

JAMES LOEFFLER, Ph.D.
(rev. June 2023)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Professor, Department of History, Johns Hopkins University, 2023-present.

Jay Berkowitz Endowed Chair in Jewish History and Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2017-2023.

Ida and Nathan Kolodiz Director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Virginia, 2020-2023.

Associate Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2012-2017.

Assistant Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2006-2012.

EDUCATION

Dean's Visiting Scholar and Mellon New Directions Mid-Career Fellow, Georgetown University Law Center, 2013-2014.

Ph.D. (History), with Distinction, Columbia University, 2006.

M.A. (History), Columbia University, 2000.

Postgraduate Studies in Jewish Religious and Political Thought, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Inter-University Jewish Studies Fellow) and the Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies (Dorot Fellow), 1996-1997.

A.B. (Social Studies), *magna cum laude*, Harvard University, 1996.

BOOKS

Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century
(Yale University Press, 2018).

American Historical Association Dorothy Rosenberg Award for Best Book in Jewish History.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer Award for Best Book in Modern Jewish History.

American Association of Publishers PROSE Award Finalist in World History.

Natan Foundation/Jewish Book Council Award Finalist for Outstanding Book on Jewish Public Affairs.

"World's Best Human Rights Books," *Hong Kong Free Press*, 2018.

Best Books of 2018, *European Journal of International Law Blog*.

New York Times 2018 "new and notable" book.

Ha'aretz Year in Review Top 11 Books, 2018.

The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire

(Yale University Press, 2010; paperback edition 2013).

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies 2011 USC Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies.

American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) 2011 Deems Taylor-Béla Bartók Award for Outstanding Ethnomusicology Book.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer 2012 Book Award in Cultural Studies and Media Studies, Honorable Mention.

Historia Nova Prize Finalist for the Best Book on Russian Intellectual History.

American Library Association *Choice* 2011 Outstanding Academic Title.

Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature of the Jewish Book Council, 2012 Finalist.

Foundation for Jewish Culture Sidney and Hadassah Musher 2008 Publication Award for Outstanding First Book in Field of Jewish Studies.

Association for Jewish Studies 2009 Cahnman Publication Award for Outstanding First Book in the Field of Jewish Studies.

The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century, ed. with Moria Paz (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

A Jew in the Street: New Views on European Jewish History, ed. with Jonathan Karp, Howard Lupovitch, and Nancy Sinkoff [Wayne State University Press, 2024].

An Exceptional Hatred: Antisemitism and Liberalism in Modern America [under contract with Henry Holt/Macmillan,].

The Universal Crime: Raphael Lemkin between Holocaust and Genocide [in preparation].

In Search of Hebrew Music: A Critical Biography of Abraham Zvi Idelsohn with Edwin Seroussi [in preparation].

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Co-Editor, *AJS Review: The Journal of the Association for Jewish Studies*, 2020-present.

EDITED VOLUMES

The Future of Human Rights Scholarship, Special Issue of *Law and Contemporary Problems* 81:4 (2018), ed. with Kevin Cope and Mila Versteeg,
<https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/lcp/vol81/iss4/1>.

“Hearing Israel: Music, Culture, and History at 60,” ed. w/ Joel Rubin, *Min-Ad: Israel Studies in Musicology Online* 7:2 (2008-2009),
<https://www2.biu.ac.il/hu/mu/min-ad/>.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

The Lemkin Project: A Digital Humanities Archive of Law, Literature and Global Thought,
<https://jamesloeffler.com/lemkin/>, co-edited with Dr. Leora Bilsky.

The Idelsohn Project: A Digital Humanities Historical Initiative,
www.theidelsonnproject.org, co-editor with Dr. Edwin Seroussi and Dr. Yonatan

Turgeman, hosted by the Jewish Music Research Centre at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

ARTICLES (PEER-REVIEWED)

- “Save Arab Jewry!': The Politics of Genocide in post-1948 Israel” [in preparation].
- “An Incomplete Liberalism? Re-Reading Brandeis after Charlottesville” [in preparation].
- “The Fate and Security of All”: On Raphael Lemkin and the Problem of Historical Biography” [in preparation].
- “The Religions of Human Rights,” *Harvard Theological Review* 116:1 (Jan. 2023): 141-71. [doi:10.1017/S0017816022000372](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0017816022000372).
- “When Hermann Cohen Cried: Zionism, Culture, Emotion,” *Jewish Social Studies* [forthcoming].
- “The Right to Banality: Interwar Jewish Global Thought between Eastern Europe and the Middle East,” *Nationalities Papers* [under review].
- “Ariel Bension, Abraham Zvi Idelsohn, and the Ashkenazi-Mizrachi Artistic Encounter in Early Twentieth-Century Jerusalem,” with Edwin Seroussi, *Modern Judaism* [under review].
- “The First Genocide: Antisemitism and Universalism in Raphael Lemkin’s Thought,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 112:1 (Winter 2022): 139-63, [doi:10.1353/jqr.2022.0005](https://doi.org/10.1353/jqr.2022.0005).
- “Three Days in December: Jewish Human Rights between the United Nations and the Middle East in 1948,” *Journal of Global History* 17:2 (Nov. 2021): 1-19, [doi:10.1017/S1740022821000322](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1740022821000322).
- Prisoners of Zion: American Jews, Human Rights, and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, University of Michigan Belin Lectures in American Jewish Affairs 29 (Ann Arbor: Michigan Publishing, 2020), <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.13469761.0029.001>.
- “The Lust Machine: Commerce, Sound and Nationhood in Jewish Eastern Europe,” *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* 32 (2020): 257-77, [doi:10.3828/liverpool/9781906764739.003.0015](https://doi.org/10.3828/liverpool/9781906764739.003.0015).
- “Becoming Cleopatra: The Forgotten Zionism of Raphael Lemkin,” *Journal of Genocide Research*, 19:3 (Aug. 2017): 340-60, [doi:10.1080/14623528.2017.1349645](https://doi.org/10.1080/14623528.2017.1349645).
- “Modern Jewish Politics,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, ed. Naomi Seidman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017 [revised edition in preparation with Dr. Julie Cooper], [doi:10.1093/OBO/9780199840731-0150](https://doi.org/10.1093/OBO/9780199840731-0150).
- “The Famous Trinity of 1917”: Zionist Internationalism in Historical Perspective,” *Simon Dubnow Institute Yearbook* 15 (2016): 211-38.

- “Nationalism without a Nation? On the Invisibility of American Jewish Politics,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 105:3 (Summer 2015): 367-98, [doi:10.1353/jqr.2015.0019](https://doi.org/10.1353/jqr.2015.0019).
- “Promising Harmonies: The Aural Politics of Polish-Jewish Relations in the Russian Empire,” *Jewish Social Studies*, 20:3 (Spring/Summer 2014): 1-36, [doi:10.2979/jewisocistud.20.3.1](https://doi.org/10.2979/jewisocistud.20.3.1).
- “The Particularist Pursuit of American Universalism: The American Jewish Committee’s 1944 “Declaration on Human Rights,” *Journal of Contemporary History* 50:2 (Oct. 2014): 274-95, [doi:10.1177/0022009414546508](https://doi.org/10.1177/0022009414546508)
- “‘In Memory of Our Murdered (Jewish) Children’: Hearing the Holocaust in Soviet Jewish Culture,” *Slavic Review* 73:3 (Fall 2014): 585-611, [doi:10.5612/slavicreview.73.3.585](https://doi.org/10.5612/slavicreview.73.3.585).
- “‘The Conscience of America’: Human Rights, Jewish Politics, and American Foreign Policy at the United Nations San Francisco Conference, 1945,” *Journal of American History* 100:2 (Sep. 2013): 401-28, [doi:10.1093/jahist/jat269](https://doi.org/10.1093/jahist/jat269).
- “Between Zionism and Liberalism: Oscar Janowsky and Diaspora Nationalism in America,” *Association for Jewish Studies Review* 34:2 (Nov. 2010): 1-20, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/40982834>.
- “Do Zionists Read Music from Right to Left? Avraham Zvi Idelsohn and the Invention of Israeli Music,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 100:3 (Summer 2010): 385-416, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20750710>.
- “Richard Wagner’s Jewish Music: Antisemitism and Aesthetics in Modern Jewish Culture,” *Jewish Social Studies* 15:2 (Winter 2009 [New Series]): 2-36, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/10.2979/JSS.2009.15.2.2.pdf>.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER WRITING (PEER-REVIEWED)

- “Human Rights and the Holocaust,” *Oxford Handbook of Holocaust Memory*, eds. Frances Tanzer and Thomas Kühne [in preparation].
- “In Search of Global Justice: Holocaust, Genocide, Law,” *Cambridge History of the Holocaust*, eds. Laura Jockusch and Devin Pendas [forthcoming].
- “A Jewish Historian at Home: Michael Stanislawski and the Writing of Modern Jewish History,” in *A Jew in the Streets: New Views on European Jewish History*, eds. Nancy Sinkoff, Jonathan Karp, James Loeffler, and Howard Lupovitch (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2024 publication).
- “Promise and Peril: Reflections on Jewish International Legal Biography,” in *Jewish European Émigré Lawyers: Twentieth-Century International Humanitarian Law as Idea and Profession*, eds. Leora Bilsky and Annette Weinke (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2021), 33-48.

- “On Arguments and Apologetics: A. B. Yehoshua’s Critique of American Jews,” in *The New Jewish Canon*, eds. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020), 398-403.
- “Anti-Zionism,” in *Key Concepts in the Study of Antisemitism*, eds. Sol Goldberg, Scott Ury, and Kalman Weiser (London: Palgrave, 2020), 39-51.
- “‘A Certain Type of Liberalism’: Minority Rights in Jewish Liberal Discourse, 1848-1948,” in *Jews, Liberalism, Anti-Semitism: A Global History*, eds. Abigail Green and Simon Levis Sullam (London: Palgrave, 2020), 365-86.
- “The ‘Natural Right of the Jewish People’: Zionism, International Law, and the Paradox of Hersch Zvi Lauterpacht,” in *The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century*, eds. James Loeffler and Moria Paz (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 23-41.
- “On Brahmins and Pariahs: An Introduction,” in *The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century*, eds. James Loeffler and Moria Paz, eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 1-20.
- “International Law,” *Encyclopedia of Jewish History and Culture*, ed. Dan Diner (Leiden: Brill, 2017 [German, 2015]), [doi:10.1163/2468-8894_ejhc_COM_0980](https://doi.org/10.1163/2468-8894_ejhc_COM_0980).
- “Music,” *Encyclopedia of Jewish History and Culture*, ed. Dan Diner (Leiden: Brill, 2017 [German, 2015]), [doi:10.1163/2468-8894_ejhc_COM_0569](https://doi.org/10.1163/2468-8894_ejhc_COM_0569).
- “From Biblical Antiquarianism to Revolutionary Modernism: Jewish Art Music, 1850-1925,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Jewish Music*, ed. Joshua Walden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), 167-186.
- “Introduction: Hearing Israel: Music, Culture, and History at 60,” w/ Joel Rubin, *Min-Ad: Israel Studies in Musicology Online* 7:2 (2008-2009), <https://www2.biu.ac.il/hu/mu/min-ad/>.
- “Music: Concert Music,” “Mieczysław Weinberg,” “Aleksandr Abramovich Krein,” “Jacob Bachmann,” “Yo’el Engel,” and “Society for Jewish Folk Music,” (2008), <https://yivoencyclopedia.org/>.
- “*Di Ruishe Progresiv Muzikal Yunyon No. 1 af Amerike*: The First Klezmer Union in the United States” in *American Klezmer: Its Roots and Offshoots*, ed. Mark Slobin (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002), 35-51.
- “Neither the King’s English nor the Rebbetzin’s Yiddish: Yinglish Literature in America,” in *American Babel: Literatures of the United States from Abnaki to Zuni*, ed. Marc Shell (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002), 133-62.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER ACADEMIC WORKS (NON-PEER REVIEWED)

- “Abraham Goldfaden by Abraham Z. Ben Yehuda [Idelsohn], 1908,” translation, annotation, and commentary, with Edwin Seroussi and Yonatan Turgeman (May 2022),

<https://jewish-music.huji.ac.il/content/idelsohns-obituary-abraham-goldfaden>.

“Utopias,” in *Legacy of Polish Jews*, eds. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and Tamara Sztyma (Warsaw: Polin, 2021), 105-17.

“Genocide: A Lost Poem Recovered,” translation and commentary with Leora Bilsky (April 2020), <https://jamesloeffler.com/lemkin/>.

“Self-ish Human Rights: Review of Alexandre Lefebvre’s *Human Rights and the Care of Self*,” *Journal of Human Rights Practice* 11:2 (July 2019): 438-39, [doi:10.1093/jhuman/huz023](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huz023).

“The Politics of Anti-Politics: Author’s Response to *H-Diplo Roundtable on Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century*,” *H-Diplo Roundtable Review* 20:31 (Apr. 2019), <https://issforum.org/roundtables/PDF/Roundtable-XX-31.pdf>.

“On Writing and Routing Rights: Author’s Response to *Shofar* roundtable on *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century*,” *Shofar* 37:1 (March 2019): 192-202, [doi:10.1353/sho.2019.0012](https://doi.org/10.1353/sho.2019.0012).

“The World of Croesus, the Nation of Tellus: Review Essay on Samuel Moyn’s *Never Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World*,” *H-Diplo Roundtable Review* 20:18 (Jan. 2019): 10-17, <http://www.tiny.cc/Roundtable-XX-18>.

“Introduction: The Future of Human Rights Scholarship,” with Mila Versteeg, *Law and Contemporary Problems* 81:4 (2018): 1-8.

“‘A Special Kind of Antisemitism’: On Russian Nationalism and Jewish Music,” *Yuval Online: Journal of the Jewish Music Research Centre* 9 (2015), <https://jewish-music.huji.ac.il/he/node/21909>; German translation in Antonina Klokova und Jascha Nemtsov, eds., *Einbahnstraße oder „die heilige Brücke“? Jüdische Musik und die europäische Musikkultur* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2016), 9-26; Russian translation in Galina Kopytova and Aleksandr Frenkel, eds., *Iz istorii evreiskoi muzyki v Rossii*, vol. 3 (St. Petersburg: Jewish Community Center of St. Petersburg/Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, 2015), 94-113.

“Three Jews, Two Opinions: Revisiting the Great Yiddish Folk Song Debate of 1901” [Russian], *The History of Jewish Music in Russia*, vol. 3, eds. G. Kopytova and A. Frenkel (St. Petersburg: Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, 2015), 1-12.

SELECTED JOURNALISM AND OTHER PUBLIC WRITING

[“When Racism and Antisemitism Collide: Charlottesville’s Ugly Legacy,”](#) *Newsweek*, Aug. 11, 2022.

[“The One and the Many: On Comparing the Holocaust,”](#) *Sources*, March 2022.

“The Lemkin of Moses” [Heb.], *Hazman HazeH*, Feb. 2022.

[“Charlottesville Was Only a Preview,”](#) *The Atlantic*, Dec. 6, 2021.

[“How to Remember the Holocaust,”](#) *The Atlantic*, Apr. 8, 2021.

“The Nationalism of Human Rights,” *The New Rambler Review*, March 25, 2021.

“The Jewish Grandchildren of Sally Hemings and Thomas Jefferson,” *UVA Thoughts from the Lawn Blog*, Nov. 9, 2020.

“The Problem with the ‘Judeo-Christian Tradition,’” *The Atlantic*, Aug. 1, 2020.

“The Lust Machine,” *Tablet*, July 2, 2020.

“The Legal Fight Against Antisemitism on College Campuses,” *The Forward*, Dec. 12, 2019.

“The Secret History of ‘Hava Nagila’,” *Tablet*, Sep. 19, 2019.

“Ben-Gurion’s Unfinished Hebrew Revolution,” *Tablet*, July 30, 2019.

“Human Rights and the Academic Right,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 31, 2019.

“How To Fight Antisemitism with the Law,” *The Atlantic*, June 16, 2019.

“Antisemitism, Adorno and the Theory of Hate,” *Marginalia - LA Review of Books*, Mar. 1, 2019.

“Human Rights at 70,” *The Washington Post*, Dec. 20, 2018.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Distinguished Scholars Award, UVA Office of Engagement, 2022-2023.

Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2022-2023
Research Fellow (Declined), 2022.

Elected Fellow, American Academy for Jewish Research, 2020.

UVA Buckner W. Clay Endowment Research Award, 2016, 2021.

American Historical Association Dorothy Rosenberg Award for Best Book in Jewish History,
2019.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer Award for Best Book in Modern Jewish History,
2019.

American Association of Publishers PROSE Award Finalist in World History, 2019.

Natan Foundation/Jewish Book Council Award Finalist for Outstanding Book on Jewish Public
Affairs, 2019.

UVA Page-Barbour Research Award, 2016-2017.

Robert A. Savitt Fellow, Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Spring 2015.

Israel Institute Research Grant, with Dr. Edwin Seroussi, 2014-2015.

Kluge Fellow, John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Fall 2014.

Columbia University Libraries Research Award, Fall 2014.

UVA Jefferson Trust Course Development Award, 2013-2014.

UVA Dean's Office Collaborative Research Award, 2013-2014.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New Directions Fellowship, 2013-2016.

Association for Jewish Studies Distinguished Lecturer, 2014-present.

Brandeis-Genesis Institute for Russian Jewry Research Award, 2014.

UVA Presidential Alumni Commendation Award for "extraordinary effort to undergraduate experience," 2013.

UVA International Studies Research Travel Grant, 2012.

University of Virginia Buckner W. Clay Endowment Outstanding Faculty Award, 2011-2012.

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies USC Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies, 2011.

American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) Deems Taylor-Béla Bartók Award for Outstanding Ethnomusicology Book, 2011.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer Book Award in Cultural Studies and Media Studies, Honorable Mention, 2012.

Historia Nova Prize Finalist for the Best Book on Russian Intellectual History, 2012.

American Library Association Choice Outstanding Academic Title, 2011.

Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature of the Jewish Book Council, Finalist Honoree, 2012.

UVA Dean's Office Summer Research Awards, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018, 2020.

American Council for Learned Societies/National Endowment for the Humanities/SSRC Combined Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research on Eastern Europe and Eurasia, 2009-2010.

UVA Mead Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching, 2009-2010.

Foundation for Jewish Culture Sidney and Hadassah Musher Publication Award for Outstanding First Book in Field of Jewish Studies, 2008.

Association for Jewish Studies Cahnman Publication Award for Outstanding First Book in the Field of Jewish Studies, 2009.

Hays-Fulbright Doctoral Dissertation Fellow in Russia and Ukraine, 2003-2004.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Graduate Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, 1998-2000 (declined).

Wexner Foundation Graduate Fellowship in Jewish Studies, 1998-2002.

Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies Graduate Research Fellowship, 2000-2006.

Association for Jewish Studies, Dorot Travel Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper, 2005.

Doctoral Dissertation Fellow, National Foundation for Jewish Culture, 2003-2004.

Doctoral Dissertation Fellow, Center for Jewish History, 2002-2003.

Inter-University Post-Graduate Fellowship to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1996-1997.

Dorot Foundation Post-Graduate Fellowship, 1996-1997.

COURSES TAUGHT

HIEU 1001 Modern Jewish Politics

HIEU 1002 Jewish Nationalism in Historical Perspective

HIEU 1002 Antisemitism: The Limits of History?

HIME 2012 Israel/Palestine, 1948

HIEU 2101 Jewish History: The Premodern Experience

HIEU 2102 Jewish History: The Modern Experience

HIST 2559 History of Human Rights

HIEU 3452 Jewish Culture and History in Eastern Europe: Religion, Nation, Empire

HIEU 3559 Nation & Empire in Eastern Europe

HIUS 3191 American Jewish History: Race, Religion, and Community

HIEU 4502 The Holocaust and Law

HIEU 4502 History of Human Rights

HIST 4502 Antisemitism in Historical Perspective

HIEU 5559 Law, Violence, and Empire in Modern Europe

HIST 5559 Race, Religion, and Rights in the Global Twentieth Century

HIST 5559 History of Human Rights

HIST 7001 Historical Method, Historical Writing

HIST 7559 Genetics, Pseudo-Genetics and History in Eastern Europe

HIST 7559 Histories of Jewish History

HIST 7559 The Historiography of Human Rights

HIEU 9032 Writing Israel/Palestine: Methods & Problems in Public Scholarship

HIEU 9032 Human Rights Historiography

SELECTED UNIVERSITY SERVICE

UVA Jewish Studies Program, Ida and Nathan Kolodiz Director, 2020-2023.
UVA Office of Engagement Faculty Lecturer, 2020-2023.
UVA Miller Center Presidential Conversations Planning Committee, 2020-2023.
UVA Center for European Studies, Advisory Board Member, 2020-2023.
UVA Human Rights Research Network Co-Chair, 2016-2019.
UVA Religion, Race & Democracy Lab, Faculty Partner, 2019-2023.
UVA Dean's Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 2019-2022.
UVA Page-Barbour/Richards University Lectures Committee, Co-chair, 2016-2020.
UVA Dean's Ad Hoc Committee for Second Century Campaign, 2016-2019.
UVA Corcoran History Department, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, 2015-2018.
UVA Corcoran History Department, Steering Committee, 2009-2011.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY

Academic Roles and Service to the Profession

Association for Jewish Studies, Board Member, 2013-present.
American Jewish Historical Society, Executive Committee, Academic Council, 2021-present.
Klezmer Institute Advisory Board, 2020-present.
Joseph Achron Society, Advisory Board Member, 2011-2019.
Center for Jewish History, Academic Advisory Council, 2011-2016.
The Jewish Music Forum of the American Society for Jewish Music and the Center for Jewish History, Founder/Executive Director (2004-2006).
YIVO Sound Archivist, 2001-2022.

Editorial Work

AJS Review, Co-Editor, 2020-present.
Jewish Quarterly Review, Editorial Board Member, 2016-2023.
Posen Library of Jewish Culture & Civilization Series, Yale University Press, Editorial Board Member, 2014-present.
Music and Contemporary Culture, Editorial Board Member, 2012-2016.
The Marginalia Review, Contributing Editor, 2015-present.

Public Education

Washington, DC Jewish Federation 2023 Scholar-in-Residence, Jan. 2023.
Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Kogod Senior Fellow, 2020-present.
Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Kogod Research Center Advisory Committee; Co-Convenor, Created Equal Research Group, 2022-present.
Pro Musica Hebraica Foundation, Washington, DC, Scholar-in-Residence, 2005-2015.

Academic Consulting

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Historical Exhibitions Consultant, 2020-2021.
Academic Consultant, University of Pennsylvania Katz Center for Judaic Studies Fellowship Program Development Committee, 2019-2020.
Polin Historical Museum (Warsaw, Poland), Historical Consultant, 2015-2018.
Museum of Russian Jewish History (Moscow, Russia), Historical Consultant, 2011-2013.
"Hava Nagila," documentary film, Academic Consultant, 2010-2013.

Academic Reviewing

American Academy for Jewish Research, Salo Baron Book Prize Judge, 2022-2023.
Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Research Award Committee Judge, 2021-2023.
American Jewish Historical Society, Scholarship Awards Committee Judge, 2021-2023.
American Jewish Historical Society, Saul Viener Book Prize Judge, 2022-2023.
American Historical Association, Committee on the George Louis Beer Prize in Cultural History, 2016-2019.
Natan Foundation Notable Book Awards Advisory Committee, 2019-present.
University of Pennsylvania Katz Center for Judaic Studies Fellowship Selection Committee, External Reviewer, 2019-2020.
External Reader, Dissertation Committees at Ben-Gurion University, Columbia, the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Harvard, the Hebrew University, NYU, and Tel Aviv University.

Academic Press Reviewing for Cambridge, Oxford, Harvard, Yale, Wayne State, Stanford, Temple, Illinois, Indiana, NYU, Brandeis, Hebrew University, Alabama, Rutgers, Penn university presses, Academic Studies Press, Bloomsbury, Pearson Academic Publishing, Brill, Scarecrow Press, Routledge, the American Philosophical Society, the Israel Scientific Foundation, and the following journals: *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Jewish Social Studies*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Journal of World History*, *Slavic Review*, *American Jewish Archives*, *Shofar*, *Journal of Jewish Identities*, *AJS Review*, *Utopian Studies*, *Music and Politics*, *Central European History*, *Law and History Review*, *Jewish Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of the History of International Law*, *Harvard Theological Review*, *Modern American History*, *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, *Journal of Genocide Research*, *Gal-ed* and *Jews in Russia and Eastern Europe*, 2006-present.

External Academic Reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Israel Science Foundation, the German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research, Stanford University Press, 2013-present.

LECTURES AND TALKS

“Jewish Liberalisms: Visions and Blindspots in the American Jewish Past,” w/ Daniel May, Kogod Research Center Conference, June 8, 2023.

“Remembering: Talking about the Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century,” PBS Under-Told Stories Project and Fordham University, Jan. 27, 2023.

“Can Law Stop Antisemitism?” Washington, DC Jewish Federation Public Lecture, Jan. 25, 2023.

“The Emotions of Antisemitism: Roundtable” [organizer], Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 20, 2022.

“Jewish Studies and Antisemitism: A Panel Discussion,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 19, 2022.

“From Pogrom to Genocide: Raphael Lemkin and the Origins of International Criminal Law,” Gratz College Holocaust Teach-In, Nov. 6, 2022.

- “An Incomplete Liberalism? Reading Brandeis after Charlottesville,” Meyerhoff Lecture in Judaic Studies, Katz Center for Judaic Studies, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Oct. 27, 2022.
- “From Antisemitism to Genocide: Raphael Lemkin and the Origins of Modern International Law,” Fresno State University, Oct. 6, 2022.
- “Confronting the Realities of Jewish Power: Zionism and Global Justice before and after 1948,” Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, July 18, 2022.
- “Antisemitism and Genocide: Theorizing the Connection in Raphael Lemkin’s Thought,” Jacob Robinson Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, July 7, 2022.
- “‘The Master’s Tools’: Jews and Music in Revolutionary Eastern Europe,” YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, June 23, 2022.
- “An Exceptional Hatred? Understanding American Antisemitism,” three-part lecture series, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, May 2-16, 2022.
- “The One and the Many: On Comparing the Holocaust,” Shalom Hartman Institute of North America,” Apr. 28, 2022.
- “After Charlottesville: Antisemitism, Race, Law,” Annual B.G. Rudolph Lecture in Judaic Studies, Syracuse University, Apr. 22, 2022.
- “Blind Justice in the Golden Land,” Plenary Lecture, Law v. Antisemitism Conference, Indiana University McKinney School of Law, March 15, 2022.
- “From Skokie to Charlottesville: Antisemitism in American Courts,” Annual Distinguished Lecture in Jewish Studies, Washington University of St. Louis, March 1, 2022.
- “Can Law Stop Antisemitism? New Answers to an Old Question,” Two-part lecture series, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, June 24-25, 2021.
- “The Five Myths: Jews and Human Rights,” Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum/University of Potsdam & Lepsiushaus Potsdam, July 22, 2021.
- “In Whose Interest? Writing International Jewish Legal Biography,” “A Lost World? Jewish International Lawyers and New World Orders (1917-1951)” Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Leipzig University, May 25, 2021.
- “The Fifth Chair,” “The Eichmann Trial Revisited After 60 Years: International Aspects,” Conference, Yad Vashem and Tel Aviv University, Apr. 21, 2021.
- “Who Owns the Memory of the Holocaust?” Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Apr. 8, 2021.
- “Blind Justice: The Jewish Fight against Antisemitism in Postwar America,” Katzin Memorial Lecture, University of California, San Diego, March 8, 2021.
- “The Left and Zionism,” Natan Foundation, Feb. 25, 2021.

- “The Ambivalence of American Jews,” Muslim Leadership Initiative Network, Shalom Hartman Institute, Feb. 9, 2021.
- “The Past and Future of Jewish Studies,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 4, 2020.
- “Leadership across Difference: A Jewish Studies Conversation with Two Deans,” UVA, Dec. 1, 2020.
- “Against Apion: Liberal Antisemitism and Jewish Apologetics in 1920s Poland,” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Conference, Nov. 5, 2020.
- “Human Rights in the Twentieth Century: A Global History,” National University of San Marcos, Lima, Peru, Oct. 8, 2020.
- “Declarations of In/Dependence,” Opening Address, “How the Law Treats Hate: Antisemitism and Antidiscrimination Reconsidered,” A Conference convened by the UVA Jewish Studies Program, the UVA Religion, Race and Democracy Lab, and the UVA Law School, Sep. 10, 2020.
- “Dwell: Where Do We Fit in the World?” Educator Training Seminar, Hillel International Foundation, July 13-18, 2020.
- “Law’s Biblical Story,” New York University, Shanghai, May 5, 2020.
- “The Right to be Heard: Jewish Visions of Justice, 1918-2018,” Bronfman Foundation, March 28, 2020.
- “Raphael Lemkin: Beyond the Myths,” Lemkin Summit to End Genocide and Mass Atrocities, Washington, DC, Feb. 23, 2020.
- “Double Amnesia: Zionism & Human Rights in Historical Perspective,” Biderman Lecture in Judaic Studies, Princeton University, Nov. 14, 2019.
- “Blind Justice: Jews and Hate Speech in the American 1950s” and “Beyond the Law: Jews and Antisemitism in the Global 1960s” Stanley Kutler Lectures in American Jewish Studies, Univ. of Wisconsin, Oct. 2-3, 2019.
- “The Crime with No Name: Raphael Lemkin and the Creation of the Genocide Convention,” Zhejiang Gongshang University, Hangzhou, China, May 9, 2019.
- “Jews and the Invention of International Human Rights,” Julis-Rabinowitz Program on Jewish & Israeli Law, Harvard Law School, Apr. 17, 2019.
- “World Without Borders? The Political Geography of Human Rights, 1918-2018,” Keynote Lecture, “Borders, Boundaries, Walls: An International Conference,” The Center for the Humanities at Temple University, Apr. 11, 2019.
- “Rethinking the History of Zionism and Human Rights,” Luskin Center for History and Policy, UCLA, Apr. 8, 2019.

- “Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century,” Pearl and Troy Feibel Lecture on Judaism & Law, Ohio State University, Apr.7, 2019.
- “Religion and the Future of Human Rights,” Univ. of Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 2019.
- “The Small End of the Shofar: Rethinking Human Rights History,” Conference Keynote Lecture, “International Law from the Bottom Up,” Tel Aviv University Law School, Dec. 9, 2018.
- “A Long Jewish Tradition? The Promise and Peril of Legal Biography,” Conference Keynote Lecture, “Jewish-European Émigré Lawyers and Twentieth Century International Law as Idea and Profession,” Franz Thyssen Stiftung, Cologne, Germany, Sep. 4, 2017.
- “Human Rights and Historical Wrongs: Raphael Lemkin and the Future of International Legal Biography,” UVA Human Rights Research Network Conference, “What’s Next for Human Rights Scholarship?” UVA, March 31, 2017.
- “Chasing the Ghost: Minority Rights in Modern Jewish Political Discourse,” Oxford Seminar in Advanced Jewish Studies Conference, “Jews, Liberalism, Anti-Semitism: The Dialectics of Inclusion (1780-1950),” Oxford University, March 14, 2017.
- “How Do You Say ‘Genocide’ in Yiddish? The Forgotten Zionist Origins of the UN Genocide Convention,” Joshua Haberman Distinguished Scholar Lecture, Foundation for Jewish Studies, Washington, DC, Nov. 14, 2016.
- “How Not to Perform Lost Jewish Music,” Ziering-Conlon International Symposium at the Colburn School, Los Angeles, Oct. 9, 2016.
- “Becoming Cleopatra: Raphael Lemkin and the Problem of Jewish Politics,” International Network of Genocide Scholars Annual Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Van Leer Institute, June 29, 2016.
- “The Lust Machine: Recording and Selling the Jewish Nation in Early Twentieth-Century Russia,” CUNY Center for Jewish Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, April 8, 2016.
- “How Do You Say ‘Genocide’ in Yiddish? The Forgotten Jewish Politics of Raphael Lemkin,” Harvard University Davis Russian Research Center, March 9, 2016 and the University of Maryland, College Park, Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, March 3, 2016.
- “In Memory of Our Murdered (Jewish) Children: Hearing the Holocaust in Soviet Culture-Then and Now,” Brandeis University, Brandeis Genesis Institute for Russian Jewry, March 8, 2016.
- “Peoples, Persons and States: Modern Jewish Sovereignty in History, Law and Theology,” Roundtable Panel at Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Dec. 14, 2015.

- “The Sounds of Silence? New Perspectives on Holocaust Commemoration in Postwar European Culture,” Chair and Respondent, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Dec. 13, 2015.
- “The Death of Jewish Music?” Lecture-presentation at Temple University Conference, “Sounds Jewish? Music and Jewish Communal Life, March 26, 2015.
- “How Do You Say ‘Genocide’ in Yiddish? Reflections on the Forgetting of Jewish Human Rights History,” Tel Aviv University Conference, “Jewish Rights, Minority Rights, Human Rights? Towards a Historical Genealogy of the Human Rights Discourse in the 20th Century,” March 18, 2015.
- “The Famous Trinity of 1917: Minority Rights and Internationalism in Interwar Zionist Thought,” on panel “Zionism as a Transnational Politics” (convener) Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Dec. 22, 2014.
- “The Swastika Epidemic: Global Antisemitism and Jewish Politics in the Cold War 1960s,” Library of Congress, Dec. 11, 2014.
- “The Lust Machine: Commerce, Sound, and Nationhood in Jewish Eastern Europe,” “Music, Jews and Globalization” workshop, Center for Advanced Study Initiative, “Dissonance: Music and Globalization since Edison’s Phonograph,” University of Illinois, Nov. 17-18, 2014.
- “In Memory of Our Murdered (Jewish) Children: Mikhail Gnesin and the Holocaust in Soviet Music,” Zierling-Conlon Initiative Symposium, The Colburn School, Los Angeles, Aug. 10, 2014.
- “The Holocaust and Human Rights: Understanding the Relationship,” Karski Institute for Holocaust Education, Georgetown University, July 16, 2014.
- “How We Imagine the Future World: Rethinking Internationalism in Jewish Political and Legal Thought,” “‘Jewish Questions’ in International Politics – Diplomacy, Rights and Intervention,” Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish Culture and history at the Leipzig University, June 10, 2014.
- “How Zionism Became Racism: International Law and Antisemitism at the United Nations, 1945-1975,” University College of London, Jewish History Workshop, May 13, 2014; Georgetown University Law Center Faculty Workshop, April 8, 2014; Tel Aviv University Law School Forum on Law, Globalization and the Transnational Sphere, March 12, 2014.
- “Open Secret: The Jewish Sound in Soviet Music,” Lecture-Concert, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, May 4, 2014.
- “When Hermann Cohen Cried: Zionism, Music, Emotion,” “Zionism as a Cultural Movement,” Brown University, April 7, 2014.
- “Did Zionism Destroy Diaspora Nationalism?” “Did Something Happen to Zionism Along the Way? Continuity and Change in Jewish Nationalism” Conference, Cherrick

Center for the History of Zionism, the Yishuv and the State of Israel, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Dec. 30, 2013; and the George Washington University Jewish Studies Forum, Feb. 20, 2014.

“There is No Such Thing as Holocaust Music: A View from the East,” Jewish Music Forum, New York University, Nov. 20, 2013.

“The Future of Jewish Studies,” Roundtable at Columbia University Center for Israel and Jewish Studies, Nov. 20, 2013.

“The Vanishing Minority: Human Rights as Jewish Politics in Postwar America,” Program for Jewish Civilization, Edmund Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Oct. 24, 2013.

“One Revolution or Two: Jewish Musical Renaissance, Then and Now,” World Congress of Jewish Studies, Plenary Session, Aug. 1, 2013.

“On Soviet Holocaust Music,” New York University Graduate Seminar in Jewish Music, April 4, 2013.

“The Natural Right of the Jewish People”: Zionism, International Law, and the Paradox of Hersch Lauterpacht,” Zionism and Law Conference, Princeton University, March 10, 2013.

“American Jews and Human Rights: An Alternative Genealogy,” Johns Hopkins University Seminar in Jewish Studies, March 12, 2013.

“Promising Harmonies: The Aural Politics of the Inter-Ethnic Imagination,” conference keynote address, “Music and Power in Modern Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia,” Miami University of Ohio, March 1, 2013.

“Duet: The Aesthetic Affinities of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel,” “Creative Maladjustment: Martin Luther King and the Poetics and Politics of Freedom,” UVA, Jan. 28, 2013.

“International Lawyer, Closet Zionist? The Paradox of Hersch Lauterpacht,” Rethinking Jewish Internationalism Symposium, Columbia University, Sep. 9, 2012.

“Rethinking Diaspora Nationalism: Roundtable Panel,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Dec. 19, 2012.

“The Enigma of Paris: Charles-Valentin Alkan, Frédéric Chopin and the French-Jewish Romance,” Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC, Apr. 2, 2012.

“Human Rights as Jewish Internationalism: The American Jewish Committee and the Postwar Moment,” on panel “Global Citizens or Rootless Cosmopolitans? Rethinking Jewish Internationalism,” (convener), Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Dec. 19, 2011.

“Arnold Schoenberg’s Worst Nightmare: Jewish Musical Modernism in Interwar Europe,” Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC, Nov. 3, 2011.

- “In Pursuit of American Universalism: The American Jewish Committee’s 1944 “Declaration on Human Rights,” Invited Lecture, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Feb. 28, 2012.
- “The Dream of the Diary: Reflections on Anita Shapira’s ‘1948 in Real Time: Diaries and Letters from Jerusalem,’” UVA Richard J. Gunst Annual Jewish Studies Colloquium: Jews, Palestinians, and 1948, March 24, 2012.
- “Holocaust Music or Soviet Patriotic Art? Mikhail Gnesin and the Problems of Contemporary Historical Interpretation,” Görlitz, Germany, Oct. 21, 2011.
- “Human Rights as Jewish Politics: The American Jewish Committee and the Rise of the Individual in Modern International Law,” Law and Society Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, June 2, 2011.
- “The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire,” YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York City, March 24, 2011.
- “The Jewish National Instrument: A Brief History of Jews and the Violin,” Frieda Kobernick Fleischman Annual Lecture in Judaic Studies, George Washington University, March, 8, 2011.
- “Five Myths about Yiddish Song,” Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC, Feb. 10, 2011.
- “War and Exile: The Jewish Voices of Braunfels, Berman, and Ben-Haim,” Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC, Nov. 3, 2010.
- “Nationalism without a Nation: On the Invisibility of American Jewish Politics,” UCLA Center for Jewish Studies and Center for Israel Studies Symposium, “Rethinking Jewish Nationalism,” Los Angeles, Jan. 31, 2011.
- “The Sounds of Difference? Music and Jewish Studies in Emergent Scholarship,” Organizer and Respondent, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 21, 2010.
- “Are We All Human Rights Historians Now? A Roundtable on Human Rights and Jewish Historiography,” Organizer and Speaker, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 20, 2010.
- “Don’t Beat Me and Don’t Lick Me: On Russian Philosemitism and Jewish Cultural Renaissance,” “Renaissance & Renaissances: New Perspectives on a Cultural Theme,” UVA Jewish Studies Program Conference, Nov. 14, 2010.
- “The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire,” Hebraic Section, African and Middle Eastern Division, Library of Congress, Nov. 4, 2010.
- “The First Hebrew Musician: Reflections on Language and Sound Modern Jewish Culture,” Harvard University Department of Comparative Literature, Posen Seminar in Jewish Languages and Literatures, Feb. 9, 2010.

“The First Hebrew Musician: A. Z. Idelsohn & the Invention of Israeli Music,” Panel Organizer & Presenter, World Cong. of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, Israel, Aug. 4, 2009.

“Wagner and the Jewish Question,” Roundtable Discussion at Bard College Conference, “Wagner and His World,” Aug. 23, 2009.

“Do Zionists Read Music from Right to Left? Avraham Zvi Idelsohn and the Invention of Israeli Music,” Invited Lecture, Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Sep. 9, 2009.

“Together and Apart: Jews in Russian Culture, 1908-2008,” The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, Jan. 8, 2009.

“Reflections on Israeli Music,” “Hearing Israel: Music, Culture and History at 60: An International Conference,” Conference Co-Organizer, UVA, April 14, 2008.

“Beyond the Pale: The Russian Musical Experiment 100 Years Later,” Jewish Music Forum, the Center for Jewish History, Nov. 13, 2008.

“Friends and Enemies: Anti-Semitism, Philo-Semitism and Jewish Music in Russia,” “On the History of Jewish Music in Russia,” Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, St. Petersburg, Russia, Oct. 29, 2008.

“Approaching the Jewish Atlantic: The East European Legacy in American Jewish Political Thought,” “Beyond Eastern Europe: A Conference on Jewish Cultures in Israel and the United States,” Rutgers University, March 20, 2007.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy for Jewish Research
American Historical Association
American Jewish Historical Society
American Society for Legal History
Association for Jewish Studies
Association for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies
World Union of Jewish Studies

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, Polish, French, and German.