

Claire E. Sufrin
Curriculum Vitae

Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies
Northwestern University
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Education

- 2008 PhD** **Stanford University**, Department of Religious Studies
Dissertation: *Martin Buber's Biblical Hermeneutics*
- 2000 BA** **Yale University**, Department of Religious Studies
Distinction in the Major

Academic Appointments

- 2010—** **Northwestern University**, Evanston, Ill.
- Associate Professor of Instruction in Jewish Studies (2017-present)
 - Affiliated Faculty, Department of Religious Studies (2017-present)
 - Assistant Director, Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies (2020-present)
 - Assistant Director of Jewish Studies, Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies (2016-2020)
 - Lecturer in Jewish Studies (2013-2017)
 - Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies (2010- 2013)
- 2013** **University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, Ind.
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Theology (Fall 2013)
- 2011-2013** **University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)**, Chicago, Ill.
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies (2011-2013)

- 2007-2010** **Northeastern University**, Boston, Mass.
- Schusterman Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow in Jewish Studies (2008-2010)
 - Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy and Religion (2007- 2008)
- 2001-2006** **Stanford University**, Palo Alto, Calif.
- Instructor, Department of Religious Studies (Fall 2006)
 - Curriculum Development Assistant, Humanities Program (2004-2007)
 - Graduate Associate, Honors College (2005-2006)
 - Teaching Assistant, Department of Religious Studies (2001-2003)

Publications

Edited anthology

- 2020** Co-edited with Yehuda Kurtzer. *The New Jewish Canon: 1980-2015 Ideas and Debates*. Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020.
National Jewish Book Award Finalist in the category of Modern Jewish Thought and Experience, 2020

Journal articles

- 2021** “A Judaism of Ethics in a Post-Holocaust World: The Interplay of Literature and Theology in Cynthia Ozick’s *Messiah of Stockholm*” *AJS Review* 45:2 (Nov 2021), 411-430.
- 2018** “Buber, the Bible, and Hebrew Humanism: Finding a Usable Past” *Modern Judaism* 38:1 (2018): 29-43.
- 2013** “History, Myth, and Divine Dialogue in Martin Buber’s Biblical Commentaries” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 103:1 (Winter 2013): 74-100.

Book chapters

- 2020** “Martin Buber between Revelation and Scripture” in *Luther, Barth, and Movements of Theological Renewal (1918-1933)*, ed. Heinrich Assel and Bruce McCormack (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2020), 95-110.
- 2020** Commentary on Elie Wiesel’s Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech (1986) in *The New Jewish Canon*, ed. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire E. Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020), 166-170.

- 2020** Commentary on Evelyn Torton Beck, ed., *Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology* (1982) and Susannah Heschel, ed., *On Being a Jewish Feminist* (1983) in *The New Jewish Canon*, ed. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire E. Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020), 337-345.
- 2017** “Liberal Judaisms” in *Cambridge History of Judaism*, vol. 8, edited by Mitchell Hart and Tony Michels (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017): 337-362.
- 2014** “Beyond the Chasm: Religion and Literature after the Holocaust” in *Thinking Jewish Culture in America*, edited by Ken Koltun-Fromm (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2014): 131-156.
- 2012** “On Myth, History, and the Study of Hasidism: Martin Buber and Gershom Scholem,” in *Encountering the Medieval in Modern Jewish Thought*, edited by Aaron W. Hughes and James Diamond (Boston: Brill, 2012): 129-151.
- 2010** “Telling Stories: The Legal Turn in Jewish Feminist Thought” in Marion Kaplan and Deborah Dash Moore, ed., *Gender and Jewish History: Essays in Honor of Paula Hyman* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010): 233-250.
National Jewish Book Award Winner in the category of Anthologies and Collections, 2011

Book Reviews and Review Essays

- 2020** Review of *Martin Buber's Theo-Politics* by Samuel Hayim Brody, *Journal of Religion* (2020): 402-403.
- 2017** Review of *Judaism*, edited by David Biale, *Religious Studies Review* 43:1 (2017): 15-17.
- 2017** Review of *Secularism in Question*, edited by Ari Joskowicz and Ethan B. Katz, *Journal of Politics, Religion, and Ideology* 17:4 (2017), 370-372.
- 2014** Review of *Israeli Feminism Liberating Judaism: Blood and Ink*, by Bonna Devorah Haberman, *Religion & Gender* 4:1 (2014), 83-85.
- 2011** Review of *Aesthetics of Renewal: Martin Buber's Representation of Hasidism as Kulturkritik*, by Martina Urban, *AJS Review* 35:1 (2011), 187-190.
- 2010** Review of *Leo Strauss and Emmanuel Levinas: Philosophy and the Politics of Revelation*, by Leora Batnitzky, *Sophia* 49 (2010), 161-163.
- 2009** Review of *Modern Judaism and Historical Consciousness: Identities, Encounters, Perspectives*, edited by Andreas Gotzmann and Christian Wiese, *AJS Review* 33:1 (2009), 198-201.

Work-in-Progress**Book**

Storytelling and Meaning-Making: Jewish Literature and Jewish Thought in America

Invited Academic Presentations

- 2021** “American Jews, 2021: Everything You Wanted to Know About the Jews of the United States from the new Pew Institute Research Study” Panelist
Ruderman Program for American Jewish Studies, University of Haifa, June 2021.
- 2021** Book Talk, *The New Jewish Canon*
Jewish Studies Faculty-Grad Student Seminar, Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, Emory University, April 2021.
- 2019** “How and Why to Remember: Jewish Thought and Jewish Literature Addressing a Troubled Past”
Illinois Wesleyan University, March 2019.
- 2018** “Buber’s Changing Notions of Revelation”
A German-Jewish Hermeneutics Conference, Northwestern University, October 2018.
- 2018** “For What May We Hope? Themes of Messianism in American Jewish Literature”
Workshop in Constructive Jewish Theology, University of Illinois at Chicago, July 2018.
- 2017** “Martin Buber between Revelation and Scripture”
Luther, Barth, and Movements of Theological Renewal (1918-1933), Annual Karl Barth Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary, June 2017.
- 2016** “Cynthia Ozick’s Literary Messiah”
Midwestern Inter-University Workshop in Jewish Studies, Northwestern University, January 2016.
- 2015** “Buber, the Bible, and Hebrew Humanism: Finding a Usable Past”
Martin Buber: Philosopher of Dialogue Conference, University of Chicago, October 2015.
- 2015** “Philip Roth, the Double, and the State of Israel”
Leffell Seminar, New York, August 2015.
- 2015** “Martin Buber: Jewish Existentialist”
University of North Carolina, Asheville, April 2015.

- 2014** “On Teaching Post-Holocaust Theology”
Beyond History and Memory Conference, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, November 2014.
- 2014** “Searching for a Meaningful Past: Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics”
University of Notre Dame, April 2014.
- 2014** “Asking the Right Questions: On the Quantity and Quality of Jewish Life”
Jewish University for a Day: A Program of the Jewish Theological Seminary, January 2014.
- 2013** “The God of Modern Judaism”
Vanderbilt University, May 2013.
- 2011** Comments on *Faith, Religion, and Philosophy: Lessons from Modern German Intellectual Thought* by John H. Smith.
Northwestern University, November 2011.
- 2011** “Between History and Myth: Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics”
Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, January 2011.
- 2010** “Martin Buber, Myth, and History”
Institute of Jewish Thought and Heritage, University of Buffalo, June 2010.
- 2010** “Telling Stories: The Legal Turn in Jewish Feminist Thought”
With responses from Judith Plaskow and Suzanne Last Stone.
Jewish Theological Seminary, January 2010.

Academic Conference Papers and other Participation

- 2021** “Novelist Nicole Krauss Negotiating between Memory and History of the Holocaust”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2021.
- 2019** “New Frames for Jewish Thought and Philosophy”
Roundtable participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2019.
- 2019** “On the Negotiation of Tradition and Modernity: Hirsch’s Nineteen Letters”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2019.
- 2019** “Theology in a Different Genre: Jewish Religion and Literature in Post-Holocaust America”
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019.

- 2018** “Shifting Positions: The Power of the Self in Jewish Memory, Ritual, and Law”
Roundtable participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference,
December 2018.
- 2018** “The Role of Jewish Studies within Colleges and Universities”
Roundtable moderator and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual
Conference, December 2018.
- 2018** “Reading Literature as Religious Thought in America: Philip Roth as a Case Study”
Fractured Paradigms: Rethinking the Study of American Jews, Biennial Scholars’
Conference on American Jewish History, June 2018.
- 2018** Response to “Interpreting Human Suffering: Biblical, Rabbinic, Modern” panel
Society for Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2018.
- 2017** “Cynthia Ozick’s Literary Messianism”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2017.
- 2016** “Ritual as a Marker and Means of Transition in *Transparent*”
Roundtable organizer and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual
Conference, December 2016.
- 2016** “The State of Israel as Counter-Narrative”
Rethinking Exile, Center, and Diaspora in Modern Jewish Culture Conference,
University of Cambridge, May 2016.
- 2015** “Jewish Literature as Jewish Thought: The Case of the Counter Narrative”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2015.
- 2014** “Buber and Heschel Reading the Prophets”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2014.
- 2013** “Reading Literature as Religious Thought: A Case Study”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2013.
- 2010** “The Impact of Contemporary Legal Theory on the Study of *Halakhal*” Roundtable
Organizer and Participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference,
December 2010.
- 2008** “Martin Buber and the Biblical Prophets of Zionism”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2008.
- 2007** “The Kingship of God in Buber’s Reading of the Hebrew Bible”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2007.
- 2007** “Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics In and Beyond *I and Thou*”
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2007.

- 2006 “Martin Buber’s Earliest Biblical Hermeneutics”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2006.

Public Scholarship, Public Talks, and Media Appearances (selected)

- 2021 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “Where is Judaism Headed?” American Jewish University, March 2021.
- 2021 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “Behind the Headlines: *The New Jewish Canon*” *Times of Israel* interview series, January 2021.
- 2020 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “*The New Jewish Canon*: A Conversation” Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies, University of Maryland, November 2020
- 2020 “Constructing a New Canon,” Academic Studies Press Blog, October 21, 2020.
- 2020 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “*The New Jewish Canon*” *Judaism Unbound* Episode 242, October 2020.
- 2020 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “Why This and Not That?” *Tablet* September 21, 2020.
- 2020 With Yehuda Kurtzer and Abigail Pogrebin, *The New Jewish Canon* Robert P. Kogod Annual Lecture, Shalom Hartman Institute, July 2020
- 2020 “Reframing Carlebach” Panel Discussant, Cantors Assembly, July 2020.
- 2020 With Yehuda Kurtzer, “The Trials and Tribulations of a New Jewish Canon,” *Marginalia*, June 5, 2020.
- 2019 “In those Days, At This Time,” *Feminist Studies in Religion*, April 11, 2019.
- 2015 “A Legacy Greater than I-Thou: A Usable Bible and a Usable Martin Buber,” *Sightings* November 12, 2015.

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate Courses

Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

- A Priest and A Rabbi Walk into a Bar to Talk about God (first-year seminar)
- American Judaism
- Gender and Sexuality in Judaism
- God after the Holocaust
- Introduction to Judaism

- Jewish Studies: An Overview
- Modern Jewish Thought
- Religion and Literature
- Searching, Finding, Losing, and Living: Spiritual Memoirs (first-year seminar)

University of Notre Dame

- Introduction to Judaism
- Modern Jewish Thought

University of Illinois at Chicago

- American Judaism
- History of Jewish Biblical Interpretation
- Introduction to Judaism

Northeastern University

- Jewish Religion and Culture
- Modern Judaism
- Zionism and its Critics

Stanford University

- Martin Buber: Theologian, Philosopher, Prophet

Advising

Doctoral Student Advising at Northwestern University

- Amanda Ruppenthal Stein, Bienen School of Music, “Sounding *Judentum*: Assimilation, Art Music, and Being Jewish Musically in 19th Century Germany,” PhD 2021
 - Comprehensive exam committee (German Jewish history)
 - Dissertation committee
 - Defended December 2020
- Stephanie Brenzel, Department of Religious Studies, “As Strong as Death: Franz Rosenzweig’s Philosophy of Love in the *Star of Redemption*,” PhD 2019
 - Comprehensive exam committee (Modern Jewish Thought)
 - Dissertation committee
- Benjamin Ricciardi, Department of Religious Studies, “The Weekday Amidah as a Performative Anti-Theodicy,” PhD 2019
 - Comprehensive exam committee (Modern Jewish Thought)

Undergraduate Student Advising

- Director of Undergraduate Studies for Jewish Studies and Hebrew Studies, 2016-present.
- First-year Undergraduate Student Advising in conjunction with teaching first-year seminar in fall quarter, 2017-present.

- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor: Avi Goldstein, “The Role of American Jewish Summer Camps after the Holocaust,” Ad Hoc Major in Holocaust Studies, 2019-2020.

Independent Study Overseen at Northwestern University

- Independent Study in modern Jewish thought, Tomer Cherki (BA student), Winter 2022.
- Independent Study on gender and sexuality in Judaism: Maya Novak-Herzog (PhD Student, Political Science), Fall 2020
- Independent Study on Martin Buber: Carly Bortman (PhD Student, German and Comparative Literary Studies), Fall 2019
- Independent Study on Martin Buber: Ariel Wiener (PhD Student, German and Comparative Literary Studies), Winter 2019
- Independent Study on gender and Judaism: Grace Overbeke (PhD Student, Interdisciplinary Program in Theatre and Drama), Winter 2015
- Independent Study on American Judaism: Amanda Ruppenthal Stein (PhD Student, Musicology), Winter 2014
- Independent Study on modern Jewish thought: Stephanie Brenzel (PhD Student, Religious Studies), Winter 2013

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

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| 2020- | Kogod Research Center Fellow
Coordinator, Created Equal research group, 2021-2022
Created Equal research group, 2020-
Shalom Hartman Institute of North America |
| 2020 | National Jewish Book Award Finalist in the Category of Modern Jewish Thought and Experience
For Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire E. Sufirin, ed., <i>The New Jewish Canon: Ideas and Debates 1980-2015</i> (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020) |
| 2019-2021 | Shalom Hartman Institute Chicago Scholars Circle
Coordinator and member |
| 2018 | German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Grant
In support of <i>A German-Jewish Hermeneutics</i> workshop held at Northwestern University, October 2018. |

- 2018 Undergraduate Research Assistant Program Summer Research Grant**
Northwestern University Office of Undergraduate Research
In support of research assistance with religion and literature project.
- 2018 Hartman Philosophy Conference Invited Participant**
Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, June 2018.
- 2018 Crown Family Center Israel Studies Research Grant**
In support of research on Philip Roth at the Library of Congress.
- 2018 Society of Jewish Ethics Travel Grant**
For travel to the Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2018.
- 2017 Knapp Family Foundation Travel Grant**
For travel to the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, December 2017.
- 2017 Hartman Philosophy Conference Invited Participant**
Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, June 2017.
- 2012 Annual Seminar for Seminary and Religious Studies Faculty Fellow**
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, June 2012.
- 2008-2010 Schusterman Teaching Fellowship in Jewish Studies**
Northeastern University.
- 2008-2010 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship**
Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto (declined).
- 2006 Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry Research Award**
- 2003 American Academy of Jewish Research Graduate Student Seminar participant**
- 2002-2007 Jewish Community Endowment Newhouse Fund Grants**
Stanford University, 2004-2005, 2006-2007 and Summers 2002-2007.
- 2000-2004 Reinhard Graduate Fellowship**
Stanford University, 2000-2002 and 2003-2004.
- 2000 American Jewish Congress Award**
Yale University.

Service to the Profession

- 2021- Modern Jewish Thought Division Co-chair**
Association for Jewish Studies

- 2020-** **Editorial board member**
Reshit: Studies in Judaism
- 2020-2021** **AJS Dissertation Completion Fellowship mentor**
Mentor to Bar Guzi (Brandeis University) and Nechama Juni (Brown University)
- 2018-2021** **Association for Jewish Studies Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion member**
- 2018** **A German-Jewish Hermeneutics Workshop Co-convenor**
Hosted by Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies with co-sponsorship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); the Berman Center for Jewish Studies at Lehigh University, and the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University.
- 2015—2020** **Area Editor for Jewish Thought and for Modern Judaism**
Religious Studies Review
- 2013—** **Manuscript review requests**
AJS Review
Journal of the American Academy of Religion
Journal of Political Theology
Journal of Religion
Modern Intellectual History
Shofar
Sophia
Indiana University Press
Routledge
- 2007-2011** **Works-in-Progress in Modern Jewish Studies Group, Co-chair**
Association for Jewish Studies

Service to the University

- 2021-** **Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern Advisory Board**
Appointed by Dean Adrian Randolph
- 2020—** **Teaching Track Budget Committee Member, Northwestern University**
- 2016—** **Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS), Jewish Studies Program, Northwestern University**
- 2015—** **Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies Committee, Northwestern University**
- 2008-2010** **Jewish Studies Executive Committee, Northeastern University**

Language Proficiency

Modern Hebrew near fluency

Biblical Hebrew reading

German reading

Professional memberships

American Academy of Religion

Association for Jewish Studies