

NEIL GILLMAN

CURRICULUM VITAE

ADDRESS:

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PRESENT POSITION:

Aaron Rabinowitz and Simon H. Rifkind Emeritus Professor  
Department of Jewish Philosophy  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America

EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Columbia University, Department of Philosophy, 1975  
Dissertation topic: *Gabriel Marcel on Religious Knowledge*  
M.Phil., Columbia University, 1975  
M.H.L. and Rabbinic Ordination,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1960  
B.A., McGill University, Honors in French and Philosophy, 1954

ACADEMIC HONORS

Doctor of Hebrew Letters *Honoris Causa*, JTSA, 2005  
Kent Fellow, Danforth Foundation, 1963 - 1966  
Fellow, National Foundation for Jewish Culture, 1960 - 1961  
Fellow, Herbert H. Lehman Institute,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1957 - 1960  
University Scholar, McGill University, 1952 - 1954  
Sir William MacDonald Scholar, McGill University, 1952 - 1953  
Jane Redpath Exhibition Scholar, McGill University, 1951 - 1952

#### TEACHING POSITIONS:

Professor, Department of Jewish Philosophy,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1997 - 2009  
Associate Professor, Department of Jewish Philosophy,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1986 - 1997  
Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Religion,  
Drew University, Spring 1990  
Assistant Professor, Department of Jewish Philosophy,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1975 - 1986  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Hebrew Culture and Education,  
New York University, 1975 - 1979  
Instructor in Jewish Thought, Rabbinical Department,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1970 - 1975  
Instructor in Jewish Thought, Cantors' Institute/Seminary College of Jewish  
Music, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1959 - 1970

#### ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:

Chair, Department of Jewish Philosophy,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1990 – 1997, 2003 - 2007  
Associate Provost, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1981 - 1986  
Dean, Rabbinical School,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1980 - 1981  
Dean of Academic Affairs, Rabbinical School,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1975 - 1980  
Dean of Students, Rabbinical School,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1970 - 1975  
Director, Summer Institute,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1966 - 1981  
Registrar, Rabbinical Department,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1964 - 1969  
Associate Registrar, Rabbinical Department,  
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1960 - 1964

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Publications

Books:

1. *Gabriel Marcel on Religious Knowledge*, Washington D.C., University Press of America, 1980
2. *Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew*, Philadelphia, The Jewish Publication Society of America, 1990
3. *Conservative Judaism: The New Century*, Behrman House, Inc., 1992
4. *The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 1997
5. *The Way Into Encountering God in Judaism*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2000.
6. *The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2003
7. *Traces of God: Seeing God in Torah, History and Everyday Life*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2005
8. *Fragmados Sagrados: Recuperando A Theologia Para O Judeo Moderno*, (Portuguese Translation of *Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew*), Sao Paulo, Brazil: Comunidade Shalom, 2007
9. Czech Translation of *The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought*), Prague: Vyschrad, 2007
10. "Theologically Speaking" in *My People's Passover Haggadah: Traditional Texts and Modern Commentaries, Volumes 1 and 2*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2008
11. *Doing Jewish Theology: God, Torah & Israel in Modern Judaism*, Woodstock VT, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2009

Scholarly Monographs:

1. "Morenu Franz Rosenzweig," *Conservative Judaism*, 36:3, Spring 1983
2. "Toward a Theology for Conservative Judaism," *Conservative Judaism*, 37:1, Fall 1983
3. "Mordecai Kaplan and the Ideology of Conservative Judaism," *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Assembly*, 1984
4. "The Jewish Philosopher in Search of a Role," *Judaism*, 34:4, Fall 1985
5. "Judaism and the Search for Spirituality," *Conservative Judaism*, 38:2, Winter 1985 - 1986
6. "Authority and Authenticity in Jewish Philosophy," *Judaism*, 35:2, Spring 1986
7. "On the Value of Religious Boundaries," *Religion and Intellectual Life*, 3:4, Summer 1986
8. "Entering the Second Century: From Scholarship to the Rabbinate," *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Assembly*, 1986
9. "Tefillah at Ramah: Goals, Methods and Impact," *Conservative Judaism*, 40:1, Fall 1987
10. "Rituals, Myths and Communities," in *The Seminary at 100: Reflections on the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the Conservative Movement*, Nina Beth Cardin and David Wolf Silverman, eds., The Rabbinical Assembly and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1987
11. "On the Frontiers of Religious Diversity," CLAL, Materials from the Critical Issues Conference II, 1988: One Jewish People: From Conflict to Cohesion
12. "Inside or Outside? Emancipation and the Dilemmas of Conservative Judaism," *Judaism*, 38:4, Fall 1989
13. "Jewish Rites of Passage for Children," 1989 Interfaith Symposium of Congregation Ahavas Israel, Grand Rapids, MI
14. "Modern Jewish Thought," in *The State of Jewish Studies*, Shaye J. D. Cohen and Edward L. Greenstein, eds., The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1990
15. "On the Religious Education of American Rabbis," in *Caring for the Commonwealth: Education for Religious Life*, Parker J. Palmer, Barbara G. Wheeler and James W. Fowler, eds., Mercer University Press, 1990

16. "The Ambiguity of our Ties to Israel," in *Deepening the Commitment: Zionism and the Conservative/Masorti Movement*, John S. Ruskey and David Szonyi, eds., The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1990
17. "The Changing Paradigm of the Conservative Rabbi," *Conservative Judaism*, 43:2, Winter 1990-91
18. "Modern Jewish Thought: A Bibliographical Essay," in *The Modern Jewish Experience*, Jack Wertheimer, ed., Markus Weiner Publishing, Inc., 1993
19. "A Conservative Theology for the 21st Century," *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Assembly*, 1993
20. "Authority and Parameters in Jewish Decision-Making," *The Reconstructionist*, 59:2, Fall 1994
21. "Jacob Agus on the Meaning of Jewish History and Jewish Experience," in *American Rabbi: The Life and Thought of Jacob Agus*, Steven T. Katz ed., New York University Press, 1997
22. "Epistemological Tensions in Heschel's Thought," *Conservative Judaism*, 50:2-3, Winter/Spring 1998
23. "Tensions in the Classical Jewish Image of God," in *Mordecai Waxman Jubilee Volume*, Temple Israel of Great Neck, 1999
24. "On Knowing God," *Conservative Judaism*, 51:2, Winter 1999
25. "Beyond *Wissenschaft*: The Resurrection of Resurrection in Jewish Thought Post-1950," in *Studies in Contemporary Jewry: An Annual*, Vol.17, The Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem: Oxford University Press, 2001
26. "Covenant and Chosenness in Postmodern Jewish Thought," in *Covenant and Chosenness in Mormonism and Judaism*, Raphael Jospe, Truman G. Madsen and Seth Ward, eds., Madison, Teaneck: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2001
27. "Eschatology," (Excursus) in *Etz Hayim: Torah and Commentary*, The Rabbinical Assembly, The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 2001
28. "Theological Reflections on the End of Life," *Conservative Judaism*, 53:3, Spring 2001

29. "Creation in the Bible and in the Liturgy," in *Judaism and Ecology: Created World and Revealed Word*, Cambridge M.A., Harvard University Press, 2002
30. Foreword, *By the Power Vested in Me: Symbolic Exemplarhood and the Rabbinate*, by Rabbi Jack H. Bloom, Ph.D., New York: The Haworth Press, 2002
31. "Teaching the Akedah," in *Essays in Education and Judaism in Honor of Joseph S. Lukinsky*, Burton I. Cohen and Adina A. Ofek, eds., The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 2002
32. "The Problematics of Myth," *Sh'ma*, 32/587, January 2002
33. "A Jewish Theology of Death and the Afterlife," in *The Fountain of Youth: Cultural, Scientific and Ethical Perspectives on a Biomedical Goal*, Stephen G. Post and Robert H. Binstock, eds., Oxford University Press, 2004
34. "Coping With Chaos: Jewish Theological and Ritual Resources," *Death, Bereavement, and Mourning*, Samuel Heilman, ed., New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2005
35. "A New Aggadah for the Conservative Movement," *Conservative Judaism*, 58:2-3, Winter/Spring 2006
36. "The Dynamics of Prophecy in the Writings of Abraham Joshua Heschel," *Hearing Visions and Seeing Voices: Psychological Aspects of Biblical Concepts and Personalities*, 2007
37. "How Will It All End: Eschatology in Science and Religion," *CrossCurrents*, Spring 2007
38. "Response" in "Special Issue in Honor of Neil Gillman", *Conservative Judaism*, 61:1-2, Fall/Winter 2008-2009
39. "The Impact of Theology on Liturgical Change" in *Jewish Prayer from the Talmud to Tel Aviv: Studies in Jewish Liturgy, Dedicated to Menahem Schmelzer*, Debra R. Blank ed. (forthcoming)

#### Occasional Writings

1. "In Search of Heschel: The Scholar," *Women's League Outlook*, 53:3, Spring 1983
2. "Imaging God," *Ometz Shaliach*, Winter 1986

3. "Cain Sinning and Repenting," *Seminary Progress*, November 1987
4. "Israeli and American Jews: The Dichotomy and the Unity," *CAJE Jewish Education News*, Winter/Spring 1988
5. "Four Basic Religious Issues That Divide Us," *Moment* 13:3, May 1988
6. "Graduation as Mezuzah: Bridge or Barrier," in *Willing, Learning and Striving: A Course Guide to Emet Ve-Emunah, Sources and Approaches for Teaching Adults*, JTS, RA USA for The Commission on the Philosophy of Conservative Judaism, 1988
7. "Conservative Judaism and Modern Jewish Philosophy," Study Guide for *The Discovery*, Rabbi Elliot S. Schoenberg, ed. for The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1989
8. "Why Can't I Pray and What Can I Do About It?," *Moment*, 15:5, October 1990
9. "Emet Ve-Emunah: A Preliminary Assessment," *United Synagogue Review*, Fall 1990
10. "Sacred Fragments: The Search for Answers," *Women's League Outlook*, 61:1, Fall 1990
11. "The Strange Book of Esther," *The Second Century*, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 3:1, Winter 1991
12. "Judaism's Fragile Center," *Christianity and Crisis*, 51:9, June 10, 1991
13. "Conservative Judaism," in *An Encyclopedia of Religions in the United States: One Hundred Religious Groups Speak for Themselves*, William B. Williamson, ed., New York, Crossroads Publishing Company, 1992
14. *A Guide for the New Jewish College Student*, revised edition, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 1992
15. "Introducing the Discussion and Concluding Comments," *On Renewing the Covenant: A Theology for the Postmodern Age*, by Eugene Borowitz, *Sh'ma*, 22/426, January 24, 1992
16. "In Praise of *Birkat Kohanim*," *Sh'ma*, 22/436, September 4, 1992
17. "New Introduction" to *Aspects of Rabbinic Theology* by Solomon Schechter, Jewish Lights Publishing, 1993

18. "Are the Twelve Steps Jewish?" Foreward to *100 Blessings Every Day*, Kerry Olitzky ed., Jewish Lights Publishing, 1993
19. "I Believe," *Sh'ma*, 24/456, September 3, 1993
20. "In Search of Religious Authenticity," *United Synagogue Review*, 46:1, Fall 1993
21. "Pidyon Haben: Its Message and Its Meaning," in *A Guide to the Pidyon Ha-Ben Ceremony*, The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, 5753
22. "When the Messiah Dies," *Sh'ma*, 25/480, October 24, 1994
23. "Conservative Judaism: The Tension and the Ambiguity," *Women's League Outlook*, 65:2, Winter 1994
24. "On Teaching Jewish Theology," *The Melton Journal*, 28, Autumn 1994
25. "Doing Jewish Religious Education," *Jewish Education News*, 16:1, Winter 1995
26. "Why Am I a Conservative Jew?," *Kol Kadima*, 23:2, Spring/Summer, 1996
27. "What Do American Jews Believe?," A Symposium, *Commentary*, 102, August 1996
28. "On the New Jewish Spirituality," *Sh'ma* 27/522, November 29, 1996
29. "The Enigma of Rosh Hashanah," *JTS Magazine*, 6:1, Fall 1996
30. "Introduction," to *Judaism and Modern Man*, by Will Herberg, Jewish Lights Publishing, 1997
31. "Foreword" to *Jewish History and Jewish Destiny*, Collected Essays by Gerson D. Cohen, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1997
32. "Authenticity Without Demonization," *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, 34:3, Summer 1997
33. "Redefining the Diaspora's Relationship with Israel" in *Celebrating the Zionist Dream: Essays in Honor of the Zionist Centennial*, Shlomo Balter and David Szonyi, eds., Mercaz, 1997
34. "Reflections on the Death of Death," *United Synagogue Review*, 50:2, Spring 1998
35. "But Doesn't That Make You a Reconstructionist?" *Sh'ma*, 28/546, January 23, 1998

36. "Sustaining Jewish Belief in a Secular or Christian America," in *Secularism, Spirituality, and the Future of American Jewry*, Elliot Abrams and David C. Dalin, eds., Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington D.C. 1999
37. "The Akedah: Modern Midrashim," *Living Text: The Journal of Contemporary Midrash*, 5, Summer 1999
38. "For the Sake of Heaven: Two Views on the Nature of Jewish Belief," *United Synagogue Review*, 52:1, Fall 1999
39. "Bringing God Home," *JTS Magazine*, 11:2, Spring 2002
40. "The View From Moscow," *The Journal of the Alumni Association of The Seminary College-Teachers Institute of JTSA*, September 2002
41. "Louis Jacobs," in *Underrated 20<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Thinkers: A Forum, Conservative Judaism*, Vol. 55, No. 4, Summer 2003
42. "Parallel Life Journeys," in *Hineini in our Lives*, Norman J. Cohen, ed., Jewish Lights Publishing, 2003
43. "The Vital Center," *Aufbau*, June 26, 2003
44. "Choose Life – I Really Mean It!" *Sh'ma*, 34/603, September 2003
45. "Common Root and Christian Claim," in *A Generative Thought: An Introduction to the Works of Luigi Giussani*, McGill-Queens University Press, 2003
46. "Who Needs Theology?," *Sh'ma*, 36/626, December 2005
47. "Aggadah and Halakha," *Jerusalem Post*, December 20, 2006
48. "Heschel and Kaplan on the Centrality of Peoplehood," *Sh'ma*, 37/634, October 2006
49. "Temple and Synagogue," *Sh'ma*, 37/642, June 2007
50. "My Fifty Years at the Jewish Theological Seminary", *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, Fall 2007
51. "Reform Judaism: An Outsider's Perspective", *Sh'ma*, 38/645, November 2007
52. "God: The Two Questions", *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, Fall 2009

53. "Response," *ShefaJournal* 5770:1 - *HaNefesh v'HaGuf: The Relationship Between Conservative Judaism and the Conservative Movement*, Nina S. Kretzmer ed., The Shefa Network, 2010 <<http://shefanetwork.org/shefajournal5770a.pdf>>
54. *Ramah at 60: Impact and Innovation*, Mitchell Cohen and Jeffrey S. Kress eds., National Ramah Commission Inc. and The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 2010
55. "Growing Up Jewish in Quebec City", *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, Spring 2011

Book Reviews:

1. *Monotheism: A Philosophical Inquiry into the Foundation of Theology and Ethics*, by Len E. Goodman, *The Review of Metaphysics*, Vol. 36: No. 4, June 1983
2. *Maimonides*, by Abraham Joshua Heschel, *Hadassah Magazine*, May 1982
3. *Who Wrote the Bible?* by Richard Elliot Friedman, *Hadassah Magazine*, March 1988
4. *The Circle of the Baal Shem Tov: Studies in Hasidism*, by Abraham Joshua Heschel, Samuel H. Dresner, ed., *Conservative Judaism*, XL:3, Spring 1988
5. *Ehad: The Many Meanings of God Is One*, Eugene B. Borowitz, ed., *Sh'ma*, Winter 1988
6. *A Living Covenant: The Innovative Spirit in Traditional Judaism* by David Hartman, *Judaism*, 39:2, Spring 1990
7. *Kol Haneshama: Shabbat Eve*, *Conservative Judaism*, XLIII:1, Fall 1990
8. "God, Torah, Israel: Traditionalism Without Fundamentalism," by Louis Jacobs, *Shofar*, 10:1, Fall 1990
9. *After Tragedy and Triumph: Essays in Modern Jewish Thought and the American Experience*, by Michael Berenbaum, *Jewish Review*, March - April 1991
10. *Creation and the End of Days: Judaism and Scientific Cosmology*, Proceedings of the 1984 Meeting of the Academy for Jewish Philosophy, David Novak and Norbert Samuelson, eds., *Religious Studies Review*, 17:2, April 1991
11. *From Marxism to Judaism: The Collected Essays of Will Herberg*, David Dalin, ed., *Conservative Judaism*, Vol. 44, No. 1, Fall 1991

12. *Encounter on the Narrow Ridge: A Life of Martin Buber*, by Maurice Friedman, JTA Weekly Dispatch, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, October 25, 1991
13. *Emil Fackenheim: German Philosophy and Jewish Thought*, Louis Greenspan and Graeme Nicholson eds., *Dialogue*, September 26, 1992
14. *The American Judaism of Mordecai M. Kaplan*, Emanuel S. Goldsmith, Mel Scult, and Robert M. Seltzer eds., *Cross Currents*, Spring 1993
15. *Judaism Between Yesterday and Tomorrow*, by Hans Kung, *Dialogue*, Winter 1993
16. *Dilemmas in Modern Jewish Thought* by Michael L. Morgan, *Ethics*, 104, July 1994
17. *A People Apart: Chosenness and Ritual in Jewish Philosophical Thought*, Daniel H. Frank ed., *Shofar*, 13:3, Spring 1995.
18. *A Question of Faith: An Atheist and a Rabbi Debate the Existence of God*, by William E. Kaufman and Morton Shor; *The Evolving God in Jewish Process Theology*, by William E. Kaufman, *Conservative Judaism* XLIX:3, Spring 1997
19. *Jewish Philosophers and Jewish Philosophy*, by Emil Fackenheim, ed. Michael L. Morgan, *Shofar*, 17:3, Spring 1999
20. *The Jewish Moral Virtues*, by Eugene B. Borowitz and Francine Weinman Schwartz, *Sh'ma*, 29/561, April 1999
15. *Kol Haneshamah: Prayerbook for the Days of Awe, Moment*, August 2000
16. *Studies in Modern Theology and Prayer*, by Jakob. J. Petuchowski; Elizabeth R. Petuchowski and Aaron M. Petuchowski, eds., *Shofar*, 19:2, Winter 2001
17. *The Shema: Spirituality and Law in Judaism: As Exemplified in the Shema*, by Norman Lamm, *Journal of Law and Religion*, XVII:1 and 2, 2002
18. *Communings of the Spirit: The Journals of Mordecai M. Kaplan*, Vol. 1, *The Reconstructionist*, 67:2, Spring 2003
19. *Heavenly Torah As Refracted Through the Generations*, ed. and trans. with Commentary by Gordon Tucker with Leonard Levin, *Sh'ma*, 35/617, January 2005
20. *The Silence of Dark Water, An Inner Journey*, by Jonathan Wittenberg, *Jewish Quarterly*, Autumn 2008

21. *Life After Death: A History of the Afterlife in Western Religion*, by Alan F. Segal; *Resurrection and the Restoration of Israel: The Ultimate Victory of the God of Life*, by Jon D. Levenson, *Conservative Judaism*, 61:3, Spring 2009
22. *Mahzor Lev Shalem*, Rabbinical Assembly, 2010, *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, Fall 2010
23. *The Rebbe: The Life and Afterlife of Menachem Mendel Schneerson*, by Samuel Heilman and Menachem Friedman, *Journal of Jewish Education* (forthcoming)

Encyclopedia Articles:

1. "Conservative Judaism," in *The Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture - From the Eighteenth Century to the Present*, Basil Blackwell, 1990
2. "Louis Finkelstein," in *The Encyclopedia of Jewish - American History and Culture*, Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991
3. "The Jewish Theological Seminary of America," in *The Encyclopedia of Jewish - American History and Culture*, Garland Publishing Inc., 1991
4. "Death and Afterlife, Judaic Doctrines of," in *The Encyclopedia of Judaism*, Jacob Neusner, Alan J. Avery-Peck and William Scott Green, eds., E.J. Brill, 2000
5. "Contemporary Jewish Theology," in *The Companion to Judaism*, Jacob Neusner and Alan J. Avery-Peck, eds., Blackwell, 2000
6. "Contemporary Jewish Theology: An Anthology of Selected Source-Texts," in *The Blackwell Reader in Judaism*, Jacob Neusner and Alan J. Avery-Peck, eds., Blackwell, 2001

Column:

- "Sabbath Week" column on the Torah portion of the week, appearing every third week, May 1981 to September 2006, and occasionally, September 2006 to September 2007, *Jewish Week*
- "The Bookshelf", *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, quarterly, Spring 2008 - present

Awards:

National Jewish Book Award in Jewish Thought, for *Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew*, 1991

Finalist, National Jewish Book Award in Non-Fiction, for *The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought*, 1997

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