

**KIMBERLY A. ARKIN**  
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## **EDUCATION**

2008 University of Chicago, PhD in Anthropology

2002 University of Chicago, MA in Anthropology

1998 Harvard University, BA in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, summa cum laude

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD**

2020-present Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Boston University

2011-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Boston University

2009-2011 Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Boston University

## **HONORS & GRANT AWARDS**

2019 Berkshire Conference Prize for an "article in any field of history other than the history of women, gender, and/or sexuality." Awarded for "Historicity, Peoplehood, and Politics: Holocaust Talk in Twenty-First-Century France."

2016 Association for Jewish Studies 2016 Jordan Schnitzer book award winner (\$10,000 prize)

2016-2017 Boston University Center for the Humanities Junior Fellowship

2006-2007 Charlotte F. Newcombe Fellowship for dissertation write-up

2004-2005 Chateaubriand Fellowship for dissertation research in France

2003-2004 Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po) Fellowship for dissertation research in Paris

2000-2004 Jacob K. Javits Fellowship for graduate coursework

1998 Phi Beta Kappa

1998 Kluckhohn Prize for the best thesis in Anthropology, Harvard University

1995 Detur Prize for academic excellence, Harvard University

## **BOOK**

2014 *Rhinestones, Religion, and the Republic: Fashioning Jewishness in France*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

## **PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES**

2020 “Making Secular ‘French’ Medical Ethics: Morality and Patient Subjectivities in Southern French Hospitals” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 26(4).

2020 “What can words do? Debating a ‘good death’ in French palliative care.” *Anthropological Quarterly* 92(2): 177-204.

2018 “Talking about Anti-Semitism in France Before and After Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher.” *Jewish History* 32(1): 77-97.

2018 “Historicity, Peoplehood, and Politics: Holocaust talk in 21<sup>st</sup> Century France.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 60(4): 968-997.

2017 “Jews, Jesus, and the problem of postcolonial Frenchness,” *Public Culture* 29(3): 457-480.

2009 “Rhinestone Aesthetics and Religious Essence: Looking Jewish in Paris.” *American Ethnologist* 36(4): 722-734.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

2016 “Defining France and Defending Israel: Romantic Nationalism and the Paradoxes of French Jewish Belonging.” *In Re-examining the Jews of Modern France: Images and Identities*. Kaplan, Zvi and Nadia Malinovich, eds. Boston: Brill.

2014 “The Vanishing State: Religious Education and Intolerance in French Jewish Schools.” *In Religious Education and the Challenge of Pluralism*. Seligman, Adam, ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

## **EDITOR-REVIEWED ARTICLES**

2020 Comment on Mikaela Rogozen-Soltar’s “Striving Toward Piety.” *Current Anthropology* 61(2): 141 – 167.

2011 “*Laïcité, Fraternité, and Nationalité*: discontinuities in French Jewish discourse.” *AJS Perspectives*, Spring

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

*Keepers of the National Faith: Secular Medical Morality on the French Mediterranean*, book project

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2021 Review of Mara Buchbinder's *Scripting Death: Stories of Assisted Dying in America*. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 35(3).
- 2020 Review of Richard Parks's *Medical Imperialism in French North Africa: Regenerating the Jewish Community of Colonial Tunis*. *International Journal of African Historical Studies* 52(3): 492-494.
- 2018 Framing Sukkot. Review of Gabrielle Anna Berlinger's *Framing Sukkot: Tradition and Transformation in Jewish Vernacular Architecture*. *Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/framing-sukkot>
- 2018 The Problem of Belonging in Southern Spain. Review of Mikaela Rogozen-Soltar's *Spain Unmoored: Migration, Conversion, and the Politics of Islam*. *City & Society* 30(1).
- 2018 Arab Jazz by Karim Miské. *H-France Fiction and Film for French Historians*. <http://h-france.net/fffh/maybe-missed/arab-jazz-by-karim-miske/>
- 2016 Jews and Muslims in France: History of a Conflict by Maud Mandel. *French Politics, Culture, and Society* 34(2).
- 2016 Transcultural Teens: Performing Youth Identities in French Cités by Chantal Tetreault. *American Ethnologist* 43(2).
- 2016 Beyond Colonial Classification. A Review of Saharan Jews and the Fate of French Algeria by Sarah Stein. *The Marginalia Review of Books*, January 16.
- 2014 Turkey, the Jews, and the Holocaust by Corry Gutttstadt. *International Journal of Turkish Studies* 20(1-2): 151-153.
- 2014 Jewish Families: From Babylon to Brooklyn and Back Again. Review of Jewish Families by Jonathan Boyarin. *Marginalia*, July 9, 2014.
- 2014 Bukharan Jews and the dynamics of global Judaism by Alanna Cooper. *Anthropological Quarterly*, Winter.
- 2011 Deconstruction without destruction: reimagining *Jewish Studies at the Crossroads of Anthropology and History: Authority, Diaspora, Tradition*. Edited by Ra'anana S. Boustan, Oren Kosansky, Marina Rustow. *H-NET Reviews*.
- 2010 Judging Mohammed: Juvenile Delinquency, Immigration, and Exclusion at the Paris Palace of Justice by Susan Terrio. *PoLAR* 33(1): 158-161.

## **FIELDWORK**

January-August 2017; Summer 2018 southern France—worked with doctors, nurses, and psychologists doing assisted reproduction and palliative care in three hospitals

January 2004-August 2005 Paris and the Parisian periphery—worked in government contracted Jewish day schools and in the largest university-level Jewish students' group. Also worked with a number of Jewish youth groups and secular Jewish organizations

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Ethnicity and Identity

Contemporary European Ethnography

Religious Fundamentalism

Culture and Biotech

Seminar in Ethnography and Anthropological Theory I

Seminar in Ethnography and Anthropological Theory II

Proposal Writing for Social Science (graduate seminar)

Anthropology Theory in History and Practice (graduate seminar)

Social Science Core Curriculum: Religion and secularism

Social Science Core Curriculum: Inequality

Social Science Core Curriculum: Power, Political Forms, Economics

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS PRESENTED**

2021 “The problem of patient *maîtrise* in assisted reproduction and palliative care: beginnings and endings of life as a window into post-secular France. American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, Maryland.

2019 “Debating Terminal Sedation: French Palliative Care and the Problem of Self-Mastery.” American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada.

2019 “‘She has castrated him for life!’ Moral responsibility and asexual reproduction in a southern French public hospital.” Interpreting Assisted Reproductive Technologies in France and the USA: cultural, religious, and ethical values from a comparative perspective. Paris, France.

2018 Invited participant in a roundtable discussion. Holocaust Memory in the Era of Extreme Nationalism, Association for Jewish Studies, Boston.

2018 “Debating vasectomy in southern France: medical reasoning and the making of non-autonomous subjects,” American Anthropological Association, San José, California (panel organizer)

2017 “Neoliberalism, cultural difference, and the production of racialized ‘Jewishness’ in mid-2000s Paris,” American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC

- 2017 “(In)visible Catholics, Ventriloquized Muslims, and Spectral Jews: The Ethics of Pluralism in French Biomedical Debates,” Muslims and Jews in Europe, London School of Economics, UK
- 2016 “Temporality, Pedagogy, and Politics: Talking about the Holocaust in 21<sup>st</sup> Century France,” invited participant for Works in Progress, Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, CA
- 2016 “‘It’s Just Skin’: Race as Return in French Assisted Reproduction,” American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, MN
- 2016 “What and where is “sex” if it can be changed? Contemporary French jurisprudence, biology, and the transcendent,” Biennial Boston College Conference on the History of Religion, Boston and Council for European Studies, Philadelphia
- 2015 Invited participant in the roundtable “Jews and Muslims in France Before and After Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher,” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston
- 2015 “Temporality, Pedagogy, and Politics: Talking about the Holocaust in 21<sup>st</sup> Century France,” On the Margins of the Holocaust: Jews, Muslims, and Colonialism in North Africa During the Second World War, UCLA and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Los Angeles, California
- 2015 “Defining France and Defending Israel: Romantic Nationalism and the Paradoxes of French Jewish Belonging.” Jewish, Armenian, and African Diasporic Identities Constructed and in Formation: The US and Beyond, Boston University.
- 2014 “Sex, ‘anti-secularism,’ and religious pluralism: fighting homosexual marriage in France.” American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC
- 2014 “Beyond tolerance: Jews, Jesus, and pluralism in contemporary France.” Council for European Studies, Washington, DC.
- 2013 “Calling Jesus a ‘dirty Jew:’ renegotiating the Jewish question in Contemporary Paris. American Anthropological Association, Chicago
- 2013 “Calling Jesus a ‘dirty Jew:’ renegotiating the Jewish question in Contemporary Paris. Society for French Historical Studies, Cambridge
- 2012 “Secularizing religious ontologies: French Jewish education and the racialization of religion.” Institute on Culture and World Affairs “Civic Enculturation” conference, Boston University
- 2010 “‘Conversion is impossible!’: secularization and Jewishness in France.” Posen Summer Seminar “Varieties of Jewish Secularism,” Graduate Theological Union and American Anthropological Association, New Orleans
- 2010 “Romancing the nation: French Jews, Israel, and the rehabilitation of Christian France.” Council for European Studies, Montréal

- 2010 “Navigating Jewish-Muslim proximity: day schools, ghettoization, and the racing of religion in Paris.” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston.
- 2008 “Jewish immigrants are not immigrants!: autochthony and Jewish belonging in France.” Council for European Studies, Chicago
- 2008 “Jewish immigrants are not immigrants!: autochthony and Jewish belonging in France.” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston.
- 2003 “Building Jewish community in Paris: race, colonialism, and the holocaust in Jewish discourse.” American Anthropological Association, Chicago. (Panel organizer)

### **INVITED LECTURES**

- 2021 “What is not religious about religion? Defying informant assumptions about what counts as ‘religion,’” *Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes*, February 26, 2021
- 2020 “Jews and Others, Jewish Others, Jews as Others: The Politics of Contemporary French Jewish Belonging,” Keynote for “Across Borders: Jews and Others,” Université de Montréal, March 9-10
- 2018 “Barbarians at the Gate: Bioethics Debates and the Building of a “Moral France,” Center for European Studies, Boston University
- 2017 “Historicity, Peoplehood, Politics: Holocaust Talk in 21<sup>st</sup> Century France,” Unité de Recherches Migration et Société, Centre National de Recherches Scientifiques, Université Paris Diderot, France
- 2012 “Arab/Jew/Arab Jew: Sephardi youth and the racialization of Jewishness in France,” The Other Within lecture series. Centre for Judaic Studies, Boston University
- 2010 “Arab/Jew/Arab Jew: Sephardi youth and the racialization of Jewishness in France,” Department of Judaic and Near Eastern Studies. University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 2010 “Thinking beyond the veil: French youth identities, race, and the Republic.” Foreign Languages and Literatures, MIT
- 2009 “Rhinestone aesthetics and religious essence: displaying Jewish diaspora in Paris.” Department for the Study of Religion and the Centre for Diaspora and Transnationalism, University of Toronto
- 2008 “Looking Jewish in Paris: ‘Arab’ Jews and the post-colonial politics of Jewish identity.” Religious Studies Department, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

### **CONFERENCE ORGANIZING**

2021 Emerging Scholars program on Systemic Racism in Health and Medicine. In November 2020, brought in 5 young scholars and 2 senior scholars (Natali Valdez and Dána-Ain Davis) who work on the construction of race and racism in medical settings. The conference included a public roundtable as well as a private works-in-progress workshop.

“Religious Identities in Modern Mediterranean Societies.” Workshop series run out of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies at Boston University. Series ran from the spring of 2016 to the spring of 2018. Presenters included Rachel Schley, Mikaela Rogozen-Soltar, Naomi Davidson, Jessica Marglin, Abigail Jacobs, Charles MacDonald, and Béatrice de Gasquet. Discussants included Derek Penslar, Susannah Heschel, Michelle Campos, and Mary Lewis.

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE—REFEREEING**

Manuscript referee for University of Nebraska Press and Indiana University Press; *American Ethnologist*; *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*; *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, *Cambridge Journal of Anthropology*, *PLOS One*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Ethnos*, *Current Anthropology*, *Identities*, *Sociology of Islam*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*

Committee member for Social Science Research Council Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship; Chateaubriand Dissertation Fellowship, Council for European Studies pre-dissertation research grants; Society for the Anthropology of Europe graduate student paper prize

Book prize committee member for the Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer Award

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2021 Search committee member for the associate director position at the Anti-Racist Center

2020-2021 Member of the curriculum committee for the new university-wide anti-racism and social justice course

2018 and 2019 Interviewer and admissions committee member for the 7 year accelerated BA/MD (SMED) Program

2015-2018 Academic Policy Committee, College of Arts and Sciences

### **DEPARTMENT AND PROGRAM SERVICE**

2020-2022 Associate Chair

2019-2021 Director of Undergraduate Study for Sociocultural Anthropology

2017-2019 Member of the curriculum committee for the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies

2011-2019 Member of the curriculum committee in the Department of Anthropology

2017 Search committee member for position in socio-cultural anthropology (Turkey)

2015 Search committee member for position in socio-cultural anthropology (psychological anthropology)

2015 Core Associate with Margaret Litvin for CC112, the second semester Core social science course

2014 Part of team charged with re-designing one of two social science courses in the Core curriculum

2014 Member of the anthropology department's graduate professionalization committee

2011-2014 Faculty member of department's dissertation writing group

2011 Member of the steering committee for the "Other Within," the Posen Foundation Grant at the Elie Wiesel Center

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Association for Jewish Studies

Council for European Studies

American Anthropological Association

Society for the Anthropology of Europe

Society for French Historical Studies

### **POST-FIELD GRADUATE COMMITTEES**

Tenzin (Jinba) Danzeng, PhD 2011 *In the heartland of the Eastern Queendom: Marginalities and Identities on the Han-Tibetan Border*

Lucai (Huwy-Min) Liu, PhD 2014 *Dying socialist in capitalist Shanghai: ritual, governance, and subject formation in urban China's modern funeral industry*

Chun-Yi Sum, PhD 2015 *'Therefore I am made indifferent': morality and agency among university students in China*

Lynsey Farrel, PhD 2015 *Hustling NGOs: Coming of Age in Kibera slum, Nairobi, Kenya*

Michel Chambon, PhD 2018 *Materiality and Christianity in Nanping: making God present*

Ekaterina Anderson, PhD 2018 *Nervous conditions: cultural difference, political rifts, and mental health care in Israel*

Carol Ferrara, PhD 2018 *Pious citizens of the Republic: Muslim and Catholic negotiations of national identity and ethical plurality in contemporary France*

Erica Larson, PhD 2019 *Civic and Religious Education in the Indonesian Context: Ethical Deliberation about Plural Coexistence*



Yang Shen, PhD 2020 *Sidestepping Secularisms: Performance and Imagination in Buddhist Residential Temples in Contemporary China*

Annika Schmeding, PhD 2020 *Sufis in Afghanistan: Religious Succession in an Insecure Age*

Evan Anhorn (Religious Studies), PhD 2020 *Architects of Change: Professionalizing the Islamic Scholar in the United Kingdom and Germany*

Noha Roushdy, PhD 2020 *Learning to be Egyptian: Class and Belonging in Cairo's International Schools*

Emily Williamson, PhD 2022 *Comings and Goings: Negotiating Uncertainty in an Acra Zongo*