

## **Dov Weiss**

Department of Religion  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
FLB 3092D, MC-166, 707 S. Mathews  
Urbana, Illinois 61801  
773-717-9107; dyweiss@illinois.edu

### ***EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND***

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<b>University of Chicago</b>	Ph.D. (with distinction) History of Judaism, 2011 Advisor: Michael Fishbane Thesis: "Confrontations with God in Late Rabbinic Literature" (2011)
<b>Yeshiva University</b>	Rabbinical Ordination, 2000
<b>Yeshiva University</b>	M.A. Modern Jewish History, 1999
<b>Yeshiva University</b>	B.A., <i>Cum Laude</i> , Political Science, 1995

### ***ACADEMIC POSITIONS***

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**University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**  
Associate Professor, Department of Religion, 2011-present.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, 2011-2018.

**Harvard University**  
Starr Fellow, Center for Jewish Studies, 2012

**Northwestern University**  
Visiting Instructor, Religious Studies, 2011

**University of Illinois, Chicago**  
Visiting Instructor, Jewish Studies, 2007

## ***AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS***

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Associate, Center for Advanced Studies, University of Illinois (2020-2021)  
NEH Summer Stipend for *Rabbinic Inferno: Hell in Classical Judaism* (2020)  
National Jewish Book Council's "Nahum M. Sarna Memorial Award" in Scholarship for  
*Pious Irreverence: Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism* (2017)  
Harry Starr Fellow, Harvard University (2012)  
Martin Marty Fellow, University of Chicago Divinity School (2010-2011)  
Targum Shlishi Dissertation Fellow, Targum Shlishi (2010-2011)  
Meyer Dissertation Fellow, University of Chicago (2010-2011)  
Shalom Hartman Institute Research Fellow (2008-2010)  
University of Chicago Divinity School Travelling Fellow (2008-2009)  
Durschlag Fellow, University of Chicago (2004 – 2007)  
Wexner Graduate Fellow, Wexner Foundation (1995 – 1999)  
Isaac Araten Award for Excellence in Talmudic Studies, Yeshiva University (1995)  
Schleifer Award for Excellence in Jewish Studies, Yeshiva University (1995)

## ***PUBLICATIONS***

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### **Books**

*Pious Irreverence: Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017.

*Rabbinic Inferno: Hell in Classical Judaism* (in preparation).

### **Articles in Journals**

"Cyril of Alexandria's Critique of 'Jewish' Parental Sin" (*Medieval Encounters*, forthcoming).

"The Rabbinic God and Medieval Judaism," *Currents in Biblical Research*, 15:3 (2017): 369-390.

"The Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic and Early Christian Literature," *Journal of Religion* 97:1 (2017): 1-25.

"The Sin of Protesting God in Rabbinic and Patristic Literature," *AJS Review* 39:2 (2015): 367-392.

"Divine Concessions in the *Tanhuma* Midrashim," *Harvard Theological Review* 108:1 (2015): 70-97.

“Between Values and Theology: The Case of Salvation through Children in Rabbinic Thought,” *Milín Havivin* 3 (2007): 1-15.

## Chapters in Books

“Jews, Gentiles and Gehinnom in Rabbinic Literature,” in *NYU Studies in Rabbinic Narratives* (vol. 1) ed. Jeffrey Rubenstein (Brown University Press, forthcoming).

“Dramatic Dialogues in the *Tanhuma-Yelammedenu* Midrashim,” in *The State of the Tanhuma-Yelammedenu Midrashim*, edited by R. Nikolsky and A. Atzmon (Leiden: Brill, accepted - forthcoming).

“*Olam Haba* in Rabbinic Literature: A Functional Reading,” in *Olam ha-zeh v’olam ha-ba: This World and the World to Come in Jewish Belief and Practice*, edited by Leonard Greenspoon (West Lafayette: Purdue University Press, 2017): 91-103.

“The Rabbinic Doctrine of ‘The Righteous Decrees and God Fulfills,’” in *Black Fire on White Fire*, edited by D. Goodman (New York: KTAV, 2017): 162-184.

“Lawsuits with God in Rabbinic Literature,” in *The Divine Courtroom in Comparative Perspective*, edited by A. Mermelstein and S. Holtz (Leiden: Brill, 2014): 276-288.

## Book Reviews and Review Essays (Invited)

Review Essay: “Legends of Rabbi Akiva: New “Biographies” and a Hermeneutical Study,” *Review of Rabbinic Judaism* 22 (2019): 121-125.

*Building on the Ruins of the Temple* by Adam Gregerman, *AJS Review* 42:1 (April 2018): 219-221.

*In God's Image: Myth, Theology, and Law in Classical Judaism* by Yair Lorberbaum, *Journal of Religion* 97:3 (July 2017): 428-430.

*A Legacy of Learning: Essays in Honor of Jacob Neusner* ed. William Scott Green, Gary Porton, Alan Avery-Peck and Bruce Chilton, *Review of Rabbinic Judaism* 19:1 (February 2016): 162-166.

*Socratic Torah: Non-Jews in Rabbinic Intellectual Culture* by Jenny Labendz, *Journal of Religion* 94:3 (July 2014): 392-395.

*The Memory of the Temple and the Making of the Rabbis* by Naftali Cohen, *H-Net Judaica* (September 2013).

## **Annotated Translations**

“The Last Will and Testament of Hatam Sofer (1839),” in *Jew in the Modern World*, edited by P. Mendes-Flohr and Judah Reinartz (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011): 196-199.

“The Manifesto of Ultra-Orthodoxy (1863),” in *Jew in the Modern World*, edited by P. Mendes-Flohr and Judah Reinartz (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011): 224-229.

## **Encyclopedia Articles**

“Midrash,” in *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*, edited by Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro (forthcoming).

“Kingdom/Kinship of God in Rabbinic Judaism,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (EBR), vol. 15, edited by Christine Helmer, Steven L. McKenzie, et al. (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017): 261-262.

“Korah in Rabbinic Judaism,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (EBR), vol. 15, edited by Christine Helmer, Steven L. McKenzie, et al. (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017): 457-458.

“Apostasy in Second Temple and Rabbinic Judaism,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (EBR), vol. 1, edited by J. Klauck, B. McGinn, P. Mendes-Flohr, C. Seow, H. Spieckermann and B. Walfish (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2009): 455-456.

“Albo, Joseph,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (EBR), vol. 1, edited by J. Klauck, B. McGinn, P. Mendes-Flohr, C. Seow, H. Spieckermann (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2009): 710-712.

## **INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS**

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“Hell in Classical Judaism,” Mishkan Synagogue, Chicago, February 25, 2020.

“Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic and Early Christian Literature,” Bar-Ilan University, April 8, 2019.

“Pious Irreverence: Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism,” Columbia University, September 6, 2018.

“Pious Irreverence: Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism,” Notre Dame University, April 16, 2018.

- “Hell in Jewish Thought,” Spertus Museum, March 11, 2018.
- “Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism and Early Christianity,” Catholic Theological Union, February 12, 2018.
- “Sinful Inheritance: Divine (Im)morality in Classical Judaism” Northwestern University, January 9, 2017.
- “Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic and Early Christian Literature,” Program in Medieval Studies, University of Illinois, April 13, 2016.
- “Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic and Patristic Literature,” University of Oxford, November 26, 2015.
- “Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic Literature,” Yeshivat Maharat, June 2, 2015.
- “Varieties of Jewish Theology,” Loyola University, March 10 and 11, 2015.
- “Pious Irreverence: Confronting God in Rabbinic Judaism,” Ben Gurion University, January 14, 2015.
- “Varieties of Theological Confrontation,” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 22, 2013.
- “Exegetical Ethics in Ancient Judaism,” Indiana University, April 25, 2013.
- “Confronting the Rabbinic God: Ethics and Theology in Ancient Judaism,” Georgetown University, January 31, 2013.
- “God in the *Tanhuma* Midrashim,” Harvard University, April 19, 2012.
- “The Divine Courtroom in Rabbinic Literature,” Cardozo Law School, February 8, 2012.
- “Divine Concessions in Late Midrash,” Yale University, November 30, 2011.
- “Hierarchical Inversions in Rabbinic Literature,” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 8, 2011.
- “Religious Ethics and Ancient Judaism: Challenges and Transformations,” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 16, 2010.

## ***CONFERENCE PAPERS***

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- “Jews, Gentiles, and Gehinnom” Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, San Diego, CA, Dec. 15, 2019
- “Gentiles and Hell in Rabbinic Literature,” NYU Conference on Rabbinic Narratives, Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, June 4, 5, 2018.
- “Sins of the Parents in Rabbinic and Patristic Literature,” Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, Boston, MA, Dec. 14, 2015.
- “The Moral Function of *Olam Ha-ba* in Rabbinic Literature,” 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Jewish Civilization, Creighton University, Oct. 25, 2015.
- “Authors as Subverters in the Tanhuma Midrashim,” European Association of Biblical Studies (EABS) Conference, Cordoba, Spain, July 14, 2015.
- “Opposition to Challenging God in Rabbinic and Patristic Sources,” Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, Dec. 16, 2014.
- “The Sin of Protest in Rabbinic and Patristic Sources,” American Academy of Religion (AAR), Midwest Regional Meeting, Ada, Ohio, April 4, 2014.
- “Lawsuits with God in Rabbinic Literature,” Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, Chicago, Illinois, Dec. 16, 2012.
- “Beyond Tortosa: Christianity in the Thought of Joseph Albo,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 26, 2012.
- “Confrontational Theology in *Tanhuma-Yelammedenu*,” Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) International Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 22, 2012.
- “Confrontation as a Hermeneutical Tool in *Tanhuma-Yelammedenu*,” Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, Dec. 21, 2010.

## ***PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND GRANTS***

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Scholars Circle, Hartman Institute of North America, 2019-2020.

Steering Committee for Jewish Studies Section of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), 2013-.

Humanities Release Time, Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Spring 2015.

## ***COURSES TAUGHT***

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### **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Introduction to World Religions (REL 110)  
History of Judaism (REL 120)  
Hebrew Bible in English (REL 201)  
Jewish Sacred Literature (REL 283)  
Medieval Jewish Thought (REL 344)  
Readings in the Talmud (REL 415)  
Readings in Midrash (REL 416)  
History of Early Judaism (REL 442)  
History of Jewish Theology (REL 515)

### **Northwestern University**

Classical Jewish Thought

### **University of Illinois, Chicago**

Introduction to Jewish Thought

## ***PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT***

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Community Lecture, Congregation Oz Zarua, New York, NY, Sept. 24, 2017.  
Community Lecture, Temple Sinai, Champaign, Illinois, August 26, 2017.  
Scholar in Residence, Beth Jacob Congregation, St. Paul, MN, May 21, 2017  
Scholar in Residence, Kol Sasson Synagogue, Evanston, IL, April 29, 2017  
Committee Lecture, Temple Solel, Paradise Valley, Arizona, March 23, 2017  
Community Lecture, Congregation Temple Chai, Phoenix, Arizona, March 23, 2017  
Community Lecture, Anshe Sholom Bnai Israel Synagogue, Chicago, IL, Sept. 21, 2016  
Scholar in Residence, The National Synagogue, Washington DC, April 9, 2016  
Scholar in Residence, Beis Avraham, St. Louis, Missouri, February 13, 2016  
Scholar in Residence, Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York, May 23-25, 2015.  
Selection Committee, Wexner Heritage Fellowship, Wexner Foundation, Feb 8-11, 2015.  
Community Lecture, "Water in Jewish Thought," Hillel at University of Illinois at  
Urbana-Champaign, November 4, 2014.  
Scholar in Residence, Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue, Newton, Massachusetts, February 2012.

## ***SERVICE TO DISCIPLINARY AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES***

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Contributor, *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization* vol. 2 (ed. C. Bakhos)  
Evaluator for Publication, Review of Rabbinic Judaism, Spring 2018.  
Evaluator for Publication, Harvard Theological Review, Spring 2015, Summer 2017.  
Evaluator for Publication, *AJS Review*, Fall 2014.

Evaluator for Publication, *Journal of Religion*, Fall 2013, Fall 2015, Spring 2016,  
Spring 2017, Summer 2017.  
Steering Committee, Jewish Studies Section at the American Academy of Religion,  
Spring 2013- 2015.  
Evaluator for Publication, *Shofar Journal*, Fall 2012.

### ***UNIVERSITY AND CAMPUS SERVICE***

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Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religion, 2019-  
Executive Committee, Program in Jewish Culture and Society, Fall 2011-2019.  
Faculty advisor, Religious Studies Student Association (RSSA), Fall 2011 – Fall 2013.  
Search Committee for an Assistant Professor of Islam, 2011-2012.  
Search Committee for an Assistant Professor of Hinduism, 2012-2013.  
Curriculum Committee, Department of Religion, 2012-2014, 2016-2017.  
Committee on Majors and Minors, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics (SLCL),  
Spring 2013.  
Committee for Undergraduate Major in Religion, Fall 2014- Spring 2015.  
Executive Committee, Center for Translation Studies, Fall 2014-2016.  
Committee for Graduate Admissions in Religion, Fall 2014 – 2015, 2016-2017.  
Search Committee for an Assistant Professor of Islam, Fall 2014.  
Courses Committee, Department of Religion, 2016-2018.  
Committee for Undergraduate Studies, Department of Religion, 2017-2018.  
Advisory Committee, Department of Religion, 2017-2019.

### ***LANGUAGES***

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Hebrew  
Aramaic  
Greek  
Syriac  
German