Program in Jewish Studies

Kol Mevaser: The Voice of Jewish Studies at CU-Boulder

September 10, 2015

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The Program in Jewish

Studies, an interdisciplinary unit of the College of Arts and Sciences, offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Jewish Studies as well as minors in Jewish Studies and Hebrew Studies.

The primary goal of the program is to explore Jewish culture, history, society, and thought while equipping students with a fluency in a number of the disciplines offered through the College of Arts & Sciences.

The Program in Jewish Studies is an academic

Letter From Our Director, Nan Goodman

It is with great pleasure that I write to welcome students, faculty, community members, and friends near and far to a new academic year in the Program in Jewish Studies. As the new Director of PJS, I wish to extend to



you the kind of warm welcome and support I have received from our amazing faculty, students, and staff, who have demonstrated an unprecedented level of intellectual engagement, willingness to participate, and generosity of spirit in my first two months on the job.

The warmth of this welcome is, we trust, matched by the breadth of our embrace. The Program in Jewish Studies continues to maintain and expand a wealth of programs that we hope will serve as ports of entry for everyone in our community. We are offering a wide array of courses at the undergraduate and graduate level as well as a full schedule of talks, seminars, and colloguia throughout the year. In September, we are hosting the noted Israeli-Palestinian writer, Sayed Kashua, whose public lecture will serve as the inaugural event of our Israel/Palestine Endowed Professorship. In November, we are bringing together a number of noted speakers and social justice activists for our biennial Embodied Judaism event, which is inspired by and pays homage to the famous civil rights Freedom Seder of 1969. In the spring, we are excited to welcome both Professor Marc Baer, who will conduct a public lecture on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January

program open to <u>ALL</u> students of <u>ALL</u> backgrounds, Jewish and non-Jewish.

Learn more at our website Colorado.edu/JewishStudies

Contact Us: Phone: 303.492.7143 Email: CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu 27, 2016, and Professor Naomi Seidman, our 2017 Sondra D. Bender Visiting Scholar.

PJS continues to expand learning opportunities for our students, develop teaching and research resources for our faculty and community, and build our ranks of exceptional faculty members. We are adding to our internationally renown archives in Post-Holocaust Judaism and are delighted to announce that

Assistant Professor Liora Halperin will hold the new position of Israel/Palestine Endowed Professor. We also welcome three new faculty to our ranks: Professor Beverly Weber, who works on gender, Muslims, and Jews in German culture, Professor Yonatan Malin, who comes to us from the Music School and works on the German lied and Jewish liturgical music, and, finally, the University of Colorado's first ever Bible scholar, Professor Sam Boyd, who works on Biblical socio-linguistics. Three new staff members have also joined us. Meghan Zibby, who has worked in the office as our Outreach and Administrative Coordinator and so is a familiar name and face to many, is serving as our interim Executive Manager, and Tyler Lehrer, an MA student in Religious Studies, is taking over as our new Outreach and Administrative Coordinator on a part-time basis. We also welcome Michael Lynn as our new major/minor advisor in Jewish Studies.

We are also looking forward. We are undergoing a unit review this year -- our first -- and we in Jewish Studies plan to take advantage of the opportunity to think about where we would like to be three to five years down the road. We very much hope that all of our community members from students to faculty to friends will join our year-long discussion as we take stock of our present and imagine our future.

Finally, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the support of our generous donors who make all the things we do here in Jewish Studies possible. This support ensures that every student who wants a global experience can afford it, that our program attracts and retains outstanding faculty through faculty support, and that we reach Jewish Studies students of all ages!

Please click the link below for more information about how to make a contribution and direct your money to specific initiatives in Jewish Studies.

Thanks to all of you for all you do.

Nan Goodman, PhD, JD Director, Program in Jewish Studies Professor, English Department

Support Our Initiatives in Jewish Studies

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Student Highlight: Meet Alexis Aaeng!



Meet Alexis Aaeng, one of our majors in Jewish Studies! Alexis is serving on our Student Advisory Board and will be an intern for the Post-Holocaust American Judaism Archives this semester.

Meet Alexis!

Students: Interested in becoming a Jewish Studies Major or Minor? Our program is open to <u>ALL</u> students of <u>ALL</u> backgrounds, Jewish and non-Jewish.

Learn More about the Major and Minors in Jewish Studies!

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Faculty and Graduate Student Updates



Sam Boyd, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Jewish Studies, received a 2016 Society for Biblical Literature Regional Scholars award.



Sarah Gavison successfully defended her History PhD dissertation prospectus in July entitled "Stalin's Zionism: Soviet Policy on Jewish Survivors in Poland and their Role in Soviet Support for the Creation of Israel, 1944-1949."

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Liora Halperin, Assistant Professor of History and Jewish Studies, taught two community classes over the summer for the Wexner Heritage Program.

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Kathryn Huether, MA Candidate in Religious Studies, spent her summer studying German and conducting research in Berlin.

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Yonatan Malin, Associate Professor of Music and Jewish Studies, presented a paper entitled "Music-Text Relations in Eastern Ashkenazic Cantillation: A New Analysis" at the conference *Magnified and Sanctified: An International Academic Conference on the Music of Jewish Prayer*. We are excited to welcome him to the Program in Jewish Studies faculty.

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Elias Sacks, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Director of Graduate Studies for the Program in Jewish Studies, recently presented on panels at the University of Denver and the Illif School of Theology on "Religion and the Academy" and "The Multidisciplinary of Religious Studies."

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Sasha Senderovich, Assistant Professor of Russian and Jewish Studies, published an article "Soviet Jews, Re-Imagined: Émigré Anglophone Writers from the USSR," in *The Edinburgh Companion to Modern Jewish Fiction* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015).

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David Shneer, Louis P. Singer Endowed Chair in Jewish History and Professor of History, Religious Studies and Jewish Studies, had a busy summer of globetrotting. He served as scholar-in-residence for the Helix Project that took students to Belarus, Lithuania, and Latvia.





Davide Stimilli, Associate Professor and Associate Graduate Chair of the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, has recently published the article "L'énigme de Warburg," on the German-Jewish art and cultural historian Aby Warburg, in the *Revue Française de Psychanalyse*.

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Nicholas Underwood, PhD Candidate in European and Jewish History, was invited to participate in the the Graduate Student Workshop in Modern Jewish History at the Center for Jewish History in New York this coming October.

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Beverly Weber, Associate Professor of German and Slavic Languages and Literatures and Jewish Studies, has joined the Jewish Studies faculty.

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"The Foreign Mother Tongue": Public Lecture With

Bestselling Author Sayed Kashua



The Program in Jewish Studies is excited to welcome bestselling author, Sayed Kashua, to CU-Boulder for a public lecture. Mr. Kashua's lecture will be the inaugural event of the new Israel/Palestine Professorship, housed in the Program in Jewish Studies.

"The Foreign Mother Tongue: Writing between Arabic and Hebrew in Israel/Palestine"

Public Lecture with Sayed Kashua Wednesday September 30, 7:00PM-8:30PM Old Main Theater, CU-Boulder campus RSVP to CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu.

Mr. Kashua will talk about living in Israel with a dual identity, speaking and writing in the language of the majority while identifying with the Arab Palestinian minority. Through speaking about his experience, challenges, and fears, Kashua draws a picture of life in modern Israel today.

Learn More About Sayed Kashua's Visit



Presented in conjunction with Mr. Kashua's public lecture, the Boulder Jewish Film Festival will be screening "A Borrowed Identity," a stunning adaptation of the author's semiautobiographical *Dancing Arabs*. Liora Halperin, Assistant Professor of History and Jewish Studies, will be facilitating a talkback after the screening, moderated by Kathryn Bernheimer.

Film Screening of "A Borrowed Identity"

Tuesday September 29th at 7:00PM The Dairy Center for the Arts 2590 Walnut St. Tickets: thedairy.org Sponsored by the Boulder Jewish Film Festival



Learn More About the Film Screening

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Students Explore Istanbul's Jewish/Muslim History



This past summer, six CU undergraduates and two graduate students joined Nan Goodman, Director of the Program in Jewish Studies and Professor of English, in a life changing experience--a Global Seminar in Istanbul, which explored muti-ethnic connections and cross currents between Jews and Muslims, past and present. CU reporter Clint Talbott covered their story.

Read More About Our Students Global Experience

Professor Goodman will be speaking about the Global Seminar to Istanbul and Jewish and Muslim interactions over the last 500 years in Istanbul as part of this year's CU at the JCC Scholar's Series.



Istanbul: Jewish History and CU's Global Seminar

Public Lecture with Nan Goodman Thursday September 17th, 7:00PM Boulder JCC, 3800 Kalmia Ave Boulder, CO 80301

Tickets \$12 online/\$15 at the door This event is free for students with a valid student ID.

Learn More About Prof. Goodman's Lecture

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Student Archives Assistant Needed!



Interested in history? Want to learn more about how archives preserve important historical materials? The CU-Boulder Archives and Program in Jewish Studies are seeking a new student Archives Assistant to work in the Post-Holocaust American Judaism Archives. Students will work with CU-Boulder Archives Project Director Dr. Stephanie Yuhas and learn how to process archival materials. The archives team is diverse, friendly and intelligent.

This position is 10 hours a week to start and has a preferred 2 year commitment. Training will be provided. Candidates must be detail-oriented, able to work independently and take initiative, and

have knowledge of Excel. A personal laptop is required. Interested applicants must have work-study.

Want to apply? Please email a resume and letter of interest and qualifications to Stephanie.Yuhas@colorado.edu.

Community Events and Opportunities

Fiddler on the Roof: CU's Department of Columbia University M.A. in Jewish Theatre & Dance is looking for men to audition for its Fall 2015 production of Fiddler announce a new home for its Master's on the Roof. Interested applicants should email bud.coleman@colorado.edu for Israel and Jewish Studies (IIJS). View by September 28th.

Studies: Columbia University is pleased to Program in Jewish Studies at the Institute the website here.

Call for Papers: The Western Jewish Studies Association has released the 2016 call for papers and panel proposals on all areas of Jewish Studies regardless of discipline, geographical focus, or time periods. The deadline for submissions is November 15th. 2015. See the CFP here.

New Documentary: Albion-Andalus Productions, in partner with Throughline Productions, would like to announce the release of their latest documentary Treasure Under the Bridge: Pilgrimage to the All-Community Interfaith Walk: The Hasidic Masters of Ukraine! Check it out here.

Teaching Opportunity: B'nai Torah, a small reform congregation in Westminster, is event here. hiring religious school teachers. The position is open to both Jewish and non-Jewish applicants. To apply, please email Barb at bnaitorahpres@gmail.com.

Roots Project Denver/Boulder Events: Ali Abu Awwad, who was hosted by Jewish Studies' Global Seminar students for a lecture last year, Khaled Abu Awwad, and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger will be conducting a variety of presentations, luncheons, and panel discussions in October regarding Palestinian and Israeli relations. Learn more here. Read more about the Roots photography club in the Boulder Jewish Newshere.

Lemon Group Project in Boulder invites community members to participate in interfaith walk for peace and solitary on September 11th. Learn more about the

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For questions or to have information about your campus or community event included in our newsletter, please contact Meghan Zibby at Meghan.Zibby@Colorado.edu.



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