



Program in Jewish Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

**Kol Mevasser:** The Voice of Jewish Studies at CU-Boulder

February 4, 2014



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→ Alumni Highlight...



Tzvi came to CU Boulder from Steamboat Springs, CO, and graduated with a major in Jewish Studies and a minor in Theater this past May 2013.

We are excited to announce that Tzvi has recently been accepted into the [University of Haifa's International MA in Israel Studies](#) program. This program emphasizes the study of the history of Zionism and the state of Israel, Jewish diasporas in the 20th century, and an analysis of contemporary Israel through the lenses of sociology, minorities, law and culture. Tzvi states, "*My degree in Jewish Studies has led me to pursue my passions in social justice, Judaism, and Israel. I have found that my degree has been opening doors for me in many different directions. I have the tools to succeed in furthering my education and career.*" After his program, Tzvi plans on staying in Israel to promote the welfare and networking efforts of youth in the diaspora and Israel.

During his time at CU, Tzvi was highly involved with the Program in Jewish Studies. As a senior, Tzvi completed a [Jewish Studies Capstone Project](#) which combined his passions for both Jewish Studies and theater. Tzvi produced and directed a gender-bending adaptation of the play, *A Dybbuk* by Tony Kushner, which became part of CU's Spring 2013 Fringe Festival and featured a cast of sixteen, mostly female students. Tzvi also participated in the [JWST 3930 Internship in Jewish Studies](#), serving as an intern for CU's Chabad as their Student Leadership Advisor. This internship inspired Tzvi to continue his pursuit of social justice after graduation, and for the past year he has been serving as a corps member for the Washington

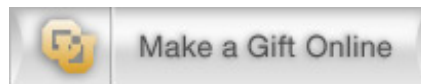
D.C. Jewish Community Center through [AVODAH: The Jewish Service Corps](#). Tzvi's work on the [Behrend Builders](#) project allows him to work daily in the D.C. community helping low-income families, homeless shelters, and community centers repair and beautify their space.

*For students considering majoring or minoring in Jewish Studies*, Tzvi says, "Try it out. I wanted an education that I could use in the future and that would help inform my career path. I learned about my passions and what I wanted to do in the world in my Jewish Studies classes. There are few programs or departments like Jewish Studies!"

**Help us ensure Jewish Studies continues to support students' passions and visions for the future with a donation to the Program in Jewish Studies.**

Donations can be made online at [cufund.org](http://cufund.org) or contact Kimberly Bowman, Director of Development at the University of Colorado Foundation at 303.541.1446.

Thank you!



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→ **Special Faculty Updates...**

[Eyal Rivlin](#), Hebrew Language Instructor, was recently awarded the [Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures 2013 Teaching Award](#). This award will be presented at GSLL's spring commencement ceremony. Congratulations Professor Rivlin!



[David Shneer, PhD](#), Director of the Program in Jewish Studies, [Louis P. Singer Endowed Chair in Jewish History](#), and Professor of History and Religious Studies, will be giving a talk at Brandeis University's [Brandeis-Genesis Institute for Russian Jewry](#) on Monday, February 10, 2014. His talk, "Through Soviet Jewish Eyes: Photography, War and the Holocaust" will be based off his most recent book of the same title. Learn more at [www.brandeis.edu/bgi/events](http://www.brandeis.edu/bgi/events).

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→ **Little Failure Reading with Award Winning Author and Satirist Gary Shteyngart...**

## [An Evening with Gary Shteyngart](#)

Public Reading and Discussion of memoir *Little Failure*

Thursday, February 20 @ 7:00PM

University Memorial Center, Room 235

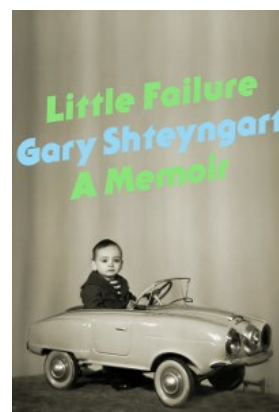
Free and Open to the Public

Space is limited - RSVPs appreciated

Email [CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu](mailto:CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu) or call 303.492.7143

*Little Failure* and other books by Gary Shteyngart will be available for purchase and signing after the event.

Already a *New York Times* bestseller, *Little Failure* is a candid, witty, deeply poignant account of Shteyngart's experiences growing up as a Jewish-Russian immigrant in Queens, New York, his haphazard college pursuits, and his initial forays into a literary career. The *LA Times* book review described *Little Failure* as "an ecstatic depiction of survival, guilt and perseverance...as vivid, original and funny as anything contemporary U.S. literature has to offer." In addition to reading from *Little Failure*, Shteyngart will be in conversation with [Sasha Senderovich](#), Assistant Professor in Germanic and Slavic Languages & Literatures and the Program in Jewish Studies at CU Boulder, about his memoir and work in the past decade.



Gary Shteyngart, who was born in the Soviet Union in 1972 and immigrated to the United States with his family in 1979, is considered to be one of America's best satirists. His *New York Times* bestselling novels include [Super Sad True Love Story](#) (2010), which was the first American novel to win the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for Comic Fiction and was selected as one of the best books of the year by over 40 news journals and magazines around the

world. [Absurdistan](#) (2006) was chosen as one of the 10 best books of the year by *The New York Times Book Review* and *Time* magazine. [The Russian Debutante's Handbook](#) (2002) won the Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction and the National Jewish Book Award for fiction. His essays and other works of fiction have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *The New York Times Magazine* and many other publications. Shteyngart is also an Associate Professor of Creative Writing at Columbia University's School of Arts.

Gary Shteyngart's visit is presented by the University of Colorado Boulder's Program in Jewish Studies and co-sponsored by [Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures](#), the [Department of English](#), the [Center for Humanities and the Arts](#), the [Center for Western Civilization](#), the [Department of Comparative Literature and the Humanities](#), the [President's Fund for the Humanities](#) and the [Boulder Jewish Community Center](#).

For more information, please visit [jewishstudies.colorado.edu](http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu) or call 303.492.7143.

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## → Students: What DO You Do With A Degree In Jewish Studies? Career Panel and Networking Event...

Students, save the date for the Program in Jewish Studies upcoming career panel and networking event, presented by the [Jewish Studies Undergraduate Student Advisory Board](#).

**SAVE THE DATE: What DO You Do With A Degree In Jewish Studies?**  
Career Panel and Networking Event  
Thursday, March 13 @ 7PM  
University Memorial Center, Aspen Room  
RSVPs Appreciated to  
[CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu](mailto:CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu)



**Business Attire Required**  
**\*\*Open to ALL Students of ALL Majors and Backgrounds\*\***

Please join us for an evening with a variety of community professionals from a diversity of careers and backgrounds. The evening will begin with an open forum question and answer panel with prominent professionals from the Boulder/Denver area who have careers in areas pertaining to law, business, non-profit management, academics and Jewish communal organizations, *all of whom believe that degrees in Jewish Studies and the humanities are valuable in today's working world.*

Following the panel will be a networking event, providing CU students with the opportunity to meet with Program in Jewish Studies alumni, panelists, and other professionals working in an array of fields.

The best thing about a degree in Jewish Studies is its **versatility** post-graduation and its **openness to students of all backgrounds**. Come learn just how this degree can be applied after graduation!

Questions? Please contact the Program in Jewish Studies at  
[CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu](mailto:CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu) or 303.492.7143.

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→ **Visit The "Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and the Origins of Post-Holocaust American Judaism" Exhibit...**



The inaugural Embodied Judaism project, which took place this past October, highlighted the life and work of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and his role in shaping Jewish Renewal, the newest movement in Judaism, examining it as a religion, social movement and philosophy of spiritual transformation in America from the late 1940s to the present. **The exhibit** from the event, highlighting Rabbi Schachter-Shalomi's life and work, is **still on display and is open for public viewing.**

"Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and the Origins of Post-Holocaust American Judaism," is based on photographs, papers, audio recordings and artifacts found in the [Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi Collection](#) held in the University of Colorado Boulder [Post Holocaust American Judaism Archives](#). The display features a historical depiction of Schachter-Shalomi's life and accomplishments including his role in the establishment of Jewish Renewal, the spiritual-eldering movement, and his contributions to engaged interfaith dialogue.

The exhibit located on the southeast landing of the 2nd floor in the [Norlin Library](#) on the CU Boulder campus. It is available for viewing during regular library hours, which can be found at [ucblibraries.colorado.edu/hours/index.cfm](http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/hours/index.cfm). Guided tours, provided by CU Libraries Archives and Special Collections staff are available. For additional information about the Post-Holocaust American Judaism Archive, contact [Stephanie.Yuhas@colorado.edu](mailto:Stephanie.Yuhas@colorado.edu).

The Embodied Judaism series is presented by the Program in Jewish Studies, the University of Colorado Boulder [Library Archives](#) and [Special Collections](#), the [Department of Religious Studies](#) and the [College of Music](#).

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## Resources and Scholarships for Students...

PLEASE VISIT THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS SECTION OF OUR [WEBSITE](#) FOR MORE GREAT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

Applications for the [Rabbi Daniel & Ida Goldberger Fellowship for Jewish Studies Study Abroad or Cultural Immersion Programs](#), awarded to up to two graduate students, are due **March 21, 2014** by 5PM.

The [Ulrich "Ulo" Goldsmith Memorial Prize in German-Jewish Studies](#), offered in conjunction with German and Slavic Languages and Literatures, rewards academic writing on a topic pertaining to Jewish culture in German-speaking lands. Papers are due **April 25 2014**.

[The Center for Asian Studies](#) is offering a new minor! Come to their [Meet and Greet](#) at the Sink on Tuesday, February 4 @ 5:30PM to learn more!

[Teach for America](#) applications are due February 20, 2014. Learn more [here](#).

[The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies](#) in Israel is accepting applications for their [Semester/Study Abroad Program](#). Learn more [here](#).

Interested in lobbying? [Apply](#) to become a [U.S. PIRG Fellow](#).

[Yiddishkayt](#) is hosting their annual [Helix Project](#), a 3-week summer adventure in Belarus, Poland and Lithuania. Learn more [here](#).

CU's [Student Academic Success Center](#) is offering a variety of Academic Skill Strategies Workshops this February. Check them out [here](#) (pdf).

[Queen Mary University of London](#) is offering the [Leo Baeck Institute MA in European Jewish History](#). Click [here](#) to learn more.

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## On Campus & Around Town...

Check out CU Boulder's [Challah for Hunger!](#)

[Tablet Magazine](#) published an article about CU Boulder's Kosher Dining options for students. Check it out [here!](#)

[Boulder International Film Festival](#) will feature a film entitled [Ida](#) Friday, February 14 @ 2:30PM. BIFF will take place February 14 -February 16.

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For questions or to have information about your campus or community event included in our newsletter, please contact Jamie Polliard at [Jamie.Polliard@colorado.edu](mailto:Jamie.Polliard@colorado.edu).