

## **DEEANA COPELAND KLEPPER**

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### **EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., Northwestern University (History)  
M.A., Northwestern University (History)  
B.A., Northland College, Ashland, Wisconsin (Social Science Education grades 7-12 /Native American Studies)

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

Professor of Religion and History. Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2024-present  
Visiting Scholar in Medieval Studies. Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Fall, 2019  
Associate Professor of Religion. Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2007-present  
Associate Professor of History. Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2009-present  
Assistant Professor of Religion. Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2000 –2007  
Visiting Assistant Professor of History. Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, February 1999-June 2000

### **ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS at BOSTON UNIVERSITY:**

Chair, Department of Religion, 2023-present  
Provost Faculty Fellow for Undergraduate Affairs, January 2016-July 2019  
Director, BU Program in Scripture and the Arts, 2014-2017; co-director 2019-2020  
Director of Graduate Studies, Graduate Division of Religious Studies, 2013  
Chair, Department of Religion, 2008-2012  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Religion, 2007-2008  
Acting Director, Luce Program in Scripture and the Literary Arts, 2004-2005  
Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Religion, 2001-2006

### **FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS:**

Fellow, Medieval Academy of America Society of Fellows (elected 2024)  
Boston University Humanities Center Jeffrey Henderson Senior Faculty fellowship, Fall 2019  
Susan K. Jackson Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 2018  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute Scholar, “Negotiating Identities: Expression and Representation in the Christian-Jewish-Muslim Mediterranean,” Barcelona 2015.  
Boston University Humanities Center Jeffrey Henderson Senior Faculty Fellowship, 2012-13  
American Philosophical Society Franklin Research Grant, 2008.  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, 2007.  
University of Pennsylvania Center For Advanced Judaic Studies Fellowship, 2002.  
Northwestern University Alumnae Association Dissertation Fellowship, 1992-1993.  
Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Religion and Ethics, 1990-1991.  
Borsa di Studio, Centro Interuniversitario di Studi Francescani, Corso Residenziale, Assisi, Italy, July 1990.  
Rome Prize Fellowship in Post-Classical Humanistic Studies, American Academy in Rome, 1989-1990.  
Mellon Preceptorship, Northwestern University, 1988-1989.  
George Romani Prize (best first year research paper), Northwestern University Department of History, 1987.  
Northwestern University President's Fellowship, 1986-1989.

## PUBLICATIONS:

### Books:

*Pastoral Care and Community in Late Medieval Germany: Albert of Diessen's 'Mirror of Priests'* (Cornell University Press, 2022)

*The Insight of Unbelievers: Nicholas of Lyra and Christian Reading of Jewish Text in the Later Middle Ages* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007).

### Articles and Book Chapters:

"Shared Scripture? Nicholas of Lyra's 'On the Difference between the Hebrew Letter and Our Translation,'" in *Shared Scripture, Divided Faiths*, ed. Frans van Liere (Brill Academic Press, forthcoming 2025)

"Disentangling Heretics, Jews, and Muslims: Imagining Infidels in Late Medieval Pastoral Manuals," in *Late Medieval Heresy: New Perspectives. Essays in Honor of Robert Lerner*, Michael D. Bailey and Sean L. Field, eds. (York Medieval Press, 2018), 137-156.

"Pastoral Literature in Local Context: Albert of Diessen's *Mirror of Priests* on Christian-Jewish Co-existence," *Speculum* 92 (2017): 692-793.

"Theories of Interpretation: The *Quadrigena* and Its Successors," in *New Cambridge History of the Bible*, Vol. 3: 1450-1750, Euan Cameron, ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2016), 418-438.

"Historicizing Allegory: The Jew as Hagar in Medieval Christian Text and Image," *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 84 (2015): 308-344.

"The Encounter Between Christian Authority and Jewish Authority over Scriptural Truth: The Barcelona Disputation 1263," in *Autorität und Wahrheit. Kirchliche Vorstellungen, Normen und Verfahren (13. – 15. Jahrhundert)*, Gian Luca Potestà, ed. (Schriften des Historischen Kollegs, 2012), 1-19.

"Literal versus Carnal: George of Siena's Christian Reading of Jewish Exegesis," in *Jewish Biblical Interpretation and Cultural Exchange: Comparative Exegesis in Context*, David Stern and Natalie Dohrmann, eds. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008), 196-213.

"'First in Knowledge of Divine Law': The Jews and the Old Law in Nicholas of Lyra's Romans Commentary," in *Medieval Readings of Romans*, Brenda Schildgen, Peter Hawkins, and William Campbell, eds. (T&T Clark/Continuum, 2007), 167-181.

"Beryl Smalley: The Medieval Bible in the Modern Academy" (Coauthored with Henrietta Leyser), in *Women Medievalists in the Academy*, Jane Chance, ed. (University of Wisconsin Press, 2005), 1172-1191.

"Nicholas of Lyra and Franciscan Interest in Hebrew Scholarship," in *Nicholas of Lyra: The Senses of Scripture*, Philip Krey and Lesley Smith, eds. (Brill, 2000), 289-311.

"The Dating of Nicholas of Lyra's *Quaestio de adventu Christi*," *Archivum Franciscanum Historicum* 86 (1993): 297-312.

"The *Ingressus Ludwici Palatini reni ad terram sanctam*: A Fifteenth-Century Response to Spiritual Crisis," *Fifteenth-Century Studies* 15 (1989): 209-231.

### Reference Articles, Encyclopedia Entries, and Exhibit Catalogs:

"Exile," *The Encyclopedia of Jewish-Christian Relations*, eds. Walter Homolka, Rainer Kampling, Amy-Jill Levine, Christoph Marksches, Peter Schäfer, Martin Thurner. Degruyter Online, <http://www.ejcr-project.com/>.

"Postillae, Nicolás de Lira," *Biblias de Sefarad*, pp. 292-295. Biblioteca Nacional de España, 2012. Exhibition Catalog entry for Biblioteca Nacional de España, Madrid, "Biblias de Sefarad: Las vidas cruzadas del texto y sus lectores," 27 Feb to 13 May, 2012

"The Franciscan Order," *Antisemitism: A Historical Encyclopedia of Prejudice and Persecution*, 2 Vols. ed. Richard Levy. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2005.

"The Dominican Order," *Antisemitism: A Historical Encyclopedia of Prejudice and Persecution*, 2 Vols. ed. Richard Levy. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2005.

"Schwester Katrei," *Dictionnaire d'histoire et de géographie ecclésiastiques*, vol. 29, Roger Aubert, ed. Paris: Letouzey et Ané, 2003: 1073-1076.

*The Hebrew Renaissance*, with Michael Signer. Newberry Library, Chicago, 1997.

#### **Book Reviews:**

Eugene Smelyansky, *Heresy and Citizenship: Persecution of Heresy in Late Medieval German Cities* (Routledge Press, 2021) and Smelyansky, editor, *The Intolerant Middle Ages: A Reader*. Readings in Medieval Civilizations and Cultures 23 (University of Toronto Press, 2020), *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies* 98 (October, 2023).

Matthew Wranovix, *Priests and Their Books in Late Medieval Eichstätt* (Lexington Books, 2017), *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies* 94 (July, 2019).

Elisheva Baumgarten, Ruth Mazo Karras, and Katelyn Mesler, editors, *Entangled Histories: Knowledge, Authority, and Jewish Culture in the Thirteenth Century*. Jewish Culture and Contexts (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017), *American Historical Review* 123 (December, 2018).

Nina Caputo and Liz Clarke, *Debating Truth: The Barcelona Disputation of 1263: A Graphic History* (Oxford University Press, 2017), *The Historian* 80 (Spring 2018).

"Of Haggadahs, Blood Libels, and Scholarly Collaboration: The History of Munich BSB Cod. Hebr. 200." Review of David Stern, Christoph Marksches, Sarit Shalev-Eyni, eds. *The Monk's Haggadah: A Fifteenth-Century Illuminated Codex from the Monastery of Tegernsee, with a Prologue by Friar Erhard von Pappenheim* (Penn State University Press, 2015). HNet Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences (September 2015).

Eva De Visscher, *Reading the Rabbis: Christian Hebraism in the Works of Herbert of Bosham*. Commentaria, Number 5 (Brill, 2014), *American Historical Review* 120 (June, 2015).

"Displaced Anxiety: Medieval Christian Representations of the Jew and Christian Self Reflection," A Review of Sara Lipton, *Dark Mirror: The Medieval Origins of Christian Anti-Jewish Iconography* (Metropolitan Books, 2014), *Marginalia Review of Books* (May 12, 2015). Reprinted in *LA Review of Books Digital Editions* #37: Marginalia (2015).

Ryan Szpiech, *Conversion and Narrative: Reading and Religious Authority in Medieval Polemic*, The Middle Ages Series (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013), *Medieval Encounters* 20 (2014).

Kirsten Fudeman, *Vernacular Voices: Language and Identity in Medieval French Jewish Communities* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010), *AJS Review* 36 (April, 2012).

Frans van Liere and Mark Zier, eds., *Andreae de Sancto Victore opera*, 8: *Expositio super duodecim prophetas*. Corpus Christianorum, Continuatio Mediaevalis, 53G (Turnhout: Brepols, 2007) *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies* 84 (July, 2009).

Kenneth Stow, *Jewish Dogs: An Image and Its Interpreters* (Stanford University Press, 2006), *AJS Review* 32 (April 2008).

Mark Hazard, *The Literal Sense and The Gospel of John in Late-Medieval Commentary and Literature* (Routledge 2002), *The Journal of Religion* (January, 2005).

Amy Hollywood, *Sensible Ecstasy: Mysticism, Sexual Difference, and the Demands of History* (University of Chicago Press, 2002), *The Medieval Review* (September 2003).

#### INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, AND SYMPOSIA:

“Regulating Daily Life with Jews and Muslims: Advice Literature for Christian Priests,” Hebrew University, Jerusalem, May 29, 2024.

“Jews and Christians: The State of the Field,” at Medieval Matters: A Symposium in Honor of Miri Rubin, Queen Mary University London, June 29-30, 2023.

“Shared Scripture? Nicholas of Lyra on *The Differences between the Hebrew Letter and Our Translation*,” Shared Scripture—Divided Faiths, Corcoran Center for Christian-Jewish Relations, Boston College, March 19-20, 2023.

“Constructing Christian Community: Local Authority and the Function of Priest’s Manuals in Late Medieval Germany,” Queen Mary University London Medieval Studies Reading Group, February 28, 2023.

“Christians and Jews in Late Medieval Guides for Parish Priests: Local Approaches and Lived Religion,” Medieval History Workshop, Harvard University, November 21, 2022.

“Reverberations of Christian Anti-Jewish Polemics in Late Medieval Pastoral Literature,” Jewish-Christian Relations & Christian Anti-Jewish Polemics in Late Antiquity & the Middle Ages: Towards New Methods, Approaches, and Questions. A Conference organized by the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, May 2, 2022.

“Religious Studies and History: What’s in a Discipline?” Symposium in Honor of Richard Kieckhefer, Northwestern University, April 7, 2022.

Response to Nina Caputo, “The Trouble with Conversion: Jewish Converts and Christian Responses,” University of Florida, October 27, 2021.

“Choosing Sins: Penitential Canons in Late Medieval Guides for Parish Priests,” Medieval Collations, Harvard University, November 18, 2019.

“The Old Law in Manuals for Parish Priests,” Thinking with and against the Jews. Christian Understandings of the Old Law (1100-1500), Queen Mary University London, November 2019.

“Failure in the Middle Ages,” Keynote Address to the Medieval Studies Graduate Conference, Princeton University, March 2019.

“The Monastery and the Market: The Augustinian Canons Regular at Diessen as Social, Economic, and Religious Elites,” Religious Life, Elites, and Medieval Culture, The University of Alabama and The University of Dresden, Tuscaloosa, AL, October 17-20, 2018.

“Reading Nicholas of Lyra in a German Landscape: The Reception of Lyra’s Exegetical Work in Context,” Luther’s Anti-Jewish Interpretation of the Bible: A Case Study in Christian-Jewish Relations in Late Medieval Germany, Corcoran Center for Christian-Jewish Relations at Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, March 2018.

“Nicholas of Lyra on the Difference Between the Latin Vulgate and the Hebrew Letter: Constructing an Authoritative Literal Sense,” Nicholas of Lyra (c. 1270-1349) and the Late Medieval Bible, New College, University of Oxford, UK, March 2018.

“Faithful Narratives: The Challenge of Religion in History,” Boston College Biennial Conference on the History of Religion: *The Problem of Religion: Faith and Agency in History*, March, 2014.

“Exile in the Eye of the Beholder: Jews, Christians, and the Embrace of Exile in Medieval Europe,” University of Connecticut Center for Judaic Studies & Medieval Studies Program, March 2014.

“Jewish Difference and the Parish Priest: Jews and Christian Society in Medieval Pastoral Manuals,” Faculty-Graduate Research Seminar, University of Connecticut Center for Judaic Studies & Medieval Studies Program, March 2014.

“Language Matters: Christian Engagement with Hebrew Language and Jewish Biblical Interpretation in the Middle Ages,” Judaic and Near Eastern Studies, University of Massachusetts Lecture Series on “The Bible Across Cultures: Antiquity to the Enlightenment,” March 2013.

Invited Respondent: Suzanne LaVere, A.W. Mellon Fellow in Medieval Studies, Notre Dame University: “Out of the Cloister: Scholastic Exegesis of the Song of Songs, 1100-1250” April, 2012.

“A Global Middle Ages?” Harvard University Medieval Seminar, September 2012.

“Christian Hebraism in a Changing Iberian Landscape: Ponce Carbonell (d. 1349) and Paul of Burgos (d. 1435) on Nicholas of Lyra’s *Postilla*,” Medieval Exegesis: An Interfaith Discourse, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, October 17-18, 2011.

“Rashi’s Song of Songs Commentary in the work of Nicholas of Lyra, Poncio Carbonell, and the Anonymous *Expositio historica Canticum canticorum*,” Latin and Vernacular Translations of Hebrew Texts in the 12th and 13th Century, Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany, September 20-21, 2011.

“Biblical Identities and the Reality of Medieval Jewish-Christian Encounter,” Southern Connecticut State University, November 2010.

“Historicizing Allegory: Christian Constructions of Biblical Identities,” University of London Institute for Historical Research, January, 2010.

“The Encounter Between Christian Authority and Jewish Authority over Biblical Truth: The Barcelona Disputation, 1263,” Historisches Kolleg, Munich. Colloquium on Truth and Authority in the Middle Ages, June 2009.

“Historicizing Allegory: The Jew as Hagar in Medieval Christian Text and Image,” Refreshment of Scholars: A Symposium in Honor of Robert E. Lerner, Evanston, IL, May 31, 2008.

“Inclusion/Exclusion of Jews and the Formation of a Medieval European Polity,” Florsheimer Colloquium on Religion and Political Space, Cardozo Law School, NYC, February 1, 2008

“Balance of Power: Jewish Engagement with Church and State in Medieval Europe,” Hebrew College Forum, NYC, March 6, 2008

“Wrestling with Rashi,” Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, Chicago, IL, August 26, 2007. Exhibition lecture sponsored by the Newberry Library and Spertus Institute on the occasion of their joint acquisition of a rare incunable copy of Nicholas of Lyra's *Postilla litteralis super Bibliam*

“Nicholas of Lyra’s Literal Reading of Solomon’s Song: Appropriation and Transformation of Rashi’s Bible Commentary,” Christian Scholarship and the Jews: A Workshop. Princeton University, March 19, 2006.

“The Jew as Hagar in Medieval Christian Imagination,” Luce Program in Scripture and Literary Arts, Boston University, October 6, 2005.

“The Insight of Unbelievers: Nicholas of Lyra and the Christianization of Jewish Text in the Later Middle Ages,” Tertullia (A Boston University Faculty Colloquium), March, 2004.

"Reading the Rabbis: Nicholas of Lyra, OFM and the Mantle of Jewish Authority in the Later Middle Ages," Harvard Humanities Center Medieval Seminar, Cambridge, MA, February 2004.

Respondent: Margaret Miles, “Tasteless Historical Stories: An Historian's Responsibility to Past and Present,” Boston University Institute for Philosophy and Religion Lecture Series, February, 2004

“Locating the Truth: The History of Christian Hebraism and Christian-Jewish Encounter,” Wake Forest University, October 2002.

“Searching Scripture: Teaching the Literal Sense of Scripture through Anti-Jewish Polemics,” Jewish Biblical Interpretation in Comparative Context, Colloquium of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, May 2002.

“Wrestling With Rashi: Jewish Authority in Late Medieval Christian Exegesis,” University of Pennsylvania Center for Advanced Judaic Studies Seminar, February, 2002.

“Franciscan Friars on Proving the Advent of Christ to the Jews,” The Friars and the Jews in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, international conference held at St. Louis University, October 1997.

## CONFERENCE PANEL PRESENTATIONS

“Localized Approaches to Jews and Muslims in Pastoral Care Manuals,” Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, Washington DC, February 23, 2023.

“Nicholas of Lyra's Failed Project?: The Fate of His Treatise for Students, 'On the Differences between Our Translation and the Hebrew Letter,’” International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK. July 5, 2022.

“Writing Apocalypse and Salvation: A Roundtable on New Religious Histories – Narratives, Methods, and Process,” Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting. Charlottesville, VA, March 10-12, 2022.

“Territory, Community, and Lived Christianity in Medieval Europe,” Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, Emory University, March 2018.

“Sara Lipton’s *Dark Mirror*: Medieval Christian-Jewish Relations and the Contemporary American Landscape,” International Congress of Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May, 2017.

“Lateran IV on Christian-Jewish Relations: A Fourteenth-Century Bavarian Response in the Wake of Plague Violence,” Concilium Lateranense IV: Commemorating the Octocentenary of the Fourth Lateran Council of 1215, Rome, Italy, November 2015.

“Christian Hebraism in a Changing Iberian Landscape: Ponce Carbonel, Pablo de Santa Maria, & Christian Engagement with Jewish Tradition,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2015.

“Jews, Christians, and the Embrace of Exile in Medieval Europe,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting (Medieval Academy of America Sponsored Session), New York City, January, 2015.

"*Utrum Iudei deberent occidi a fidelibus*: Violence against Jews from School to Street," Medieval Academy of America sponsored session at the International Congress of Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May, 2014.

“Isaac, Ishmael, and the Rejection of the Jews in Medieval Christian Thought,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2010.

"Jews and Christians in Albert of Diessen's *Speculum Clericorum*," International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May, 2009.

“Christianizing Solomon's Song: Literal Exegesis and Rashi's Song Commentary," American Society for Church History Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, January 4, 2007.

“Literal and Allegorical Interpretations of Hagar in Franciscan Exegesis,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 4, 2006.

“Destruction of the Temple and Scholastic Conceptions of Jewish Exile,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 7, 2005.

“Robert Lerner's *The Feast of Saint Abraham*,” American Society for Church History Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2004.

“Reading the Rabbis: Nicholas of Lyra's Reception of Medieval Jewish Texts,” Association of Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, December 2002.

“Medieval Franciscan Hebraists: Constructing a Historical Jesus,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Toronto, November 2002.

“Jewish Expulsion and Jewish Exile in Scholastic Thought,” International Medieval Congress at Leeds, UK, July 2002.

“The Influence of Jewish Exegesis on Nicholas of Lyra's New Testament Commentary,” American Society of Church History Annual Meeting, San Francisco, January 2002.

“From Exegesis to Polemic: George of Siena, OP,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May, 2000.

“Franciscan Hebraism,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May, 1998.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Historical Association  
Medieval Academy of America  
American Society of Church History  
Association for Jewish Studies  
American Academy of Religion