

MICHAH GOTTLIEB: CURRICULUM VITAE (2/9/2017)

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I. EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

- September 2013- **Associate Professor (with tenure)**
New York University, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
- July 2006-August 2013 **Assistant Professor**
New York University, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
- Fall 02-Spring 06 **Visiting Assistant Professor, Hirschfeld Presidential Fellow in Comparative Studies**
Brown University, Departments of Judaic Studies and Religious Studies
- Education:**
August 2003 **Indiana University**, Bloomington, IN
Ph.D. in Philosophy
Minor Field: Jewish Studies
Dissertation Title: "The Ambiguity of Reason: Mendelssohn's Writings on Spinoza"
Thesis Supervisor: Professor Frederick Beiser
- September 1997 **New York University**, New York, NY
M.A. in Hebrew and Judaic Studies
- September 1995 **McGill University**, Montreal, Canada
B.A. in Philosophy
- 1991-1992 **Yeshivat Ofakim**, Ofakim, Israel
Studied Talmudic texts.
- 1990-1991 **Hebrew University**, Jerusalem, Israel
Freshman program in Jewish Studies

II. AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

- 2016 Grant-in-Aid, NYU Center for the Humanities
- 2011 Delphi Fellow, Big Think
- 2010-2011 Tikvah Research Fellow, Princeton University (\$41000)
- 2010-2011 Faculty Fellow, Frankel Institute, University of Michigan (declined)
- 2009-2010 Faculty Fellow, Humanities Initiative, NYU
- 2006-2007 Yad Hanadiv Fellow, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (\$24000)
- 2005 Fellow, Summer Institute for Israel Studies, Brandeis University
- 2000-2002 Doctoral Grant, Memorial Foundation
- 1998-2001 Doctoral Fellowship, FCAR (Quebec Gov.) (\$20 000/3 years)
- 1995 First Class Honors, McGill University
- 1992-1995 Dean's List, McGill University
- 1994 Dow Hickson Award for Philosophy, McGill

Publications:

a. BOOKS

Jewish Protestantism: Translation and The Turn to the Bible in German Judaism (under contract, Oxford University Press)

Moses Mendelssohn: Enlightenment, Religion, Politics, Nationalism (University of Maryland Press, co-editor with Charles Manekin, 2016)

Reviews:

The Biblical Review (Joel Swanson, January 2017)

Faith, Reason, Politics: Essays on the History of Jewish Thought (Academic Studies Press, 2013)

Faith and Freedom: Moses Mendelssohn's Theological-Political Thought (Oxford University Press, 2011)

Reviews:

The Blog of the Center for Jewish Law, Cardozo Law School, (Paul Nahme, May 2013)

The Expository Times 124:3, 137-138 (K. Hannah Holtschneider, December 2012)

Journal of the History of Philosophy 50:4, 618-620 (Anne Pollok, October 2012)

International Journal of the Platonic Tradition 6:2, 224-226 (Jeffrey Bernstein, August, 2012)

Journal of Religion 92:3, 449-451 (Yitzhak Melamed, July, 2012)

Religious Studies Review 38:2, 108 (Shaul Stampfer, June, 2012)

Shofar 30.3 (Ursula Goldenbaum, Summer, 2012)

Review of Metaphysics 65:2, 421-423 (David McPherson, December, 2011)

First Things Aug/Sept 2011, 64-65 (Allan Arkush); my reply Nov 2011, 9-10

Jewish Review of Books, Feature article, Summer 2011, 5-9 (Jerome Copulsky)

Moses Mendelssohn: Writings on Judaism, Christianity, and the Bible (editor—Brandeis University Press, 2011)

Finalist: National Jewish Book Award

Reviews:

Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews (Robert Erlewine, February 2012)

Studies in Jewish-Christian Relations vol. 7 (Benjamin Sax, 2012)

Jewish Book Council (Peter Rothholz, April 2012)

b. ARTICLES

“Orthodoxy and the Orient: Samson Raphael Hirsch on the Location of Judaism” in *Modern Jewish Scholarship on the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament and the Qur’an* (eds. H. Gafni, H. Harif, D. Saltzer, S. Schorch), forthcoming

“Spinoza’s Baffling View of Biblical Morality” in *Explorations in Jewish Religious and Philosophical Ethics*, (eds. Curtis Hutt, Berel Lerner, and Halla Kim), forthcoming

“Distinctiveness and Diaspora in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish Thought” in *Oxford Handbook of the Jewish Diaspora* (ed. Hasia Diner), forthcoming

“Oral Letter and Written Trace: Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Defense of the Bible and Talmud”, *Jewish Quarterly Review* 106.3 (Fall 2016), (36 pages)

- “Moses Mendelssohn’s Humanism” in *Contention, Controversy and Change: Evolutions and Revolutions in the Jewish Experience* (eds. Simcha Fishbane and Eric Levene 2016), (18 pages)
- “The Limits of Liberty: Baruch Spinoza and Moses Mendelssohn on Censorship” in *Moses Mendelssohn: Enlightenment, Religion, Politics, Nationalism* (eds. M. Gottlieb and C. Manekin), 2016, (18 pages)
- “Bible Translation and the Ideological Fragmentation of German Jewry” *AJS Perspectives*, Fall 2015
- “The Jewish Bible on the Eve of Modernity” in *The Book of Books: Biblical Canon, Dissemination and Its People* (eds. L. Schiffman, Jerry Pattengale, Filip Vukosavovic), 2013
- “Translation Matters: At the Juncture of Self and Tradition” *Shma: A Journal of Jewish Ideas*, Fall 2013
- “Leo Strauss on Lessing’s Spinozism,” in *Festschrift for Paul Mendes-Flohr* (eds. C. Wiese and M. Urban), 2012 (30 pages)
- “Dangerous Uncertainty” *Sh’ma: A Journal of Jewish Ideas*, March, 2012
- “Moses Mendelssohn and the Project of Modern Jewish Philosophy” in *Moses Mendelssohn: Writings on Judaism, Christianity, and the Bible* (ed. M. Gottlieb), 2011 (16 pages)
- “Between Judaism and German Enlightenment: Recent Work on Moses Mendelssohn in English” *Religion Compass*, 2010 (16 pages)
- “Aesthetics and the Infinite: Moses Mendelssohn on the Poetics of Biblical Prophecy” in *New Directions in Jewish Philosophy*, (eds. Elliot Wolfson and Aaron Hughes), 2010 (27 pages)
- “Counter-Enlightenment in a Jewish Key: Anti-Maimonideanism in Nineteenth Century Neo-Orthodoxy” in *The Cultures of Maimonideanism*, (ed. James Robinson), 2009 (28 pages)
- “Mysticism and Philosophy” in *Cambridge History of Jewish Philosophy: From Antiquity Through the Seventeenth Century*, 2009 (43 pages).
- “Publishing the Moses Mendelssohn *Jubiläumsausgabe* in Weimar and Nazi Germany” *Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook*, 2008 (18 pages)
- “Spinoza’s Method(s) of Biblical Interpretation Reconsidered” *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, 2007 (31 pages).
- “Mendelssohn’s Metaphysical Defense of Religious Pluralism” *The Journal of Religion*, 2006 (20 pages)
- “Samson Raphael Hirsch’s Critique of the Academic Study of Judaism” (in preparation)
- “Moses Mendelssohn and the Controversy over Early Burial” (in preparation)
- “Saadya Gaon and Moses Mendelssohn” (in preparation)
- “Moses Mendelssohn’s Copy of the *Guide of the Perplexed*,” (in preparation)
- c. BOOK REVIEWS
- “Re-intoxicated by God” Review of Yitzhak Melamed’s *Spinoza’s Metaphysics*, in *Jewish Review of Books*, Winter, 2016
- “Coherence or Contradiction?” Review of Benjamin Pollock’s *Franz Rosenzweig’s Conversions: World Denial and World Redemption in H-Judaic*, December 2015
- “Are We All Protestants Now?” Review of Leora Batnitzky’s *How Judaism Became a Religion*, in *Jewish Review of Books*, Summer 2012
- “Sincere Irony” Review of William Eggington’s *In Defense of Religious Moderation*, in *Jewish Review of Books*, Winter 2012
- “Defending Spinoza?” *AJS Review*, 2006 (6 pages).

d. OTHER WRITINGS

- “The Age of Enlightenment: Rationality and the Bible” *Museum of the Bible*, Spring 2014
- “When Orthodoxy Goes too Far” *The Forward*, June 8, 2012
- “The World without Scholars: A Fable for our Times” in *Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 7, 2011.
- “Jewish Political Studies: An Interview with Michael Walzer” *AJS Perspectives*, 2006 (2 pages).
- “Moses Mendelssohn”
- Europe 1450 to 1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World*. New York: Scribner Publishers, 2003.

Presentations:

a. INVITED, PEER-REVIEWED (2015-2017)

- “The Study of Bible and the Study of Nature” *Spinoza and Modern Jewish Philosophy*, University of Washington, May, 2017
- “Spinoza and Solomon” Johns Hopkins University, February, 2017
- “Bible Translation and the Fracture of German Judaism” Bar-Ilan University, January 2017
- “How Samson Raphael Hirsch Became Orthodox” *Association of Jewish Studies Conference*, San Diego, December 2016
- “A New Anthology of American Jewish Thought” Workshop on Anthologizing American Jewish Thought, NYU, December 2016
- Speaker, “Reading Maimonides as a Philosopher: A Symposium in Honor of Alfred Ivry’s *Maimonides Guide of the Perplexed: A Philosophical Guide*,” NYU, November 2016
- “Samson Raphael Hirsch and the Haskalah” Yeshiva University, November, 2016.
- “Bible Translation and the Fracture of German Judaism,” *German-Jewish Bible Exegesis: Theological Perspectives*, University of Potsdam, September 2016
- Respondent to Yitzhak Schwartz, “Progress, Liberalism and American Judaism in a Nineteenth Century American-Jewish Newspaper” Center for Jewish History, April, 2016
- “Cohen and Spinoza on God’s Thirteenth Attribute,” *Judaism in Modern Philosophy: Spinoza, Hermann Cohen, and the Legacies of German Idealism*, Princeton University, April 2016
- “Spinoza and Modern Psychology” Faculty Psychotherapy Conference, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, June 2015
- “Slavery and the Bible” Workshop on “Anthologizing American Jewish Thought”, Brandeis, March 2015
- Respondent to Clemence Boulouque, “No Insurmountable Barriers: Pre-Freudian Theories of the Unconscious and the Emergence of Kabbalah Scholarship, Center for Jewish History, March 2015
- “Faith and Reason in Modern Judaism,” Yeshiva University, February, 2015

Prior to 2014, I gave invited presentations at a number of institutions including: Brown, Princeton, Columbia, Yale, University of Pennsylvania, Oxford, The New School, Hebrew University, Bar-Ilan, Ben-Gurion, Hebrew College, Yeshiva University, University of Kansas, University of Nebraska, Goethe University in Frankfurt, The

Center for Jewish History, University of Maryland, Brandeis, Johns Hopkins, VU University (Holland), and Lehigh University.

Over the years I have taught at a variety of communal settings including The Drisha Institute, the JCC of Harrison, ACCESS NY, Me'ah in Boston, and many synagogues.

IV. TEACHING

Supervision:

Supervisor, Mark Kaplowitz, Thesis Topic: "The Gravest Obstacle and Thus a Great Misfortune: Hermann Cohen's Interpretation of Spinoza", NYU, PhD granted, September 2010. Current Position: Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Memphis

Dissertation Committee member for: Wendy Schor-Haim, "Jacob ben Reuben's *Sefer Milhamot Hashem*", April 2012; Robert Sagerman, "Ambivalence Towards Christianity in Abulafia" Spring 2008, NYU

Dissertation Reader for: Lynn Kaye, "Modes of Temporality in the Babylonian Talmud," August 2012; Joshua Teplitsky, "Between Court Jew and Jewish Court: David Oppenheim, the Prague Rabbinate and Eighteenth Century Jewish Culture", August, 2012; Scott Hoffman, "Evolution of the Concept of Repentance in Biblical, Second Temple, and Rabbinic Sources," May, 2012; Adam Mintz, "Halakha in North America: The Case of Eruv", August, 2011; Dana Fishkin, "Situating Hell & Heaven: Immanuel of Rome's *Mahberet Ha-Tophet V'Ha-Eden*," February, 2011, NYU; Deena Grant, topic: "Anger in Biblical Literature" August 2008, NYU; Yehiel Yoram Schur, "The Care for the Dead in Medieval Ashkenaz", August 2008, NYU

External Reader: Elias Sacks, "Enacting a Living Script: Moses Mendelssohn on History, Practice, and Religion" (Princeton University) July 2012

Supervisor, M.A. student, Thomas Gimbel, NYU (Spring 2012)

Supervisor, B.A. honors thesis: Alex Meirowitz, NYU (Spring 2010)

Teaching Experience:

University teaching

2007-2016

New York University

Modern Jewish Philosophy (fall 07, Spring 09, Spring 12, undergraduate); *Spinoza and Jewish Philosophy* (Spring 08, 10, undergraduate); *A Book Forged in Hell: Spinoza's Treatise and the Birth of Modern Judaism* (Spring 2013, Spring 2015 Undergraduate); *Introduction to Jewish Literature and Thought* (Fall 08, 11, 12, 13 undergraduate); *Judaism in America* (Spring 14, Fall 16 undergraduate); *Spinoza Seminar* (Fall 07, Fall 16 graduate- PHD); Strauss Seminar (Fall 08 graduate-- PHD) *Philosophical Approaches to Biblical Interpretation* (Spring 08 graduate-- PHD); *Problems and Methods in Hebrew and Judaic Studies* (Fall 09, 11, 12, 13 graduate-- PHD); *Core Readings in Modern Jewish Thought* (Spring 15); *The Bible in Jewish Culture* (Spring 12, Spring 17 graduate—MA/PHD); *Translating the Bible* (Spring 2013, Graduate- MA/PHD); *Modern Jewish Philosophers*

(Spring 2014, graduate), *Living the Good Life: Greek and Jewish Perspectives* (Spring 17)

Independent reading courses: Mark Gondelman, Hillel Gruenberg, Esther Hidary, Thomas Gimbel, Arielle Levites, Adrian Sackson, Daniel Berkowitz, Jake Wilner

2002-2006

Brown University, Providence, RI

Origins of Jewish Philosophy; Good and Evil; Modern Jewish Thought and Philosophy; Authority in the Jewish Political Tradition; Heretics in Jewish History; Levinas Seminar; Spinoza seminar

V. SERVICE

To the University:

Interdepartmental Faculty Mentor, NYU, 2016-2017

Fellowship Committee, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, NYU, 2016

Co-Organizer (with Eugene Sheppard), NYU-Brandeis, Workshop on Anthologizing American Jewish Thought, Brandeis, March 2015, December 2016

Reader for Mellon Sawyer Seminar Applications, NYU, January 2015

Search Committee, Position in Medieval/Early Modern Jewish Studies, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, NYU, Fall 2014- Spring 2015

Salary Committee, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Spring 2014, Spring 2015

Dissertation Proposal Workshop, Summer 2014

Reader for Humanities Initiative Applications, NYU, Spring 2014

Global Coordinator, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Diversity Initiative Working Group, NYU Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Spring 2013-Summer Fellowship/Workshop Committee, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Fall, 2013-2014

Fellowship Nomination Committee, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Fall 2013

Committee on Modular Course Development, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, Fall, 2011

Organizer, Mendelssohn colloquium, Princeton University, Spring 2010

Co-organizer, Faculty Seminar, Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, (Fall 2008- Fall 2011)

Organizer, Symposium on Political Secrecy in Medieval and Modern Jewish Thought, NYU, November, 2008

Committee for Goldstein-Goren Fellowship (NYU, 01/08, 2/12)

Sophomore advisor, Brown University, (05-06).

Undergraduate committee, Brown University, (02-04)

Co-organized the Judaic Studies Faculty Seminar, Brown University, (03-05)

To the Profession:

Co-editor (with Jonathan Schorsch), Series on Jewish Thought and Philosophy, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016-

Advisory Board, Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, Volume Six

Academic Advisory Board, Leo Baeck Institute, New York

Referee for *Aleph: Historical Studies in Science and Judaism*; *Eighteenth Century Thought*; *Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy*; *Intellectual History Review*; *Jewish Studies*

Quarterly (2016); *Harvard Theological Review*; *German Studies Review*; Columbia University Press; Yale University Press; Central European University Press; Routledge; Academic Studies Press (2016)

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Doctoral Grants, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2016
Israel Science Foundation, 2012
AJS, Jordan Schnitzer Prize, 2015

To the Community:

Convener, “A Continuing Conversation: Moses Mendelssohn and the Legacy of the Enlightenment”, International symposium, Center for Jewish History, September 2011.

This international symposium brought together 12 scholars for a day of discussion and debate devoted to exploring Moses Mendelssohn and his contemporary significance. About 300 people from the general public attended the conference. The conference proceedings can be viewed here: <http://www.cjh.org/p/45>

Academic Curator, “A Continuing Conversation: Moses Mendelssohn and the Legacy of the Enlightenment,” Leo Baeck Institute, September-March, 2012.

Conceptualized the exhibition, selected the artifacts, wrote the text for the panels and labels.

Invited Speaker, JTS Faculty Retreat, November 2011

I have also appeared on the Australian Broadcast Corporation’s, radio series *The Philosopher’s Zone*, August, 2011

VI. LANGUAGES

Hebrew, French, German, Aramaic, Yiddish, Latin

VII. MEMBERSHIP

The New York Consortium for Intellectual and Cultural History
American Academy of Religion
American Philosophical Association
Association of Jewish Studies
World Congress of Jewish Studies