



Program in Jewish Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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

January 16, 2014



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### → Student Highlight...



Ian comes to CU Boulder from Denver, CO and is currently majoring in Communication with minors in Jewish Studies and Religious Studies. This past year, Ian was awarded the prestigious [Barry and Sue Baer Endowed Scholarship in Jewish Studies](#).

During his time at CU, Ian has been very involved with the Program in Jewish Studies. He participated twice in the [JWST3930 Internship in Jewish Studies](#) course, interning at both the Boulder Jewish Community Center and Hazon as well as serving on the Hazon Colorado Advisory Board. Ian states, "With my internship opportunities, I have been able to apply academic knowledge to real world situations. This kind of tangible bridge has been extraordinarily helpful for me as a student and has shaped my goals for the career I want to pursue." This past summer, Ian was one of the participants on the inaugural [Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank: Justice, Human Rights, and Democracy](#). While abroad, Ian served as an intern with an organization called Leket, Israel's National Food Bank. In addition to his service to the global and Boulder community, this is the second consecutive year of Ian's service on the [Jewish Studies Undergraduate Student Advisory Board](#).

Always highly ambitious, Ian was also co-president of CU's Hillel for a year and a half as well as rush chairman for his fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi.

Currently a senior, Ian will graduate this May. He has already been offered a position by his

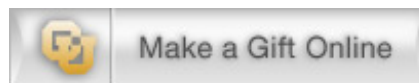
current fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, and after graduating will work in their Jewish Programming and Philanthropy Department.

**We would like to congratulate Ian on his accomplishments and wish him a wonderful final semester at the University of Colorado Boulder!**

**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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**→ CU Welcomes United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Fellow, Dr. Natascha Drubek...**

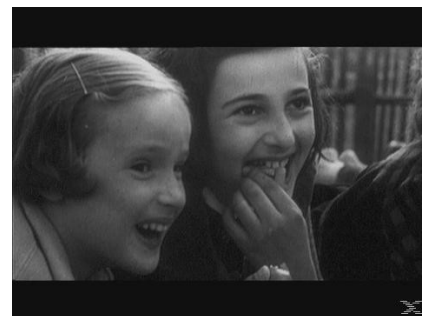
The Program in Jewish Studies and the [Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures](#) welcome [Dr. Natascha Drubek](#) for a colloquium and public lecture.

**["Media Wars and the Invisible Holocaust: An Examination of Films Made at Majdanek and Theresienstadt 1944-1945"](#)**

Public Lecture with Dr. Natascha Drubek  
Tuesday, January 28 @ 7:30PM  
Atlas 100, CU Boulder Campus  
Free and open to the Public

Space is limited so RSVPs are appreciated.  
Please RSVP to [CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu](mailto:CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu).

The summer of 1944 saw Soviet forces lead a surprisingly quick advance West during Operation Bagration, a forward movement that led to the liberation of Majdanek, an almost intact extermination camp close to the Polish city of Lublin on July 23. The horrors found inside the 'death factory' were described in articles, captured in photos and filmed by Soviet and Polish camera crews. In this lecture, Dr. Drubek will examine how the incontrovertible evidence of Nazi atrocities was an unexpected blow to the Nazi leadership, which had worked hard to hide all the traces of the death camps and ghettos in the East. As a response, the German propaganda machine struck back by producing its own film showing 'happy' Jewish life in a ghetto guarded by the SS. In an unexpected and macabre twist, German film producers invited a Jewish comedian to take a leading role in the film.



Still image from *Theresienstadt: A Documentary Film from the Jewish Settlement*  
(Kurt Gerron, 1944-1945)



**["How a Nazi Concentration Camp Became A Film Set: The Case of Theresienstadt 1942-45"](#)**

Colloquium with Dr. Natascha Drubek  
Tuesday, January 28 @ 3:30PM  
Graduate Students, Faculty, and Staff welcome  
Please RSVP to [CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu](mailto:CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu) for location and pre-circulated readings

*Film und Wirklichkeit (Film and Reality)* Bedrich Fritta (1944)

In his authoritative book, *Theresienstadt 1941-1945: The Face of a Coerced Society*, Holocaust survivor H.G. Adler referred to the ghetto-camp Theresienstadt as the "Hollywood of SS-Victims." Theresienstadt, a camp in Nazi

occupied Czechoslovakia, was the only example of the German administration using a ghetto-camp as a film set for a documentary made by its inhabitants. In this workshop, Dr. Drubek will look at two film projects in Theresienstadt between the summer of 1942 and March 1945. These films - commissioned and supervised by the SS - were made by professional film artists who were able to document the real ghetto and its inhabitants. They even produced and smuggled clandestine messages during the shoot. The larger goals of the two films' Jewish directors - Irena Dodalová from Prague, and Kurt Gerron from Berlin - emerged from quite divergent historical and cultural contexts. They also represent different ethical approaches to the perplexing opportunity given to Jewish film professionals to make a film inside a Nazi concentration camp.

[Natascha Drubek, PhD](#) is a Heisenberg Fellow at the University of Regensburg, Germany. She completed her MA and PhD in Slavic Studies & History of Eastern Europe at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. Drubek was awarded a Marie Curie Fellowship at the Film School FAMU in Prague with the project "Hypertextual Film Presentation" ([hyperkino.net](#)). She is also the co-editor of the series *Osteuropa Medial* with Boehlau Verlag, a Cologne based publishing house. Since 2003, Drubek has served as the editor of the Film & Screen Media section of [artmargins.com](#). Her most recent book was published in 2012 under the title *Russisches Licht. Von der Ikone zum frühen sowjetischen Kino* (*Russian Light: From the Icon to Early Soviet Cinema*). Dr. Drubek is currently a [fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies](#) at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.



Dr. Natascha Drubek

Dr. Drubek's visit coincides with the [United Nations' International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#), which is January 27 and commemorates the anniversary of the Soviet liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. With the creation of International Holocaust Remembrance Day in 2005, every member nation of the U.N. has an obligation to honor the memory of Holocaust victims and develop educational programs as part of an international resolve to help prevent future acts of genocide. **Dr. Drubek's visit is made possible by the Campus Outreach Lecture Program of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, supported by a grant from the Leonard and Sophie Davis Fund.**

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

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## ➔ Review of Visiting Author Gary Shteyngart's "Little Failure"...



Professor  
Sasha Senderovich

[Professor Sasha Senderovich](#), Assistant Professor of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures and Jewish Studies, recently published a book review of *Little Failure*, the new memoir by award-winning author [Gary Shteyngart](#). Check out Professor Senderovich's review "'Little Failure' Is Big Success by Ex-Right-Wing Soviet Jew Who Went to Oberlin, Therapy" in the online Jewish magazine *Tablet*.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Program in Jewish Studies is excited to welcome [Gary Shteyngart](#) to the University of Colorado, Boulder for a [Public Reading](#) on Thursday, February 20 @ 7PM in the University Memorial Center,

Room 235 on CU Boulder campus. Shteyngart will conduct a public reading of *Little Failure* and be in conversation with Professor Senderovich about his work. Copies of *Little Failure* will be available for purchase.



Gary Shteyngart

Check out Gary Shteyngart's recent interview with NPR: ["You Can't Be This Furry' and Other Life Lessons From Gary Shteyngart"](#)

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

[Retweet](#) Professor Senderovich's publication and be sure to [share](#) on Facebook!

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→ **Limited Number of Spaces Available for the Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank...**

**The Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank is filling fast!**

There are only a few spaces still available, so if you are interested in or considering applying, [submit your application](#) as soon as possible to be eligible.



**Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank**

Justice, Democracy, and Human Rights in Israel and the West Bank  
with Professor David Shneer and Jamie Polliard  
Offered as a Maymester 2014 course based in Jerusalem, Israel from May 18-June 20, 2014.

**\*This seminar is open to ALL students of ALL backgrounds and majors\***

**THERE ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM!**

Questions? Please contact our study abroad advisor,  
[Sarah.Westmoreland@colorado.edu](mailto:Sarah.Westmoreland@colorado.edu)  
to learn more.

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→ **"Orientalism and World Literatures" with Professor Aamir Mufti...**

The [Department of English](#), the [Program in Jewish Studies](#), the [Center for Humanities and the Arts](#), and the [Center for Asian Studies](#), welcome [Professor Aamir Mufti](#), Association Professor of Comparative Literature at UCLA, to the CU Boulder campus for a public lecture and graduate student masterclass.

**Public Lecture with Aamir Mufti**

**"Orientalism and World Literatures"**

Thursday, January 30 @ 5PM

Norlin Library, Center for British and Irish Studies Room

Free and Open to the Public

Professor Mufti's public lecture, "Orientalism and World Literatures," will be followed by a Q&A session and a reception.





[Masterclass with Aamir Mufti](#)

Thursday, January 30 @ 11AM

Norlin Library, Center for British and Irish Studies Room

CU graduate students welcome

Please RSVP to Professor [Karim.Mattar@colorado.edu](mailto:Karim.Mattar@colorado.edu) for pre-circulated reading.

Professor Mufti's graduate student and faculty masterclass is open to CU graduate students across the humanities and social sciences, and participants will focus on Professor Mufti's essays "Orientalism and the Institution of World Literatures" and "Erich Auerbach and the Death and Life of World Literature."

[Aamir Mufti, PhD](#), is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at UCLA. He pursued his doctoral studies in Literature at Columbia University under the supervision of Edward Said. He was also trained in Anthropology at Columbia and the London School of Economics, and his research and teaching reflect this disciplinary range. His work reconsiders the secularization thesis in a comparative perspective, with a special interest in Islam and modernity in India and the cultural politics of Jewish identity in Western Europe. His most recent contribution to the study of secularism is a book entitled [Enlightenment in the Colony: The Jewish Question and the Crisis of Postcolonial Culture](#) (Princeton University Press). His current work includes two book projects, one concerning exile and criticism and the other, the colonial reinvention of Islamic traditions. He is editor of multiple publications, including academic journal [boundary 2](#).

Questions? Please contact the Professor [Karim.Mattar@colorado.edu](mailto:Karim.Mattar@colorado.edu) for more information.

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## → Jewish Studies Scholarships Available...

### [Rabbi Daniel & Ida Goldberger Fellowship for Jewish Studies Study Abroad or Cultural Immersion Programs](#)



[The Goldberger Fellowship](#) is granted annually to up to two graduate students in the Jewish Studies program with plans to study abroad or participate in an approved cultural immersion program. The scholarship committee looks for a strong academic record, demonstrated commitment to the Program in Jewish Studies, a well-tailored study abroad or cultural immersion program and financial need. Thanks to the generosity of the Goldberger family and supporters, the annual award for the Goldberger Scholarship is \$2,000. **The deadline for the 2014 award is 5PM on March 21, 2014.**

Rabbi Daniel and Ida [The Ulrich "Ulo" Goldsmith Memorial Prize in German-Jewish Studies](#)

The Program in Jewish Studies and the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures award the [Ulrich Goldsmith Memorial Prize in German-Jewish Studies](#) annually. The award rewards academic writing on a topic pertaining to Jewish culture in German-speaking lands. The prize will be awarded to the best paper written by a student (undergraduate or graduate) on a topic pertaining to any aspect of German-Jewish culture in the pre- or post- World War II period. The award for 2014 will be \$300. **The deadline for submission is April 25, 2014.**



Paul Babinski, winner of the 2012 Ulrich Goldsmith Memorial Prize

**Application requirements for both scholarships can be found on our website at [jewishstudies.colorado.edu](http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu).**

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## → Looking for another course? Limited spaces available...

Need another Spring 2014 course? The Program in Jewish Studies is offering a variety of exciting, cross-listed courses. Check out these below!

### [HIST/JWST4348 Topics in Jewish History: Tel Aviv: Urban History and Culture](#)

[3.0] MWF 1200PM - 1250PM

*Liora Halperin, Assistant Professor of History and Jewish Studies*

**\*\*Consider this class if you are planning on attending the [Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank](#)\*\***

This **new seminar** offers a multifaceted exploration of the city of Tel Aviv, a modern metropolis in Israel, founded in 1909 as a new Jewish garden suburb of the city of Jaffa, which it eventually annexed. Tel Aviv, planned from the ground up as a model Zionist city, was the site of Zionist political and cultural activity, a symbol for the movement's development, and a space in which the meanings of Zionism have been continually contested. Through inquiries into urban studies, city planning, architecture, identity, space, politics, language, culture, and conflict we will use the prism of one metropolitan area to explore themes in urban studies, the history of Palestine and Israel, and tensions of Zionist and Israeli state building, and Israeli-Palestinian relations in the 20th and early 21st centuries.



Tel Aviv

### [GRMN/JWST3501 German-Jewish Writers: From the Enlightenment to the Present](#)

[3.0] MWF 1200PM - 1250PM

*Davide Stimilli, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Chair and Associate Professor*

*of German, Comparative Literature, and Jewish Studies*

**\*\*Meets Core Requirement for Human Diversity\*\***



German-Jewish  
writer Walter  
Benjamin

This course provides insight into the German-Jewish identity through essays, autobiographies, fiction, and journalism from the Enlightenment to the post-Holocaust period. We will examine the religious and social conflicts that typify the history of Jewish existence in German-speaking lands during the modern epoch.

**Check out our full Spring 2014 course list on our website at [jewishstudies.colorado.edu/courses](http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu/courses)**

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## → Resources and Scholarships for Students...

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

[The Puksta Scholars Program](#) is accepting applications for 2014-2015 new scholars who have a strong commitment to civic responsibility, high ethical standards and want to bring about a positive change on the CU campus and in the local communities. [Applications](#) are due by Jan. 31, 2014. Email [peter.simons@colorado.edu](mailto:peter.simons@colorado.edu) with any questions.

[The Library of Congress](#) in Washington DC is offering **paid summer internships** through their [2014 Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program](#). There are special placements available for undergraduates and graduates interested in working with Hebrew collections. **Applications are due by January 24, 2014.**

[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...**

[Congregation Bonai Shalom](#), a Boulder synagogue that was severely damaged in the fall floods, will be hosting a community rebuilding day on **Monday, January 20**. If you would like to learn more about volunteering, email [info@bonaishalom.org](mailto:info@bonaishalom.org).

Albion-Andalus Books has announced the latest publication by Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, *Gate to the Heart, A Manual of Contemplative Jewish Practice*. To learn more, click [here](#).

Check out CU Boulder's [Challah for Hunger!](#) The weekly pre-order form can be found [here](#).

Join the [Boulder Jewish Community Center](#) as they go before City Council for the [final approval of their new building project](#), **Tues. January 21 @ 6PM** in the Canyon Theater - Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave, Boulder CO 80302. RSVP [here](#).

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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).