DEAR FRIEND,

This booklet is intended to introduce you to Jewish Studies and Jewish life at The Ohio State University. I hope that the information here will answer most of your questions. Information about the admissions process can be found at osu.edu/futurestudents.

Ohio State, one of the largest universities in the United States, offers students an amazing range of experiences, from the hundreds of university-affiliated clubs and organizations to visits by academic luminaries, political leaders, and media personalities.

Students interested in the history, thought, and culture of the Jewish people or the State of Israel will find a great wealth of resources here in both the academic and social spheres. If you think Jewish Studies at Ohio State might be right for you, please contact us and come to visit.

With best wishes,

Matt Goldish
Director

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OUR HISTORY

Jewish Studies at The Ohio State University comprises one of the largest and most diverse programs in the country, offering an impressive selection of courses, a multidisciplinary faculty, and a wide range of events. Melton faculty are internationally recognized in their respective fields, including History, Philosophy, Political Science, Music, English, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Classics, Art, and Education. The Ohio State University has one of the largest Judaica library collections in the country, with a full-time Judaica librarian and over 300,000 volumes.

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Samuel M. Melton, the Melton Center for Jewish Studies was established at The Ohio State University in 1976, the first center for Jewish Studies at an American public university.
JEWISH LIFE AT OHIO STATE AND IN COLUMBUS

Jewish life on campus includes Hillel Wexner Jewish Student Center (www.osuhillel.org), Ohio State Chabad (osuchabad.com) and fraternities and sororities.

Columbus, Ohio has resources rivaling those of much larger cities, and so does our Jewish community.

Ten synagogues (four Reform, two Conservative, three Orthodox, one Reconstructionist), two day schools, Columbus Community Kollel, Schottenstein Chabad House, Jewish preschools, and three JCC locations are just some of the institutions serving our community of approximately 22,000 Jewish people. The Columbus Jewish community is also known for its warm hospitality. Members of the community regularly open their homes to students for Shabbat and holidays. Go to jewishcolumbus.org for more information about the Columbus Jewish community, and experiencecolumbus.com to learn more about our city.

{Elle Muhlbaum, class of 2011}

MISSION

To develop, promote, and support the study, teaching and research of Jewish Studies by faculty and students at The Ohio State University

To encourage an interest in the study of all aspects of the Jewish experience within the Central Ohio community and to sponsor educational programs for the general public service

To seek outside funding to encourage the growth of the Jewish Studies programs at Ohio State

{Dena Rapoport, class of 2010}

THE CONNECTION AND SUPPORT THAT THE MELTON CENTER PROVIDED ME HAVE BEEN INVALUABLE. FROM THE COURSE OFFERINGS TO THE EXTRACURRICULAR LECTURES AND EVENTS, THE MELTON CENTER HAS SERVED AS AN INTEGRAL CONNECTOR TO THE COMMUNITY, THIS UNIVERSITY, AND THE BROADER JEWISH STUDIES-HEBREW ACADEMIC REALM.

{Dena Rapoport, class of 2010}
PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Why should you consider Jewish Studies at The Ohio State University?

• Great selection of courses
• Many courses fulfill GE requirements
• Study abroad scholarships and opportunities
• Scholarships, grants and awards for undergraduate and graduate students
• Jewish Studies major and minor, plus new minor in Jewish Oral History
• 33 renowned faculty members
• Undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio of 12:1
• Easy access to faculty
• Internships through community institutions
• Events and programs engaging the campus and greater Columbus community

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Jewish Studies is the exploration of the history, languages, philosophy, and literature of the Jewish people. A variety of courses are offered at all levels in Hebrew language and literature, Yiddish language and literature, Jewish history, rabbinics, Jewish philosophy, and occasional offerings in a variety of other fields.

Undergraduate students can pursue an interest in Jewish Studies several ways. Ohio State offers both a major and a minor in Jewish Studies, as well as a major and minor in Hebrew, a major in Yiddish, and a minor in Jewish Oral History. A high proportion of Ohio State students graduate with either a double major or a major and minor. Jewish Studies is often combined with another interest to create a diverse program.

Students can also complete a major in any discipline and take advantage of our Jewish Studies courses to fulfill General Education requirements or electives. The Melton Center also offers an introductory course on Jewish Studies to acquaint students with the field as it is taught in academia.

AS A THIRD YEAR JEWISH STUDIES MAJOR, I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO ATTEND WHAT IS, IN MY OPINION, ONE OF THE BEST UNIVERSITIES OUT THERE! THE MELTON CENTER HAS DEVELOPED A REMARKABLE JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM THAT HAS NOT ONLY PROVIDED THOUGHT-PROVOKING CLASSES, BUT A PLETHORA OF PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, INCLUDING GUEST LECTURES, FILM NIGHTS, AND MANY OTHERS THAT HAVE ENRICHED MY EXPERIENCE AT OHIO STATE.

{Samantha Melendez, undergraduate student}
JEWISH STUDIES MAJOR

HEBREW LANGUAGE
PREREQUISITE
3 semesters of Hebrew.

JEWISH THOUGHT AND PRACTICE
6 credits required. Select 2 courses:
- Introduction to Jewish Culture, Thought, and Practice

JEWISH HISTORY
9 credits required. 2 courses must be from the following:
- History of Ancient Israel (700-1700 CE)
- History of Ancient Israel (700-1700 CE)
- Modern Jewish History, 1700 to Present

JEWISH STUDY ELECTIVES
9 semester credits required. 3 at the 3000 level or above.

JEWISH ORAL HISTORY MINOR

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY
3 semester credits required. Select one of the following:
- Modern Jewish History, 1700 to present

HEBREW OR YIDDISH
6 semester credits required. Select 3 at the 2400 level or above.

HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
7 semester credits required; courses must be beyond the 1103 level in the original language.

JEWISH STUDIES MINOR

JEWISH THOUGHT AND PRACTICE
3 semester credits required. Select one course from the following:
- Introduction to Jewish Culture, Thought, and Practice

JEWISH HISTORY
3 semester credits required. Students may select one course from the following:
- Ancient & Medieval Jewish History, 300 BCE-1100 CE
- Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, 700-1700 CE
- Modern Jewish History, 1700 to Present

JEWISH STUDY ELECTIVES
3 semester credits required.

Modern Jewish History courses are interdisciplinary and can be found in a variety of departments. The range of courses include Hebrew and Yiddish language and literature, Jewish history from biblical times to the present, Jewish literature in both translation and original languages, Jewish thought and philosophy, Jewish mysticism and messianism, and other topics. Go to meltoncenter.osu.edu for current course offerings.

CAREERS

Undergraduates completing a degree in Jewish Studies have many exciting career opportunities open to them. They are, of course, prepared for any position for which a bachelor’s degree in the Humanities is the qualification needed.

There are also a large number of jobs within the Jewish community for which an undergraduate Jewish Studies degree is excellent preparation. These include work at Jewish community centers, federations, national and international Jewish organizations; in Jewish education (including day and supplementary school), camp administration, synagogue administration, youth group advising; work with the elderly, Israel support organizations; and Jewish media, to name a few. The demand for motivated employees is very high, and our alumni have made successful careers in many of these fields. Jewish Studies majors are also well prepared to apply for graduate studies in fields such as law, education, business, and communal work; as well as being prime candidates for rabbinical or cantorial school, theological studies, and advanced levels of Jewish Studies.

INTERNSHIPS

The Melton Center’s internship program offers students the opportunity to enrich their organizational skills and gain work experience in a variety of settings in the Columbus Jewish community. At the same time that students earn academic credits, they contribute needed services to organizations and institutions.
THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE OF PLANNING AND HOLDING THE BLOCH SCHOLARSHIP EVENT WAS A FULFILLING LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ME. I MADE WONDERFUL CONNECTIONS WITH PROFESSORS AND INDIVIDUALS FROM OTHER PARTS OF OHIO STATE AND GAINED CONFIDENCE IN THE SUCCESS OF MY EVENT PLANNING ABILITIES. OUR EVENT MADE A HUGE IMPACT. IT WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL ZERO WASTE EVENT HELD ON CAMPUS, AND IT WAS STANDING ROOM ONLY! FURTHERMORE, THE SCHOLARSHIP WILL PROVIDE INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MY FUTURE.

(Casey Slive, 2011 Bloch Scholarship recipient)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UNDERGRADUATE FUNDING, go to meltoncenter.osu.edu/scholarships-and-grants.

UNDERGRADUATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Melton Center for Jewish Studies offers numerous scholarships, awards, and grants to reward and encourage excellence in Jewish Studies.

Recipients are chosen on the basis of academic performance and commitment to the goals of Jewish scholarship.

I AM WORKING WITH THE COLUMBUS JEWSH HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO MAKE A VIDEO FULL OF THE COMMUNITY’S MEMORIES OF THE JEWSH COMMUNITY CENTER OVER THE PAST HUNDRED YEARS. MY INTERNSHIP IS AMAZING BECAUSE I GET TO SEE A GLIMPSE OF PEOPLE’S LIVES AND A SNAPSHOT OF THEIR HISTORY AS THEY SHARE MEMORIES WITH ME. ON MY FIRST DAY I WAS SUNG TO!

(Rachel Baranski)

Undergraduate student Robyn Silver is studying abroad in Israel thanks to The Ellen E. and Victor J. Cohn Scholarship.
GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate students can pursue MA and PhD degrees in Jewish Studies through departments such as English, History, Music, Philosophy, and Political Science. Advanced degrees are offered in Hebrew through the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, as well as Yiddish and Ashkenazic Studies through the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, go to meltoncenter.osu.edu/graduate-students.

GRADUATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

THE SAMUEL M. MELTON GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN JEWISH STUDIES

THE GEORGE M. & RENÉE K. LEVINE GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN JEWISH STUDIES

Each fellowship is awarded annually and provides a $15,000 stipend and a full fee remission for one academic year.

To be eligible for a Jewish Studies fellowship, you must first be accepted into an affiliated department with a graduate degree program at The Ohio State University, and the fellowship must be used for graduate research in a core area of Jewish Studies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GRADUATE FUNDING, go to meltoncenter.osu.edu/scholarships-and-grants

THE MELTON CENTER ECHOES THE INTERDISCIPLINARY IDEALS OF THE UNIVERSITY, CREATING A HOLISTIC ACADEMIC SETTING. FACILITATING DIALOGUE THAT TRANSCENDS THE CLASSROOM, IT OFFERS A TREMENDOUS LEARNING ENVIRONMENT. IT IS BECAUSE OF THE MELTON CENTER’S INVESTMENT IN AND COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION THAT STUDENTS LIKE MYSELF CAN CONTINUE TO LEARN AS THEY PURSUE THEIR DREAMS.

(Tyler Yoder, graduate student, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures)

OHIO STATE ATTRACTS OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENTS IN JEWISH HISTORY, BIBLE, YIDDISH, HEBREW, LITERATURE, AND OTHER TOPICS. OUR GRADUATE ALUMNI TEACH IN LEADING UNIVERSITIES AND WORK IN VARIOUS FIELDS. THE MELTON CENTER IS ABLE TO SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENTS WITH TWO FELLOWSHIPS AS WELL AS TRAVEL GRANTS AND VARIOUS AWARDS.

(Matt Goldish, Director)
The Melton Center offers a variety of programs, lectures, conferences, and concerts for the campus and Columbus community each year.

Past highlights include a Jewish dance conference, a program on Eco-Judaism, talks on Biblical archaeology, and a variety of film and dinner discussions. Our Jewish Music East and West series has featured such artists as Yasmin Levy, the Klezmatics, and Pharaoh’s Daughter.

The Melton Center has developed several new initiatives with local and national organizations, including a college-credit course for counselors at day and overnight camps on “Camping and Jewish Identity,” a certificate program in Jewish Oral History, the College of Jewish Knowledge (a day of Jewish learning for adults), an educational film on the Hasidic movement, and other projects which are in the works.

ADULT EDUCATION INITIATIVES

In addition to public events and programs, the Melton Center provides the following services to the community:

- A menu of courses proposed by Melton faculty for the use of synagogues and other Jewish institutions
- Advanced text study
- Films, exhibits, music, and symposia, in partnership with various institutions

PROGRAM 60 AT OHIO STATE

Ohio residents age 60 or older are invited to enrich their lives by experiencing the academic excellence and world-renowned research available at The Ohio State University. Program 60 students sit in on all types of courses on a space-available basis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Program 60, go to go.osu.edu/program60

EVENTS

The Melton Center's docudrama The Other Men in Black

AS A WOLVERINE LIVING IN COLUMBUS, I NEVER EXPECTED TO FEEL SO BONDED TO OSU THROUGH THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH OF THE MELTON CENTER, MY LIFE HERE IS ENRICHED BY CONCERTS, LECTURES, CLASSES AND THE HIGH LEVEL OF SCHOLARSHIP AND STUDY THE PROFESSORS CONTRIBUTE, NURTURE AND INSPIRE.

(Gigi Fried, donor and community member, photo courtesy of Maddie Fireman)

A performance at our conference, The Modern Jewish Experience Through the Lens of Dance

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

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(Gigi Fried, donor and community member, photo courtesy of Maddie Fireman)

A performance at our conference, The Modern Jewish Experience Through the Lens of Dance
The contributions of donors have allowed me to fulfill my dreams of studying in Israel. I am even considering moving back here once my degree is finished to begin a career in Israeli politics. I want to thank them for their generosity, because without it I wouldn’t be here.

Jeff Smagley, undergraduate student
MEET OUR FACULTY

NAOMI BRENNER

Modern Hebrew, Yiddish, and Arabic Literature
PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Professor Naomi Brenner specializes in modern Hebrew, Yiddish, and Arabic literature. Dr. Brenner’s dissertation and published articles deal with the manner in which Hebrew and Yiddish authors portray themselves and their culture in their writing. She has a special interest in authors who began their careers writing in another language — Yiddish or Arabic — and made the complex linguistic and personal transition to Hebrew authorship in Israel. Professor Brenner is also Director of Ohio State’s Hebrew language program.

WILLIAM BRUSTEIN

Anti-Semitism
PhD, University of Washington

Dr. William I. Brustein is vice provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs and Professor of Sociology, Political Science, and History at The Ohio State University. His work at Ohio State is dedicated to fully integrating international and multicultural experiences to the academic units within the university and expanding and enhancing its global reach. Dr. Brustein has published widely in the areas of political extremism and ethnic/religious/racial prejudice. His most recent books are *The Logic of Evil: the Social Origins of the Nazi Party, 1925 to 1933* (Yale University Press, 1996) and *Roots of Hate: The Socialism of Fools?: The Leftist Origins of Modern Anti-Semitism* (Cambridge University Press, entitled, *The Socialism of Fools?: The Leftist Origins of Modern Anti-Semitism*). Dr. Brustein is currently completing a new book under contract with Cambridge University Press, entitled, *The Socialism of Fools?: The Leftist Origins of Modern Anti-Semitism*.

LUCIA COSTIGAN

Contemporary Brazilian and Latin American colonial literature and culture;
PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Lucia Costigan is associate professor of Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Cultures in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. She has devoted much of her professional career to the investigation of the crypto-Jews of Portugal, Spain, and the New World. She has also published extensively on colonial Latin American literatures and early modern Luso-Brazilian and peninsular literatures and cultures. Her book, *Through Cracks in the Wall: Modern Inquisitions and New Christian Letrados in the Iberian Atlantic Word* (Brill, 2010), is an important contribution to Jewish, Spanish and Portuguese studies.

DR. BRENNER’S ISRAELI FILM AND SOCIETY CLASS PROVIDES UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES ON THE HISTORY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

DR. BRENNER IS PASSIONATE ABOUT ISRAELI CULTURE, AND HER ENTHUSIASM DEFINITELY ENCOURAGES CLASS PARTICIPATION.

“Maddie Fireman”

HELEN FEHERVARY

Modern German Jewish Literature, Critical Theory
PhD, University of Wisconsin

Professor Fehervary has a long and distinguished career in German literary studies. Not only has she published extensively about various German authors, including many who write on Holocaust-related topics, but she is also an author herself who has been invited often to read her own work for audiences. In recent years Helen has devoted her scholarship to the Jewish German writer Anna Seghers. She is currently editing, with a German colleague, a critical edition of Seghers’ complete works in 21 volumes. Professor Fehervary also writes extensively about twentieth-century Jewish German and Central European intellectual history and critical theory, as well as Jewish contributions to Modern German drama, theatre and film.

STEVEN FINK

Jewish-American Literature, American Studies
PhD, University of Washington

Professor Fink is a specialist in nineteenth- and twentieth-century American and Jewish American literatures. He has taught a wide range of courses in Jewish American literature, including Jewish American and African American literatures, Jewish American immigrant literature, Jewish American Holocaust and post-Holocaust fiction, contemporary Jewish fiction, and Jewish graphic novels. Professor Fink is the author of *Prophet in the Marketplace: Thoreau’s Development as a Professional Writer*, co-editor of *Reciprocal Influences: Literary Production, Distribution, and Consumption in America*, past editor of the *Journal American Periodicals*, and the author of numerous articles on American and Jewish American literature. He was the 2011 Andrea and Charles Bronfman Distinguished Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

BERND FISCHER

18th and 19th centuries and contemporary German literature and culture,
German Jewish Literature and Thought
PhD, University of Siegen

Professor Fischer is professor of Contemporary German Literature and Culture in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. He has written on German Jewish literature and thought and how they intersect with German life and culture in the 18th and 19th centuries. Professor Fischer has also taught courses and given conference papers and lectures on Jewish studies topics.
Hebrew literature.

DANIEL FRANK
[NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES]
Medieval Jewish History and Literature, Judeo-Arabic
PhD, Harvard

Professor Frank’s primary field of research is the history, literature, and doctrines of the Karaites, an ancient Jewish sect which does not accept the authority of the Talmud. His other areas of expertise include medieval Jewish history, literature, and culture, especially Judeo-Arabic literature and biblical exegesis. He teaches Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation, The Medieval Jewish Experience, Ancient and Medieval Jewish Civilization, Introduction to Jewish Studies, and Readings in Rabbinic Literature. He served as the reviews editor for the Journal of Jewish Studies. Among his publications are Search Scripture Well: Karaites Exegetes and the Origins of the Jewish Bible Commentary in the Islamic East (2004) and two edited volumes: The Jews of Medieval Islam: Community, Society, and Identity (1995); and Rabbinic Culture and Its Critics: Jewish Authority, Dissent, and Heresy in Medieval and Early Modern Times (2008), with Professor Matt Goldish.

JOSEPH GALRON
[JEWS STUDIES LIBRARY]
Jewish Studies Librarian
MLS, Hebrew University

The Jewish studies faculty at Ohio State cannot say enough about the excellence of the Jewish Studies Library and its director, Professor Joseph Galron. Ohio State’s Judaica collection of over 300,000 volumes grows constantly under Professor Galron’s care. One of his most important accomplishments has been his contribution to the creation of ALEPH, the automated catalogue system used in Israel which allows display of Hebrew, Arabic, and English simultaneously. Professor Galron is also a scholar of the Jewish book, with many substantial publications in the field. He has compiled bibliographies of several major Jewish literary figures, including Yisaal Yeshayahu, Dov Sadan, and Yeshayahu Avrech. He recently launched the Online Bio-Bibliographic Lexicon of Modern Hebrew Literature which focuses on authors of original Hebrew prose, poetry, and drama as well as translators of belles-lettres into Hebrew and authors of literary criticism who contribute to modern Hebrew literature.

STEVEN GLASER
[MUSIC]
Piano Performance, Jewish Music
MM, Juilliard

Steven Glaser is a professor of piano and performs frequently in the United States and abroad, including acclaimed debut recitals in Orchestra Hall in Chicago on the prestigious Allied Arts Series, Merkin Hall, New York, and abroad in Canada, Europe, Israel, New Zealand, Poland, and East Asia. A well-known chamber musician, he has collaborated with many leading artists and ensembles. Professor Glaser is an advocate of music by Jewish composers, and he was a major contributor to the Melton Center’s 2004 boxed CD set, Jewish Music and East and West, featuring composers from the St. Petersburg and Mediterranean Schools.

MATT GOLDISH
[HISTORY]
Early-Modern Jewish History, Messianism
PhD, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Professor Matt Goldish’s interests have centered on the seventeenth century. His monograph, Judaism in the Theology of Sir Isaac Newton, deals with questions about the impact of Jewish ideas and literature on European intellectuals at the dawn of the Enlightenment. Much of his writing, however, concerns the Western Sephardic Diaspora and the Portuguese Conversos of Amsterdam, London and Hamburg. Professor Goldish’s book, The Sabbatean Prophets, deals with the role of prophecy in the great messianic movement of Shabbatai Zvi, which swept the Jewish world in 1665-6. His latest book is Jewish Questions: Responsa on Sephardic Life in the Early Modern Period (2008). Along with Professor Daniel Frank, he is the editor of Rabbinic Culture and Its Critics: Jewish Authority, Dissent, and Heresy in Medieval and Early Modern Times (2008).

DONNA GUY
[HISTORY]
Latin American History
PhD, Indiana University

Professor Guy’s research interests include women’s history, history of sexuality, Latin American history, Argentine history, the history of Jews in Latin America, and economic history. Professor Guy has published numerous books and articles including From Private Acts to Public Identities: Teaching the History of Sexuality Since the Eighteenth Century (2000), and Sex and Danger in Buenos Aires: Prostitution, Family, and Nation in Argentina (1991), among others. Her articles have appeared in Latin American Research Review, Journal of Latin American Studies, Journal of Women’s History, Business History Review, Gender and History, among others. She is currently writing an article on Jewish Philanthropy in Argentina, which will be published in Spanish.

JANE HATHAWAY
[HISTORY]
Jews under Islamic rule
PhD, Princeton

Professor Hathaway is an expert on the Ottoman Empire before the nineteenth century. She has published on Ottoman reactions to Jewish messianism in Egypt and Yemen and on Jewish economic activity as exemplified in Geniza documents. Her research is conducted in Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic as well as Turkish, Arabic and various European languages—regular course offerings include Jewish Communities under Muslim Rule; Intellectual and Social Movements in the Muslim World; The Ottoman Empire, 1300-1800; Early Islamic Society, 610-1258; and courses in world history. She is currently working on a major project on the Chief Eunuch of the Ottoman imperial harem.
Robin Judd

**HISTORY**

Modern Jewish History, Gender History & Theory  
PhD, University of Michigan

Professor Judd teaches Modern Jewish history, German History, the Holocaust, and Women’s history. She is the author of, *Contested Rituals: Circumcision, Kosher Butchering, and German-Jewish Political Life in Germany, 1843-1933*, (Cornell University Press, 2007). Her new project is *Love at the Zero Hour: European War Brides, GI Husbands, and European Strategies for Reconstruction*. She has received several grants and awards including the College of Humanities’ Virginia Hull Research Award, a National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipend, the Coca Cola Grant for Critical Difference, and the 2001 Clo award for teaching. She has presented her work in the United States, Europe, and Israel.

Carolina López-Ruiz

**GREEK AND LATIN**

Archaic Greece history and literature, Interaction between Greek and Near Eastern cultures (especially Phoenician)  
PhD University of Chicago

Carolina López-Ruiz specializes in the contacts between Greek and Near Eastern cultures. Professor López-Ruiz is particularly interested in the Canaanite (Ugaritic, Phoenician) and Hebrew literatures, religions, and cultures in general, and their interaction with those of other Mediterranean peoples. She is the author of numerous publications.

Stuart Lishan

**ENGLISH**

Jewish-American literature  
PhD, University of Utah

Professor Lishan is a popular author and speaker, whose many publications include a great deal of his own poetry and prose. He is the recipient of the 2005 Orphic Prize for Poetry Book prize. Among the classes he teaches are Creative Writing and Poetry, British Literature, and Jewish American Literature.

David Miller

**GERMANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

Yiddish Language and Literature  
PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz

Professor Miller teaches Yiddish literature, Ashkenazic cultural studies, narratology, and critical theory. He encourages work that links Yiddish literature to the experiences of those who wrote it and read it over the course of many centuries. His regular undergraduate offerings include Yiddish language classes, Yiddish Literature, The Holocaust in Literature and Film (team taught with Paul Reitter), and Brooklyn: The Poetics of Place. He is the author of *Bibliography of Isaac Bashevis Singer, 1924-1949* (1983), and *Fear of Fiction: Narrative Strategies in the Works of Isaac Bashevis Singer* (1985).

Gabriella Modan

**ENGLISH**

Ethnography, Sociolinguistics  
PhD, Georgetown University

Professor Modan teaches sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, ethnography, place and space theory, ethnicity, and Jewish Studies. Her research focuses on the interplay between social and spatial identities, with an emphasis on ethnicity and community formation. She has written on such topics as Jews and conceptions of Whiteness, discourses of gentrification and fear, and Jewish women’s attitudes toward conflict talk. Her current research involves images of Jews in Dutch public culture, with a focus on Amsterdam.

Sam Meier

**NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

Bible, Ancient Israelite History  
PhD, Harvard University

Professor Meier regularly teaches Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation, Mythologies of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, History of the Hebrew Language, and related courses. He also serves as Adjunct Professor of History, where he teaches both the History of Ancient Israel and History of the Second Commonwealth. Professor Meier has received The Ohio State University Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award, as well as the Rodica C. Botoman Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring. He is author of *The Message in the Ancient Semitic World* (1988), *Speaking of Speaking: Marking Direct Discourse in Biblical Hebrew* (1992), and *Themes and Transformations in Old Testament History and Prophecy in ancient Israel*. He is presently engaged in research in the Deuteronomistic history and prophecy in ancient Israel.
D. G. MYERS
VISITING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Modern Jewish literature
PhD, Northwestern University

Professor D. G. Myers, who recently joined the Melton Center after two decades at Texas A&M University, writes regularly about Anglo-American Jewish fiction and ideas in the context of contemporary literature. He is particularly interested in the distinctive language of Jewish writing. Author of a monthly fiction chronicle for Commentary (along with the magazine’s book blog, Literary Commentary), he has published The Elephants Teach (2006), the definitive history of creative writing, and has co-edited an anthology of post-Vietnam poet-critics.

JAN RADZYNSKI
MUSIC:

Composition, Jewish Music
DMA, Yale University

Professor Radzynski teaches various courses on music, composition, and performance, while continuing his own very active composition program. Many of the greatest orchestras and soloists of the late twentieth century have performed and recorded his awe-inspiring works. His compositions have been performed by the Cleveland Orchestra, Cracow Philharmonic, Jerusalem Symphony, Silesian Philharmonic, Moscow Bolshoy Theater Chamber Orchestra, West German Radio Orchestra, Mexico National Orchestra, Saarbruecken Radio Orchestra, Israel Chamber Orchestra, New Haven Symphony, Columbia Symphony, and Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, among others.

PAUL REITTER
GERMANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Modern German Jewish Literature
PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Professor Reitter teaches German-Jewish Literature and Culture, German Modernism, Fin-de-siècle Vienna, Critical Theory, the Holocaust in German Literature and Film, Weimar Culture and Fascist Culture, and Literary Theory. He has written articles and essays on Freud, Kraus, Kafka, Heine, the erotics of Viennese modernism, Thomas Mann, Erich Auerbach and Edward Said, Holocaust historiography, and Jewish self-hatred. Professor Reitter published The Anti-Journalist: Karl Kraus and Jewish Self-Fashioning in Fin-de-Siècle Europe (2008) and On the Origins of Jewish Self-Hatred (2012).

IN THE MIDST OF A GIANT UNIVERSITY, I EXPERIENCED FAMILY IN AMY SHUMAN’S CLASS SITTING IN A CIRCLE LISTENING TO STORY AFTER STORY ENRICHING MY CULTURAL OUTLOOK. [Rachel Baransi]

TAMAR RUDAVSKY
PHILOSOPHY

Medieval Jewish and Scholastic Philosophy
PhD, Brandeis University


AMY SHUMAN
LINGUISTICS

Jewish Folklore, Cultural Studies
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Professor Shuman teaches Folklore and Critical Theory. She is the author of articles on conversational narrative, literacy, politics, food customs, feminist theory and critical theory. She has published Storytelling Rights: The Uses of Oral and Written Texts by Urban Adolescents, Other People’s Stories: Entitlement Claims and the Critique of Empathy, and (with Carol Bohmer) Rejecting Refugees: Political Asylum in the 21st Century. Professor Shuman is a Guggenheim Fellow and a recent fellow at the Hebrew University Institute for Advanced Studies in Jerusalem. She is also a recipient of the College of Humanities Exemplary Faculty Award.

SUZANNE SILVER
ART:

Jewish Art Education
MFA, The Ohio State University

Suzanne Silver is knowledgeable in text-based art and the art of the book, and has specific interests in contemporary Israeli art and American art that contain Jewish cultural or religious content. Silver has exhibited her work nationally and internationally, including the Axel Raben Gallery in New York, Nexus Contemporary Art Center in Atlanta, Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco, Michlelet David Yellin in Jerusalem, the Castle of Otranto in Otranto, Italy, the Siena Art Institute, the Bureau for Open Culture, and the Weston Art Gallery in Cincinnati. Professor Silver received an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and grants in mixed media as well as 3D art from the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and in drawing from the Virginia Commission for the Arts. Silver makes drawings, paintings, objects, and installations where unexpected materials are combined to create a visual language that is open to multiple readings.
**STEWART SHAPIRO**  
**PHILOSOPHY**  
PhD, State University of New York at Buffalo  
Stewart Shapiro is currently the O’Donnell Professor of Philosophy at The Ohio State University, and also serves as a Professorial Fellow at the Arché Research Centre, University of St. Andrews. He specializes in philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of language, philosophy of logic, and semantics. Professor Shapiro has taught a variety of courses, including Jewish philosophy, Jewish ethics, philosophies of mathematics, language, logic, science, religion, Marxism, aesthetics, and medical ethics. He lectures often in the Jewish community on Philo Judaeus and Moses Maimonides. Published by Jossey-Bass as part of the series New Directions in Adult and Continuing Education.

**DAVID STEIN**  
**EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY**  
Adult Education  
PhD, University of Michigan  
Professor Stein’s research focuses on adult Jewish learning and distance education. He is interested in adult learning processes with an emphasis on developing critical reflective thinking skills through adult education programs. He has conducted research on adult learning in the Jewish Community and currently is investigating the relationship between participation in adult Jewish education and religious practice. He has given over 150 presentations and has published a variety of articles on adult learning. Professor Stein currently serves on the Committee for Lifelong Jewish Learning of the Union for Reform Judaism. He is the co-author of *Adult Learning in Community* (2002), published by Jossey-Bass as part of the series New Directions in Adult and Continuing Education.

**MICHAEL SWARTZ**  
**NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**  
Rabbinic Literature, Jewish Mysticism  
PhD, New York University  
Professor Swartz specializes in Jewish mysticism, magic, and ritual in Late Antiquity and the early medieval period. His research focuses on ancient Jewish mystical prayer, the scholastic magic of the Jewish Merkavah mystics, and sacrifice and ancient Hebrew liturgical poetry. His publications include *Avodah: Ancient Poems for Yom Kippur* (2005); co-authored with Joseph Yahalom, *Scholastic Magic* (1996), and *Hebrew and Aramaic Incantation Texts from the Cairo Genizah: Selected Texts from Taylor-Schechter Box K1* (1992); with Lawrence H. Schiffman. He also served as the Associate Editor for Judaisca for the second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Religion* (2005). His recent book is entitled, *The Signifying Creator: Non-Textual Sources of Meaning in Ancient Judaism* (2012). He is currently working on a history of ideas of sacrifice in post-biblical Judaism.

**ADENA TANENBAUM**  
**NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**  
Medieval Jewish Literature and Thought, Modern Hebrew Literature  
PhD, Harvard University  
Professor Tanenbaum’s research focuses on medieval Jewish intellectual history with a special emphasis on literary works from Islamic lands. She coordinates The Culture of Contemporary Israel course and teaches an honors section of that course. She also teaches a variety of medieval and modern Hebrew literature courses. She has a long-standing interest in philosophical themes in Hebrew poetry from Spain. She is the author of *The Contemplative Soul: Hebrew Poetry and Philosophical Theory in Medieval Spain* (2002), and numerous articles on Spanish and Yemenite Jewish poetry.

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