

Curriculum Vitae

Judah I. Isseroff

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Employment and Education

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Washington University in St. Louis (2023 -)
Danforth Center on Religion and Politics

Ph.D., Princeton University, (2023)

Religion, Ethics, and Politics

Dissertation: “Given and Not Made: Thinking Jewish with Hannah Arendt”

Advisor: Leora Batnitzky; Readers: Eric Gregory, Shaul Magid (Dartmouth)

Seminary, Yeshivat Hadar, (2015–2016)

New York, NY

B.A., Bowdoin College (2013)

Government and Legal Studies

Cum Laude

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“High Heels as Hammers: Hannah Arendt’s Critique of Carl Schmitt’s Political Theological Analogy,” *Religions*, 14(10) Special Issue on Religion and Contemporary Political Theory and Practice, 2023.

“Election, Favoritism, and Freedom: Towards a Modern Jewish Theology of Matrilineal Descent,” *Modern Theology*, 39(4), 775-795, October 2023.

“American Judaism Between Religion and Race: Reflections on Mordecai Kaplan and Jewish Whiteness,” *Religion and American Culture*, 32(1), 1-29, Summer 2022.

Teaching

Washington University in St. Louis:

Jewish Political Thought (Spring 2024)

Princeton University (Assistant in Instruction):

Ethics and Public Policy (Fall 2017)
Religion and its Modern Critics (Spring 2020)

Hannah Senesh Community Day School (Assistant Teacher):
5th and 7th grade Judaic Studies (2015–2016)

Conferences, Presentations, and Invited Talks

“Chosenness, Nationalism, and Hannah Arendt Between Judaism and Christianity,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2023 (upcoming)

“Shabbat and the Blessing of Life in Hannah Arendt’s *The Human Condition*,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2023 (upcoming)

“From Pluralism to Judeo-Christian Values: The New American Jewish Approach to Civil Religion,” Symposium on Race and Civil Religion in the United States, Elon University Center of Religion, Culture and Society, February 2023

“Hannah Arendt’s Jewish Family Portraits: Rahel Varnhagen, Heinrich Blücher, Rosa Luxemburg,” “Hannah Arendt’s Jewish Questions,” Stanford University, December 2022

“American Jewish Life Between Religion and Race: Lessons from Mordecai Kaplan and James Baldwin,” Limmud Seattle Annual eFestival, January 2022 (on zoom)

“Keeping Identity Politics Private: Hannah Arendt’s Analogy Between Woman and Jew,” 53rd Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, IL, December 2021

“Hannah Arendt’s Jewish Jesus: Forgiveness in *The Human Condition* Between Judaism and Christianity,” University of Toronto Jewish Studies Workshop, November 2021 (on zoom)

“Old World Blues: Latent Nostalgia in Mordecai Kaplan’s Judaism as a Civilization,” Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, March 2020

“Are Holocaust Jokes Funny?: Reading Arendt’s *Eichmann in Jerusalem*,” Limmud NY Jewish Learning Conference, February 2020

“Once Upon a Time in Jewish Solidarity: Mordecai Kaplan on Judaism and Racism,” Limmud NY Jewish Learning Conference, February 2020

“Rupture and Restoration of the Jewish Family in Jon Levenson’s *The Death and Resurrection of the Beloved Son*,” JSGSA Conference, IU Bloomington, February 2020

“In the Shadow of Maimonides: Michael Wyschogrod and David Novak on Revelation and Jewish Election,” Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, September 2019

“Jews Unchosen: The Theological Price of Empire,” Religion and Politics Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2018

“Judith Butler, *Jewish Insider: A Review of Parting Ways*,” Jewish Thought Workshop, Princeton University, October 2018

“Hannah Arendt and her Stinging Jewish Critics” City University of New York Graduate Conference , April 2018

Respondant to Elias Sacks (University of Colorado Boulder) “Exegetical Politics: Nachman Krochmal and Modern Jewish Thought,” Jewish Thought Workshop, Princeton University, February 2018

“Judaism and Nationalism in Israel/Palestine” Invited Lecture, Princeton Theological Seminary, November 2017

Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

Fellow of the Leo Baeck Fellowship Programme, 2022-2023

Department of Religion Teaching Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Princeton University, Fall 2020

Fellow in Summer Seminar in Jewish Legal and Political Thought at the Consortium of Jewish Studies and Legal Theory, Summer 2020

Graduate Research Fellow in Religion and Public Life at the Center for the Study of Religion. Princeton University, AY 2019-20

Summer Research and Travel Grants from the Program in Judaic Studies and the University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, 2017-

Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization Graduate Fellowship in Jewish Law and Interdisciplinary Studies (not accepted), AY 2016-17

Grant from the Judaic Studies Program, Princeton University, 2016-2021

Merit Grant from the Center for Human Values, Princeton University, AY 2016-17

Service

Referee for Journal of Textual Reasoning

Representative to Religion Department Graduate Student Committee, AY 2019-20

Co-chair Judaic Studies Book Club, Princeton University, 2017-2019

Public Writing and Podcasts

“The New ‘Torah Values’ Congressional Caucus Is Not What It Seems,” *Haaretz*, January 27, 2022

“It’s the end of the road for ‘Orthodox’ Judaism,” *Haaretz*, November 8, 2021

“Should Jews Fear Fanatically pro-Israel, Philosemitic U.S. Evangelicals?” *Haaretz*, June 16, 2021

“Why haredi rabbis, famous for their pragmatism, just backed a losing candidate,” *The Forward*, October 29, 2020

“If I Forget and American Jews, Anti-Semitism, and Tribalism,” Why We Theater Podcast,
October 2, 2020

Languages

English: Native

Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew: Working reading proficiency

Modern Hebrew: Working reading, writing, and speaking proficiency

German: Reading proficiency

Spanish: Basic reading and speaking proficiency

Professional Affiliations

Association for Jewish Studies, American Academy of Religion