

REBECCA WARTELL

Program in Jewish Studies • University of Colorado Boulder
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EDUCATION

- 2020** **Ph.D., History**
Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- 2000** **M.A., Theological Studies**
Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 1996** **B.A., Religious Studies**
Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- August 2018-Present** **Instructor, University of Colorado Boulder**
Program in Jewish Studies
- January 2013-June 2018** **Teaching Associate, Monash University**
Department of History
- September 2007-June 2012** **Affiliate Faculty, Regis University**
Religious Studies, School for Professional Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal article

"Rabbis on refugees: theological responses to the treatment of converso migrants in sixteenth-century Candia," *Mediterranean Historical Review*, 34:2 (2019), 165-179.

Book reviews

Refugees or Migrants: Pre-Modern Jewish Population Movement, Robert Chazan, *H-Judaic Reviews*, 2020.

Entangled Histories: Knowledge, Authority, and Jewish Culture in the Thirteenth Century, Elisheva Baumgarten, Ruth Karras, and Katelyn Mesler, eds., *Parergon*, 2019.

Becoming Ottomans: Sephardi Jews and Imperial Citizenship in the Modern Era, Julia Phillips Cohen, *H-Judaic Reviews*, 2017.

The Secret Faith of Maestre Honoratus: Profayt Duran and Jewish Identity in Late Medieval Iberia, Maud Kozodoy, *Parergon*, 2016.

Patronage, Production, and Transmission of Texts in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish Cultures, Esperanza Alfonso and Jonathan Decker, eds. *Parergon*, 2015.

Curations

Jews Out West: 4th Biannual Embodied Judaism Exhibit, Norlin Library, University of Colorado Boulder. Installation on display from November 2019 – 2021.

Other publications

Religious Foundations Project: A Field Guide to Interfaith Dialogue, Regis University, 2009.

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

University of Colorado Boulder

- Representing the Holocaust* (Fall 2020)
- Internship in Jewish Studies* (Fall 2020)
- Jews in the American West* (Spring 2020)
- Gender, Sexuality and Judaism* (Spring 2019)

Jews of Spain & Portugal (Spring 2019 & 2020)
Introduction to Jewish Culture (Fall 2018; Spring/Fall 2019; Spring/Fall 2020)
Modern Jewish Literature (Fall 2018 & 2019)

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Renaissance Italy (Semester 2, 2017)
Renaissance Europe (Semester 2, 2015; Semester 2, 2016)
The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany (Semester 1, 2015)
Witches and Depravity in the Medieval and Early Modern World (Semester 1, 2014; Semester 1, 2016)
Fears and Fantasies: Deviance and Criminality in the Modern World (Semester 2, 2014)
Nations at War: Revolution and Empire (Semester 1, 2013)

Regis University, Denver, Colorado

Introduction to Judaism (2007-2012)
Western Religious Traditions (2007-2012)

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020 Mediterranean Seminar, University of Colorado Boulder, American Historical Association conference funding award
2019 Program in Jewish Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, Association for Jewish Studies conference funding award
2016-2018 Faculty of Arts Research Scholarship, Monash University
2017 Australian Centre for Jewish Civilization Grant, Monash University
2017 Phillipa Maddern Postgraduate Travel Bursary, Australia New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies
2016 Knapp Family Foundation Graduate Student Travel Grant, Association for Jewish Studies
2016 Conference Scholarship, Australian Association for Jewish Studies
2015 Bill Kent Prato Fellowship for Research in Italy, Monash University
2010 *Religious Foundations Project* grant, Regis University and The Interfaith Alliance of Colorado
2000 Parker/Uran Fellow for Study at Hebrew University, Harvard University
1999-2000 Fellowship in Journalism and Publishing, *Sh'ma Magazine*, Boston, MA

INVITED TALKS

2020 "Conversos and Spanish Jewry," Congregation Bonai Shalom, March 6, 2020.
2019 "Forced Conversion and Spanish Jewry," Peak-to-Peak Lecture Series, University of Colorado and Sherbino Theater, Ridgway, CO, 11 June, 2019
2019 "Sephardic Jewry 500 Years after Expulsion," Jeffersonian Dinner, Boulder Jewish Community Center, 7 February, 2019.
2017 "*Dopo il ghetto: Papal policy and the Jews of Italy*," Early Modern Circle, University of Melbourne, 15 May, 2017.
1998 Panelist, "Rethinking the Holocaust," Hampshire College, 1998.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Symposia organized

2019 Fourth Biannual Embodied Judaism symposium and permanent exhibit, *Jews Outdoors/Jews Out West: Experiential Judaism in the American West in the post-war era*, University of Colorado Boulder, 7 November 2019.
2017 Third Annual Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies symposium, *Policing the Margins: authority, identity and religious ambiguity amongst Jews*,

Christians and Muslims in medieval Europe and the Mediterranean, Monash University, 28 April 2017.

Papers presented

- 2020** "Seeking Refuge Under the Wings of the *Shekhinah*: Political and Theological Lexicons of Exile in Sixteenth-Century Sephardi Responsa Texts," American Historical Association, New York City, NY, 5 January, 2020.
- 2019** "Converso Women and Family Law in Early Modern Ottoman Responsa," Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, CA, 16 December, 2019.
- 2019** "*Takkanot Kandiyah*," Early Modern Workshop, Fordham University, New York City, 20 August, 2019.
- 2019** "Not like other converts': *Conversos* in early modern Sephardi rabbinic thought," Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies, Denver, Colorado, 1 July, 2019
- 2017** "Popes and Pirates: New Perspectives on the Ancona Massacre of 1556," Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Washington, D. C., 17 December, 2017.
- 2017** "The Ancona Massacre of 1556: Rabbinic perspectives on the Roman Inquisition," Reforming Religions Workshop, Istituto Sangalli, Florence, Italy, 12 September, 2017.
- 2017** "The Ancona Massacre: Jewish/Christian Relations in Italy in the Sixteenth Century," Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies symposium, Monash University, 28 April, 2017.
- 2017** "Refuge or Refuse?: Venetian Candia and the absorption of Sephardic Jewish refugees in the mid-sixteenth century," Australia-New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies conference, 10 February, 2017.
- 2016** "*Excommunication for those who call a repentant an apostate*: *Conversos* and benevolence in three rabbinic letters from *Takanot Candia*, 1567," Association for Jewish Studies conference, San Diego, 18 December, 2016.
- 2016** "Escaping the Inquisition: Themes of conversion, expulsion and resettlement in early modern Sephardi rabbinic texts," Historical Studies Conference, Monash University, 2 November, 2016.
- 2016** "Edom: *Sephardic Representations of Latin Christendom in Sixteenth Century responsa texts*", at Monash University Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Annual Symposium, 29 April, 2016.
- 2016** "Seeking Shelter under the Wings of the *Shekhinah*: Geographical and metaphysical implications of Expulsion in Sixteenth Century Sephardi Responsa Texts," at the *Australia Association for Jewish Studies* conference, Brisbane, 14 February, 2016.
- 2015** "The Talmud is Burning: Sephardi Responses to Increased Persecution of Jews in Italy in the Sixteenth Century," at *Monash Prato Medieval and Renaissance Roundtable*, Prato, Italy, 8 December 2015.

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2020** Respondent, "A Prophetic Judgement without Reprieve," Works in Progress for Prof. Sam Boyd, Mediterranean Studies Group, University of Colorado Boulder, 29 October, 2020.
- 2020** "New Faculty Orientation Panel," Faculty Development Program, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder, 23 September, 2020.
- 2019** Miramontes Arts & Sciences Program, "Meet the Professor," University of Colorado Boulder, 11 April, 2019.
- 2016** "Escaping the Inquisition: Themes of conversion, expulsion and resettlement in early modern Sephardi rabbinic texts," Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Monash University, 21 October, 2016.

- 2015** “*Responsa Prudentium: Early Modern Applications of Hebrew teshuvot texts and their use by historians as primary sources*” Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Monash University, 22 May, 2015.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2019 – present** Council of Arts & Sciences, Program Representative for Jewish Studies; Grievance Committee member; University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019 – present** Graduate Studies Committee member, Program in Jewish Studies, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2018** Undergraduate Studies Committee member, Program in Jewish Studies, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2016-2017** Committee Member, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies, Monash University
- 2005** Grant-making Committee Member, Public Good Funds, University of Denver
- 1999-2000** President, Jewish Graduate Students’ Association, Harvard University
- 1994** Student representative, Religious Studies faculty search committee, Hampshire College

UNIVERSITY STAFF POSITIONS

- 2017-2018** Learning Skills Adviser, Matheson Library, Monash University
- 2005-2010** Coordinator, Forum on Religion & Community, Regis University
- 2003-2005** Director, Center for Religion & Public Life, University of Denver
- 2002-2004** Assistant Director, Center for Judaic Studies, University of Denver
- 1998-2000** Staff, Periodicals & Acquisitions, Harvard Andover Library, Harvard University

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2020** Advisory Board member, Judaism Your Way, Boulder
- 2018** Panel Moderator, “On Israel: Recent Publications,” Jewish Book Week, Melbourne, Australia, May 2018
- 2010-2018** Course Instructor, Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Denver, Colorado and Melbourne, Australia
- 2011** *Community Narratives Panel*, Mizel Museum, Denver, Colorado, 4 February, 2011
- 2011** “Faith: How Jews relate to other religions,” Feed Your Mind series, Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Denver, Colorado, 10 February, 2011
- 2010-2012** Board member, Community Talmud Torah, Denver, Colorado
- 2007** Panelist, Center for Christian-Jewish Dialogue Annual Dinner, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 8 October, 2007
- 2004-2007** Board member, Interfaith Community, Denver, Colorado

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Early modern European History, American Jewish History, Mediterranean Studies, History of Religion, History of the Inquisition, Biblical and Rabbinic Literature, Jewish/Muslim/Christian Historical Interactions, Sephardic Studies, Refugee Studies, Holocaust & Genocide Studies

LANGUAGES

Modern Hebrew (proficient)
Rabbinic Hebrew (intermediate)
French (intermediate)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion
American Historical Association
Association of Jewish Studies
The Mediterranean Seminar