts discussed themselves.

The volume gathers together scholars with specific expertise on the array of texts that intersect with Proverbs and these scholars in turn bring their own insights to the texts at hand. In particular the contributors have been encouraged to pursue the intertextual approach that best suits their topic, thereby offering readers a valuable collection of intertextual case studies that address a single biblical book.

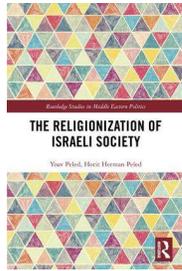


Jews of Turkey: Migration, Culture and Memory / by Süleyman Şanlı. Routledge, 2018. [9781138580541](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781138580541)

Jews of Turkey: Migration, Culture and Memory explores the culture of Jews who immigrated from East Turkey to Israel. The study reveals the cultural values of their communities, way of life, beliefs and traditions in the multicultural and multi-religious environment that was the East of Turkey.

The book presents their immigration processes, social relationships, and memories of their past from a cultural perspective. Consequently, this study reconstructs the life of Eastern Jews of Turkey before their immigration to Israel. Based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork, this book examines their history and origins, personal stories of their immigration, and different social aspects, such as their relationships with Muslims, other Jewish neighbourhoods, the family, childhood, status of women, marriages, clothing, cuisine, religious life, education, economic conditions, Shabbat and holidays.

This is the first book that discusses multiple Jewish communities living in Israel who moved from East Turkey. The book will be a valuable resource for researchers and students who are interested in Jewish and Israeli studies, Turkish minorities and anthropology.

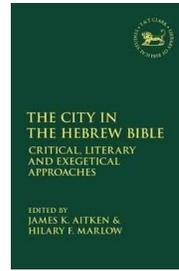


The Religionization of Israeli Society/ by Yoav Peled & Horit Herman Peled. Routledge, 2018. [9780567667373](https://doi.org/10.1080/9780567667373)

During Israel's military operation in Gaza in the summer of 2014 the commanding officer of the Givati infantry brigade, Colonel Ofer Vinter, called upon his troops to fight "the terrorists who defame the God of Israel." This unprecedented call for religious war by a senior IDF commander caused an uproar, but it was just one symptom of a profound process of religionization, or de-secularization, that Israeli society has been going through since the turn of the twenty-first century.

This book analyzes and explains, for the first time, the reasons for the religionization of Israeli society, a process known in Hebrew as hadata. Jewish religion, inseparable from Jewish nationality, was embedded in Zionism from its inception in the nineteenth century, but was subdued to a certain extent in favor of the national aspect in the interest of building a modern nation-state. Hadata has its origins in the 1967 war, has been accelerating since 2000, and is manifested in a number of key social fields: the military, the educational system, the media of mass communications, the teshuvah movement, visual art, Jewish renewal, and religious feminism.

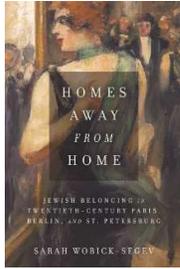
Through careful examination of religionization, this book sheds light on a major development in Israeli society, which will additionally inform our understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



The City in the Hebrew Bible
Critical, Literary and Exegetical Approaches /
edited by James K Aitken & Hilary F. Marlow.
Routledge, 2018. [9781138580541](https://doi.org/10.1080/9781138580541)

These essays explore the idea of the city in the Hebrew Bible by means of thematic and textual studies. The essays are united by their portrayal of how the city is envisaged in the Hebrew Bible and how the city shapes the writing of the literature considered. In its conceptual framework the volume draws upon a number of other disciplines, including literary studies, urban geography and psycholinguistics, to present chapters that stimulate further discussion on the role of urbanism in the biblical text.

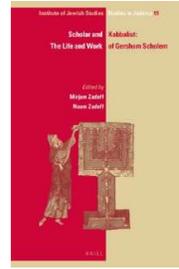
The introduction examines how cities can be conceived and portrayed, before surveying recent studies on the city and the Hebrew Bible. Chapters then address such issues as the use of the Hebrew term for 'city', the rhythm of the city throughout the biblical text, as well as reflections on textual geography and the work of urban theorists in relation to the Song of Songs. Issues both ancient and modern, historical and literary, are addressed in this fascinating collection, which provides readers with a multi-faceted and interdisciplinary view of the city in the Hebrew Bible.



Homes Away from Home
Jewish Belonging in Twentieth-Century Paris, Berlin, and St. Petersburg / by Sarah Wobick-Segev. Stanford University Press, 2018. [9781503065145](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781503065145)

How did Jews go from lives organized by synagogues, shul, and mikvehs to lives that—if explicitly Jewish at all—were conducted in Hillel houses, JCCs, Katz's, and even Chabad? In pre-emancipation Europe, most Jews followed Jewish law most of the time, but by the turn of the twentieth century, a new secular Jewish identity had begun to take shape.

Homes Away From Home tells the story of Ashkenazi Jews as they made their way in European society in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, focusing on the Jewish communities of Paris, Berlin, and St. Petersburg. At a time of growing political enfranchisement for Jews within European nations, membership in the official Jewish community became increasingly optional, and Jews in turn created spaces and programs to meet new social needs. The contexts of Jewish life expanded beyond the confines of "traditional" Jewish spaces into sites of consumption and leisure, sometimes to the consternation of Jewish authorities. Sarah Wobick-Segev argues that the social practices that developed between 1890 and the 1930s—such as celebrating holydays at hotels and restaurants, or sending children to summer camp—fundamentally reshaped Jewish community, redefining and extending the boundaries of where Jewishness happened.



Scholar and Kabbalist: The Life and Work of Gershom Scholem/ edited by Mirjam Zadoff and Noam Zadoff. Brill, 2018. [9789004387409](https://doi.org/10.1017/9789004387409)

The articles collected in Scholar and Kabbalist: The Life and Work of Gershom Scholem present diverse biographical aspects and the scholarly oeuvre of arguably the most influential Jewish-Israeli intellectual of the 20th century. Immigrating to Palestine in 1923, Gershom Scholem became one of the founders of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and was the first to establish Jewish Mysticism as a scholarly discipline. The articles collected here reflect the diversity of Scholem's intellectual scope including his contribution to Jewish Studies as a scholar of Kabbalah, religion and history, as a bibliophile, and an expert librarian of Judaica. Central aspects of Scholem's impact on Jewish historiography, literature and art in Israel, Europe and the US, are presented to the reader for the first time.

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