



DEAR FRIENDS OF THE ELIE WIESEL CENTER
FOR JEWISH STUDIES,

What a year!

The Elie Wiesel Center was off to a strong start, last fall, with its best-attended Open House ever! Throughout last summer, our communications team (Caro Barschow and Katherine Gianni) staffed a weekly orientation table in the CAS building where they talked with dozens of incoming freshmen about the minors in Jewish Studies and Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights and invited students to a discussion with Professor Jennifer Cazenave (Romance Studies) on “What’s the Harm in Holocaust fiction?” That subject, apropos the bestselling novel “The Tattooist of Auschwitz,” attracted about thirty students for discussion at our Center in early September.

Fall and spring courses enrolled well. Overall, we had 688 students in 54 courses (incl. cross-listed sections), for an average class size of 13. Thanks to Associate Director Ingrid Anderson, who usually teaches in the CAS Writing Program, and long-time visiting professor of Israel Studies Nahum Karlinsky (BGU), we were able to offer the course on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict both semesters. One of our graduating seniors, Deni Budman (COM '20), wrote about this popular course on our blog:

blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/js286-hi393-israeli-palestinian-conflict

A great moment arrived with the beginning of Spring 2020 when we ran our first slate of courses and sections under their new designated "JS" numbers. The new JS 100 World Cultures of the Jews proved incredibly popular. It filled right away on the first day Juniors and Seniors signed up. It is full again for Fall 2020, which shows that this course could run every semester. The course was designed by our former post-doctoral fellow, Alexandra Zirkle, now at the University of Buffalo (SUNY), and Center Associate Director Ingrid Anderson has been teaching it. (I am convinced that this goes a long way toward explaining the course's popularity!) It also meets HUB requirements, meaning that

students from all BU undergraduate programs can take the course and count it toward satisfying the new general education requirements. I sat in on one of the Zoom sessions this spring, and the energy in the course was genuinely infectious (no pun intended).

Of course, this was the year we went online. Boston University swiftly responded to the emerging pandemic by closing down campus, and faculty shifted to 100% remote instruction. I attended multiple sections taught by our colleagues and finished out a Monday night seminar on Maimonides and my lecture course on Jerusalem (Holy City: Jerusalem in Time, Space and the Imagination), and I was amazed at the spirit of our colleagues and our outstanding students who took this dramatic shift in stride. I have since taught a summer course entirely online and am convinced, as are others, that the quality of instruction, at least in the Humanities, does not need to suffer from online teaching. This is not to downplay the challenges we have been facing and will continue to face. However, I believe that we will continue to fulfill our core mission, which is to teach, educate, and build our academic community.

Last year also brought many faculty achievements and beautiful events you can read about in this Annual Report. Faculty continued to publish books and articles in their respective fields, and the Center put on many of its signal events: the Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture Series, now in its second year; a virtual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture with Palestinian-American Yousef Bashir; and BUJS research forum sessions with post-doctoral fellow Sultan Doughan, Dr. Thomas Meyer (Munich/Berlin), and Prof. Katharina von Kellenbach (BC).

Over the summer, our communications coordinator Jeremy Solomons managed our weekly online Summer Reading Series. And as I write this, fall classes are already in session. Our administrator, Dr. Theresa Cooney, prepared our building for reopening. Faculty spend all summer getting ready to teach their courses remotely or in-person in BU's hybrid "Learn from Anywhere" mode.

As I look back, I want to express my thanks to our many supporters and participants from on and off campus, who have sustained us in so many ways. More than ever before I am reminded

that we would not be here and could not do the work of maintaining the legacy of Elie Wiesel (1928–2016) and of Jewish Studies and Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies at Boston University without your generous support.

Please take this as my direct appeal for your continued support. If you supported us in the past: thank you! We appreciate all gifts made to the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. Your generosity ensures that we can continue to educate our students, support our faculty, maintain our staff, and serve those members of the public who join us for lectures and events or take our classes as auditors. We appreciate every gift, large or small. Each donation helps to keep our Center strong and relevant as the home of Jewish studies at one of the country's largest research universities and home to the largest number of Jewish students on any US college campus.

Sincerely,

Michael Zank, PhD

*Professor of Religion, Jewish Studies,
and Medieval Studies
Director,
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies*



BEIT SHLOMOH V'SARAH WIESEL,
147 BAY STATE ROAD;
SILBER WAY BALCONY.

About

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies (EWCJS) is an academic program unit of the College of Arts and Sciences. It serves as Boston University's hub for co-curricular and public events related to Jewish history, religion, and culture.

With currently fifteen core and sixteen affiliated faculty members, we offer a content-rich, interdisciplinary range of courses and events in Jewish studies and related fields. Our Center supports faculty and students through research and travel grants, scholarships, fellowships, and merit awards. Our lectures and events provide the campus community and the Boston-area public with opportunities to learn, exchange ideas, and encounter contemporary forms of Jewish intellectual life and artistic creativity.

Named for Elie Wiesel, the 1986 Nobel Laureate for Peace and a member of the BU faculty for nearly forty years, our Center fosters excellence in teaching and scholarship, as well as meaningful public engagement. The Elie Wiesel Center is located at 147 Bay State Road, a former patrician building that once also served as the office of BU president John Silber. At its dedication in 2005, the building was renamed in honor of Elie Wiesel's parents Shlomoh and Sarah Wiesel. It was renovated with the generous support of Ira and Ingeborg Rennert, who provided the founding endowment of the Center.

Boston University
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies
147 Bay State Road Boston, Massachusetts, 02215
Phone: 617.353.8096
Email: ewcjs@bu.edu

Faculty

Core Faculty

- Kimberly Arkin**, Associate Professor of Anthropology
- Andrea Berlin**, Professor of Archaeology and Religion
- Alejandro Botta**, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible
- Katheryn Darr**, Professor of Hebrew Bible and Harrell F. Beck Scholar of Hebrew Scripture
- Charles Dellheim**, Professor of History
- David Frankfurter**, Professor of Religion and Aurelio Chair for the Appreciation of Scripture
- Abigail Gillman**, Professor of Hebrew, German & Comparative Literature
- Michael Grodin**, Professor of Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights and Professor of Family Medicine and Psychiatry
- Nancy Harrowitz**, Professor of Italian; Head of Italian Section; Director of Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies Minor
- Steven Katz**, Professor of Religion; Alvin J. Slater and Shirley Slater Chair in Jewish Holocaust Studies
- Jonathan Klawans**, Professor of Religion
- Deeana Klepper**, Associate Professor of Religion
- Pnina Lahav**, Professor of Law Emerita
- Diana Lobel**, Associate Professor of Religion; Associate Director of Graduate Studies in Religion
- Michael Zank**, Professor of Religion; Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies

Emeritus Faculty

- Paula Fredriksen**, Professor Emerita
William Goodwin Aurelio Chair Emerita
- Thomas Glick**, Professor Emeritus of History
- Hillel Levine**, Professor Emeritus of Religion
- Elie Wiesel**, Andrew W. Mellon Professor Emeritus in the Humanities and Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Affiliate Faculty

- Ingrid Anderson**, Senior Lecturer in the Arts and Sciences Writing Program; Associate Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies
- Miriam Angrist**, Lecturer in Hebrew, Head of Hebrew Language Program
- John Bernstein**, Professor of Film
- Susan Bernstein**,
Research Professor in the English Department
- Alicia Borinsky**, Professor of Spanish, Latin American Studies, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Head of Spanish Section
- Jennifer Cazenave**, Assistant Professor of French, Director of Undergraduate Studies,
- Aaron Garrett**, Associate Professor of Philosophy
- Nahum Karlinsky**, (Ben-Gurion University), Visiting Professor of Israel Studies
- Irit Kleiman**, Associate Professor of Romance Studies, Associate Chair of Romance Studies
- Yair Lior**, Lecturer in Religious Studies
- Margaret Litvin**, Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature; Chair of World Languages & Literatures Department
- Jeffrey Mehlman**, Professor of French
- Michael Prince**, Associate Professor of English
- Adam Seligman**, Professor of Religion; Research Associate, Institute for the Study of Economic Culture
- Jeremy Yudkin**, Professor of Music, Musicology, and Ethnomusicology
- Michael Zell**, Associate Professor in the Department of History of Art & Architecture

Books published: 8
Articles/chapters published: 12
Research presentations given: 25
Awards: 6
Classes/sections offered: 54
Students taught: 688



Faculty Spotlight

Pnina Lahav

In what was officially her last semester before retiring from BU School of Law, **Professor Pnina Lahav** taught in spring 2020 a seminar on comparative constitutional law, focused on the two states and societies she is most intimately familiar with: the United States and Israel. For the first time, the class enrolled not just LAW students but also advanced undergraduates in Political Science and other CAS programs. In this course, which will be offered again in the spring term of 2021, Professor Lahav led her students to explore American and Israeli constitutional and political design through a comparative lens. Professor Lahav is also expected to teach a seminar on Golda Meir at the BU Kilachand College in the fall of 2021.

Over her distinguished career, Professor Lahav published scores of journal articles and three books, including the critically acclaimed *Judgment in Jerusalem: Chief Justice Simon Agranat and the Zionist Century*, Winner of Israel's Seltner Award (1998) and the Gratz College Centennial Book Award (1998). She is presently completing a biography of Israel's fourth prime minister, Golda Meir, a memoir that asks how a lone woman surrounded by men makes it to the top. As with her work on Agranat, her forthcoming biography titled *Golda Meir: The only woman in the Room* sheds light on American Jews' role in shaping the Israeli judicial and political landscape. Professor Lahav also has a forthcoming publication titled *The Balfour Declaration and Golda Meir*, in Mark Raider et al., *"Over There: American Jews and World War I."* In 2017, the Association for Israel Studies recognized Professor Lahav's contributions to the field with a Life Achievement Award.

On July 9, 2020, Lahav presented and discussed Golda Meir as a woman in an event organized and zoomed by the Israel Studies Center at ACLU. She also presented excerpts from her forthcoming biography of Golda Meir (Princeton U. Press) at the Elie Wiesel Center Reading Series on August 12, 2020.

Professor Lahav held fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Stanford Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, from the Center for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. In March 2015, she delivered the Lapidus Lecture at Princeton University, and in 2017 she gave the Rockoff Lecture at Rutgers University and the Taubman Lecture at the University of California in Santa Barbara.

Lahav has taught at Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Herzlia, Oxford University, and Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3 in Lyon, France. And she has recently accepted an invitation to serve as a visiting professor for the spring of 2022 at Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law.

Lahav says that teaching Constitutional Law *"automatically keeps your teaching fresh. Each year the Court addresses new issues and revisits old ones. Thus, there is always an intellectual challenge and deeper exploration."* Known as an outstanding teacher, Professor Lahav was the recipient of the 2011 BU Law Melton Prize for excellence in teaching.

David H. Webber, the Associate Dean for Intellectual Life and Professor of Law at BU, told us that Professor Lahav was one of the essential junior faculty mentors at Boston University School of Law. Webber noted that Professor Lahav led by example, publishing books and articles of the highest quality that engaged with other academics and the public. Similarly, Professor Daniela Caruso, who has taught Contracts and European Union law at BU Law for many years, said that Professor Lahav's dedication to the law school's life had been an example of ethical commitment to community values.

Professor Caruso stated that Lahav has made it possible for many of her colleagues to overcome their careers' most challenging moments and find their voice and noted that, most of all, Professor Lahav has been a true friend to all who had the fortune to work with her.

Larry Yackle, Professor of Law Emeritus, said that Professor Pnina Lahav has long been an intellectual force at BU Law. Yackle stated that Lahav's command of her field is dazzling and that her rigorous research, penetrating insights, detailed analysis, and precise exposition make her scholarship enormously valuable to specialists. Yackle added that Professor Lahav *"is an accomplished, internationally known public lecturer. She has a remarkable capacity to reach her audience and make her presentations rewarding. We at the Law School are so grateful for her many contributions, and we look forward to more in the years ahead."*

The faculty and students of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies are proud to count Professor Lahav as a founding core member of the Center and a persistent supporter of the Center's activities. We hope to have Professor Lahav as a guiding voice and an active contributor to all our endeavors for many years to come.

THE PHOTO BELOW, SHOWS **PROFESSOR LAHAV** WITH THE LATE **SIR HANS KORNBERG** AND EWCJS DIRECTOR **MICHAEL ZANK** AT THE 2018 ELIE WIESEL MEMORIAL LECTURE ON *"KRISTALLNACHT"* (PHOTO CREDIT: BILL MCCORMICK)



Faculty Accolades & News

In March 2020, **Abigail Gillman** was promoted to the rank of Professor in the Department of World Languages and Literatures. In summer 2019, she lectured on “Franz Rosenzweig and the Task of Jewish Translation” in a seminar on “Rosenzweig and the Star” at the University of Paris (see photograph with Emiline Durand and Myriam Bienenstock). She also spoke at the Bertha Pappenheim Haus in Neu-Isenberg, Germany, and participated in a Symposium on “Divine Logos and Transmission: Translating and Interpreting Foreign Revelations” at the Center for Advanced Studies in Bad Homburg. To advance her pedagogical training in Israel Studies, she participated in the Summer Institute for Israel Studies at Brandeis University. She also gave a paper on German-Israeli cinematic connections at NAPH which she helped to host here at Boston University. In February 2020, she spoke at a symposium “Beyond Translation: Vernacular Jewish Bibles, from Antiquity to Modernity” at Harvard. Last year, she became the editor for Modern Judaism of the Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception, a

major resource in biblical studies published by De Gruyter Press. She has also joined the Editorial Board of Hebrew Studies, the journal of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew, and the Editorial Advisory Board for *Nexus: Essays in German Jewish Studies*. Her chapter on Jewish translation history, titled “The Task of Jewish Translation, Revisited,” will be published in the Routledge Handbook of Translation History. This past Spring, the Israel Institute approved her proposal to invite Prof. Lilach Lachman from Tel Aviv University to be a visiting professor at the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies and in the Department of World Languages and Literatures in 2021. In WLL, she served as Convener of the Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literature section, and in addition to teaching **XL 223** Comparative Literature of the Middle East, she piloted two new courses, **WR 120** (the Jewish Short Story) and **JS 136 / EN 126** Jewish Diaspora Literature.

PROFESSOR ABIGAIL GILLMAN
AND MYRIAM BIENENSTOCK
AT THE SORBONNE



Kimberly Arkin, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Anthropology. Professor Arkin published her article titled “*What can words do? Debating a ‘good death’ in French palliative care*” in Anthropological Quarterly. In March 2020, she gave a keynote entitled “*Jews and Others, Jewish Others, Jews as Others: The Politics of Contemporary French Jewish Belonging*” at the Across Borders: Jews and Others conference at the University of Montréal. Professor Arkin also won the 2019 Berkshire Conference Prize for her 2018 article in CSSH entitled “*Historicity, Peoplehood, and Politics: Holocaust Talk in Twenty-First-Century France.*”

Andrea M. Berlin, James R. Wiseman Chair in Classical Archaeology and Professor of Archaeology and Religion at Boston University published *Land/Homeland, Story/History: The Social Landscapes of the Southern Levant from Alexander to Augustus*, in The Cambridge Social Archaeology of the Levant from Prehistory to the Present. A. Yasur-Landau, E. Cline, and Y. Rowan, eds. Cambridge University Press, 2018. Pp. 410-437. In this chapter, Berlin offers a fresh overview of the Hellenistic period in Israel and examines the social repercussions of the collision of international politics and local cultures for five peoples living in the region: Tyrians, Sidonians, Samaritans, Judeans, and Idumeans. She also considers physical and written evidence as reflections of agency, opportunity, status, and authority, to reconstruct how people defined themselves and how they jockeyed for position and security in a crowded region and a volatile world.

In the summer of 2019, Professor of Religion **David Frankfurter**, William Goodwin Aurelio Chair of the *Appreciation of Scripture*, produced the *Guide to the Study of Ancient Magic*. The volume contains important essays by Gideon Bohak, Yuval Harari, and Naomi Janowitz and essays on the magic of the written word, material things, spells, and songs.

Assistant Professor of French **Jennifer Cazenave** was awarded Honorable Mention for the 2020 Best First Book Award by the Society for Cinema and Media Studies for her new book, *An Archive of the Catastrophe: The Unused Footage of Claude Lanzmann’s Shoah*. The book serves as a comprehensive analysis of 220 hours of outtakes that impels readers to reexamine assumptions about a crucial Holocaust documentary. In her book, Professor Cazenave argues that the outtakes pose a significant challenge to the representational and theoretical paradigms produced by the documentary while offering new meanings of Shoah and Holocaust testimony writ large. They lend fresh insight into issues raised by the film, including questions of resistance, rescue, refugees, and, above all, gender. See the following link for more information: www.cmstudies.org/page/2020_awards.

Michael Grodin, Professor of Health Law, Ethics & Human Rights, Health Law, Policy & Management in the School of Public Health and Professor of Psychiatry and Family Medicine at the Boston University School of Medicine, recently gave a well-received community lecture entitled “*Judaism, Bioethics and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Rationing, Triage, Death and Dying and more.*” The talk, presented on the Zoom video platform, was sponsored by Temple Isaiah in Lexington. And in June, he spoke at a U.S and Israeli Jewish Medical Ethics workshop focusing on “*Jewish Law and COVID-19.*” Professor Grodin has a book review regarding Nazi medical data, co-authored with Jonathan Kelly, forthcoming in the next issue of Holocaust and Genocide Studies. His new book, *Recognizing the Past in the Present: New Studies on Medicine before, during, and after the Holocaust*, is scheduled to be published later this year. Co-edited with Sabine Hildebrandt and Miriam Offer, this interdisciplinary collection of studies presents documentation of the critical role medicine played in realizing Hitler’s regime’s policies. It traces the history of Nazi medicine from its roots in the racial theories of the 1920s, through its manifestations during the Nazi period, on to legacies and continuities from the postwar years to the present.

Faculty Accolades & News (continued)

As the *Alvin J. Slater and Shirley Slater Chair in Jewish Holocaust Studies and Professor of Religion*, **Steven Katz** had another full academic year. In May 2019, his two-volume study, *The Holocaust and New World Slavery: A Comparative History*, was published by Cambridge University Press. This in-depth comparison of the Holocaust and new world slavery analyzes the fundamental differences between the two systems and shows how the Holocaust is unique among atrocities. The book won the PROSE Award in the field of World History. PROSE awards are administered by the Association of American Publishers' Professional and Scholarly Division to recognize the very best in scholarly publishing. To quote his editor: "They are the publishing industry's equivalent to the Academy Awards." <https://www.cambridge.org/academic/subjects/history/twentieth-century-european-history/holocaust-and-new-world-slavery-comparative-history?format=WX&isbn=9781108415088> Later in the summer of 2019, Professor Katz also published a collection of 15 essays on the Holocaust entitled *Holocaust Studies: Critical Reflections*. www.routledge.com/Holocaust-Studies-Critical-Reflections/Katz/p/book/9781138579606

On the scholarly side, Professor Katz edits the journal *Modern Judaism*, published by Oxford University Press. The journal just completed its 40th year of publication, all under his editorship. In the wider national and international community, Professor Katz continues to serve as a member of the Academic Committee of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and on the Research and Advisory Committee of the Conference for Material Claims against Germany. He also chairs the Kagan Fellowship Committee that awards 2-year fellowships to several graduate students and post-doctoral candidates working in the field of Holocaust Studies. The students come from different countries around the world, especially Eastern Europe, and are essential for the future of Holocaust studies. He is also an official delegate from the U.S. State Department to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, an organization of 40 countries and assorted NGOs that meets twice a year with the mission of keeping Holocaust memory alive and fighting antisemitism. He acts as an advisor to the March of the Living and to Project Aladdin (headquartered in Paris, France,

and chaired by Baron de Rothschild) that works to introduce Holocaust education into moderate Muslim countries. This year, many of the planned national and international meetings have been accomplished via Zoom because of the coronavirus travel restrictions.

Professor of Religion Jonathan Klawans published his monograph, *Heresy, Forgery, Novelty: Condemning, Denying, and Asserting Innovation in Ancient Judaism*, with Oxford University Press. The book demonstrates that ancient Jewish literature displays a profound unease regarding religious innovation, drawing on a wide range of evidence, including the Hebrew Bible, Dead Sea Scrolls, New Testament, Josephus, and early rabbinic literature. Klawans is co-editor, with Lawrence M. Wills, of the forthcoming *Jewish Annotated Apocrypha* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020). This volume will soon sit alongside the Jewish Study Bible and the Jewish Annotated New Testament, presenting age-old texts to interested readers, with introductions, annotations, and essays.

Deeana Klepper, Associate Professor of History and Religion, was awarded the BU Center for Humanities Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellowship last fall to work on a book project, *Life, Death, and Celestial Glory: Defining Religion in Late Medieval Germany*, which focuses on the way that local leadership defined and shaped religious experience, including Christian-Jewish interaction. She also participated in an international symposium at Queen Mary University London in November, *"Thinking With and Against The Jews: Christian Understandings of The Old Law 1100-1500,"* where she gave a talk entitled *"The 'Old Law' in Manuals for Parish Priests."* The talk explored the image of the ancient Israelite priesthood as central to elevating the parish priest's role in medieval Europe.

Adam B. Seligman, Professor of Religion at Boston University and Jewish Studies affiliated faculty, has received the 2020 Leopold Lucas Prize from the University of Tübingen. Leopold Lucas, a rabbi and scholar in whose memory the prize was endowed, was a significant figure in the Jewish studies renaissance in early 20th-century Germany.

Pnina Lahav, Professor of Law Emerita, gave talks and presentations around the United States and Israel. She was recognized for her academic career by colleagues worldwide while preparing for retirement from BU School of Law. She was honored by colleagues at the Annual Conference for Israeli Legal History, Yad Ben-Zvi, Jerusalem. Tel Aviv University School of Law organized a symposium to recognize her scholarship, *"When History meets Law,"* with lectures by multiple leading scholars in the field, including Chief Justice Aharon Barak. Over the summer, she organized a panel and presented a paper for the Law and Society meeting in Washington, DC, on *"humiliation and dignity."* She appeared on a panel at the Association for Israel Studies about "religionization." She presented at Anita's Forum, the most prestigious forum for Israeli history in Israel, on the issue of Jewish identity in the context of the feud between Golda Meir and Shulamit Alony. Lahav's *"gendered biography" of Golda Meir*, Israel's fourth prime minister and the only woman to hold the position, will be published by Princeton University Press in 2021. In the Spring 2021 semester, Prof. Lahav will teach a joint course for the BU School of Law, the Elie Wiesel Center, and the Political Science Department titled *"Comparative Constitutional Law."* The Elie Wiesel Center recognized her retirement at the virtual End of Year Celebration.

Lecturer in Religious Studies Yair Lior continues teaching courses in the BU Core program this year: **CC101** Ancient Worlds **CC102** The Way – Antiquity and the Medieval World. His book, *"The Routledge Handbook for Evolutionary Approaches to Religion,"* is set to be released in 2020. He has begun working on his first monograph, tentatively titled *The Evolution of Religion: A Comparative Systems Approach*. He also co-authored a chapter titled, *"A Systems Approach to Minds and Cultures,"* with BU School of Theology Professor Wesley Wildman. It appeared in the *"Multiple Entries"* Teaching Handbook in the Global Critical Philosophy of Religion Series.

Michael Zank, Ph.D., Professor of Religion, Jewish Studies, and Medieval Studies, continued to serve as Director of the Elie Wiesel Center Center. He curated the second annual Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures on *"Writing From a Place of Survival"* and planned an international conference on Hermann Cohen's Religion of Reason (1919) that had to be postponed because of the pandemic. In July 2019, he served as Forum Humanum Visiting Professor at the Akademie der Weltreligionen, Hamburg University (Germany), where he taught a seminar on Jerusalem (in German) to 25 students in comparative religion and Islamic studies. While in Hamburg, he lectured on the history of the Jews in Hamburg (Rotary Club Bergedorf) and on religion and violence in the history of Jerusalem (Kaisersaal, Rathaus Hamburg). Zank guest lectured for the Core Curriculum and in Prof. Purohit's seminar on Religion and Violence. New publications in 2019-20 included a review-essay on *"New Work on Hermann Cohen"* in *Modern Judaism*; the peer-reviewed article *"A Putative (Private) Life of Hannah Arendt"* in *Performance Philosophy Journal*; and a second, revised ebook edition of *The Idea of Atonement in the Philosophy of Hermann Cohen* (Brown Judaic Studies). Aside from writing articles for the EWCJS-blog and on his personal blog, Zank was invited to contribute two POV articles to BUToday, on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz www.bu.edu/articles/2020/pov-75-years-after-the-liberation-of-auschwitz-how-do-we-make-sure-it-never-happens-again and in response to the executive order on antisemitism www.bu.edu/articles/2019/pov-trumps-executive-order-aimed-at-protecting-jews-will-have-a-chilling-effect-on-freedom-of-speech-at-colleges. BUToday also interviewed Zank in response to Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (CAS '11) comparing holding pens for immigrants at the southern US border with concentration camps. www.bu.edu/articles/2019/are-ice-detention-centers-concentration-camps

National Association of Professors of Hebrew

NAPH conference brings scholars and students of Hebrew to campus.

Each summer, the National Association of Professors of Hebrew (NAPH) holds an international conference which brings together over two hundred professors of Hebrew language (modern, biblical and rabbinic), Hebrew literature, Linguistics, and Israeli culture. This is a forum for scholars and teachers to share updated knowledge, information, and ideas; to network and collaborate; and to strengthen and enrich the fields of Hebrew language, literature, culture and Israeli studies. The conference is an especially lively gathering, with energetic conversations and passionate debates both in the sessions and in the hallways.

The 2019 NAPH conference was held at Boston University in June 2019. It was co-chaired by Mira Angrist, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator of Hebrew Language Program in WLL, and Abigail Gillman, Professor of Hebrew, German, and Comparative Literature in WLL, who received generous grants from EWCJS, the BU Jewish Cultural Endowment, and BUCH, to fund the event. The conference was held over three full days with sessions and workshops in Hebrew and English. Due largely to Mira Angrist’s meticulous planning and oversight, Karen Grumberg, NAPH conference coordinator, wrote that the 2019 conference “was one of the best conferences they have had.” Participants enjoyed a number of cultural events which supplemented the academic sessions: screening of the film “Etgar Keret: Based on a True Story”; a campus tour; catered reception and dinner at Hillel with music by the local singing group Paamonim; a welcome address by Consul General of New England Zeev Boker; and a dinner lecture by Robera Micallef, Professor of the Practice in Middle Eastern Literatures and Coordinator of the Turkish Language Program in WLL.

About NAPH (from www.naphhebrew.org): “Founded in 1950, The National Association of Professors of Hebrew (NAPH) is dedicated to the advancement of scholarship and academic teaching Hebrew language, literature and culture of all periods, from the biblical era to the immediate present.”



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SESSION ON: **כתב, דיבור, ורב-לשוניות: פואטיקה והיסטוריוגרפיה**
(WRITING, SPEECH, AND MULTILINGUALISM: POETICS AND HISTORIOGRAPHY)
RUTH KARTUN-BLUM, HEBREW UNIVERSITY; **ARIEL RESNIKOFF**, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA;
LILACH LACHMAN, UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA; AND **HELENA RIMON**, ARIEL UNIVERSITY.



MICHAEL ZANK AND **MIRA ANGRIST** AT THE NAPH DINNER.

Post-Doc Profile

Sultan Doughan



DR. SULTAN DOUGHAN

Sultan Doughan just completed her first year as a postdoctoral fellow in the Elie Wiesel Center. This year, she has focused on presenting and publishing her work in close conversation with scholars working on the Holocaust, race, and religion. In the summer of 2019, Doughan participated in the USHMM summer school organized by the Program for Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust and funded by the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Fellowship. Relatedly, she joined an ongoing workgroup on Holocaust, Racism, Xenophobia organized by Prof. Sabine von Mering (Brandeis

University), and Prof. Simone Schweber (University of Wisconsin-Madison) in close collaboration with the Strassler Center for the Study of Genocide at Clark University. As part of her fellowship at the Elie Wiesel Center, Doughan gave a public talk titled *“Holocaust Trouble: The Implications of Remembering Refuge”* in October 2019. Prof. Omer Bartov (Brown University) acted as the discussant and provided a transnational perspective on Germany from Israel-Palestine’s vantage point. She has further co-initiated the regular speaker series Encounters under the leadership of Prof. Nancy Harrowitz, director of Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies. Encounters will feature scholars working on issues of modern genocide in various national contexts. The series will resume in online fashion during the next academic year.

In the fall semester of 2019, she organized two panels at annual conferences. At the American Anthropological Association in Vancouver, CA, the panel titled *“Race and Anthropology: Ethnographic Responses to Changing Political Climates”* hosted anthropologists working on race in its various modern formations. She delivered a talk titled: *“When Race is Unspeakable: Holocaust Memory and the Contradictions of German Secularism.”* At the annual conference of the American Academy for Religion in San Diego, Doughan organized a multidisciplinary panel titled: *“Racial Afterlives in Post-Holocaust Germany: Jewish and Muslim (A)Synchronicities for a Christian-Secularized Self.”* She delivered a talk, *“Of Humans and Muselmans: The Racial Afterlife of Religious Difference in Post-Holocaust Germany.”* Prof. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College) acted as the discussant of this multidisciplinary panel, and Prof. Cynthia M. Baker (Bates College) acted as the convener of the panel. The conversation generated with Professor Heschel’s support pointed to a larger problem-space of racialized religion in Germany today. Doughan gave two invited lectures in the spring semester of 2020. She delivered her first lecture in February 2020 at Connecticut College in the Program of Global Islamic Studies. Her in-person lecture was titled *“German Muslims? Citizenship, Religious Difference, and Race in PostHolocaust Europe.”* In April 2020, Doughan gave a zoom lecture titled *“The Muslim Citizen. Religion, Race and the Demands of Secularism in Germany”* in Religious Studies at the University of

Virginia, Charlottesville. In June 2020, she participated in an online conversation with Prof. Brian Klug (Oxford University) on religion and race in secularism, organized by the Jewish-Muslim Research Network at the University of Manchester, UK. The conversation aimed at examining the possibility of politics for religious minorities in Europe today.

In December 2019, Doughan published a co-edited special issue in the Sociology of Islam in honor of her late advisor Prof. Saba Mahmood titled: *Unfinished Conversations with Saba Mahmood*. The special issue includes six peer-reviewed articles by scholars working on themes related or inspired by Saba Mahmood within various disciplines. The special issue closes with an interview conducted by Doughan with Profs. Lisa Wedeen (University of Chicago) and Schirin Amir-Moazami (Freie Universität Berlin) on how the study of Islam and the Middle East has been reshaping since Mahmood’s interventions. In the spring semester, Doughan has submitted two book reviews related to her own work on Europe, tolerance, and racial politics for the journals Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR) and Political Theology. She is currently preparing her own article for submission in an anthropology journal before the end of the academic year. In addition to publishing and working towards the book proposal, Doughan is scheduled to teach a course on memorials and the question of human rights in the department of anthropology in the fall semester of 2020. Finally, Doughan is looking forward to another year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Elie Wiesel Center and is grateful for all the support given by the Center, as well as senior faculty and colleagues across the BU campus.

Visiting Scholar

Lucas Fain

In the 2019-20 academic year, Visiting Scholar **Lucas Fain** finalized the typescript of *Primal Philosophy: Rousseau with Laplanche* for publication by Rowman & Littlefield International, expected in January 2021. This book addresses the epoch of the “end of metaphysics” and the attendant disasters of twentieth-century political violence to initiate a renewed inquiry into the philosopher’s responsibility and its rootedness in the possibility of philosophy itself. At the Wiesel Center, he investigates the Judaic sources of Emmanuel Lévinas’s ethical thought for a book project tentatively titled *“Responsibility for the Future.”* A preview of this work was published in Public Seminar as *“There is No Future without Openness to the Other”* (May 14, 2020). Additional activities include the delivery of papers on Heidegger and Lévinas at annual meetings of the American Philosophical Association, the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, and the biannual meeting of the Psychology and the Other Conference. Previous to his arrival at the Elie Wiesel Center, Dr. Fain taught philosophy and social thought at Harvard University and the University of California, Santa Cruz. In the 2020-21 academic year, Dr. Fain expects to present new research on Lévinas at the BUJS Research Forum.

DR. LUCAS FAIN





RABBI GREG WEISMAN

Alumni Spotlight

Rabbi Greg Weisman

Rabbi Greg Weisman graduated from Boston University's College of Arts & Sciences in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Political Science. His rabbinate journey included time in Jackson, Mississippi, Jerusalem, Israel, and Los Angeles, California. He earned a Master's of Jewish Education in 2010 and was ordained as a rabbi by the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in 2013. Upon his ordination, he moved to Boca Raton, Florida, to begin serving Temple Beth El of Boca Raton.

Now in his eighth year at Temple Beth El, Greg is actively involved in various areas of temple life. He helps lead the congregation's social action and social justice work and is deeply involved with interfaith work in the community. Greg also teaches children, teens, and adults, and helps families mark their lifecycle moments with spirituality. When he's not at the synagogue, he spends his time with his wife, Tami, and their three young daughters.

Greg offers his reflections on his time as Elie Wiesel's student, and the community he says Professor Wiesel fostered at BU.

My journey to BU started when I was in eighth grade. That year I read Night, Elie Wiesel's memoir about his youth and experience during the Holocaust as part of my middle school's European history curriculum. When I learned that he was a professor at BU during my college search, the school shot to the top of my list. I came to BU, in large part, for the opportunity to study with him. But I did not imagine that my time at BU would lead me to become a rabbi and serve the Jewish community. I always saw myself going on to law school. But during my freshman year, I began to feel the call of the rabbinate take hold of me. I had grown up in the Jewish community, went to the synagogue on occasion, but what I needed to know then was whether a lifetime devoted to the study of Judaism was really what I wanted. The Judaic studies classes at BU got me hooked.

I remember the classes so well, even a decade and a half later. Professor Jonathan Klawans' course on the Hebrew Bible. Professor Steven Katz's course on Jewish Mysticism.

"Modern Jewish Thought" and "Moses and the Origins of Monotheism" with Professor Michael Zank, during which he and I developed a relationship that continues to this day.

I was fortunate to study with Professor Wiesel in the fall of 2004; "Literary Responses to Oppression" was the course. I remember the painful stories of the Rwanda Genocide, an outbreak of the bubonic plague, and the Soviet gulags that were part of our course reading. I expected the room to be deeply serious, maybe even stoic, on that first day. But I was immediately surprised by his sense of humor, which he was not afraid to share with us; he was genuinely funny. I was struck by the man who had experienced so much pain in his youth, who had stood witness to the pain of so many others as an adult, and who could so effectively use humor as a teaching tool. In the end, what we learned was to celebrate the humanity of each individual. The characters in the books we read, the authors who compiled their stories, we as the students in the classroom, were human beings to be treasured- that is what I learned from him during that semester.

When I graduated, my journey to the rabbinate continued, first to the Deep South, where I worked at the Institute of Southern Jewish Life based in Jackson, Mississippi. I spent two years visiting synagogues in Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle, deepening my appreciation for Jewish life diversity in America. From there, it was off to Jerusalem and then Los Angeles, as a rabbinical student at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the seminary for the Reform Jewish movement. I am now in my eighth year at Temple Beth El of Boca Raton as part of a team of rabbis serving this vibrant Jewish community.

What I love most about being a rabbi is that every day is different, and on some days, even from morning to afternoon to evening, I witness the full variety of the human condition. I am welcomed into people's lives at their moments of greatest joy and most profound sorrow. It can be disorienting at times to move through emotions so quickly. But that's when I remind myself of what I learned from Professor Wiesel at BU, to see the humanity of each person into whose life I walked that day.

Undergraduate Students

Student Spotlights

Simone “Deni” Budman (COM ‘20)

Deni Budman graduated from the College of Communications with a major in Film & Television and a minor in Jewish Studies. She attended high school at Norfolk Academy in Virginia, where she was active in environmental protection and conservation as a Chesapeake Bay Fellow. At BU, Deni was an active member of the BU Hillel. Deni was also a communications specialist and student coordinator at the Elie Wiesel Center. She has worked as a production assistant at Element; a video production collaborative focused on marketing and advertising. Deni also served as a teaching assistant in COM for courses and advanced workshops on production and directing. She is active in the Union for Reform Judaism as a member of their College Leadership Team and Communications Vice President of the North American Federation of Temple Youth. Deni is a two-time recipient of the Brooks Family Scholarship for academic achievement in Jewish Studies.



Deni Budman on the EWCJS blog:
blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/js286-hi393-israeli-palestinian-conflict/
blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/js100-world-cultures-of-the-jews



Jacob Gurvis (COM ‘20)

Jacob Gurvis graduated summa cum laude with a BS in Journalism and dual minors in Jewish Studies and Political Science. He served as a research intern at NESN and has published original reporting in the Boston Globe and the Brookline Tab. He served as an editorial intern at BU Today. He is active with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Jacob is from Newton, MA, where he attended Newton North High School and is a two-time recipient of the Brooks Family Scholarship for academic achievement in Jewish Studies.

Jacob Gurvis on the EWCJS blog: blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/reflections-from-my-bedroom-and-also-my-classroom/

Lingxuan Liang (CAS ‘20)

Lingxuan Liang is originally from China. Before transferring to BU, she attended Georgia State University and studied abroad in Seoul, Korea, in 2017. With the financial assistance of the Elie Wiesel Center in 2019, Liang studied at Hebrew University Summer Program in Jerusalem. Ling is graduating cum laude with a major in History and a minor in Jewish Studies and wishes to return to Israel to pursue a graduate degree in Israel Studies. Ling is a past recipient of the Levine, Martin Family Scholarships, and a two-time recipient of the Brooks Family Scholarship.

Lingxuan Liang on the EWCJS blog:
blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/anti-semitism-is-the-reason-why-i-became-a-jewish-studies-minor



2019-20 Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient Spotlight



ABIGAIL PICTURED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY OVERLOOKING JERUSALEM.

Abigail Ripkin

With the support of the Elie Wiesel Center through the David V. Karney Travel Fund Scholarship, Abigail Ripkin studied abroad at Hebrew University and the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. During this time, Abigail had the opportunity to improve her Hebrew skills and fully delve into the rich world of contemporary Israeli dance.

Graduate Students

Graduate Student Spotlights

Sara Boston

Sara Boston is a Ph.D. student in the Graduate Program in Religion (GPR) specializing in Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean under the guidance of Dr. Jonathan Klawans. Boston earned a BA in Religious Studies from the College of William and Mary in 2014, where she also earned an MA in Education in 2015. After two years of teaching public high school, Boston earned an MA in Jewish Studies from the University of Maryland in 2019, where she served as a teaching assistant and undergraduate advisor. Boston’s research interests include sectarianism, intermediary beings, and messianism in Second Temple Judaism and early Christianity, and realities and representations of power in Judaea under Roman rule. This year, Boston completed the German language requirement and continued work on ancient Greek and Hebrew. Further coursework included Dead Sea Scrolls, Magical Texts, Religion in the Greco-Roman World, and coursework in Religious Studies theories and methods. Boston was a 2019 recipient of the Drapkin-Fasel Jewish Studies Graduate Fellowship and received a grant from the Einhorn Book Fund. Boston said that the fellowship enabled her to focus on her studies during the summer, and the book fund enabled her to purchase essential reference materials. When reflecting on her experience at the Center, she said: “the Elie Wiesel Center has provided me with important opportunities, and I hope that many more BU students will get involved and experience more of what the Center has to offer.



Scott Chase

After completing degrees in biblical studies at the BU School of Theology and classical archaeology at Brandeis, **Scott Chase** recently finished his first year as a Ph.D. student in the Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean concentration. He has conducted fieldwork at several archaeological sites in Galilee. His interest is in the history and archaeology of religion in Hellenistic and Roman Israel, especially how material culture can inform how broader cultural forces shaped religion. This year, Chase concentrated primarily on coursework and Hebrew language study. He also presented a paper on the use of history and geography in one of the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Society of Biblical Literature’s New England Region meeting. A presentation at the Brandeis Graduate Conference about the Nabateans’ religion in the Negev Desert was canceled due to COVID-19. This summer, Chase is the recipient of a Drapkin-Fasel scholarship to support study in Modern Hebrew and continued research.

2019-20 Graduate Scholarship Recipient Spotlights

David Malamud

David Malamud is a graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in Religion with a specialization in Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean and a recipient of the Drapkin-Fasel Jewish Studies Graduate Fellowship. Last summer, David was awarded the Henry J. and Carole Pinkney Fund Award to study at the Yeshivat Hadar Summer Beit Midrash program at the Hadar Institute. David is also a past and current recipient of the Einhorn Book Award for Research in Jewish Studies.

His own words of appreciation: “With the support of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, I had the pleasure of spending last summer at Hadar, where I was able to deeply develop my text skills in an immersive environment while finding making lasting friendships.”



(PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID MALAMUD, SHOWN BOTTOM ROW, FAR RIGHT)

Programs

Jewish Studies

About the Minor in Jewish Studies

Undergraduate students from across the colleges of Boston University may choose to minor in Jewish Studies. The minor in Jewish Studies offers students of all backgrounds the opportunity to explore Jewish history, culture, and religion from various perspectives. A minor in Jewish Studies requires six courses totaling 24 credits with one required course titled **JS 100** World Cultures of the Jews. The remaining five courses should include at least one in three of the following four areas:

- Sacred Texts and Comparative Traditions
- Jewish Literature and Thought
- History and Holocaust
- Contemporary Jewish Societies and Cultures, including Israel Studies

Students may count up to two courses in the Hebrew language toward the degree in Jewish Studies. These may include any JS, or LH course taught in Hebrew.

Graduate Program in Jewish Studies

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies partners with the Graduate Program in Religion (GPR) for a Ph.D. specialization in Jewish Studies. Students admitted to the GPR specialization in Jewish Studies will benefit from a five-year fully-funded graduate fellowship.

Additionally, the EWCJS supports Jewish studies in many areas of inquiry across the humanities and social sciences. Graduate students researching topics related to Jewish history, culture, law, religion, or society are encouraged to seek affiliation with the Center. Affiliated graduate students are eligible to apply for financial support.

Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights

About the Minor in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights

The minor in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies offers undergraduate students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the causes and consequences of past acts of genocide and consider human rights law as a means of violence prevention. The Holocaust and Genocide and Human Rights Studies minor was established in 2016 as the Holocaust and Genocide Studies minor. It was updated to include Human Rights Studies in fall 2018. Professor Nancy Harrowitz directs the program.

Students minoring in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies will be required to complete six (4-credit) courses, including these core courses: **CAS JS 260** History of the Holocaust, **CAS HI 384** History of Genocide, and one of three Human Rights core courses. Students select one additional elective in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and a final elective in these or Human Rights studies.

The study of government-sponsored crimes against humanity, the perpetrator state, the impact of extreme nationalism, and the media’s use in spreading racism and prejudice requires a multidisciplinary approach. The Minor accordingly draws on faculty trained in different disciplines and fields of expertise, including the Holocaust and the Armenian genocide, African history, law, literature, and film of the Holocaust and other genocides, political theory, and religion.

The program also introduces students to the various institutional means available for the prevention of genocide and other crimes against humanity, for the cultivation of good relations among ethnic, racial, national, and religious groups and the effective management of tensions among them, and the promotion and protection of human rights.

The principal objective of the minor is to provide the student with the intellectual tools to analyze the multifaceted social, economic, cultural, civil, and political components of society under genocidal regimes, under repressive governments with poor human rights

records, and the closely interconnected domestic and international environments in which such regimes operate. Further, the student develops proficiency in analyzing government-citizen relations, including the extent to which individuals, societies, and domestic and international NGOs can intervene to promote and protect human rights and prevent genocide. Completion of the Minor in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies helps students to prepare for graduate studies in history, political science, law, literature, and religion, in addition to careers in social and governmental service.

About the Graduate Certificate in Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies

The Graduate Certificate in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies offers students already enrolled in degree bearing graduate programs the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the causes and consequences of past acts of genocide and consider human rights law to be a means of violence prevention. The study of government-sponsored crimes against humanity, the perpetrator state, the impact of extreme nationalism, and the media’s use in spreading racism and prejudice requires a multidisciplinary approach. The certificate accordingly draws on faculty trained in different disciplines and fields of expertise, including the history of the Holocaust and the Armenian genocide, African history, law, public health, literature and film of the Holocaust and other genocides, political theory, and religion.

The program also introduces students to the various institutional means available for the prevention of genocide and other crimes against humanity, for the cultivation of good relations among ethnic, racial, national, and religious groups and the effective management of tensions among them, and the promotion and protection of human rights.

The principal objective of the certificate is to provide the student with the intellectual tools to analyze the multifaceted social, economic, cultural, civil, and political components of society under genocidal

regimes, under repressive governments with poor human rights records, and the closely interconnected domestic and international environments in which such regimes operate. Further, the student develops proficiency in analyzing government-citizen relations, including the extent to which individuals, societies, and domestic and international NGOs can intervene to promote and protect human rights and prevent genocide.

Completing the Graduate Certificate in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies helps students prepare for graduate studies in history, political science, law, literature, religion, and careers in social and governmental services.

To qualify for the certificate, students must be enrolled in a graduate degree program, and complete as part of their degree coursework at least 16 credits (four standard courses) that have a significant focus on human rights, comparative genocide, or Holocaust studies. At least one course must be taken in Human Rights and one course in Holocaust & Genocide Studies.

HGHR Program Updates

During the Fall of 2018, the program offices of the Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies minor moved to the first floor of the Elie Wiesel Center. Together, our faculty, staff, students, and colleagues celebrated the program’s renaming from ‘Holocaust and Genocide Studies’ to its current name at a reception before the first Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture. Professor of Italian and Jewish Studies Nancy Harrowitz continues to direct the program through the 2020-21 academic year. HGHR has co-sponsored several unique cultural and academic events and has begun the Encounters in HGHR program organized by Professors Sultan Doughan and Nancy Harrowitz. This series features speakers and films on subjects related to Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies.



STUDENTS AT THE OPEN HOUSE
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

HGHS

Undergraduate Spotlight

Heather Hayes

Heather offers her reflections on her time and experience taking courses for the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies minor:

When exploring colleges and universities, I knew I wanted to attend an institution that would diversify my thoughts and challenge my mindset. The environment I have found in the courses for the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies minor has allowed me to do just that. I am continually impressed and inspired by the professors and my classmates and the conversations that take place in those classrooms. More so than my other classes, I feel like the courses I have taken for this minor have led to me becoming a more engaged member of society, and the knowledge I have gained has become foundational to who I am today. I also found the minor to be incredibly valuable in conjunction with my other programs of study; philosophy, psychology, and history, as I feel like I am on a deep exploration of the human condition by understanding the connection between our past and present.



HEATHER HAYES

2019-2020 Courses

Jewish studies Courses

SACRED TEXTS AND COMPARATIVE TRADITIONS

- CAS JS 110/RN 216 Judaism
- CAS JS 120/RN 101 The Bible
- CAS JS 121/RN 104 Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- CAS JS 210/RN 201 The Hebrew Bible
- CAS JS 214/RN 324 Introduction to Rabbinic Literature
- CAS JS 311/RN 334 Dead Sea Scrolls
- CAS JS 321/RN 221 Moses
- CAS JS 328/RN 308 Open Heaven: Apocalyptic Literature in Early Judaism and Christianity

JEWISH LITERATURE AND THOUGHT

- CAS JS 130/LH 250 Masterpieces of Modern Hebrew Literature
- CAS JS 136/EN 126 Jewish Literature
- CAS JS 244/RN 325 Early Jewish Mystical Thought
- CAS JS 246/RN 326 Jewish Mysticism
- CAS JS 330/LH 350 Hebrew Narrative: Biblical and Modern (in Hebrew)
- CAS JS 331/LH 351 Styles and Meaning of Hebrew Poetry: Modern Hebrew Poetry (in Hebrew)
- CAS JS 340/RN 323 Classical Jewish Thought
- CAS JS 341/RN 329 Modern Jewish Thought
- CAS JS 348/RN 338 Jewish and Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism
- CAS RN 420/CAS RN 720/CAS PH 409/GRS PH 609/STH TX 879 Maimonides

JEWISH HISTORY, INCLUDING HOLOCAUST STUDIES

- CAS JS 250/RN 220 Holy City: Jerusalem in Time, Space, and Imagination
- CAS JS 255/RN 328 Modern Judaism
- CAS JS 260/RN 384 The Holocaust
- CAS JS 359/RN 339 The Modern Jew
- CAS JS 366/LI 386 Fascism and the Holocaust in Italy
- CAS JS 367/XL 387 The Holocaust Through Film
- CAS JS 455/RN 410 Religion, Community, and Culture in Medieval Spain
- CAS JS 460/RN 460 Seminar on the Holocaust
- CAS AR 342/GRS AR 742/CAS RN 390/GRS RN 690/STH TX 815 Archaeology in the Holy Land
- CAS XL 281/CAS RN 385/GRS RN 685/COM CI 269/STH TX 899 Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film

CAS LI 459/CAS RN 459/GRS RN 759/CAS XL 459 Primo Levi Within Holocaust Literature

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH SOCIETIES AND CULTURES, INCLUDING ISRAEL STUDIES

- CAS JS 280/LH 330 Israeli Popular Music (in Hebrew)
- CAS JS 281/LH 311 Advanced Modern Hebrew: Voices in Israeli Society (*in Hebrew*)
- CAS JS 283/LH 283 Israeli Culture Through Film (*in English translation*)
- CAS JS 285/HI 392 Israel: History, Politics, Culture, Identity
- CAS JS 286/HI 393 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- CAS JS 377/RN 337 Gender, Sexuality, and Judaism
- CAS JS 379/RN 249 Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism
- CAS JS 380/LH 340 Israeli Culture Through Media (*in Hebrew*)
- CAS JS 383/LH 453 Israeli Culture Through Film (*in Hebrew*)

Featured Course:

JS100 WORLD CULTURES OF THE JEWS

The new introductory course titled **JS 100 WORLD CULTURES OF THE JEWS** is BU's first stand-alone Jewish Studies course, representing a milestone for the Jewish Studies program. **JS100** has been an incredibly popular course, and it's no surprise that it was one of our first classes to fill up. We are thrilled that so many students take this new introductory course, which fulfills the first in the Jewish Studies minor requirements sequence.

The newly required gateway course, offered for the first time in Spring 2020, was spearheaded by Professor Ingrid Anderson, the Associate Director of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. Professor Anderson is well-loved by her students for her ability to break down complicated topics and stay clear of bias. She is also known for engaging her students in class discussions and encouraging them to discuss complex ideas confidently with insight and rigor.

JS 100 WORLD CULTURES OF THE JEWS introduces students to the study of Judaism in its many forms by exploring Jewish communities across the globe, their different historical origins, cultural contexts, and strategies of preserving cohesion and transnational solidarity.

This highly engaging and unique course opens up a new path for students to understand religion, culture, and heritage by looking at Jewish histories in diverse environments. The course also highlights the vast array of Jewish practices and even challenges the definition of "Judaism."

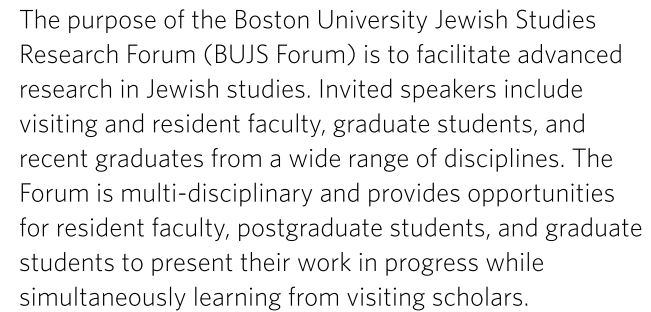
Every session in **JS100** begins with a student-led conversation. At the beginning of the semester, each student chooses a reading that stands out to them on the syllabus and presents it to their classmates. The course also takes advantage of the community outside of the classroom. As a part of the class, students form groups to complete community visits with different Jewish communities across the Boston area. For instance, last semester, some students planned to volunteer at the annual Cape Verdean Passover seder held at the Hibernian Hall in Roxbury.



INGRID ANDERSON

Evan Brown (COM '23), a freshman in the spring 2020 course, said that *"Professor Anderson has done an excellent job at creating a safe space that encourages everyone to participate in our conversations, regardless of their background or views. My peers have been a key part of my class experience because they have allowed me to see beyond what I was taught in Jewish day school to create my own unbiased opinions. Because everyone in JS100 comes from a completely different upbringing, we all learn and grow from each other."*

Boston University Jewish Studies Research Forum



October 3, 2019

November 14, 2019

In her presentation, Dr. Doughan probed the case of a German-Palestinian museum guide who lost her job over a controversy triggered by her comparing her own family's traumatic past in the Nakba with Jewish experiences during the Holocaust. The presentation considered, among others, the reflexive institutional violence exerted by the public policing of speech.



February 18, 2020

Professor of Religious Studies at St. Mary's College of Maryland, Dr. Katharina von Kellenbach's presentation titled *Der Nestbeschmutzer: Guilt and Transformation in Post-War German Discourse* examined the persistence of Nazi rhetoric of purity and purification in post-war debates on guilt and its remedies. Dr. Kellenbach argued that the label *Nestbeschmutzer* ("nest soilers") could provide a hermeneutic of intimacy and involvement that accepts culpability while generating potential for transformation instead of repression or removal.

Events

Student Open House

What’s the Harm in Holocaust Fiction?
A conversation with **Jennifer Cazenave**,
Assistant Professor of Romance Studies

The Elie Wiesel Center held its annual Student Open House on Thursday, September 5, 2019, welcoming students back to campus with refreshments and a book discussion in the Center’s Library. Students enjoyed the view overlooking the Charles River, meeting students and faculty members involved with Jewish Studies and Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies as well as brief tours of the Center’s historic building highlighting the former office of Professor Emeritus Elie Wiesel and the building’s history as the former President’s Office of Boston University.

The book discussion titled “*What’s the Harm in Holocaust Fiction?*” led by Jewish Studies faculty member,



OPEN HOUSE



Professor Jennifer Cazenave, attracted about thirty undergraduates, primarily first-year students. The discussion centered on the bestselling novel *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris, which drew criticism by Holocaust experts because of its claim to have a basis on a true story, when it contained historical errors. Students voiced their impressions in this forum, and Professor Cazenave offered her perspective as a scholar of Holocaust studies.



Who Built America?

The Elie Wiesel Center Responds to Ben Shapiro in Partnership with the Howard Thurman Center

Ben Shapiro’s provocative talk in the fall of 2019, “*American Was Not Built on Slavery, It Was Built on Freedom*,” upset many students, staff, and faculty. To respond to Shapiro’s talk, the faculty of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, organized a discussion forum for students who wanted to think critically about the content of Shapiro’s talk and the University’s decision to support the event.

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, in partnership with the African-American Studies Program, the Howard Thurman Center, and Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies, hosted a formal academic response to Ben Shapiro’s 2019 appearance on campus.

During this event, Boston University Assistant Professor of Political Science Spencer Piston responded to Shapiro’s claims with an account of the on-going social, political, and economic legacies of chattel slavery. In his lecture, Spencer Piston dismantled the idea that financing Shapiro’s security allowed for “free” speech and showed how “freedom” itself had become a political football in contemporary social and economic debates, including on university campuses.


The event was well attended with a remarkably diverse audience of about 50 students and faculty. It was followed by almost two hours of thought-provoking questions and discussions handled with equilibrium, tact, and respect, thus proving that sensitive historical and political questions could be discussed by people from various political commitments and social backgrounds without polemic or posturing.

After Shapiro’s talk divided the campus into literally screaming hostile camps, the Elie Wiesel Center event with Professor Piston created a context in which students could both listen intently and be heard.

ORGANIZED BY THE ELIE WIESEL CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES AND
CO-SPONSORED BY THE BU AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
AND BU HOLOCAUST, GENOCIDE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES.

WHO BUILT
AMERICA?

A RESPONSE TO BEN SHAPIRO




A lecture by **Professor Spencer Piston** (Political Science)

DECEMBER 9TH **5PM—7PM**
SCI 113

In response to Ben Shapiro’s claims that racial inequality in contemporary America is the result of “poor [individual] choices,” Professor Piston is going to give an account of the ongoing social, political, and economic legacies of chattel slavery.



for more information:
Boston University
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies
147 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215
bu.edu/jewishstudies 617-353-8096



Read more about the event here:
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/response-to-ben-shapiro
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/ben-shapiro-at-boston-university

RABBI JOE POLAK IN CONVERSATION
WITH HANK KNIGHT ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2019



The Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture Series

Starting in 2018, the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies has held an annual series of three lectures named in honor of Nobel laureate and longtime BU faculty member Elie Wiesel.

The Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures offer the campus community and the wider Boston-area public opportunities to hear internationally-renowned speakers on subjects ranging from the Bible to modern Jewish thought and literature.

The lectures are usually held on three non-consecutive Mondays, echoing the annual “Encounters with Elie Wiesel” that were an essential fixture on the BU campus and across the area. Each lecture in the series ties to an overarching theme. The Fall 2019 Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures centered on Writing from a Place of Survival with lectures on September 18, October 28, and November 18. In these lectures, we learned about the survivor and the power and limits of language for the survivors of genocide and those of us who engage with their writings. The speakers challenged us to hear those stories in new ways and to become more human in the process.

Writing from a Place of Survival

Rabbi Joseph Polak *in conversation with* Hank Knight

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

Full video of the lecture: youtu.be/-26HtAXTCzY

Former University Chaplain and long-time Hillel director **Rabbi Joseph Polak** opened the series of 2019 Elie Wiesel Lectures by speaking about the difficulties of writing about the traumatic memories of a child survivor, memories of things he was forced to question as he was technically too young to remember, and whose authenticity was questioned throughout his life. Most importantly, he spoke of the shame that the Nazis perpetrated on the survivors as a lasting injury. In his quiet, thoughtful, and often haunting conversation with **Dr. Henry Knight** Rabbi Polak also reflected on what he learned in many years of friendship with Professor Wiesel.

Rabbi Polak, a fixture on the BU campus for virtually the entire time Professor Wiesel was on faculty, is the author of *After the Holocaust the Bells Still Ring* (2015), a harrowing account of his family's deportation from the Netherlands to the Nazi concentration camp at Westerbork. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Health Law, Ethics & Human Rights at Boston University School of Public Health. Rabbi Polak also serves as Chief Justice of the Rabbinical Court of Massachusetts.

Dr. Henry "Hank" Knight is Professor Emeritus of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College in New Hampshire, where he served as the founding director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. He recently retired to Tulsa, Oklahoma, but remains connected with the Witness Institute, founded by BU alum Rabbi Dr. Ariel Burger and Elisha Wiesel.

The Q&A was a love-fest for Rabbi Polak, with BU alumni recalling moments of inspiration their Hillel rabbi had provided for them over the years. Eventually, the conversation turned to what Rabbi Polak's experience and story meant for us today. *"How do we make sense of a wounded God,"* was one of the haunting questions posed by an audience member.

Reflections on the evening from EWCJS Director Michael Zank on the EWCJS Blog:

blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/writing-from-a-place-of-survival



Writing from a Place of Survival

Sharon Portnoff

Primo Levi: Testimony of an Auschwitz survivor

OCTOBER 28, 2019

Sharon Portnoff is the Elie Wiesel Associate Professor of Judaic Studies at Connecticut College, where she directs the Jewish Studies program. In this second lecture of the 2019 Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures, Portnoff spoke of Primo Levi's memoir *Is This a Man*, one of the first memoirs of an Auschwitz survivor to reach a global readership. In this lecture, Portnoff explored the echoes of Dante's *Inferno* in Primo Levi's writing and led us into the exploration of how Dante helped Levi survive and write about the hell of Auschwitz.

In speaking about Levi's poem *Reveille*, Portnoff said, "Levi's poem – as almost all of his writings do – draws on the texts of the Western canon to invite us to literally engage the fact of Auschwitz against the backdrop of our higher aspirations, to spend our time reading and studying his many allusions. We do this not to find out what the human being really is in the midst of his suffering, but to enact what the human being might be."

Reflections on the evening by Professor Abigail Gillman (WLL) on the EWCJS Blog:

blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/gillman_on_portnoff/

WBUR's recording of this lecture:

www.wbur.org/worldofideas/2019/11/03/portnoff



Writing from a Place of Survival

Loung Ung: *A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers*

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

Loung Ung, an American-Cambodian human rights activist, concluded the Elie Wiesel Memorial lecture series “*Writing from a Place of Survival*” on Monday, November 18, 2019. A bestselling author, activist, and co-screenplay writer of the critically acclaimed 2017 Netflix Original Movie *First They Killed My Father* spoke of how she survived the Cambodian genocide as a child and shared her story of survival. She told us how she reclaimed her voice, redeemed herself, and helped many others tell their own stories. Loung’s powerful lecture was an unforgettable account of a family shaken and shattered, yet miraculously sustained by courage and love in the face of unspeakable brutality.

In this lecture, Ung shared her story of survival and allowed us to commemorate the Cambodian genocide, forty years after the Khmer Rouge regime, in Boston—a city situated an hour away from Lowell, home to the second-largest Cambodian community in the United States.

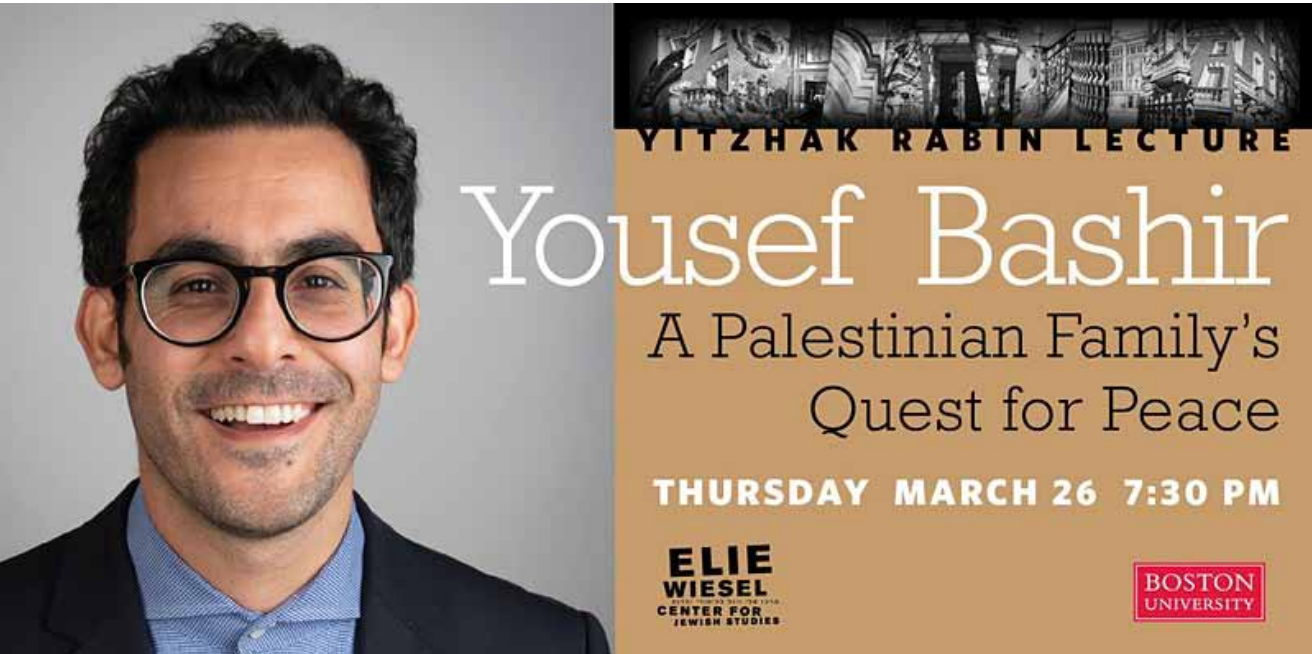
From our blog at blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/loungungatbu/

Recording of Loung Ung lecture at youtu.be/DYZxS8tNz7w



Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture

Yousef Bashir, Author of *Words of My Father*



Yousef Bashir, the author of *The Words of My Father: Love and Pain in Palestine*, gave the 2020 Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture on May 14, 2020. This well-attended lecture, the last public event scheduled for the Spring 2020 semester, was the first we held entirely remotely.

Yousef Bashir, a Palestinian from Gaza, spoke of his memoir and his father’s voice, who always insisted on maintaining his family’s dignity and humanity by treating the occupying forces as misguided human beings. He recalled when he was shot in the back by an Israeli soldier and how he survived through the medical treatment and rehabilitation he received at Tel Hashomer Hospital in Tel Aviv. In this lecture, Bashir shared how he gradually came to appreciate his father’s attitude and why he decided to make that voice his own. Bashir is today an ambassador for Palestinian-Israeli co-existence.

For an interview with Mr. Bashir, see: www.pbs.org/video/yousef-bashir-his-new-memoir-words-my-father-mynpf5

Jonathan Krivine (CAS '72), the funder of the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lectures at Boston University, said that “over the last fifteen years, I have seen the growth of programming increase exponentially. Most gratifying is to see the local community participate passionately at our lectures. Without a doubt, the EWJCS is a unique asset of Boston University, which serves to unify a variety of groups in search of inspiration.” We thank Mr. Krivine for his generous support of the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lectures at Boston University.

Jewish Cultural Endowment: Funded Projects

The Jewish Cultural Endowment (JCE) supports cultural programs on campus, including lectures, academic conferences, literary events, curricular enhancement, artistic performances, and exhibitions. It accepts submissions from all BU faculty, staff, and students and operates under the auspices of the Elie Wiesel Center. The Jewish Cultural Endowment’s mission is to foster an appreciation of Jewish culture in all of its richness and diversity. In 2019-2020, the JCE approved funding for the following projects, some of which were postponed due to the pandemic.

Jews and Theatre in Early-Modern Northern Italy. The event consisted of a talk by *Erith Jaffe-Berg* (University of California Riverside), followed by students’ performance from the Boston University School of Theater to highlight some of the most notable theatre performances staged by the Jews of early-modern Northern Italy. The performance highlighted scenes from some extant scripts of the period.

Apocalypse as Poetry: Jacobo Fijman, a lecture by *Naomi Lindstrom*, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Texas. Lindstrom examined the life of the Argentine-Jewish poet Jacobo Fijman (1898-1970) as a talented mystical writer whose mature poems often consist of descriptions of visions. Link to the poster: www.bu.edu/las/2019/09/12/apocalypse-as-poetry-jacobo-fijman-a-lecture-by-naomi-lindstrom

Community Seders. Using JCE funding, the BU Hillel offered free Passover seders to students.

Lecture, **Dr. Monique Saigal**, organized by *Rory Van Loo*, Associate Professor at Boston University School of Law. Professor Saigal will speak of her personal story living in France during World War II and her experience as a hidden Jewish child thrown in a train by her grandmother to save her. She will also speak of her book “French Heroines: 1940 to 1945, which examines the underappreciated role women played in the French resistance against Nazi Germany. (Postponed.)

Lecture, **Rachael Cerroti**, creator of the podcast. We Share the Same Sky. This talk will be hosted by Jewish Empowered Women, a club dedicated to celebrating feminist and Jewish identity intersections through social, educational, and cultural events. It will provide BU students with the opportunity to interact with Rachael Cerroti, a multi-disciplinary storyteller and educator who has made Holocaust education more accessible. (Postponed.)

Anti-Semitism, White Supremacy, and US Culture: The Call for Interfaith Upstanding is a series of three seminars originally scheduled for the spring of 2021. The three seminars examine the relationship between white nationalism and antisemitism and establish theoretical and theological frames for upstanding in light of antisemitism and white supremacy. They also aim to introduce the skills needed for upstanding through reflective and interactive community dialogue. (Postponed.)

Press Mentions

JANUARY 17, 2019
www.bostonglobe.com/arts/2019/01/17/doc-talk-the-warsaw-ghetto-world-war-native-american-rock-stars-coal-hidden-cost/nFdPHfzGTP8mVaw3s0cOml/story.html
Doc Talk: The Warsaw Ghetto, World War I, Native American rock stars, coal’s hidden cost

APRIL 16, 2019
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/peter-beinart-yitzhak-rabin-memorial-lecture/
BU’s Rabin Lecture Outlines Split among American Jews

JUNE 29, 2019
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/are-ice-detention-centers-concentration-camps/
Are ICE Detention Centers Concentration Camps?

OCTOBER 28, 2019
www.jewishboston.com/events/elie-wiesel-memorial-lecture-sharon-portnoff-on-primo-levi-and-dante
Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture: Sharon Portnoff on Primo Levi and Dante

OCTOBER 30, 2019
www.jewishaz.com/community/east-valley-jcc-partners-with-elie-wiesel-center-on-lecture/article_15c3e844-fb31-11e9-bff0-43a01992ace4.html
East Valley JCC partners with Elie Wiesel Center on lecture series

NOVEMBER 18, 2019
www.evjcc.org/eliewiesel
Elie Wiesel and Primo Levi: The Gray Zone of Holocaust Survival, Two Auschwitz Survivors and Their Stories

DECEMBER 9, 2019
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/response-to-ben-shapiro/
A Response to Ben Shapiro’s Talk at BU Last Month

DECEMBER 17, 2019
www.bu.edu/articles/2019/pov-trumps-executive-order-aimed-at-protecting-jews-will-have-a-chilling-effect-on-freedom-of-speech-at-colleges/
POV: Trump’s Executive Order Aimed at Protecting Jews Will Have a Chilling Effect on Freedom of Speech at Colleges

JANUARY 26, 2020
www.wbur.org/worldofideas/2020/01/26/loung
First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers

JANUARY 28, 2020
english.cambodiadaily.com/lifestyle/first-they-killed-my-father-a-daughter-of-cambodia-remembers-2-159192
First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers

JANUARY 31, 2020
jewishjournal.org/2020/01/31/legislators-mark-international-holocaust-remembrance-day
Legislators mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day

APRIL 13, 2020
www.boston.com/event/sarah-hammerschlag-school-of-prophets-the-renaissance-of-judaism-in-postwar-paris-3852079
Sarah Hammerschlag: “School of Prophets: The Renaissance of Judaism in Postwar Paris”

MAY 14, 2020
www.jewishboston.com/events/yousef-bashir-a-palestinian-familys-quest-for-peace-2/
Yousef Bashir: A Palestinian Family’s Quest for Peace

JULY 1, 2020
www.bu.edu/articles/2020/ibram-kendi-mellon-professorship-in-humanities/
Ibram X. Kendi Awarded BU’s Andrew W. Mellon Professorship in the Humanities

JULY 21, 2020
www.bu.edu/articles/2020/bu-elie-wiesel-center-for-jewish-studies-hosts-virtual-summer-reading-series/
BU’s Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies Hosts Virtual Summer Reading Series

AUGUST 23, 2020
www.wbur.org/worldofideas/2020/08/23/offp
Primo Levi: Testimony of an Auschwitz Survivor

Outreach and Media

Communications Team

The Elie Wiesel Center welcomed two new communications team members this year: Veronica Rodriguez, a master’s student at COM, and Khadija El Karfi, a Ph.D. student in the Romance Studies department. The two began their work as Communications Assistants in August 2020 and worked together to grow the Elie Wiesel Center’s social media reach across all platforms.

In August, El Karfi began working on finalizing the 2019-20 Annual Report while Rodriguez worked on the Elie Wiesel Center blog site, social media platforms, and updates on notable Center events, Jewish holidays, and academic program news.

On Facebook and Instagram, the Center continued to offer live video coverage of our public events, all of which remain archived on our pages and reached hundreds of unique viewers. Jeremy Solomons, the Center’s communication Coordinator, also continued to organize live events on Zoom and website updates with plans for a new website that may launch as early as Winter 2020, in collaboration with the College of Arts & Sciences Integrated Marketing and Communications team.

Keep Up with Us on Social Media!

Twitter: @BUjewishstudies

Facebook: facebook.com/ewcjs

Instagram: @ewcjs

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCMY3HH6KCSYnW83_GA6YFAQ

Collaborations and Co-Sponsorships

- PARTNERS**
- African American Studies
 - Boston playwrights’ Theatre
 - BU Alumni Association
 - BU Arts Initiative
 - BU Hillel
 - Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences
 - College of Arts and Sciences dean of the Humanities
 - CAS Academic Enhancement Fund
 - CAS Core Curriculum
 - Center for the Humanities
 - Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations
 - Kilachand Honors College
 - NEH distinguished Teaching professorship
 - Office of the Provost
 - Pardee School of Global Studies Institute on Culture, Religion and World Affairs (CUrA)
 - Pardee School Mudarri Fund for Arab Culture
 - Romance Studies
 - School of Theology
 - Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground
 - World Languages and Literature

- COMMUNITY CO-SPONSORS**
- AJC New England
 - Boston Jewish Film Festival EWCJS sponsorship of the screening of “The State Against Mandela and Others.”
 - East Valley Jewish Community Center
 - Institutional Sponsor of Association for Jewish Studies and AJS annual conference

Co-Sponsorship Highlight

Beyond Duty

AN EXHIBITION HONORING THE CONSULS WHO HELPED THE JEWS

A co-sponsored event on International Holocaust Memorial Day, January 2020

In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Elie Wiesel Center co-sponsored the “*Beyond Duty*” Exhibition opening. The Israeli Consul General to New England, Zeev Boker, delivered remarks and Ambassador Boker helped unveil the exhibition.

The exhibition’s opening preceded a lecture by Michael Grodin, Professor of Health Law, Ethics and Human Rights at the Boston University School of Public Health. Additionally, a panel of international diplomats commemorated those who went “beyond duty,” often defying their governments to issue life-saving documents that allowed thousands of Jews to escape Nazi persecution.

The exhibition “*Beyond Duty*” at Boston University represented the first time the exhibition was shown in New England and provided the Center with the opportunity to honor the memories of the 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and those who fought back against the Nazis at sometimes significant personal risk to themselves and their families.

Read Consul Zeev Boker’s remarks on our blog: blogs.bu.edu/ewcjs/beyond-duty-consuls-remarks



Acknowledgments

We are grateful to our alumni and community members who supported us this year and helped us sustain and expand the activities of the Center. We extend a special thank you to Mr. Jonathan Krivine and Mrs. Gunda Trepp for their on-going friendship and support. We are grateful to the following friends of the Center for their generous donations in the past year.

Aitz Hayim Center for Jewish Living
Alan R. Alberts
Lauren A. Alpert
Simone R. Beri
Simone D. Budman
Joan Charnas
Paul J. Chastanet
Ronald E. Czik
Kathryn A. Dettmer
Joshua Dietz
Mark Eisenberg
Paul S. Fleischman
Rosalind H. Finkelstein
Ellen G. Forst
Ellen L. Friedman
Victoria Gamerman
Linda F. Goldwyn Esq.
Cameron M. Gordon
Jeffrey B. Hainsworth
Andrew Hass
Peter G. Heltzel
Janice S. Kahn
Tamara B. Kei
Bobbie Surott Kimberly
Susan Kitchell
Diane S. Krevolin
Mitchell D. Krieger
Johnathan N. Krivine
Evan S. Kurz D. O.
Lanny S. Kutakoff
Pnina Lahav
Amy L. Lawrence
Hadassa H. Levenson
Jeffrey P. Levy
Maria M. Lim
Ann M. Lindenbaum
Melissa C. Malinasky
Laura J. Marcus
Lauren T. Maurand
Deborah Miller
Michael K. Moore
Robert A. Novembre
Benjamin Z. Olds
Sanford A. Ramras
Sara P. Rochette
Rachelle M. Sanders
Kendra H. Schmidt
Alisa F. Secofsky
Scott M. Sherman MS
Jonathan D. Shulman
Susan C. Shulman
Ronni Silver
Linda C. Sklar
Candice Stark
Mark D. Swartz
Swee C. Tan
Larry B. Tankanow M.D.
Marjory A. Trott
Richard L. Tuck
Lisa Van Allsburg
Rosalen C. Vineberg
Joshua D. Weissman M.D.
Diane W. Wing

PHOTOGRAPHY FOR 2019-2020 BY:
DAVE GREEN, BILL MCCORMACK

ANNUAL REPORT:
EDITED BY CARO BARSCHOW, THERESA COONEY,
KHADIJA EL KARFI, JEREMY SOLOMONS
COVER DESIGNED BY EIKE WINTZER

EWCS STAFF:
MICHAEL ZANK, DIRECTOR
INGRID ANDERSON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
THERESA COONEY, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
JEREMY SOLOMONS, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT
(2020)
KATHERINE GIANNI, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT
(2019)
CARO BARSCHOW, GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANT
VERONICA RODRIGUEZ, GRADUATE STUDENT
ASSISTANT
KHADIJA EL KARFI, GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANT
SELMA ASOTIC, GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANT

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYEES:
TALLULAH BARK-HUSS, DENI BUDMAN, CONNOR
DEDRICK, RACHEL SILBERMAN

© 2021 ELIE WIESEL CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES

for more information contact:
Boston University
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies
147 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215
bu.edu/jewishstudies 617-353-8096

