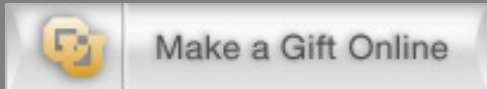




## Kol Mevasser: The Voice of Jewish Studies at CU-Boulder

July 16, 2014



[Highlights from the Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank Faculty Updates](#)

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### → Highlights from the Second Annual Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank...

The second [Global Seminar to Israel and the West Bank: Justice, Human Rights and Democracy](#), offered through CU's Study Abroad Program and the Program in Jewish Studies, successfully concluded this past June 2014. After applications and interviews, eleven students were accepted to the program. They came together for meetings in April to prepare for their five weeks on the ground exploring the complexities of justice, human rights and democracy in Israel and the West Bank with [Professor David Shneer](#), Director of the Program in Jewish Studies, [Louis P. Singer Chair in Jewish Studies](#), and Professor of History and Religious Studies, and [Jamie Polliard](#), Assistant Director for the Program in Jewish Studies, with in-country support from Esther Rika, Education Director for [Beit Ben Yehuda](#).



Global Seminar participants and faculty at Black Out Restaurant in Tel Aviv.



Students on hike at Auja

This rigorous 6-credit course required extensive reading and writing and introduced students to people, ideas, places, and organizations that articulated diverse, multiple and sometimes competing ideas in both Israeli and Palestinian societies. Students explored how individuals and groups make sense of these concepts, and how diverse political commitments drive individual and collective choices and actions.

This year, students had exposure to a variety of community leaders and change makers working with organizations including the [Shalom Hartman Institute](#), the [Jerusalem Bird Observatory](#), [Hiddush](#), [Kedma School](#), [Tmol Shilshom](#),

Spring.

[Pardes](#), Al Afaq School for Special Education, [Jerusalem Open House](#), [Breaking the Silence](#), [Leading Leaders for Peace](#), [Friends of the Earth Middle East](#), and the bi-national village of [Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam](#). Students toured the security wall with Avi Melamed, visited Bethlehem with Azmi Rabieh, discovered Yad Vashem with Esther Rika, uncovered the history of the Katamon neighborhood with Dorit Naaman, and explored south Tel Aviv and refugee rights with Jean Marc-Liling.

In addition to class time and site visits, students also participated in team-based service learning projects with a variety of non-profit organizations working in the region. Students examined issues of refugee rights with [Kav LaOved](#), open space and natural resource preservation with the [Jerusalem Bird Observatory](#), religious freedom and equality with [Hiddush](#), water politics and



Interns Katherine and Alex working on their video project for Hiddush

conservation with [Friends of the Earth Middle East](#), LGBTQ rights with [Jerusalem Open House](#), and young women's leadership and cross-community communication with [Building Bridges](#). The group was mentioned by Hiddush on their [Facebook page](#), and Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam wrote an [article](#) about the service learning project students conducted at their bi-national school.



Interns Ben and Henry taking a break with FOEME staff during a power outage in Auja

As part of the course requirements, students wrote final op-ed papers and produced digital stories highlighting their experiences and learning. Participant Lauren Elder's op-ed was published by

*The Times of Israel*. Follow this link to read Lauren's op-ed piece, "[Israel's Latest Anti-Infiltrator law is stripping refugees of their rights as workers.](#)"

A special thank you to CU Study Abroad and several individual donors who helped make this program possible through underwriting and student scholarships. We appreciate all the support provided by the staff at [Beit Ben Yehuda](#), especially Esther Rika and Azmi Rabieh.

Congratulations to the students on the program! They worked hard, personally and academically.

To learn more about the Global Seminar to Israel, please visit our website at [jewishstudies.colorado.edu](http://jewishstudies.colorado.edu).



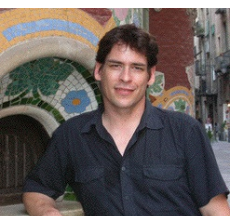
Students at Tmol Shilshom in Jerusalem

Questions? Contact Steve Glickman, Program Director of the Program in Jewish Studies via email at [Steven.Glickman@colorado.edu](mailto:Steven.Glickman@colorado.edu).

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## Faculty Updates...



In conjunction with the Mediterranean Seminar, the University of California Santa Cruz, Wake Forest University, and the Sant'Anna Institute, [Brian Catlos](#), Professor of Religious Studies, co-organized a one-day symposium, "[History, Literature and Culture in a Mediterranean Frame](#)", in Sorrento, Italy on June 15. On June 26, he organized a panel, "[Medieval Iberia and the Mediterranean](#)" at the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies Annual Conference in Modena, Italy. His forthcoming book,

[Infidel Kings and Unholy Warriors: Power, Faith and Violence in the Age of Crusades](#) (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) has garnered a series of positive pre-publication reviews in *Book List* (starred review), *Kirkus Reviews*, and *Publishers' Weekly*. In May, Cambridge University Press released [Muslims of Medieval Latin Christendom, ca. 1050-1614](#). This comprehensive new study explores how the presence of Islamic minorities transformed Europe

from architecture to cooking, literature to science, and served as a stimulus for Christian society to define itself. Combining a series of regional studies, Catlos compares the varied experiences of Muslims across Iberia, southern Italy, the Crusader Kingdoms and Hungary to examine those ideologies that informed their experiences, their place in society and their sense of themselves as Muslims. This is a pioneering new narrative of the history of medieval and early modern Europe from the perspective of Islamic minorities; one which is not, as we might first assume, driven by ideology, isolation and decline, but instead one in which successful communities persisted because they remained actively integrated within the larger Christian and Jewish societies in which they lived.

In May, [Lucy Chester](#), Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, presented a paper titled "**A High Iron Railing: British Planning to Implement Partition in Mandate Palestine and British India**" at a conference on "[Global Conflict and Conflict Management: Israel/Palestine and Beyond](#)" at St Anne's College, Oxford University.



In May, [Gregg Drinkwater](#), a doctoral student in U.S. history, presented a paper at a graduate student conference called "[Religion and Sexual Revolutions in the United States](#)." Held at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University in St. Louis, the interdisciplinary conference brought together students and scholars from universities throughout the country. Drinkwater's paper was titled "**Building Queer Judaism: Liturgy, Ritual, and Sexuality at San Francisco's Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 1977-1987**" and offered a look at the first decade of San Francisco's LGBT-outreach synagogue.

[Liora Halperin](#), Assistant Professor of History and Jewish Studies, published an article in the journal *Middle Eastern Studies* entitled "[The Battle over Jewish Students in the Christian Missionary Schools in Mandate Palestine](#)."



[Paul Levitt](#), Professor of English, will be releasing his newest novel, [The Denouncer](#), this coming August 2014.

This past spring, [Elias Sacks](#), Assistant Professor in Religious Studies and Director of Graduate Studies for the Program in Jewish Studies, published an article entitled "**Spinoza, Maimonides and the Politics of Prophecy**" in the *Jewish Studies Quarterly* (21.1:67-98). The article explores the relationship between the political theories of the medieval Jewish philosopher Moses Maimonides and the (excommunicated) early modern thinker Baruch Spinoza. Professor Sacks also spoke recently at the [University of Denver's Week of Jewish Philosophy](#), delivering a paper entitled "**Biblical Exegesis as Philosophical Method**."



[Sasha Senderovich](#), Assistant Professor of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures and Jewish Studies, published a review essay, "[Russian Jewish American Lit Goes Boom!](#)" in *Tablet Magazine*, on all the latest books by Soviet-born Jewish authors who write in English. Because his course on [Jewish Literature](#) (HEBR/JWST 2551) always includes one contemporary title that rotates every time the course is offered, he plans to teach one of these novels--Boris Fishman's [A Replacement Life](#)--in his course in the Fall 2014 semester.

This past Fall 2013, [Sue Zemka](#), Professor of English, was awarded the [Kayden Book Award](#) by the University of Colorado, Boulder for her recent book [Time and the Moment in Victorian Literature and Society](#).



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➔ **Students: Internships for Fall 2014!...**

**Want to gain professional experience?**

Potentially have a job offer when you graduate?  
Sign up for the [Internship in Jewish Studies](#) course for Fall 2014!

The Program in Jewish Studies will be offering a multitude of internships in a variety of non-profit organizations in the Boulder/Denver area. In addition to gaining professional experience, students will earn 3 credits for [JWST 3930 Internship in Jewish Studies](#).

**We are now placing interns for Fall 2014!**

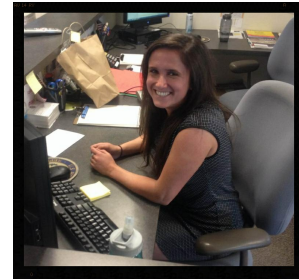
One of the unique aspects of the Jewish Studies internship program is that we place you based on your career interests and professional goals! In the past, our interns have worked with:

[Boulder County AIDS Project](#)  
[Building Bridges](#)  
[Boulder Jewish Community Center](#)  
[Offices of Congressman Jared Polis](#)  
[Hazon](#)  
[Jewish Family Services](#)  
[Boulder Institute for Psychotherapy and Research](#)  
[CU Archives](#)  
and more!

**\*\*The Jewish Studies Internship Program is open to students of ALL backgrounds and majors!\*\***

Questions? Want to apply? Contact Steve Glickman, Program Director of the Program in Jewish Studies, by email at [Steven.Glickman@colorado.edu](mailto:Steven.Glickman@colorado.edu) or via phone at 303.492.7143.

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*"Interning in Jared Polis' office has provided me with excellent connections, experience in constituent services, and an important perspective of the reality of the United States government which is very useful in considering my exact career goals." - Tova, Graduated Minor in Jewish Studies, 2014*



## Resources and Scholarships for Students...

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

The University of Toronto's Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and Center for Jewish Studies announce a call for papers for an interdisciplinary symposium "[Global Yiddish Culture in 1938-1948](#)." Submissions are due **September 16, 2014**.

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