

A. Marc Caplan

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Education

- 1994-2003 New York University, New York, NY
Department of Comparative Literature
MA Awarded, January 1997; PhD Awarded, September 2003
- 1985-1989 Yale University, New Haven, CT
Department of English
BA Awarded, June 1989

Areas of Specialization

Comparative Literature, Yiddish Literature, Jewish Literature, Jewish Culture in Eastern Europe, Literary Theory, Modernism and Modernity, Global Literatures, German Literature, African Literature

Professional Experience

- 2020-2021 Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire
Brownstone Visiting Professor, Jewish Studies Program
- 2020 Instructor, Literature Seminar (online), Uriel Weinreich Yiddish Summer Program, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, NY
- 2019-2020 University of Wroclaw, Wroclaw, Poland
Visiting Professor, Taube Department of Jewish Studies
- 2017-2018 Instructor, Advanced Literature Seminar (taught in Yiddish), The Naomi Praver Kadar International Yiddish Summer Program, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2016-2017 Yale University, New Haven, CT
Horace W. Goldsmith Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies
- 2015-2016 Instructor, Literature Seminar, Advanced and Intermediate Conversation Classes, Uriel Weinreich Yiddish Summer Program, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, NY
- 2006-2014 Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Zelda and Myer Tandetnik Professor of Yiddish Literature, Language, and Culture, Department of German and Romance Languages

2003-2004 Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, IN
Director, “Major Themes and Characters in Literature” (Undergraduate Literature Program, Department of Comparative Literature)

Awards

Spring 2019 University of Wroclaw, Taube Department of Jewish Studies
Summer Term Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Wroclaw, Poland

2018-2019 Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften (IFK)
Kunstuniversität Linz in Wien, Vienna, Austria
Senior Fellowship

2015-16 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Fellowship to the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

2014-15 Center for Jewish History, New York, NY
Cahnman Senior Scholar-in-Residence

Spring 2011 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Fellowship to The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

Fall 2009 Universität Konstanz, Germany
Fellowship to the “Excellenzkluster 16: Kulturelle Grundlagen von Integration”

2005-2006 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Center for Jewish Studies, Harry Starr Fellowship

2004-2005 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Betty and Morris Shuch Term Fellowship

Publications (English)

Books

“Yiddish Writers in Weimar Berlin: A Fugitive Modernism.” (Forthcoming, Indiana UP, 2021)

How Strange the Change: Language, Temporality, and Narrative Form in Peripheral Modernisms.
Stanford: Stanford UP, 2011.

Reviewed in *Journal of Jewish Identities*, 5.2 (July 2012): 79-81; *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, 14.3 (September 2012); *AJS Review*, 36.2 (November 2012): 364-67; H-Judaic, H-Net Reviews, January 2013.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

“Arnold Schoenberg’s Jewish *Trauerspiel*: Aesthetics, Law, and Ethics in *Moses und Aron*”
(Forthcoming, *Modernism/Modernity*, 2021)

“A Disenchanted Elijah: World War I, Conspiracy Theories, and Allegory in S. An-sky’s *Destruction of Galicia*” *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry*, Vol. 34, 2021 (Forthcoming)

“Woyzeck or Wozzeck? Karl-Emil Franzos and the Borderlines Between Eastern Europe and German Culture” *Jewish Social Studies* (New Series) 25.1 (Fall 2019): 128-154.

“‘Nor Mind Nor Body of Me Can Be Touched’: The Politics of Passivity in Moyshe Kulbak’s *Montog* and Samuel Beckett’s *Murphy*.” *The Cambridge Journal of Postcolonial Literary Inquiry*. 3.1 (2016): 97-115.

“Osterbrot or Matzo? Translation, Transubstantiation, and Temporality in Joseph Roth’s *Hiob*.” *Recasting the “Other”: Readings in German-Jewish Interwar Culture and Its Aftermath: The Yearbook of the Association for European Jewish Literature Studies* 2. (2015): 147-170.

“Ooftish: Writing, Orality, and the Specter of Yiddish in an Early Poem by Samuel Beckett.” *Samuel Beckett Today/Aujourd’hui: An Annual Bilingual Review: Filiations & Connexions/Filiations & Connecting Lines* 23 (2011): 399-414.

“The Hermit at the Circus: Der Nister, *Der blaue Engel*, and German-Yiddish Cultural Parallels in the Weimar Period.” *Between Two Worlds: Yiddish-German Encounters: Studia Rosenthaliana* 41 (2009): 173-96.

“Shattering the Mirror: The Fragmentation of Narrative Perspective in Y. L. Peretz’s *Bilder fun a Provints-Rayze*.” *Jewish Social Studies* (New Series) 14.1 (2007): 63-88.

“*Nos Ancetres, les Diallobes*: Cheikh Hamidou Kane’s *Ambiguous Adventure* and the Existential Roots of African Negritude.” *Modern Fiction Studies* 51. 4 (2005): 936-57. (Reprinted in *Paris, Capital of the Black Atlantic: Literature, Modernity, and Diaspora*. Ed. Jeremy Braddock and Jonathan P. Eburne. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2013. 290-311.)

“Performance Anxieties: Carnival Spaces and Assemblages in Der Nister’s ‘Under a Fence.’” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 18.1 (1998): 1-18.

Essays in Peer-Reviewed Collected Volumes

“Double or Nothing: The Erasure of Jewish Speech and Language in Georges Perec’s *Wou le souvenir d’enfance*.” *There’s a Jewish Way of Saying Things: A Volume of Essays Honoring David Roskies*. Ed. Avraham Rosen and Jillian Davidson. Published Online at *In geveb*, June 2020: <https://ingeveb.org/articles/double-or-nothing-jewish-speech-and-silence-in-georges-perecs-w-ou-le-souvenir-denfance>

“Too Soon? Yiddish Humor and the Holocaust in Post-War Poland.” *Jewish Humor After the Holocaust*. Ed. David Slucki, Gabriel Finder, and Avinoam Pratt. Detroit: Wayne UP. 2020. 39-57.

“*A Gast af a Vayl Zeyt af a Mayl*: Distance, Displacement, and Dislocation in Dovid Bergelson’s *Mides ha-din* and Alfred Döblin’s *Reise in Polen*.” *The Languages of Jewish Cultures: Comparative Perspectives*. Ed. Joshua Miller and Anita Norich. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P. 2016. 252-274.

“Jewish Humor in America.” *The Cambridge History of Jewish American Literature*. Ed. Hana Wirth-Nesher. Cambridge: Cambridge UP. 2016. 601-621.

“Literary Studies.” *The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Jewish Cultures*. Ed. Laurence Roth and Nadia Valman. Oxfordshire: Taylor & Francis/Routledge. 2014. 47-59.

“Watch the Throne: The Baroque, the Gothic, and Symbolism in Reb Nakhman and Der Nister.” *Uncovering the Hidden: The Works and Life of Der Nister*. Ed. Gennady Estraiikh, Kerstin Hoge, and Mikhail Krutikov. Oxford: Legenda, 2014. 90-110.

“Yiddish Exceptionalism: Lynching, Race, and Racism in Joseph Opatoshu’s *Lintsheray*.” *Inventing a Modern Jewish Identity: Joseph Opatoshu, a Yiddish Writer, Thinker, and Activist Between Europe and America*. Ed. Sabine Koller, Gennady Estraiikh, and Mikhail Krutikov. Oxford: Legenda, 2013. 173-87. (Reprinted in *In Geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, online peer-reviewed publication, June 2016: <http://ingeveb.org/articles/yiddish-exceptionalism-lynching-race-and-racism-in-opatoshus-lintsheray>)

“Byelorussia in Berlin; Berlin in Byelorussia: Moyshe Kulbak’s *Raysn* and *Meshiekh ben-Efrayim*, Between Nostalgia and Apocalypse.” *Yiddish in Weimar Berlin: At the Crossroads of Diaspora Politics and Culture*. Ed. Gennady Estraiikh and Mikhail Krutikov. Oxford: Legenda, 2010. 89-104.

“Neither Here nor There: The Critique of Ideological Progress in Sholem Aleichem’s Kasrilevke Stories.” *Modern Jewish Literatures: Intersections and Boundaries*. Philadelphia: U of Penn P, 2010. 127-46.

“The Corridors of Berlin: Proximity, Peripherality, and Surveillance in Bergelson’s Boarding House Stories.” *Transit und Transformation: Osteuropäisch-Jüdische Migranten in Berlin 1918-1939*. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2010. 45-55.

“Y. L. Peretz and the Politics of Yiddish.” *Czernowitz at 100: The First Yiddish Language Conference in Historical Perspective*. Ed. Josh Fogel and Kalman Weiser. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2010. 77-94.

“The Smoke of Civilization: The Dialectic of Enlightenment in Mendele Moykher-Sforim’s *Di Klyatshe*.” *Beyond the Modern Jewish Canon: Arguing Jewish Literature and Culture*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 2008. 445-66.

“Tituba Was Here But ’im Disappear: Legends, History, and Novelistic Form in *I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem* and *The Harder They Come*.” *African Literatures at the Millennium*. Ed. Arthur D. Drayton, Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka, and I. Peter Ukpokodu. Trenton: Africa World Press, 2007. 154-76.

Book Reviews

Strange Cocktail: Translation and the Making of Modern Hebrew Poetry by Adriana X. Jacobs. Review in *Journal of Jewish Identities* 12.2 (2019): 220-223.

Strangers in Berlin: Modern Jewish Literature between East and West, 1919-1933 by Rachel Seelig. Review in *AJS Review* 42:1 (2018): 238-241.

Unclean Lips: Obscenity, Jews, and American Culture by Josh Lambert. Review in *Studies in American Literature* 36.2 (2017): 229-232.

The Némirovsky Question: The Life, Death, and Legacy of a Jewish Writer in Twentieth-Century France by Susan Rubin Suleiman. Review on H-France listserv (July 2017).

Writing in Tongues: Translating Yiddish in the 20th Century by Anita Norich. Review in *AJS Review* 39.1 (2015): 195-99.

A Captive of the Dawn: The Life and Work of Peretz Markish (1895-1952), Ed. Joseph Sherman, Gennady Estraiikh, Jordan Finkin, and David Shneer. Review in *The Slavic and East European Review* 92.2 (2014): 321-23.

A Rhetorical Conversation: Jewish Discourse in Modern Yiddish Literature by Jordan D. Finkin. Review in *Jewish History* 27.1 (2013): 131-35.

Diasporic Modernisms: Hebrew and Yiddish Literature in the Twentieth Century by Allison Schachter. Review on H-Judaic listserv (November 2012).

From Continuity to Contiguity: Toward a New Jewish Literary Thinking by Dan Miron. Review in *Journal of Jewish Identities* 4.2 (2011): 80-83.

The Revolutionary Roots of Modern Yiddish by Barry Trachtenberg. Review in *Comparative Literature Studies* 48.1 (2011): 114-17.

Jazz Age Barcelona by Robert A. Davidson. Review in *Hispanic Review* 78.4 (2010): 573-76.

Rosenfeld's Lives: Fame, Oblivion, and the Furies of Writing by Steven J. Zipperstein. Review in *Journal of Jewish Identities* 3.1 (2010): 71-74.

"Science Fiction in the Age of Jewish Enlightenment: Joseph Perl's *Revealer of Secrets*: The First Jewish Novel." *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 19.1 (1999): 93-100.

Short Entries

Reader's Guide and Resource Kit for Reb Nakhman of Breslov's "The Loss of the Princess," Yiddish Book Center, July 2020: <http://www.teachgreatjewishbooks.org/resource-kits/reb-nakhman-breslovs-loss-princess>

"Remnant and Revenants": On "The Full Pomegranate: Poems of Avrom Sutzkever." *Los Angeles Review of Books*, May 16, 2019. <https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/remnants-and-revenants-on-the-full-pomegranate-poems-of-avrom-sutzkever/>

Translator, Isaac Bashevis Singer, "Foreword: Out of the Ashes," *It Will Yet Be Heard*, by Leon Thorne. Edited by Daniel H. Magilow and Emanuel Thorne. (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press) 2019: 8-12.

"Yiddish Modernism and German Modernity in the Weimar Era." *Frankel Institute Annual*. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P, 2016. 25-27.

"Khurbn" (Article Translated into German on Holocaust Literature in Yiddish). *Enzyklopädie jüdischer Geschichte und Kultur*. Vol. 3. Ed. Dan Diner. Stuttgart: J. B. Metzler, 2012. 341-45.

"Modernism." *Critical Terms in Jewish Language Studies*. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P, 2011. 27-29.

Publications (Yiddish)

Frequent articles on Literature, Politics, and Popular Culture for the Yiddish *Forward* Newspaper: 2015-Present (<https://forward.com/yiddish/>)

“On the Jewish Street.” Recurring column on popular culture for *Afn shvel* (Quarterly Journal of The Yiddish League, New York, NY): 2005-2014.

“The Future That Once Was—A Review of *Building the Future: Jewish Intellectuals and the Making of the Tsukunft*” (Book Review). *Di Tsukunft* (Quarterly Journal of Yiddish Culture, New York, NY) 106.1 (2001): 29-31.

“The Benefit of the Doubt” (Editorial Reply). *Yugntruf* 96 (2001).

“*A Nekhtiker tog*: The Badkhn, Carnival, and Negation in Y.L. Peretz’s *Bay nakht afn altn mark*” (Article). *Yidishe Kultur* 62.7-8 (2000): 21-29.

“A Victim of Success: On the Fate of a Language” (Article). *Yugntruf* 91-92 (1999).

“A Low Frequency” (Article). *Yugntruf* 85 (1996).

Courses Taught

Undergraduate: “New York City and The Metropolitan Imagination”; “Comparing Jewish and African Diasporic Literatures”; “Walter Benjamin and His World”; “Berlin at the Crossroads of the 20th Century”; “Twentieth-Century Jewish Literature in North America”; “Jewish Humor and the Construction of Cultural Discourse”; “The Holocaust in Modern Literature”; “Zionism in Modern Literature: Jewish or Israeli?”; “Transformation in Modern Jewish Literature”; “Modernism and the Metropolis”; “Yiddish Literature in Translation”; “Multicultural Nigeria”; “Folklore and Modernism”

Graduate: “Proto-, Modern, & Post-: Locating the –ism in Modernism”; “Warfare, Trauma, and Modernist Aesthetics”; “Discourses of Dislocation”; “The Baroque and Its Afterlives”; “Comedy, Tragedy, and the Space Between”; “The Subject-Object Relationship in Experimental Fiction”; “Anti-Novels: Narrative Failure and the Poetics of the Periphery”; “Proto-Modernist Fiction”; “Fantasy Narratives of the 19th Century”; “The Multi-Lingual Culture of Weimar-Era Berlin”; “The Literatures of Blacks and Jews in the 20th Century”; “Folklore and Modernism”

Teaching Interests

Yiddish Literature and Culture; Modern Jewish Literature; East European Literatures and Cultures; Jewish Humor; Black and Jewish Literatures in Comparison; Holocaust Literature; Literature, Music, and Film; Post-colonial Theory and Literature; German Multiculturalism; Cultural Theories of Space

Academic Lectures (Selected)

January 2020 “Dialects of Enlightenment: Double Consciousness and Diasporas in Early Modern Jewish Drama,” Paris III, Paris, France

June 2019 “Demobbed, Depressed, Deranged: Dislocation and Disenchantment in Post-World War I Literature,” Workshop conducted in German and English, Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf, Germany

- February 2019 “The Corridors of Berlin: Proximity, Peripherality, and Surveillance in Dovid Bergelson’s Boarding House Stories,” University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA
- December 2018 “Internal Bilingualism in Early Modern Jewish Drama,” IFK, Vienna, Austria
- November 2018 “Yiddish Exceptionalism: Lynching, Race, and Racism in American Yiddish Fiction,” Pears Institute for the Study of Antisemitism, London, England
- September 2018 “Arnold Schoenberg’s Jewish *Trauerspiel*: The Status of Language, Law, and Symbol in *Moses und Aron*,” Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- May 2017 “Gender Politics in Sholem Aleichem’s Fiction,” Seminar conducted in Yiddish, Bibliothèque Medem, Paris, France
- May 2017 “Yiddish Exceptionalism: Lynching, Race, and Racism in American Yiddish Fiction,” Instituut voor Joodse Studies, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium
- April 2017 “An Overture to Modernism: Georg Büchner, Karl-Emil Franzos, and the Evolution of Alban Berg’s *Wozzeck*,” Department of Comparative Literature Open Forum, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- Oct. 2015 “An Anatomy of Allegory: Writing, Revelation, and the Body in Arnold Schoenberg’s *Moses und Aron*,” The Northrop Frye Centre Lecture, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- June 2015 “Off the Edge of the World: Travel Writing, Allegory, and Displacement in Yiddish and German Modernism,” Goldreich Yiddish Institute, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
- April 2015 “‘Nor Mind Nor Body of Me Can Be Touched’: The Politics of Passivity in Moyshe Kulbak’s *Montog* and Samuel Beckett’s *Murphy*,” Stulman Program in Jewish Studies, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- March 2015 “A Disenchanted Elijah: Travel Writing, Allegory, and the Dissimulation of Self in S. Ansky’s *Destruction of Galicia*,” The Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Columbia University, New York, NY
- March 2015 “Arnold Schoenberg’s Jewish *Trauerspiel*: The Status of Language, Law, and Symbol in *Moses und Aron*,” Cahnman Foundation Lecture, Center for Jewish History, New York, NY
- June 2014 “World War I and Its Aftermaths in Yiddish Narrative,” Naomi Prawer Kadar Annual Lecture, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
- Nov. 2013 “*Osterbrot* or Matzo? Translation, Polytonality, and Linguistic Strategies in Joseph Roth’s *Hiob*,” German Studies Department, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA

- Oct. 2013 “Education and Initiation in Yiddish *Haskole* and African Negritude,” Ross Series in Yiddish Studies, co-sponsored by the Department of French and Francophone Studies and the Department of Germanic Languages, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
- Sep. 2012 “Baroque Echoes and Surrealist Genealogies: Reb Nakhman and the Yiddish Symbolism of Der Nister,” The Naomi Praver Kadar Annual Memorial Lecture, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, NY
- July 2009 “Byelorussia in Berlin; Berlin in Byelorussia: Moyshe Kulbak’s *Raysn* and *Meshiekh ben-Efrayim*, Between Nostalgia and Apocalypse,” Arbeitsgespräch des Kulturwissenschaftlichen Kollegs Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany
- Nov. 2004 “Shattering the Mirror: The Fragmentation of Narrative Perspective in Y. L. Peretz’s *Bilder fun a Provints-rayze*,” Seminar for the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- August 2004 “Sutzkever and Singer: Two Strategies for Holocaust Fiction in Yiddish,” Lecture for the Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University and The Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Bloomington, IN

Conferences (Selected)

- Nov. 2019 "Dialogical Praxis: Multilingualism as Critique of the Kantian Sublime in Isaac Euchel's *Reb Henoch*" (Delivered Paper), Aesthetic Theories in Yiddish: The 15th Annual Lavy Colloquium, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland
- June 2018 "On the Threshold of a Metropolis: Warsaw Spaces in I. L. Peretz's *Mayses*" (Delivered Paper), *Jiddisches Europa: Thinking Yiddish in Europe*. Heinrich-Heine Universität, Düsseldorf, Germany
- May 2017 “Linguistic Migration and Fugitive Aesthetics in Modern Yiddish Literature” (Delivered Paper), The Yale Annual Seminar: Migration and Immigration in Modern Hebrew and Jewish Literatures, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- Nov. 2016 “Smuggling the *Goles*: Peripherality of Language and Location in Oyzer Varshavski’s *Shmuglars*” (Delivered Paper), Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies 48th Annual Convention, Washington, DC
- Oct. 2016 “*Dos Pintele Yid*: The (Many) Points of Jewishness in the Comedy of Sarah Silverman and Lenny Bruce” (Delivered Paper), Comedy and the Constitution: The Legacy of Lenny Bruce, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
- March 2016 “Music—Theory—Text: Critical Strategies for Comparing Music, Performance, and Literary Production” (Seminar Co-Organizer); “Adorno’s Agon: Reading Stravinsky in Search of the Authentic” (Delivered Paper) Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Cambridge, MA

- May 2015 “A Tree Is Best Measured When It Is Down: Dan Miron’s *A Traveler Disguised* and the Location of Yiddish in Contemporary Literary Theory” (Delivered Paper), Yiddish Culture in Past and Present Scholarship: Histories, Ideologies, Methodologies, Workshop at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel
- Sept. 2014 “Arnold Schoenberg’s Jewish *Trauerspiel*: The Status of Language, Law, and Symbol in *Moses und Aron*” (Delivered Paper), Religious Cultures Network of the German Studies Association, Annual Conference, Kansas City, MO
- June 2014 “A Disenchanted Elijah: Language, Voice, and the Dissimulation of Self in S. Ansky’s *Destruction of Galicia*,” Narratives of Violence: International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism, Budapest, Hungary
- March 2014 “Monolingualism, Multilingualism, and ‘Polytonality’ in Literary Discourse” (Seminar Co-organizer); “Polytonality: The Case for a Concept” (Delivered Paper), Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), New York, NY
- Dec. 2013 “The Weight of an Epoch: Allegory, Belatedness, and the Persistence of the Baroque in Yiddish Modernism” (Delivered Paper), On the Concept of History / Writing History: International Conference on Walter Benjamin at the Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main & Universität Mannheim, Germany
- April 2013 “Surrealist Strategies: *Dépaysement* and the Locations of Modern Aesthetic Practice” (Seminar Co-organizer); “Contested Patrimonies: Gothic Imagination and Symbolist Aesthetics as Surrealist Precursors” (Delivered Paper), ACLA, Toronto, Canada
- Dec. 2012 “Picaresque Perspectives on the Modern Jewish Literary Complex” (Panel Organizer); “The Man (of La Mancha) in the Mirror: Miguel de Cervantes’ Authorial Strategies and Sh. Y. Abramovitch’s *Dos Vintshfingerl* (1865)” (Delivered Paper), Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) Conference, Chicago, IL
- Oct. 2012 “Watch the Throne: The Baroque, the Gothic, and Symbolism in Reb Nakhman and Der Nister” (Delivered Paper), Modern Hebrew and Yiddish Literature in Transnational Perspective: An International Symposium of the Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- Oct. 2012 “Sutzkever, Singer, and the Stylistic Imperatives of a Post-Holocaust Yiddish Literature” (Delivered Paper), Yiddish After the Catastrophe: 1935-Present, Eighth Annual Lavy Colloquium (Organizer and Convener), Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- Aug. 2012 “Baroque Echoes and Surrealist Genealogies: Reb Nakhman, E.T.A. Hoffmann, and the Yiddish Symbolism of Der Nister” (Delivered Paper), Der Nister: Discovering the Hidden World of Pinkhes Kaganovitch: International Conference at the University of Oxford, Oxford, England

- April 2012 “Lynching, Race, and Racism in Joseph Opatoshu’s American Fiction” (Delivered Paper), *Inventing a Modern Jewish Identity: Joseph Opatoshu, a Yiddish Writer, Thinker, and Activist Between Europe and America*: International Conference at the Universität Regensburg, Regensburg, Germany
- March 2012 “Belated Beginnings: Language, Temporality, and the Accidental Critique of Modernity in Early Yiddish Comedy and Nigerian Market Literature” (Delivered Paper), *Peripheral Modernisms: International Conference at the Institute of Germanic & Romance Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London*, London, London, England
- June 2011 “‘Tea Biscuits, Onepence, and a Critique of Pure Love’: The Politics of Philosophical Passivity in Moyshe Kulbak’s *Montik* and Samuel Beckett’s *Murphy*” (Delivered Paper), *Samuel Beckett: Out of the Archive: International Conference at the University of York*, York, York, England
- March 2011 “A Dialogue Between Sun and Moon: The Transformation of Folk-Motifs in Yiddish and African Modernism” (Delivered Paper), *Jews and Africans in the Modern Imagination: A Conference Sponsored by the Centre for Transnational and Diaspora Studies at the University of Toronto*, Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- Jan. 2011 “Neither *Bildung* nor *Roman*: Dovid Bergelson’s *Tsvishn Emigrantn* and the Limits of Narrative Realism” (Delivered Paper), *Annual Conference of the Modern Languages Association (MLA)*, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
- Oct. 2009 “The Corridors of Berlin: Proximity, Peripherality, and Surveillance in Dovid Bergelson’s *Boarding House Stories*” (Delivered Paper), *Transforming Berlin’s Urban Space: East European Jewish Migrants in Charlottengrad and the Scheunenviertel, 1918-1939*, Jüdisches Museum, Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- March 2009 *The End of the Neubacher Project*, a film by Marcus J. Carney (Respondent), *The Holocaust: Children of Nazi Perpetrators Confront Their Parents’ Past through Documentary Film*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
- Dec. 2008 “Notebook of an Absent Native Land: Nostalgia in Moyshe Kulbak’s *Raysn, Meshiekh ben Efrayim*” (Delivered Paper), *40th AJS*, Washington, Washington, DC
- April 2008 “Y. L. Peretz and the Politics of Yiddish” (Delivered Paper), *Czernowitz at 100: The First Yiddish Language Conference in Historical Perspective*, Conference at York University, Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- March 2008 *Conceptualizing Israeli Literature: Transcription, Translation, Transmission, A Conference in Memory of S. Yizhar, z”l: An International Colloquium for the Johns Hopkins Jewish Studies Program* (Organizer and Convener)
- April 2007 “Imaginary Empires: Structural Dislocations and the Production of Alternative Spaces I” (Seminar Co-Organizer); “Between Self and Other: Displacement, Dislocation, and Deferral in Dovid Bergelson’s *Mides ha-din* and Alfred Döblin’s *Reise in Polen*” (Delivered Paper), *ACLA*, Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

- Dec. 2006 “Isaac Unbound: Madonna, Gnosticism, and the Marketing of ‘Kabbalah’” (Delivered Paper), MLA, Philadelphia, PA
- Oct. 2006 “Negritude’s Endgame: Limits, Liminality, and the Birth of African Modernism in *L’aventure ambiguë*” (Delivered Paper), Interdisciplinary Conference on Ambiguous Adventure in Modernity: Globalization, Identities, and Difference, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- May 2006 “*Ooftish*: Writing, Orality, and the Specter of Yiddish in an Early Poem by Samuel Beckett” (Delivered Paper), Conference in Beckett Studies, University College, Cork, Ireland
- March 2006 “The Perennial Other: Yiddish Literature in Comparative Contexts” (Seminar Organizer); “The Blue Angel, Under a Fence: Der Nister’s Response to German Culture in the Weimar Era” (Delivered Paper), ACLA, Princeton, NJ
- May 2005 “Sholem Aleichem’s Kasrilevke Stories and the Conceptualization of Space” (Delivered Paper), CAJS Colloquium on Modern Jewish Literatures, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- March 2005 “Deterritorialization After Deleuze” (Seminar Organizer); “The Minor as Methodology: Deterritorialization in Yiddish and African Narrative” (Delivered Paper), ACLA, University Park, PA
- Dec. 2004 “The Smoke of Civilization: Fantasy as Social Critique in Mendele’s *Di Klyatshe*” (Delivered Paper), MLA, Philadelphia, PA
- Dec. 2004 “Deterritorialized English: Tapping the Yoruba Roots of Amos Tutuola’s *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*” (Delivered Paper), MLA, Philadelphia, PA
- Dec. 2004 “Reconceptualizing the Shtetl: New Perspectives from Old Sources” (Panel Organizer); “Shattering the Mirror: The Fragmentation of Narrative Perspective in Y. L. Peretz’s *Bilder fun a Provints-rayze*” (Delivered Paper), 36th AJS, Chicago, IL
- April 2004 “Unreal City: The New York Poetry of A. Leyeles and Léopold Senghor” (Delivered Paper), ACLA, Ann Arbor, MI

Public Lectures (selected)

- November 2019 “Yiddish Modernism in Berlin” A Three-Part Lecture Series at the Eshkolot Festival, Berlin, Germany
- June 2016 “A Tour of Sholem Aleichem’s Kasrilevke,” Lecture in Yiddish to the Kadimah Jewish Cultural Centre and National Library, Melbourne, Australia
- June 2013 “When Sholem Aleichem Met Woody Allen: Jewish Humor and the Construction of Cultural Discourse,” A Four-Part Lecture Series at the Jewish Museum of Australia, Melbourne, Australia

- July 2010 “Yiddish Comedy from the Early Maskilic Period to Post-Holocaust Israel,” A Three-Part Lecture Series for the Uriel Weinreich Intensive Summer Program for Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture, YIVO Institute, New York, NY
- April 2010 “A Moveable Feast: Passover and Political Culture,” Lecture at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC
- Nov. 2009 “From Yiddish to Jewish: American-Jewish Culture in the Mid-20th Century,” Lecture at the Amerika-Haus, Munich, Germany
- Oct. 2009 “Di Yidishe literatur in der Weimar-tekufe in Berlin” (“Yiddish Literature During the Weimar Period in Berlin”), Lecture in Yiddish for the Shloyme-Birnboym-Gezelshaft far Yidish, Hamburg, Germany
- Oct. 2009 “The Fundamental Truths About *The Simpsons* (and Other Comedies),” Lecture for the Honors Society, Franklin College, Lugano, Switzerland
- Nov. 2006 “Tevye Transformed: Sholem Aleichem from Page to Stage and Film,” Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Service

- 2017-23 Delegate for Folklore, Myth, and Fairy Tale to the Assembly of the MLA
- 2019 Guest Co-Editor, “Religious Thought in Yiddish,” Special Issue of *In Geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, online peer-reviewed publication: https://ingeveb.org/issues/religious-thought-in-yiddish?fbclid=IwAR074iOpiXR8HjUH2rEQLF_1Jc8s_zL8HDCSwdn_jIJQWiefIc3Afd7qk
- 2015-16 Telluride House Faculty Fellow, Michigan Branch Telluride Association, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2015 Yiddish Language Consultant on Translation Project for the New York City Board of Health
- 2014 Editor, German Edition of *Modern Language Notes*, Volume 128, The Johns Hopkins University Press
- 2012-2014 Division Coordinator for Yiddish Studies, Association for Jewish Studies
- 2010-Present Fellowship Selection Committee Member, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, NY
- 2010-2012 Selection Committee Member, Dean’s Teaching Fellowship, School of Arts & Sciences, The Johns Hopkins University
- Fall 2010 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Program in Jewish Studies, The Johns Hopkins University
- 2009-2012 Mid-Atlantic Region Delegate to the Assembly of the MLA

- 2009-2012 Committee Member and Chair of the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies, MLA
- Spring 2009 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, German Program, Department of German and Romance Languages, The Johns Hopkins University
- 2006 Translator, Yiddish to English, Articles for Inclusion in the *YIVO Encyclopedia on Jews in Eastern Europe* (New Haven: Yale University Press) 2008
- 2005-Present Peer Reviewer, Manuscripts on Jewish Literature and Culture for McGill University, SUNY, Northwestern University, Oxford University, Stanford University, the University of California Press and the Journals *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, *East European Jewish Affairs*, *Harvard Theological Review*, *Jewish History*, *Jewish Social Studies*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Journal of Jewish Identities*, *Modernism/Modernity*, *Nexus: Essays in German Jewish Studies*, *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, and (in Yiddish) *Afn shvel*
- 2004-2006 Secretary and Chair, Yiddish Discussion Group, Modern Language Association
- 2000-2003 Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Di Tsukunft*, Yiddish Literary Magazine
- 2000-Present Executive Board Member, Aaron and Sonia Fishman Foundation for Yiddish Culture and Language, Philanthropic Organization, New York, NY
- 1995-2003 Executive Committee Member and Co-Chairman, *Yugntruf*/Youth for Yiddish, Yiddish Language and Cultural Service Organization
- Languages** English (native)
 Yiddish (near native reading, writing, and speaking skills)
 German (advanced reading knowledge; advanced speaking and writing skills)
 French (advanced reading knowledge; intermediate speaking and writing skills)
 Hebrew (intermediate reading knowledge; beginning speaking and writing skills)
 Spanish (beginning reading and speaking skills)