

# Rachel L. Greenblatt

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## Professional Positions

- 2020-present Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, Judaica Librarian
- 2017-present Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, Lecturer to Senior Lecturer in Jewish Studies
- 2018 Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, Lecturer in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
- 2016-17 St. Anselm College, Manchester, NH, Lecturer in Humanities
- 2015-16 Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, Visiting Assistant Professor of History
- 2014-15 Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, Lecturer in Jewish Studies
- 2011-14 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, Associate Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
- 2006-11 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, Instructor to Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

## Education

- 2000-07 Ph.D., Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Jewish History, Summa cum Laude
- 1995-99 MA, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Jewish History, With Distinction
- 1986-90 A.B., Cornell University, Magna cum Laude in History and With Distinction in All Subjects, Phi Beta Kappa

## Publications

### Book

2014 *To Tell Their Children: Jewish Communal Memory in Early Modern Prague*. Stanford University Press.

Czech translation: “*Aby vyprávěli svým dětem.*” Trans. Pavel Sládek. Academia: Prague (2016).

Reviewed in: *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*; *AJS Review*; *American Historical Review*; *Austrian History Yearbook*; *Bohemia*; *Český časopis historický*; *Judaica Bohemiae*; *Habsburg (H-Net)*; *PaRDeS: Zeitschrift der Vereinigung für Jüdische Studien*; *Religious Studies Review*; *Slavic Review*; *Times Literary Supplement*; *Zion*

### Book Chapters

Forthcoming “Jews in the Habsburg Monarchy,” with Louise Hecht, in *Cambridge History of the Habsburg Monarchy*, Volume 1: 1526 – to c. 1792, ed. Howard Louthan and Graeme Murdock.

2019 “A Jewish Easter Lamb: Cultural Connection and its Limits in a 1716 Prague Procession,” in: *Connecting Histories: Jews and Their Others in the Early Modern Period*, ed. David B. Ruderman and Francesca Bregoli (University of Pennsylvania Press), 154-170.

2017 “Temple to Town Hall: Sacred and Secular in Prague’s Jewish Town.” *Layering Landscapes: Early Modern Religious Space across Faiths and Cultures*, ed. Eric Nelson and Jonathan Wright (Routledge), 43-60.

2017 “‘Behold the Beauty’: Jewish Festive Processions in Central Europe and their Depiction in Print (1716 and 1741),” in: *Jewish History in the Modern Era: The Visual Dimension*, ed. Ezra Mendelsohn and Eli Lederhendler (Jerusalem: Merkaz Shazar and Merkaz Dinur, 2017), 229-253 (Hebrew).

2015 “‘And He Wrote Many Books’: Print, Remembrance, Autobiographical Writing and the Maharal of Prague,” in: *MAHARAL, Overtures: Biography, Doctrine, Influence*, ed. Elchanan Reiner (Jerusalem: Merkaz Zalman Shazar), 75-99 (Hebrew).

### Articles

2024 “[Women Wrote: Glikl in Context.](#)” *In geveb* (July 2024). Accessed Jul 16, 2024.

2016 “Building the Past: Historical Writing on the Jews of the Bohemian Crown Lands in the Early Modern Period.” *Studia Judaica* 19, 1: 11–40.

2016 “Saint and Counter-Saint: Catholic Triumphalism and Jewish Resistance in Baroque Prague’s Abeles Affair.” *Jewish History* 30,1: 61-80.

- 2016 "‘In their Order and in their Time’: Prague, Past and Place in David Gans’s *Zemah David*." *Judaica Bohemiae* 51: 97-110.
- 2015 "On Jewish Prague in the Age of Schudt’s Frankfurt: Two Jewish Towns in Celebration on the Birth of an Heir to the Habsburg Throne (1716)." *Frankfurter judaistische Beiträge* 40: 239-57.
- 2008 "Jewish Memory and Local History: A Commemorative Liturgy from Early Modern Prague." *Jewish Culture and History* 10 (2008), pp. 159-71. German translation: "Jüdisches Gedächtnis und locale Geschichte: Eine Liturgie der Erinnerung aus dem Prag der Frühen Neuzeit," in: *Die Frankfurter Judengasse*, hrsg. von Fritz Backhaus, Gisela Engel, Robert Liberles und Margarete Schlüter, Frankfurt: Societäts-Verlag, 2006, 277-88.
- 2002 "The Shapes of Memory: Evidence in Stone from the Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague." *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* 47: 43-67.

#### Encyclopedia Entries

- 2011 "Prague," in: *The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish Religion, History and Culture*, ed. Judith Baskin, Cambridge University Press.
- 2008 "Moses Meir Perles," and "David Oppenheim," in: [The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe](#), ed. Gershon Hundert, YIVO/Yale University Press.

#### Book Reviews

- 2019 "The Life of a Library: Review of *Prince of the Press: How One Collector Built History’s Most Enduring and Remarkable Jewish Library*" by Joshua Teplitsky, *Moment Magazine*, Winter Issue, 2019.
- 2017 Glenn Dynner, *Yankel’s Tavern: Jews, Liquor and Life in the Kingdom of Poland* (Oxford University Press, 2013). In: *American Historical Review* 122:1 (February, 2017): 270-271.
- 2015 Richard I. Cohen, Natalie Dohrmann, Adam Shear and Elchanan Reiner, eds., *Jewish Culture in Early Modern Europe: Essays in Honor of David B. Ruderman* (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press and Cincinnati, OH: Hebrew Union College Press, 2014). In: *AJS Review* 39, 1: 178-181.
- 2013 Olga Sixtová, ed. *Hebrew Printing in Bohemia and Moravia* (Prague: Academia Press, 2012). In: *Judaica Bohemiae* 48, 1: 127-31.
- 2012 Sharon Flatto, *The Kabbalistic Culture of Eighteenth-Century Prague: Ezekiel Landau (the ‘Noda Biyehudah’) and his Contemporaries* (Oxford: Littman Library, 2010). In: *AJS Review* 36, 2: 348-51.

### Web-Based Publications

“Plohn Parokhet from Prague: Few Examples of Women’s Garments Turned into Sacred Objects Have Survived Hundreds of Years,” Leo Baeck Institute Shared History Project.

<https://sharedhistoryproject.org/object/plohn-parokhet-from-prague>

“Johann Jacob Schudt: Jüdisches Merckwürdigkeiten,” *Constructing Borders & Crossing Boundaries: Social, Cultural & Religious Change in Early Modern Jewish History*, An Online Exhibition from the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies 2013-2014 Fellows at the University of Pennsylvania. <https://old.library.upenn.edu/collections/online-exhibits/constructing-borders-crossing-boundaries?tab=exhibit>

“‘My Happiness Overturned’: Mourning, Memory and a Woman’s Writing,” *Early Modern Workshop 2011: Egodocuments: Revelation of the Self in the Early Modern Period*.

<https://research.library.fordham.edu/emw/emw2011/emw2011/10/>

“The Zaks Parokhet from Prague (1602): Sacred Object, Local Liturgy, and Familial Memory,” *Early Modern Workshop 2007: Jewish Consumption and Material Culture in the Early Modern Period*. <https://research.library.fordham.edu/emw/emw2007/emw2007/6/>

### Works in Progress

Book – *Women Who Wrote: Jewish Letters in Early Modern Europe*

Article – “In Honor of the Exalted Birth”: Jewish Processions for Public View in Early Modern Europe”

Edition – *Yom-Tov Lipmann Heller’s Megillat eivah: A Trilingual Critical Edition*

### **Grants, Fellowships and Awards**

2014-15	Residential Fellow, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute
2013-14	Adjunct Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Group on “Constructing Borders and Crossing Boundaries: Social, Cultural and Religious Change in Early Modern Jewish History”
2009	Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem, Participant in <i>International Summer Research Workshop—Overlapping Spheres: Jews and Christians in Early Modern Germany</i>
2008-09	Ephraim Urbach Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture
2008	NEH Summer Stipend
2004-05	National Foundation for Jewish Culture, Dissertation Fellowship
2004-05, 2001-02	Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Grant for Doctoral Dissertations

2001-04	Posen Foundation Fellowship for Doctoral Candidates
1999, 2001	Profs. Drs. Margarita and Moshe Pazi Prize for the Study of Czech Jewry
2000	Dinur Center Prize for Study Abroad, Hebrew University
1999	Bernard and Naomi Pridan Prize, Hebrew University
1999	Erich Kulka Prize, Hebrew University 1999
1999	Scholarship of the Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem
1990	Anne Macintyre Litchfield Prize in History, Cornell University

### **Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations**

- 2021 Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, "Glikl's Jewish Sisterhood: Women, Wills, and Writing in Early Modern Europe"
- 2020 University of Copenhagen, Centre for Privacy Studies (Online), *Privacy Symposium: Privacy and Private in Early Modern Jewish Life*, "Domestic Space, Family Space, and Private Space: Glikl and her Contemporaries"
- 2019 Smith College, Northampton, MA, co-sponsored by Mount Holyoke College, Holyoke, MA, "Glikl's Jewish Sisterhood: Women, Wills, and Writing in Early Modern Europe."
- 2019 Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Seminar für Judaistik, *The Frankfurt Jewish community and its early modern surrounding(s)*, "Outside the Judengasse: Jews in Other Frankfurt Streets (1616, 1716)."
- 2017 University of California, Berkeley, Department of History, "A Beautiful and Costly Procession': Jews, Christians and Cross-Cultural Encounter in Early Modern Prague."
- 2017 University of Minnesota, Center for Austrian Studies and Center for Jewish Studies, "Jews Reading Christians and Christians Reading Jews: Festival Books from Jewish Prague (1678-1716)."
- 2016 City College of New York, Department of History, "Cross-Cultural Encounters in Frankfurt's and Prague's Jewish Streets."
- 2015 Carthage College Diversity Summit, Kenosha, Wisconsin, "A Beautiful and Costly Procession': Jewish Quest for Cultural Belonging in Frankfurt and Prague."
- 2015 University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, Storrs, Connecticut, "A Beautiful and Costly Procession': Jewish Quest for Cultural Belonging in Frankfurt and Prague (c. 1680 – 1750)."
- 2015 University of Pittsburgh, Jewish Studies Colloquium, "A Beautiful and Costly Procession': Jewish Quest for Cultural Belonging in Frankfurt and Prague."
- 2014 Renaissance Society of America, New York, NY, "With an Outward Expression of Rejoicing: Jewish Materials in Public Procession (Prague, 1716)."

- 2014 Harvard University Medieval Studies Workshop, "Between Medieval and Early Modern: Pigs and Processions in Jewish-Christian Relations in Central Europe."
- 2014 Brandeis University, Tauber Institute, "'A Beautiful and Costly Procession': A Printed Path to Jewish Modernity in Early Eighteenth-Century Prague and Frankfurt."
- 2013 World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, Israel, "Apologia—Why this is Written in the German Language": Print, Language and Cross- Cultural Dialogue in Descriptions of Jewish Processions in Prague and Frankfurt (1678, 1716)."
- 2013 Charles University, Prague, *David Gans (1541–1613) after Four Centuries: The Legacy of an Early Modern Jewish Polymath*, "'In their Order and in their Time': Prague, Past and Place in David Gans's *Tsemah David*."
- 2012 Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Fourth Summer Academy of the Research Cluster, *The Jewish Holy Roman Empire – Jewish Spaces as Spaces 'In Between' in a Polycentric Political, Legal and Social Polity*, "To Tell Their Children: Reizl Plohn's Parokhet and Jewish Memory in Prague."
- 2012 Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Special Panel on Daily Encounters of Women, Men, Sacred and Secular in Early Modern Europe*, "A Curtain for the Torah Ark from One of her Dresses."
- 2011 Charles University, Prague, Faculty of Arts, "'Established the Day': History, Memory and Local Tradition in the Jewish Community of Early Modern Prague."
- 2011 Early Modern Workshop. University of Texas, Austin, *Jewish Egodocuments: Revelation of the Self in Early Modern Europe*, "'My Happiness Overturned': Mourning, Memory and a Woman's Writing."
- 2009 Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, *Judah Loew and Jewish Life in Early Modern Prague*, "'And He Wrote Many Books': Remembering Maharal in Seventeenth-Century Prague."
- 2009 Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, *Maharal of Prague: Four Hundred Years Since His Death*, "The Early Modern Image of Maharal: Memory, History, and Self-Representation."
- 2009 World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, "Christian-Jewish Polemic in Public Space."
- 2009 Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem, *International Summer Research Workshop—Overlapping Spheres: Jews and Christians in Early Modern Germany*. "Saint and Counter-Saint: Simon Abeles, Löbl Kurzhandler, and Jewish-Christian Polemic in Baroque Prague."

- 2009 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Gruss Colloquium in Judaic *Studies*, "'A Parokhet from One of her Dresses': Memory, Gender, and the Economy of the Sacred in Early Modern Prague."
- 2009 Historisches Kolleg, Munich, *Early Modern Jewish History as Sacred History Confrontation, Exchange, and Transfer*, "Communal Memory of Jews in Prague: the Case of Löbl Kurzhandler as a Jewish 'Counter-Saint.'"
- 2007 Early Modern Workshop. University of Maryland, College Park. *Jewish Consumption and Material Culture in the Early Modern Period*, "The Zaks Parokhet from Prague (1602): Sacred Object, Local Liturgy, and Familial Memory."
- 2006 University of Alberta, Edmonton, *Religion and Authority in Central Europe, from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment*, "As a Remembrance for my Descendants for all Time': Denunciations and their Representations as Political Tools in the Jewish Community of Early Modern Prague."
- 2004 Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main, Zentrum zur Erforschung der Frühen Neuzeit and Seminar für Judaistik, Jüdisches Museum Frankfurt am Main, *Die Frankfurter Judengasse: Jüdisches Leben in der Frühen Neuzeit*, "A Commemorative Liturgy from Early Modern Prague."

### **Conference Sessions and Seminars as Coordinator, Chair, Respondent**

- 2023 Panel organizer, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Francisco, "Career Paths in Jewish Studies & Holocaust Studies: Libraries and Archives."
- 2023 Chair, Association of Jewish Libraries Annual Conference, Online, "Early Modern Jewish Imprints."
- 2022 Roundtable discussant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, "Early Modern Women Writers and Yiddish Literary History."
- 2022 Chair, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, "Early Modern Women Writers and Yiddish Literary History."
- 2021 Panel organizer and discussant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, "Careers in Judaica Librarianship."
- 2021 Chair, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, "Jewish Identity and Early Modern Governance."
- 2020 Chair, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Online, "Black Jewesses, 'White Negros,' and Nice Jewish Rappers: Blending Black and Jewish Genders in American Pop Culture."

- 2020 Chair, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Online, "Jews as a 'Model Minority' in Comparative Historical Perspective."
- 2018 Chair and respondent, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, "Communal, Rabbinic, and Judicial Authority in Flux: Law as Lived in the Early Modern Kehillah."
- 2016 Respondent, Annual conference of the Renaissance Society of America, Boston "Jewish Spaces."
- 2014 Panel organizer, Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Baltimore "Jewish History and Jewish Historical Imagination."
- 2013-14 Co-Convener, Host and Seminar Organizer for Harry Starr Fellowship in Judaica, Center for Jewish Studies, Harvard University, on the theme, *Historical Consciousness and the Jewish Historical Imagination*.
- 2013 Panel co-organizer, World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, "Printing, Censoring, Collecting: Hebrew Books in Habsburg Lands,"
- 2009 Co-convener, "Reading across Cultures: The Jewish Book and Its Readers in the Early Modern Period," Early Modern Workshop, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University

### **Select Public Lectures**

- 2019 The Vilna Shul – Boston's Center for Jewish Culture, Boston, MA: "Televising Teshuvah (Repentance): Yom Kippur on the Small Screen."
- 2015 Congregation Emanu-El Israel, Greensburg, PA: "From Sarnoff to Seinfeld: American Jews and the Television Age."
- 2014 Congregation Kol Nefesh Masorti, Edgware, UK: "In Their Own Words: Jewish Women and Communal Memory in 17th-Century Prague."
- 2013 Temple Habonim, Barrington, RI: "Creativity and Conflict: Outlines of Jewish Life in Medieval and Modern Europe" and "Ways of Remembering: Past and Present," (Two-Part Series).
- 2013 Congregation Shaarei Tefillah, Newton, MA, "Jewish Women's Voices from Early Modern Europe."
- 2011 Jewish Museum in Prague: "To Tell their Children: Reizl Plohn's Parokhet and Jewish Memory in Seventeenth-Century Prague."
- 2007 Channing Memorial Church, Newport, RI, "Jewish History from Abraham to 1900."



## **Teaching and Academic Advising**

### Select Courses Taught

- “American Jews and the Television Age”
- “Among the Nations’: Jewish History in Pagan, Christian and Muslim Context”
- “Gender and Judaism”
- “History and Culture of the Jews I: the Classical Period”
- “History and Culture of the Jews II: the Modern Period”
- “Jews and Cities: Urban Encounter and Cultural Transformations”
- “Motherhood in Jewish, Culture, Law, and Historical Experience”
- “On Display: Commemoration, Collection and Public Spaces (c. 1600-2000)”
- “Overlapping Spheres: Jewish Life in Early Modern Europe”
- “Prague, Jews, and Mystery”
- “Sex, Gender, and Society”
- “Space and Place in American Judaism”
- “Women’s Voices in Medieval and Early Modern Europe”

### Ph.D. Exams Supervised (Harvard University)

- “Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History,” Committee on Religion
- “Modern Jewish History,” Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
- “Jews in Europe from the French Revolution to World War I: Modernity and Models of Assimilation and Acculturation,” Committee on Religion
- “Gender in Jewish History,” Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

### Ph.D. Committee (Harvard University)

Rena N. Lauer, “Venice’s Colonial Jews: Negotiating Identity, Community, and Justice in Late Medieval Venetian Crete,” Department of History, completed 2014

### Additional Teaching Activity

- 2023 [Judaica Librarianship Certification](#), a joint program of the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Association of Jewish Libraries, “Jewish Librarians in Historical and Contemporary Context”
- 2018-2020 Hebrew College, Boston, medieval and modern Jewish history in adult programs including “Me’ah” and “Open Circle,” including courses on Medieval and Modern Jewish History, Jewish Women Writers, Reading Glikl, Jews of Vilna, Jewish Religious Movements

- 2014-15 Pioneer Academics, Professor for online University-level research seminar for international high school students
- 2004-05 Teaching Assistant instructing “Historical Methodologies” section, School of History, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 2001-02 Teaching Assistant instructing “Exercise” section for Introduction to Modern Jewish History, Department of Jewish History, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

### **Professional Service**

- 2023 Co-Chair, Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Contingent Faculty Committee
- 2021-present Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Liaison with the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) (“AJL/AJS Liaison”)
- 2020-21 AJL Strategic Planning Committee
- 2006-present Peer reviewing for: Academia Press (Prague), *AJS Review*, Hadassah Brandeis Institute Research Awards, Israel Science Foundation, *Jerusalem Studies in Jewish Folklore*, *Jewish History*, *Journal of the History of Ideas*, *Journal of Jewish Studies*, *Judaica Bohemiae*, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, *Nashim*, NEH Summer Stipend competition, Stanford University Press, *Zion*
- 2006-15 Academic Advisory Board, CET Academic Programs, Jewish Studies in Prague (summer and semester programs for U.S. university students)
- 2010-13 Informal advising for organization and fund-raising for the Conference and volume: *David Gans (1541–1613) after Four Centuries: The Legacy of an Early Modern Jewish Polymath*. Charles University, Prague, May 27-29, 2013, and additional activities of the Prague Centre for Jewish Studies, Charles University

### **University Service**

- 2015-16 Associated Faculty, Center for Jewish Studies, Wesleyan University
- 2012-15 Chair, Jewish Cultures and Societies Seminar, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University
- 2007-14 Standing Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality, Harvard University
- 2006-14 Executive Committee, Center for Jewish Studies, Harvard University

### **Non-Degree Education**

1995-97 Matan – The Sadie Rennert Women’s Institute for Torah Studies, Jerusalem, Beit Midrash Program (Half-time)

1990-92 Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies, Jerusalem (Full-time)

### **Languages**

English: native

Hebrew: fluent

French, German, Yiddish: proficient reading ability

Czech: basic