

**BENJAMIN D. SOMMER**  
**Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages**  
**The Jewish Theological Seminary**  
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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages, 2008-

Northwestern University

Director, the Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies, 2003-2006, 2007-2008

Associate Professor, Department of Religion, 2000-2008

Assistant Professor, 1994-2000

Brite Divinity School (Fort Worth, Texas)

Barnett Visiting Scholar in Jewish Literature and Thought, Summer, 2010

The Spertus Institute (Chicago, Illinois)

Visiting Professor, Summer, 2010

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Visiting Faculty, the Department of Bible, 2006-2007

The Shalom Hartman Institute

Visiting Fellow, 2006-2007

The University of Haifa (Israel)

Affiliated Professor, 2005-

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Visiting Associate Professor of Bible, Summer, 2004

University of Chicago

Visiting Associate Professor of Bible, the Divinity School, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001;

Visiting Assistant Professor, 1997, 2000

Lecturer, the Divinity School (Biblical Hebrew), 1991-1994

Harvard University

Instructor, the Divinity School (Biblical Hebrew), 1990, 1991

Brandeis University

Teaching Assistant, Department of Near East and Judaic Studies (Introduction to Hebrew Bible), 1990

Synagogues, community centers, rabbinic groups, and churches throughout the U.S. and in Israel  
 Adult education courses on Bible, Jewish liturgy, and rabbinic literature, 1988-present  
 Courses for rabbis and for teachers in Jewish day schools and synagogues, 1998-present

## HONORS

The Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, awarded in 2010 by the American Academy of Religion, for *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel*. The AAR grants one award annually in each of four categories; my book received the award in the Textual Studies Category, for the best book in religious studies focusing on textual analysis published in 2009.

The Jordan Schnitzer Award, awarded in 2009 by the Association for Jewish Studies, for *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel*. The award is for the best book published in the areas of Biblical Studies, Rabbinics, or Archaeology in the years 2006-2009.

The Salo Wittmayer Baron Prize, awarded in 1999 by the American Academy for Jewish Research, for *A Prophet Reads Scripture: Allusion in Isaiah 40-66*. The award is for the best first book published in ancient or medieval Jewish Studies in 1998.

Associated Student Government Honor Roll for Faculty, Northwestern University, 2006

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 1998-1999

Yad Hanadiv/Beracha Foundation Fellowship, Jerusalem, Israel, 1998-1999

National Humanities Center Fellowship in Research Triangle Park, NC, 1998-1999 (declined)

Dissertation awarded the Marc Perry Galler Prize for best dissertation by a Divinity School student at the University of Chicago in 1994

National Foundation for Jewish Culture Dissertation Fellow, 1993-1994

Mellon Fellow in the Humanities, 1987-1989

Dissertation accepted with Distinction

Doctoral Exams passed with Distinction

André Ungar Scholarship in Jewish Studies, Temple Emanuel, Woodcliff Lake, NJ, 1987

American Jewish Congress Prize for Senior Essay in Judaic Studies, Yale College, 1986

## EDUCATION

Ph. D. The University of Chicago, 1994 (Bible)

- M.A. Brandeis University, 1991 (Near East and Judaic Studies)  
 ----- Hebrew University of Jerusalem: student in the Department of Bible, 1986-1987  
 B.A. Yale University, 1986 (Philosophy and Judaic Studies; *summa cum laude*, Distinction in both majors)

**PUBLICATIONS (Books):**

*The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009)

*A Prophet Reads Scripture: Allusion in Isaiah 40-66* (Contraversions; Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1998)

**PUBLICATIONS (Articles):**

“Dating Pentateuchal Texts and the Perils of Pseudo-Historicism,” in *The Pentateuch: International Perspectives on Current Research* (edited by Thomas Dozeman, Konrad Schmid and Baruch Schwartz; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, forthcoming)

“A Little Higher than Angels: Psalm 29 and the Genre of Heavenly Praise,” in the Festschrift for Adele Berlin (edited by Maxine Grossman; College Park, MD: University Press of Maryland, forthcoming)

“A Commentary on Psalm 24,” in *Gazing on the Deep: Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Jewish Studies in Honor of Tzvi Abusch* (edited by Jeffrey Stackert, Barbara Nevling Porter, and David P. Wright; Bethesda, Md.: CDL Press, 2010), 495-516

“Two Introductions to Scripture: James Kugel and the Possibility of Biblical Theology,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 100 (2010), 153-82

“Dialogical Biblical Theology: A Jewish Approach to Reading Scripture Theologically,” in *Biblical Theology: Introducing the Conversation* (edited by Leo Perdue; Library of Biblical Theology, volume 1; Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009), 1-53, 265-285

“Psalm 1 and the Canonical Shaping of Jewish Scripture,” in *Jewish Bible Theology: Perspectives and Studies* (edited by Isaac Kalimi; Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, forthcoming)

“Is It Good for the Jews? Ambiguity and the Rhetoric of Turning in Isaiah,” in *Birkat Shalom: Studies in the Bible, Ancient Near Eastern Literature, and Postbiblical Judaism Presented to Shalom M. Paul on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday* (edited by Chaim Cohen, Avigdor Hurvitz, Yochanan Muffs, Baruch Schwartz, and Jeffrey Tigay.; Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2008), 321-45

“Prophecy as Translation: Ancient Israelite Conceptions of the Human Factor in Prophecy,” in *Bringing the Hidden to Light: The Process of Interpretation. Studies in Honor of Stephen A. Geller* (edited by Diane Sharon and Kathryn Kravitz; New York: Jewish Theological Seminary and Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2007), 271-90

“Functional Interpretation and Biblical Theology: Reflections on *Judaism as a Civilization* in Relation to Scriptural Hermeneutics,” *Jewish Social Studies* 12 (2006):143-57

“The Source Critic and the Religious Interpreter,” *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* 60 (2006):9-20

Catalogue description for gallery presentation of Ellen Holtzblatt’s *Hamabul - The Flood*, the Cuentos Foundation, Chicago, IL, 2006. Also available at <http://www.ellenholtzblatt.com/artistInfo/biblio/10.pdf>

“Ein neues Modell für Biblische Theologie,” in *Theologie und Exegese des Alten Testaments / der Hebräischen Bibel. Zwischenbilanz und Zukunftsperspektiven* (Stuttgarter Bibelstudien 200; edited by Bernd Janowski; Stuttgart: Verlag Katholisches Bibelwerk, 2005), 187-212 (translated from the English by Goenke D. Eberhardt)

“Unity and Plurality in Jewish Canons: The Case of the Oral and Written Torahs,” in *One Scripture or Many? Canon from Biblical, Theological and Philosophical Perspectives* (edited by Christine Helmer and Christof Landmesser; New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 108-150

A short commentary on the Book of Isaiah, in *The Jewish Study Bible* (edited by Marc Brettler and Adele Berlin; New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 780-916

“Inner-Biblical Interpretation,” in *The Jewish Study Bible* (edited by Marc Brettler and Adele Berlin; New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 1829-35

“Expulsion as Initiation: Displacement, Divine Presence, and Divine Exile in the Torah,” in *Beginning/Again: Towards a Hermeneutic of Jewish Texts* (edited by Aryeh Cohen and Shaul Magid; New York: Seven Bridges Press, 2002), 23-48

“Conflicting Constructions of Divine Presence in the Priestly Tabernacle,” *Biblical Interpretation: A Journal of Contemporary Approaches* 9 (2001):41-64

“The Babylonian Akitu Festival: Rectifying the King or Renewing the Cosmos?,” *The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society* 27 (2000):81-95

“Translation as Commentary: The Case of the Septuagint to Exodus 32-33,” *Textus: The Annual of the Hebrew University Bible Project* 20 (2000):43-60

“New Light on the Composition of Jeremiah,” *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 61 (1999):646-666

“Reflecting on Moses: The Redaction of Numbers 11,” *The Journal of Biblical Literature* 118 (1999):601-624

“Revelation at Sinai in the Hebrew Bible and Jewish Theology,” *The Journal of Religion* 79 (1999):422-451

“Exegesis, Allusion and Intertextuality in the Hebrew Bible: A Response to Lyle Eslinger,” *Vetus Testamentum* 56 (1996):479-489

“Allusions and Illusions: The Unity of the Book of Isaiah in Light of Deutero-Isaiah’s Use of Prophetic Tradition,” in *New Visions of Isaiah* (edited by Roy Melugin and Marvin Sweeney; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996):156-186

“The Scroll of Isaiah as Jewish Scripture, Or, Why Jews Don’t Read Books,” in *Society of Biblical Literature 1996 Seminar Papers* (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1996):225-242

“Did Prophecy Cease?” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 115 (1996):31-47

**PUBLICATIONS (Encyclopedia entries):**

“God,” “God, Names of,” “Idolatry,” and “Monotheism,” in *The Oxford Dictionary of Jewish Religion* (edited by Adele Berlin; New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming)

“Biblical Theology. II. Judaism,” in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (edited by Hans-Josef Klauck, Bernard McGinn, Choon-Leong Seow, Hermann Spieckermann, Barry Dov Walfish, and Eric Ziolkowski; Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, forthcoming), volume 3.

“Habakkuk, Book of,” “Hosea, Book of,” “Isaiah, Book of,” “Micah, Book of,” and “Obadiah, Book of,” in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish History, Religion, and Culture* (edited by Judith Baskin; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)

“Isaiah, Book of,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism* (edited by John J. Collins and Daniel Harlow; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, forthcoming)

“Teologia biblica: Un approccio ebraico alla lettura teologica delle Scritture,” in *Dizionario del sapere storico-religioso del Novecento* (edited by Alberto Melloni; Bologna: Il Mulino, 2010 ), 1420-1428. An abbreviated translation, prepared by Alberto Melloni, of “Dialogical Biblical Theology,” listed above under “Publications (Articles)”

“The Epic of Gilgamesh,” in *Middle Eastern Literature and Its Times* (edited by Joyce Moss; Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2004), 153-163. Co-authored with Pamela Loy

“Bible: Theology,” “Kaufmann, Yehezkel,” “Pentateuch,” “Poetry: Biblical,” and “Prophecy,” in *The Reader’s Guide to Judaism* (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1999), 77-80, 336-38, 469-71, 484-85, and 499-500

**PUBLICATIONS (Popular articles):**

“The Lulav, the Etrog, the Biblical Critic, and Solomon Schechter,” in קולות - *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism* 4:1 (Fall, 2010), 15-16, 59. Also available at [http://www.uscj.org/The\\_Lulav\\_The\\_Etrog\\_8434.html](http://www.uscj.org/The_Lulav_The_Etrog_8434.html)

“The Religion of Torah,” in *Jewish Theology in Our Time: A New Generation Explores*

*the Foundations and Future of Jewish Belief*, ed. Elliot Cosgrove (Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 2010), 71-78

“The Bodies of God,” in *קולות - CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism* 3:1 (Fall, 2009): 26-27. Also available at [http://www.uscj.org/The\\_Bodies\\_of\\_God8135.html](http://www.uscj.org/The_Bodies_of_God8135.html)

“Torah, Ritual, Body, Jew,” in *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility* 40/662 (September, 2009):8-9. Also available at <http://www.shmadigital.com/shma/200909/?pg=8>

## PAPERS

“A Little Higher than Angels: Psalm 29 in Light of the Genre of Heavenly Worship.” As keynote address at the conference, “Biblical Exegesis as Mystical Experience in Judaism and Christianity,” at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, April, 2010

“From the Bible to Kabbalah and Back.” Together with Moshe Idel, at the Tikva Center, New York University Law School, March, 2010

“Dating Biblical Texts and the Perils of Pseudo-Historicism.” At the conference, “The Pentateuch: International Perspectives on Current Research,” Universität Zürich, January, 2010; and again as the Plenary Lecture at the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature, March, 2010

Respondent to a panel discussion of my book, *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel*. The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2009

Panel discussion of G. Anderson, *Sin: A History*. The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2009

“The Genre of Heavenly Worship in the Bible and Early Judaism.” Conference honoring Professor Adele Berlin at the University of Maryland, May, 2009

Respondent to papers on Buber, Rosenzweig, and the Bible. The annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, December, 2007

Panel discussion of J. Kaminsky, *Yet I Loved Jacob: Reclaiming the Biblical Concept of Election*. The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2007

“ערב עיון בספר תהילים, 'מזמור ח' לאור בראשית א': עיון בחקר הרמיזה הפנים-מקראית” The Hebrew University, April, 2007

“הספרות המזמורית בישראל ובמזרח הקדום: מסורת והידוש” The Bible Lands Museum, Jerusalem. March, 2007

“דר-משמעות בנבואות ישעיהו בן אמוץ והשלכותיה לשאלת חיבורו של ספר ישעיה” The Hebrew University Bible Symposium, December, 2006; delivered again at the University of Haifa, January, 2007; and as the Meir Paran Lecture, Ben Gurion University, May, 2007

“Conflicting Conceptions of Sinaitic Revelation in the Hebrew Bible.” At the conference, “The Ten Commandments and their Appropriations in Judaism, Christianity and Islam,” at the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, April, 2006

“Violence and Scripture,” at the conference, “Religion and Violence: The Biblical Heritage.” At Boston University and Wellesley College, February, 2006

“Preaching and Teaching the Book of Isaiah in a Modern Jewish Context.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2005

“Psalm 1 and the Canonical Shaping of Jewish Scripture.” At the conference, “A Modern Jewish Commentary on the Book of Psalms.” Northwestern University, March, 2005

“Jerusalem in Biblical Scholarship: Controversies Real and Imagined.” At the conference, “Jerusalem, City of Three Faiths: Histories of the Past, Present and Future.” Northwestern University, May, 2004

“Mordecai Kaplan and Biblical Theology.” At the conference, “Celebrating 70 Years: Mordecai Kaplan’s *Judaism as a Civilization: The Legacy of an American Idea.*” Stanford University, February, 2004

“Gods’ Bodies, Gods’ Selves: Some Constructions of Divinity in Ancient Israel and its Environment.” At the conference, “The Religious Self in Antiquity.” Indiana University, Bloomington, September, 2003. Revised version delivered at the World Congress for Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, August, 2005

“Biblical Theology: Is It Possible?” The University of Chicago Jewish Studies Workshop, January, 2002. Delivered again as “A New Model for Biblical Theology.” Die theologische Fakultät der Ruprecht-Karls Universität, und die Hochschule für Jüdische Studien, February, 2002

“Gottes Gegenwart und Exil: Der Tod der Söhne Aarons.” Die theologische Fakultät der Universität Tübingen, January, 2002

“Unity and Plurality in Jewish Canons: The Case of the Oral and Written Torahs.” The international meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, July, 2001. Delivered again at the Scholars Forum, Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies, January, 2002, and at the University of Notre Dame, October, 2002

“Is It Good for the Jews? Ambiguous Prophecies in Isaiah 1-33.” The annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, December, 2001. Delivered again at the Jewish Theological Seminary, April, 2002, and at Wayne State University, October, 2003

“Anthropopathism and Divine Wrath in Hosea 11 and Interpretive Tradition.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2001

“Violence and Religion: Problems and Solutions in Jewish Tradition.” The Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith, and Ethics, May 20, 2001

“Dialogical Biblical Theology and James Barr’s Conception of Biblical Theology.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 2000

“Difficult Beginnings: The Death of the Sons of Aaron.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 1999

“The Background of the Debate: The Origins of the Jewish People and Contemporary Biblical Scholarship.” Klutznick conference in Jewish Studies, Northwestern University, October, 1999

"אחד היה ישעיהו השני: ישעיה מ' עד ס"ו לאור רמיזות פנים מקראיות". The Hebrew University Bible Symposium, February, 1999

“Remembering Sinai in Exodus 19 and Jewish Tradition.” The University of Chicago Jewish Studies Workshop, October, 1997

“The Akitu Festival: Its Purpose and Meaning in Light of a Recent Comparative Approach.” The annual meeting of the American Oriental Society, March, 1997

“Kaleidoscopes and Mirrors: The Redaction of Numbers 11.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 1995

“Wounded Love: Divine Anger and Anthropomorphism in Hosea 11.” The annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, December, 1992

“Stylistic Features in Deutero-Isaiah’s Inner-Biblical Exegesis.” The annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, December, 1991

“The Unity of the Book of Isaiah in Light of Deutero-Isaiah’s Inner-Biblical Exegesis.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November, 1991

#### **PUBLICATIONS (Review essays):**

“Hedgehog and Fox: Anderson as Historian and Philologist,” *Harvard Theological Review* 103 (2010):373-82

J. Kaminsky, *Yet I Loved Jacob: Reclaiming the Biblical Concept of Election*, in *Review of Biblical Literature*. Available at <http://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=6201&CodePage=650,1383,4217,10,6201> and at [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/6201\\_6894.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/6201_6894.pdf)

K. Baltzer, *Deutero-Isaiah: A Commentary on Isaiah 40-55* (Hermeneia), in *Review of Biblical Literature* 4 (2002):1-6. Also published in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 123 (2004):149-53. Also available at [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/1383\\_3409.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/1383_3409.pdf)

B. Childs, *Isaiah. A Commentary* (OTL Library), in *Biblica* 83 (2002):579-83

E. Nicholson, *The Pentateuch in the Twentieth Century: The Legacy of Julius Wellhausen*, in *Review of Biblical Literature* 2 (2000):184-89. Also available at [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/10\\_126.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/10_126.pdf)

**PUBLICATIONS (Reviews):**

J. Assmann, *Of God and Gods: Egypt, Israel, and the Rise of Monotheism*, in *History of Religions* (forthcoming)

J. Levenson, *Resurrection and the Restoration of Israel*, in *The Journal of Religion* 90 (2010):554-556

S. Paul, *Isaiah 40-66: A Commentary* (Miqra Leyisrael), in *Review of Biblical Literature* (forthcoming). Also available at <http://www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=7575>

M. Milder and H. Sling, eds., *Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading, and Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*, 2d. edition, in *Conservative Judaism* 60:1-2 (2008):157-59

M. Brettler, *How to Read the Bible*, in *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility* (December, 2005):6.

Z. Zevit, *The Religions of Ancient Israel: A Synthesis of Parallaxic Approaches*, in *AJS Review* 29 (2005):159-60

Y. Hoffman, *Jeremiah: Introduction and Commentary* (Miqra Leyisrael), in *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 66 (2004):126-28

M. Fishbane, *Haftarot: The Traditional Hebrew Text with the New JPS Translation*, in *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 4 (2002-2003). Available at <http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/review114.htm>

J. Kutsko, *Between Heaven and Earth: Divine Presence and Absence in the Book of Ezekiel*, in *Biblical Literature* 4 (2002):126-28. Also available at [www.bookreviews.org/Reviews//1575060418.html](http://www.bookreviews.org/Reviews//1575060418.html)

J. Oswalt, *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 40-66*, in *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 64 (2002):142-43

D. Vanderhoft, *The Neo-Babylonian Empire and Babylon in the Later Prophets*, in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 326 (2002):100-101

B. Uffenheimer, *Early Prophecy in Israel*, in *AJS Review* 26 (2002):120-21

- W. Propp, *The Anchor Bible, vol. 2: Exodus 1-18*, in *The Journal of Religion* 81 (2001):271-72
- R.A. Werline, *Penitential Prayer in Second Temple Judaism: The Development of a Religious Institution*, in *The Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120 (2000):263-263
- M. Saperstein, "Your Voice Like a Ram's Horn": *Themes and Texts in Traditional Jewish Preaching*, in *History of Religions* 38 (1999):414-16
- K. Whitelam, *The Invention of Ancient Israel: The Silencing of Palestinian History*, in *Middle East Quarterly* 5:1 (1998):85-86
- H. Levine, *Sing unto God a New Song: A Contemporary Reading of the Psalms*, in *Textual Reasoning: The Journal of the Post-Modern Jewish Philosophy Network* 6:3 (1997):42-45. Also available at [www.bu.edu/mzank/str/tr-archive/tr6-3.html](http://www.bu.edu/mzank/str/tr-archive/tr6-3.html)
- P. Tribble, *Rhetorical Criticism: Context, Method, and the Book of Jonah*, in *The Journal of Religion* 77 (1997):122-123
- B. Schramm, *The Opponents of Third Isaiah: Reconstructing the Cultic History of the Restoration*, in *The Journal of Religion* 76 (1996):614-615
- H.G.M. Williamson, *The Book Called Isaiah: Deutero-Isaiah's Role in Composition and Redaction*, in *The Journal of Religion* 76 (1996):99-100
- A. Bartelt, *The Book around Immanuel: Style and Structure in Isaiah 2-12*, in *Religious Studies Review* 25:3 (1999):287
- J. Hoffmeier, *Israel in Egypt: The Evidence for the Authenticity of the Exodus Tradition*, in *Religious Studies Review* 24 (1998):404
- A. Laato, *The Servant of YHWH and Cyrus*, in *The Journal of Religion* 74 (1994):448

## **CURRENT RESEARCH**

Continuing work on a book with the title, *Artifact or Scripture? The Jewish Bible between History and Theology*, under contract to Yale University Press in the Anchor Bible Reference Series

Editor, the Psalms volumes of the Jewish Publication Society Bible Commentary Series, and author of volume 1 (the commentary on Psalm 1-30)

Editing a book, *Jewish Conceptions of Scripture: A Comparative Introduction*, accepted for publication by New York University Press

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Undergraduate**

Introduction to Hebrew Bible

Early European Civilization: Greece and Israel (co-taught)  
 Adam and Eve in the Bible and Beyond  
 The Art of Biblical Narrative  
 Religion and Mythology of the Ancient Near East  
 Varieties of Ancient Judaism  
 Prophecy in Ancient Israel  
 The Book of Isaiah  
 Biblical Texts in Hebrew: The Book of Psalms  
 History Writing in the Bible  
 Elementary Biblical Hebrew  
 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew  
 Methods of Biblical Criticism

### **Graduate**

עיונים בשירה המזמורית ובדרכי הקירחה  
 The Book of Ezekiel  
 The Book of Exodus  
 The Book of Micah  
 The Book of Samuel  
 Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures  
 Theories of Religion  
 Midrashic Texts in Hebrew  
 Survey of the Pentateuch  
 The Art of Biblical Poetry  
 Prophecy in the Second Temple Period  
 Problems in Biblical Theology (co-taught)  
 Biblical Grammar

### **LANGUAGES**

**Ancient:** Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Akkadian, Ugaritic  
**Modern:** Hebrew, German, French

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

The Society of Biblical Literature  
 The Association for Jewish Studies  
 The American Oriental Society

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**The Jewish Theological Seminary**  
 Faculty Executive Committee, 2010-  
 Graduate School Faculty Overview Committee, 2010-  
 Budget Committee, 2009-2010  
 Davidson School of Education Faculty Overview Committee, 2008-2010  
 Faculty Strategic Library Committee, 2008-2009  
 Faculty Committee on Re-Invigorating Rabbinical School Teaching sponsored by the Wabash  
 Center for Teaching and Learning in Religion, 2008-2010

**Northwestern**

Director of Undergraduate Studies, The Program in Jewish Studies, 2000-2006, 2007-2008  
 Governing Board, Fiedler Hillel Center at Northwestern University, 2001-2006, 2007-2008  
 Organized the conference, "A Modern Jewish Commentary on the Book of Psalms,"  
 Northwestern University, March, 2005  
 College Committee on Promotion of Lecturer Faculty, Spring, 2004  
 University Hearing Board, 2003-2004  
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Religion Department, 2000-2002  
 Associate Provost's Ad-hoc Committee on Undergraduate Education, 1998-1999

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Member of the steering committee of the Israelite Religion in Its West Asian Environment  
 Section, the Society of Biblical Literature, 2007-  
 Member of the steering committee of the Bible section for the Association for Jewish Studies,  
 2008-  
 Member, editorial board of the Society of Biblical Literature's Ancient Israel and its Literature  
 book series, 2008-  
 Hebrew Bible/Old Testament General Acquisitions Editor for the Society for Biblical Literature,  
 with primary responsibility for the Studies in Biblical Literature series, 2005-2008  
 Member of the editorial board, *The Journal of Biblical Literature*, 2004-present  
 Member of the editorial board, *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History*, 2001-present;  
 book review editor, 2001-2004  
 Member of the steering committee of the Pentateuch Section, the Society of Biblical Literature,  
 1999-2006  
 Member of the education committee of the Chicagoland Jewish High School, 2002-2003, and of  
 Bible curriculum committee, 2007-2008  
 Member of the steering committee of the Biblical Theology Consultation, the Society of Biblical  
 Literature, 2001-2004  
 Participant in "Consultation on the Teaching of Biblical Hebrew," Wabash Center for Teaching  
 and Learning in Theology and Religion, August, 2000  
 Member of dissertation committees for doctoral students in biblical studies at the Hebrew  
 University in Jerusalem (3 students) and Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary (3  
 students), 1999-2008; member of proposal committee for doctoral committee at the Hebrew  
 University (one student), 2007  
 Participant in "Consultation on the Teaching of Bible in the Twenty First Century," Wabash  
 Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, July, 1998, 1999, 2000  
 Participant in National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for college professors  
 on "Adam and Eve in Jewish and Christian Tradition," Hebrew University, Jerusalem, June-  
 August, 1996

Updated: September, 2010