

## **Justin Daniel Cammy**

102 Pierce Hall  
Smith College  
Northampton MA 01063  
jcammy@smith.edu

### **Education**

- Ph.D. Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (2003)  
Field concentrations: Yiddish literature, modern Jewish literature, modern Jewish history
- A.M. Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (1998)
- B.A. McGill University (1993)  
First-Class Joint Honors, Middle East Studies & Political Science  
Year Abroad: Rothberg Int'l School, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1990-91)

### **Employment History**

#### **Smith College**

- Professor of Jewish Studies and of Comparative Literature (2021-present)  
Professor, by courtesy, with full voting rights in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies and in Middle East Studies
- Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Comparative Literature (2011-2021)
- Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies (2003-2011)
- Instructor in Jewish Studies (2001-2003)

#### **Visiting Faculty Positions**

- Five-College Visiting Professor: Amherst College (2022, 2017); Mount Holyoke College (2012);  
Hampshire College (2012)
- Visiting Assistant Professor of English, The University of California at Los Angeles (2009)
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, Oberlin College (2008)

#### **International Yiddish Language and Culture Programs (Summer)**

- The Naomi Prawer Kadar International Yiddish Summer Program at Tel Aviv University  
Interim Academic Director (2025)  
Mentoring Coordinator (2024)  
On-Site Summer Director (2019-2023)  
Faculty-in-Residence (2013-2019; 2007-2009)
- The Yiddish Book Center: Steiner Summer Yiddish Program  
Summer Faculty-in-Residence (2015-2025, 2012-13, 2005-6)  
Interim Academic Director (2004)

#### **Other Appointments**

- Adjunct Professor and Graduate Faculty, German Studies (2017--present),  
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
- Life Member (elected), Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

## **Major Administrative and College Service**

### **Academic Unit Leadership**

Chair, Program in World Literatures (2024-26, 2022-2023)

Chair, Program in Jewish Studies (2024-2026, 2019-2023, 2014-2018S, 2011-2013, 2006-2009)

Chair, Program in Middle East Studies (2011-2013)

Director, Translation Studies Concentration (2025-26, 2022F)

### **Elected Committees**

Faculty Council (2024-2027): one of five elected faculty members who represent the best interests of the faculty in all aspects of the college. Faculty Council confers with the president, provost and dean of faculty, and other senior administrative officers on matters pertaining to budget, governance, general welfare of the college and general faculty personnel issues, and serves as a forum for faculty ideas and concerns. I also sit as the Faculty Council representative to the Committee on Academic Priorities, which has oversees all aspects of the Smith curriculum.

Committee on Grievance (2007-2009, 2005-2006): reviews petitions of grievance presented by a faculty member pertaining to the individual's employment.

### **Other Major College Service**

Faculty Co-Director, STRIDE (July 2024-present; January 2016—June 2023)

Responsible for oversight and implementation of the Student Research in Departments program, matching outstanding incoming students with a faculty/staff mentor for a research fellowship.

Includes outreach with applicants and families, organization of research panels for accepted students, and working with faculty mentors and students to maximize research relationships.

Secretary to the Faculty (2020-2023, fall 2019, 2017-18)

Appointed by the President to serve as secretary to the faculty, responsible for producing accurate minutes of faculty meeting discussions and votes on legislation; includes monthly planning meetings with the President, Chief of Staff, Dean of Faculty, and Chair of Faculty Council.

Acting Dean of the Sophomore Class (January-June, 2016)

Responsible for overseeing the academic standing of 600+ undergraduates; member of a collaborative team of class deans responsible for implementing academic policy and providing student support with a high degree of discretion and confidentiality.

**Awards**

*Scholarship*

For my critical edition and translation of Sutzkever, *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg* (2021)  
Leviant Prize in Yiddish Studies, Modern Language Association (2022)  
Canadian Jewish Literary Award in Yiddish (2022)  
Finestone Prize for best translation of a book on a Jewish theme, J.I. Segal Awards (2022)

*Smith College Awards*

Honored Professor Award for “distinction in teaching, research, scholarly work, and service to the College,” awarded annually to a member of the faculty by the president of Smith College (2023)

Sherrerd Prize for Distinguished Teaching, Smith College (2006)

**External Grants and Fellowships**

Research Council of Lithuania Grant: Multicultural Networks of the Avant-Garde (2024-2027)

Aresty Visiting Scholar-in-Residence, Bildner Center for Study of Jewish Life, Rutgers University (Spring 2024)

Visiting Fellow, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, UK (Fall 2023)

Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences of Canada publication grant for *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg* (2021)

Co-Head Fellow and Visiting Associate Professor, “Yiddish Matters,” Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Michigan (winter 2020)

Naomi Foundation fellowship grant in Yiddish pedagogy (2018-2020)

Yiddish Book Center Translation Fellowship (2018)

Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim Chair for the Study of Racism, Antisemitism, and the Holocaust and Resident Research Fellow, International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem (winter-spring 2014)

Webb Family Scholar-in-Residence (2013-14), Goldreich Institute for Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture, Tel Aviv University

Mellon Foundation Senior Resident Fellow on the Holocaust, UCLA (fall 2009)

Visiting Scholar, Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (winter-spring 2007)

Stroock Visiting Fellow, Center for Jewish Studies, Harvard University (2006)

Dina Abramowicz Emerging Scholar Fellowship, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (2006)

Littauer Foundation Research Fellowship (2006)

American Council of Learned Societies/Mellon Foundation Junior Faculty Fellow (2004-5)

## **Publications**

### **Books (edited and translated)**

Abraham Sutzkever, *Nuo Vilniaus Geto Iki Niurnbergo*, ed. Justin D. Cammy ir Saulė Valiūnaitė. Vilnius: Hubris, 2024. (Lithuanian translation, with a new introduction for Lithuanian readers, of my award-winning critical edition of *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg*.)

<https://www.lrt.lt/naujienos/kultura/12/2363986/kas-slypi-avromo-suckeverio-liudijimuose-apie-vilniaus-geta>  
<https://www.15min.lt/kultura/naujiena/literatura/vilniu-jis-nesiojosi-su-savimi-kaip-amuleta-ir-liudijo-cia-ivykusia-zydu-tragedija-a-suckeverio-istorija-286-2335152>

Abraham Sutzkever, *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg*. Translated from Yiddish and edited by Justin Cammy; Afterword by Cammy and Avraham Novershtern. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2021.

<https://www.the-tls.co.uk/articles/from-the-vilna-ghetto-to-nuremberg-abraham-sutzkever-book-review-mark-glanville/>

<https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/immunity-against-oblivion-on-avrom-sutzkevers-from-the-vilna-ghetto-to-nuremberg-memoir-and-testimony/>

<https://www.nysun.com/article/a-titanic-yiddish-poet-is-brought-out-anew-and-just-in-time>

<https://forward.com/yiddish/478028/poet-abraham-sutzkevers-memoirs-of-the-vilna-ghetto-are-now-in-english/>

<https://www.israelhayom.co.il/magazine/hashavua/article/6031509>

<https://www.wmassjewishledger.com/2021/10/conversation-with-justin-cammy/>

*Arguing the Modern Jewish Canon: Essays on Jewish Literature and Culture*, edited by Justin Cammy, Dara Horn, Alyssa Quint, Rachel Rubinstein. Cambridge: Harvard Center for Jewish Studies, 2008.

Hinde Bergner, *On Long Winter-nights: Memoirs of a Jewish Family in a Galician Township 1870-1890*. Translated from the Yiddish, edited, and with an introduction by Justin Cammy. Cambridge: Harvard Center for Jewish Studies, 2005.

### **Chapters and Articles**

Aviya Cammy and Justin Cammy, "Fruit of the Land," *October 7: A Vision of the World and Wars to Come*, eds. Donna Robinson Divine and Asaf Romirowsky, Academic Studies Press, 2025.

Justin Cammy, "Sutzkever in Africa." In Abraham Sutzkever, *Elephants by Night*, trans. Mel Konner. Cincinnati: Naydus Press, 2024, 125-155.

J. Cammy, Faculty CV

“Afterword.” In Levi Shalit, *So We Died: A Memoir of Life and Death in the Ghetto of Siauliai, Lithuania*. Trans. Veronica Belling, Ellen Cassedy, Andrew Cassel. University of Alabama Press, 2024, 217-233.

“The Poetics of Landkentenish: Elkhonen Vogler, Forgotten Poet of Yung-Vilne.” In *Polish Jewish Culture beyond the Capital: Recentring the Periphery*, ed. Nancy Sinkoff and Halina Goldberg. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2023, 37-55.

“Introduction.” In *The Canvas and Other Stories*, trans. Ruth Murphy. Teaneck: Ben Yehuda Press, 2022, 2020, xiii-xxiii. Revised from “Salomea Perl and Yiddish Fiction by Women.” *Metamorphoses* (Fall 2019), 135-143.

<https://ingeveb.org/articles/sewn-with-the-tiniest-of-pearls?fbclid=IwAR3qaN5IprfCIvYTL4f7V24Ei2kggqyOXK4M8vSX1q5lPX44G5cek2bBc5s>

“The Prose of Everyday Life: Moyshe Levin’s Vilna Peoplescapes.” *Colloquia: Journal of the Lithuanian Institute of Literature and Folklore* 48 (2021), 239-248; also includes three translations by Justin Cammy of Levin’s prose fiction, 259-282.

“Unsettling the Linguistic and Geographical Borders of Jewish American Literature: Régine Robin’s *La Québécoise*.” In *Teaching Jewish American Literature*, ed. Roberta Rosenberg and Rachel Rubinstein. MLA, 2020, 127-136.

“Introduction.” In *The Full Pomegranate: Poems of Avrom Sutzkever*, selected and translated by Richard J. Fein. Albany: SUNY Press, 2019, xvii-xlvi.

<https://www.the-tls.co.uk/articles/public/life-saving-prosody-sutzkever/>  
<https://lareviewofbooks.org/article/remnants-and-revenants-on-the-full-pomegranate-poems-of-avrom-sutzkever/>  
<https://ingeveb.org/articles/the-many-essences-of-sutzkever>

“The Untold Story of Yungvald: Inside Harvard’s Leyzer Ran Archive.” In *Catalog of the Leyzer Ran Collection in the Harvard College Library*, ed. Charles Berlin. Cambridge: Harvard Library, 2017, 23-42 (adapted and expanded from *The Untold Story of Yungvald*. Cambridge: Harvard College Library, 2010).

Avraham Novershtern and Justin Cammy, “Written in Moscow, Summer 1944 ” [Hebrew], in Avrom Sutzkever, *Geto Vilna*. Tel Aviv: Am Oved, 2016, 9-49.

“Foreword.” In *Vilna, My Vilna: Stories by Abraham Karpinowitz*, trans. Helen Mintz. Syracuse: Syracuse UP, 2015, ix-xxiii. Winner of the 2016 Canadian Jewish Literary Award in the category of Yiddish; honorable mention, Sophy Brody award of the American Library Assoc.

“Judging the Judgment of Shomer: Jewish Literature versus Jewish Reading” (article) and “The Judgment of Shomer, by Sholem Aleichem” (translation) in *Arguing the Modern Jewish Canon: Essays on Jewish Literature and Culture*, op. cit., 85-185.

Cammy and Marta Figlerowicz, “Translating History into Art: The Influences Cyprian Norwid in Avrom Sutzkever’s Poetry.” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 27:3 (2007), 427-473.

“Vision and Redemption: Abraham Sutzkever’s Poems of Zion(ism).” In *Yiddish after the Holocaust*, ed. Joseph Sherman. Oxford: Boulevard Books, 2004, 240-265.

“The Politics of Home, the Culture of Place: ‘Yung Vilne’: A Journal of Literature and Art (1934-1936). In *Judische Kultur(en) im Neuen Europa: Wilna 1918-1939*, ed. Marina Dmitrieva and Heidemarie Petersen. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2004, 117-133.

“Jung Wilnie i kultura jidysz w międzywojennym Wilnie.” In *Poezja i poeci w Wilnie lat 1920-1940*, edited by T. Bujnicki and K. Biedrzycki. Krakow: Taiwpa Universitas, 2003, 257-286.

“Tsevorfene bleter: The Emergence of Yung-Vilne.” *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry*, Vol. 14, ed. Antony Polonsky. London: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2001, 170-191.

### Digital Humanities

*Theresienstadt Archive: A Woman’s Microhistory of the Holocaust* (2018)

<https://sophia.smith.edu/terezin>

### Reviews

Review essay on three new books by Isaac Bashevis Singer, trans. David Stromberg, special issue on “Beyond Canonization: The Contested Legacy of I.B. Singer” in *Studies in American Jewish Literature* (forthcoming 2025).

“The Dynamics of History.” Review of *The Jewish Search for a Usable Past* by David Roskies. *Midstream* (Dec. 1999): 41-43.

“Enlarging America.” Review of *Enlarging America: The Cultural Work of Jewish Literary Scholars* by Susanne Klingenstein. *Forward* (May 7, 1999): 11-12.

“Canonical Yiddish.” Review of *Nineteen to the Dozen: Monologues and Bits and Bobs of Other Things* by Sh. Aleichem. *Boston Book Review* (January-February 1999): 38-39.

### Encyclopedia Entries

“Ruth R. Wisse,” *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Women* (expanded and updated, online, 2024).

“Chaim Grade,” “Yung Vilne,” “Leyzer Volf,” “Elkhonen Vogler,” *Yivo Encyclopedia of Jewish Eastern Europe*, ed. Gershon Hundert. Yale UP, 2008, 626-627; 1981-1983; 2105-2106. Reprinted in *Chaim Grade and His World*. New York: YIVO, 2010, 22 pgs.

“Abraham Sutzkever”. *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Writers in Yiddish*, ed. Joseph Sherman. Thomson Gale/Brucoli Clark Layman, 2007, 303-313.

“Abraham Sutzkever,” *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, vol. 19, 330-331; “Leyzer Volf,” “Yung-Vilne,” *EJ*, vol. 21, 138; 428. Thomson Gale, 2007.

“Hinde Bergner.” *Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia*. ed. Paula Hyman and Dalia Ofer. Jerusalem: Shavli Publishing and the Jewish Women’s Archive, 2006.

“Chaim Grade,” “Moyshe Leyb Halpern,” “Anna Margolin.” In *Jewish Writers of the Twentieth Century*. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2003, 204-206, 218-220, 359-361.

“Abraham Sutzkever,” “Di festung.” In *Reference Guide to Holocaust Literature*. St. James Press, 2002, 307-309, 435-436.

### **Public Scholarship (Short essays, blogs, and podcasts)**

“Yiddish in Africa,” *The Shmooze*, Yiddish Book Center Podcast, January 17, 2025 (podcast).  
<https://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/elephants-night-sutzkever-s-african-poetry>

“Vilna Ghetto Library,” in *YIVO at 100*, NY: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 2025.

“Bin: The Challenges and Legacies of Yiddishist Scouting” (in Yiddish), *Afn shvel*, #402-403, Spring-Summer 2024, 5-9.

“Wartime Diary,” Dec 1, 2023  
<https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/wartime-diary-a-letter-to-my-students/>

“There can be no democracy without Yiddish,” The Global Connection Podcast, episode #16, The Lowy International School, Tel Aviv University, September 27, 2023  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzPvJQwec2Y>

“Why Study Yiddish,” interview on Swedish Public Radio, September 9, 2023  
<https://sverigesradio.se/avsnitt/varfor-studera-jiddisch-med-professor-justin-cammy>

“Malines,” excerpt from my translation of Sutzkever’s *Vilna Ghetto*, *Tablet Magazine*, April 17, 2023.  
<https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/history/articles/malines-abraham-sutzkever-memoir>

“After the Golden Age,” *The Jewish Quarterly* (August 2022), 77-80.

Cammy, “The Yiddish Trace in Contemporary American Fiction,” 49-52, and Julian Levinson, Justin Cammy, and Anita Norich, “Introduction,” 5-7, in Levinson and Cammy, eds. *Thinking Through Yiddish: Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Annual 20*, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 2021.

“Sutzkever’s *Vilna Ghetto*” *The Shmooze*, Yiddish Book Center, December 16, 2021 (Podcast).  
<https://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/justin-cammy-avrom-sutzkever-s-vilna-ghetto-nuremberg>

“Inhabiting Multiple Homelands: Teaching in a Yiddish Summer Program.” In *geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies* (November 2017, online).

“Disposable Jews” in Dara Horn’s *Adventures with Dead Jews*, Sept 24, 2021 (Podcast)

“New Interpretations of *Fiddler on the Roof*,” *Insight* (Smith College, spring 2015).

“His Poetry Remembers” (interview) *The Republican* (Springfield MA, April 9, 2010), E6.

“Between Midnight and 6am” (with Rachel Rubinstein), *Paken Treger* (Spring 2006), 28-31.

“From Right to Left by Yankev Glatshetyń” *The Harvard Mosaic* (Winter 1999), 40-44.

## **Works In Progress**

### Books

*The Cambridge History of Yiddish Literature*, ed. Justin Cammy and Rachel Rubinstein, Cambridge UP, 2027.

*Yung-Vilne*, facsimile edition, with translation into English and Lithuanian, edited by and with critical studies by Justin Cammy, Mindaugas Kvietauskas and Giedre Jankeviciute, 2026.

### Essays and Articles

“The Limits of Yiddishism: The Case of Bin” (working title), *Shofar: A Journal of Jewish Studies* (scholarly article for a forthcoming special issue), 2026.

“Introduction.” In Shmerke Kaczerginski, *The Destruction of Vilna*, trans. Maurice Wolfthal. Wayne State UP, date TBA.

## **Scholarly Lectures**

“From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg”

Vilnius Old Town Renewal Agency, Lithuania (February 2025)

McGill University (March 2024)

University of St. Andrews, Scotland, Transnational History Seminar (October 2023)

University of Warwick, UK, Center for Global Jewish Studies (October 2023)

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Yeshiva University (June 2023)

Albert and Anita Goldin Endowed Yiddish Lecture, University of Louisville (March 2023)

Reichert Holocaust Lecture, University of Alberta (November 2022)

Fishman Memorial Lecture, Jewish Public Library (November 2022)

Albert Tapper Distinguished Lecture, Clark University (November 2022)

Great Jewish Books, Yiddish Book Center (November 2021)

[https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch\\_permalink&v=229646189238143](https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=229646189238143)

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research Chicago (November 2021)

International Council for Central and Eastern European Studies, Montreal (August 2021)

Oxford Center for Hebrew and Judaic Studies (May 2021)

Museum of Jewish Heritage, NYC (2018)

University of Pittsburgh (2018)

University of Lund, Sweden (2017)



- Keynote Address, “Young Yiddish,” International Conference on  
“Bridging Divides: The Jews of Historical Lithuania” (Vilnius, July 2024)
- “Theresienstadt Reconsidered” (three presentations), Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust  
Education, Bildner Center for Study of Jewish Life, Rutgers University (March 2024)
- “Yiddish in Africa,” Heinrich Heine University, Dusseldorf (November 2023)
- “Sutzkever’s Environmental Poetics,” YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (July 2022)
- “Yiddish in Israel,” Symposium on Yiddish and Hebrew Literature in Conversation,  
University of Cambridge, UK (Feb 2020)
- “The Yiddish Trace in Contemporary Jewish Fiction,” Symposium on “Yiddish In and  
Out of Context,” University of Michigan (October 2019), University of Ottawa (2016)
- “The Poetry of *Landkentenish*: Litvish Landscapes and Vilna Peoplescapes,” at Reading  
Vilna in Jewish Writing and Urban History, Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore  
and Vilnius University, Lithuania (August 2019)
- “When Yiddish Was Young”  
University of California at San Diego (2018)  
The Clara Sumpf Endowed Yiddish Lectures, Taube Center for Jewish Studies, Stanford  
University (2018)  
National Library of Lithuania, Vilnius (2018)  
The Disenhouse Memorial Lecture, University of Toronto (2018)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE\\_v8EDiDn4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE_v8EDiDn4)
- “Polish-Jewish Literary Relations: A Yiddish Case Study,” Warsaw University (2018)
- “Young Grade: The Vilna Years,” Association for Jewish Studies (2017)
- “Power and Powerlessness in Holocaust Literature,” Great Yiddish Books Program,  
Yiddish Book Center (2016)
- “I.L. Peretz and His Legacy” (three lecture mini-course, co-taught with Ruth  
Wisse, Yiddish Book Center, 2016)
- “Tevye and Menakhem-Mendl in Birobidzhan,” Sholem-Aleichem Conference on Writing  
Place, 1916-2016, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2016)
- “The Judgment of Shomer,” National Library of Israel, Jerusalem (2016)
- “Scriptures of Modernity: On Modern Jewish Literature,” U of Tennessee at Knoxville (2016)
- “Between Languages: Régine Robin’s *La Québécoise*,” European Association for Jewish  
Studies, Paris (2014)
- “Researching Sutzkever’s Memoir,” Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem (2014)
- “Young Vilna”  
Mandel Institute for Jewish Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2014)  
Department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature, Haifa University (2014)  
Rena Costa Center for Yiddish Studies, Bar Ilan University, Israel (2013)
- “Reading the 1930s in the Context of Holocaust Literature,” Lavy Colloquium on Yiddish  
after the Holocaust, The Johns Hopkins University (2012)
- “Sabbath Days and Extinguished Stars: The Life and Work of Chaim Grade (three lecture  
mini-course, co-taught with David Fishman, Yiddish Book Center, 2012)
- “Max Weinreich’s *Path to Our Youth*: A Reappraisal,” at the Weinreich in America Symposium,  
YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (2011)
- “Between High and Low: Yiddish, Translation, and the Canon,” Post-Medieval Judaism Workshop,

- Harvard University (2008)
- “Abraham Sutzkever and the Legacy of Secular Yiddish Culture,” Fishman Memorial Lecture, Jewish Public Library of Montreal (2010)
- “A Tale of Two Leyzers: 1939 and the Fate of Vilna Jewry,” The Jacob Pat Memorial Lecture, Harvard College Library (2010)
- The Dina Abramovich Memorial Lecture, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (2007)
- “Between the Hebrew Revolution and the Yiddish Revival,” Yiddish Book Center (2009)
- “Sholem Aleichem at 150,” with Olga Litvak, Yiddish Book Center (2009)
- “*Nusekh Vilne*: Vilna from Place to Myth in Yiddish Literature, 1919-1955,” Harman Institute for Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2007)
- UCLA Center for Jewish Studies (2006)
- “American Diasporic Fantasies and Counter-Histories” (on Michael Chabon’s *The Yiddish Policeman’s Union*) for “Let’s Talk About It: The Library of America Public Lecture Series on Modern Jewish Fiction,” Yiddish Book Center (2007)
- “Mr. Sammler’s Planet: A Question of Generations,” at “Let’s Talk About It: The Library of America Public Lecture Series on Jewish Fiction,” Yiddish Book Center (2006)
- “Scouting Yiddish: Max Weinreich on the Radical Jewish Street” The Ohio State University (2005), Indiana University (Beyond the Shtetl Conference, 2001)
- “Between Adaptation and Translation,” Third Annual Berkeley Yiddish Conference, “Fartatshyt un Farbesert: Translation and Yiddish Culture,” UC Berkeley (2005)
- “The Sacrifice of Isaac: Jewish Demons, Forbidden Desire, and Creative Betrayal in Bashevis Singer,” Williams College (2004)
- “Has Yiddish Said Its Last Word,” University of California at Los Angeles (2004)
- “Judging and Acquitting Shomer: Yiddish Literature on Trial,” Conference ‘On the Borders of Yiddishland,’ University of California at Berkeley (2004)
- “The Erotic Exotic: Singer’s Poland,” I.B. Singer Centennial, Yiddish Book Center (2004)
- “Yiddish Literary Zionism,” Conference on “Yiddish after the Holocaust,” Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford (2003)
- “The Politics of Home, the Culture of Place: ‘Yung Vilne: A Journal of Literature and Art (1934-1936),’” Shimon Dubnov Institute, Leipzig, Germany (2002)
- “Adoring Parents, Idealistic children: *Tevye the Dairyman*,” Yiddish Book Center (2002)
- “Yiddish Literature in Interwar Poland,” sponsored by the Departments of Polish Literature, Comparative Literature, Contemporary Literary Culture, and the Center for European Studies, Jagellonian University, Krakow, Poland (2002)
- “*Oykb ikh zing amerike!*: On Yiddish-American Representations of Race,” at “Yiddish on the American Scene,” University of California at Los Angeles (2000)

### **Scholarly Panels**

- Panelist (with Adam Kirsch), “Chaim Grade’s last Yiddish novel *Sons and Daughters*,” 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y, NYC (May 2025)
- Panelist, “New Work in Yiddish Studies,” CUNY Graduate Center, NYC (March 2025)
- Panelist, “Beyond Yiddish 101: Current Approaches to Undergraduate Yiddish Studies Syllabi,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference (Dec 2024)
- Respondent, “How to Say Genocide in Hebrew,” a conversation with Leora Bilsky (Tel Aviv U) and

- Lawrence Douglas (Amherst College), Institute for Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies, University of Massachusetts at Amherst (October 2024)
- Respondent, “Black Americans, Jewish Americans: Historical Intersections, Collisions, and Passings,” Rutgers University (March 2024)
- “Israel and Diaspora, Hebrew and Yiddish,” a conversation with Professors Justin Cammy and Yaron Peleg, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge (November 2023)
- Moderator, “The Legacy of Chaim Grade,” with Ruth Wisse and Curt Leviant, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (November 2023)
- Panelist, “Sutzkever’s *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg*”  
Institute for Holocaust, Memory, and Genocide Studies, UMass-Amherst (October 2023)  
Australian Center for Jewish Studies, Monash University (April 2022)  
YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (January 2022) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v0frCWgp-xc>  
University of Toronto Center for Jewish Studies (January 2022)
- Moderator, Barbara Mann’s *The Object of Jewish Literature: A Material History*, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (May 2023)
- Moderator and Panelist, “Sutzkever: *Essential Prose*,” Carnegie Hall’s Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression (April 2021); Yiddish Book Center (January 2021)
- Panelist, “Salmoea Perl and Yiddish Women Prose Writers,” YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (May 2021)
- Respondent, “What Will Remain?,” University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana (January 2021)
- Panelist, “Sutzkever: 10 Poems,” co-organized by the Consulate General of Lithuania, the National Library of Lithuania, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (November 2020)
- Moderator, “Undzer morgn: Yiddish Studies Today and Tomorrow,” Goldreich Institute for Yiddish Studies, Tel Aviv University (online symposium, June 2020)
- Moderator, “A Strange New World: Time in David Bergelson’s Literary Work,” Center for Jewish History, NY (April 2020)
- Panelist, “Reflections on the State of Yiddish Studies,” Goldreich Advanced Seminar in Yiddish Studies, Tel Aviv University (March 2019)
- Respondent, “S.Y. Abramovitsh’s *Di takse* in Historical Perspective,” Symposium on Mendele at 100, Emory University (2017)
- Roundtable organizer and participant, “Expanding Horizons: Teaching Jewish Studies Abroad,” Association for Jewish Studies (2015)
- Panel organizer and participant “Recovering Eastern Europe in Modern Jewish Literature,” European Association of Jewish Studies (Paris, 2014)
- Moderator, “Celebrating Sutzkever,” American Jewish University (Los Angeles, 2011)
- Roundtable organizer and panelist, “Teaching the Introduction to Jewish Studies,” Association for Jewish Studies (2009)
- Organizer and panelist, Symposium on the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sholem Aleichem (UCLA, 2009)
- Moderator, “Wroclaw/Breslau: Poles, Germans, Jews” Yiddish Book Center (2008)
- Respondent, “New Approaches: Nation, Home and Landed-ness in Modern Jewish Identity,” Harvard University (2008)

## **Professional Service and Activities**

### **Editorial Boards**

Associate Editor, *Prooftexts: Journal of Jewish Literary History* (2005-present)  
Editorial Board, *Jewish Studies Quarterly* (2017-present)  
Editorial Board, *The New Yiddish Library* (Yale University Press, 2003-2005)

### **Advisory Boards**

International Advisory Council, Goldrich Institute for Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture,  
Tel Aviv University (2022-present); includes serving on post-doctoral hiring committee  
Academic Advisory Committee, Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies,  
The University of Massachusetts at Amherst (2016-present)  
Academic Advisory Board, CET Jewish Studies in Prague (2003-2012)

### **Peer Review Work**

#### *External Program Review Committee Membership*

Program in Middle East Languages, Carleton College (2019)  
Program in Jewish Studies, Oberlin College (2016)  
Program in Jewish Studies, Colby College (2013)  
Jewish Studies Expansion Project, Foundation for Jewish Culture, Towson University (2009)

#### *External Search Committee Membership*

External Evaluator, Academic Appointments Board, Associate Senior Lecturer and Senior  
Lecturer in Yiddish, Lund University, Sweden (2023)  
Search Committee, Leiwant Professor in Jewish Studies, Mount Holyoke College (2016-2017)

#### *Tenure and/or Promotion External Reviewer*

Brown University, Program in Judaic Studies (2025)  
Lund University, Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (2024)  
Bar Ilan University, Department of Literature of the Jewish People (2024)  
Vanderbilt University, Program in Jewish Studies (2022)  
Queens College, Program in Jewish Studies (2013)

#### *External Grant Reviewer*

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (2023)  
Israel Science Foundation (2018)  
Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (2004, 2007, 2010)

#### *External Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member*

Julia Fermentto-Tzaisler, Department of Literature, UC San Diego (2018-2021)  
Peter Manseau, Department of Theology, Georgetown University (2011-2013)

*Manuscript Evaluator*

Scholarly Presses: Syracuse UP; NYU Press; Rutgers UP, Yale UP; University of Alabama Press; Bloomsbury Academic, Wiley Blackwell

Scholarly Journals: *Prooftexts*; *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*; *Jewish Social Studies*; *JQR*; *In geveb*

*Film and Museum Consultant*

“*Yiddish—The First Thousand Years*” dir. Asaf Galay (six-part documentary in development)

“Paper Brigade,” *60 Minutes*, CBS News (2023)

*The Secrets of the Great Synagogue of Vilna*, dir. Loic Salfati (2023)

*Egypt: A Love Song*, dir. Iris Zaki (2022)

New permanent exhibit for Anu: The Museum of the Jewish People, Tel Aviv (2021)

*Who Will Remain?: The Life of Avrom Sutzkever*, dir. Christa Whitney (2020)

*The Adventures of Saul Bellow*, dir. Asaf Galay (2020)

*The World Was Ours: The Jewish Legacy of Vilna*, dir. Mira Van Doren (2006)

*Consultant, The Yiddish Book Center (Amherst, MA)*

Yiddish Translation Project Steering Committee (2012); Judge, Yiddish translation prize (2011);

Conference Planning Committee, “Translating Yiddish Literature” (2011); Faculty advisor, Yiddish

Cultural Fellows program (2009-2011); Search Committee, Goldfarb Director of Yiddish Education

(2004); Book rescue missions to Mexico City (August 2005) and Caracas, Venezuela (2004); Book

Exhibition contributing author (2009-10); Yiddish Writers Garden (1995)

**Learned Society Work**

Modern Language Association

Judging Committee, Leviant Prize in Yiddish Studies (2024-2026)

Association for Jewish Studies

Pedagogy Working Group (2008-2012)

New Directions Committee (2010-2011)

Division Chair, Yiddish Studies (2009)

**Research Languages:** Yiddish, Hebrew, French

## **Record of Service at Smith College**

### **Elected College Committees**

Faculty Council (2024-2027)

Committee on Grievance (2007-2009, 2005-2006)

### **College Appointments**

Faculty Co-Director, STRIDE (July 2024-present; January 2016—June 2023)

Secretary to the Faculty (2020-2023, fall 2019, 2017-18)

Acting Dean of the Sophomore Class (January-June, 2016)

### **Departmental Leadership**

Chair, Program in World Literatures (2024-26, 2022-2023)

Chair, Program in Jewish Studies (2024-2026, 2019-2023, 2014-2018S, 2011-2013, 2006-2009)

Chair, Program in Middle East Studies (2011-2013)

Director, Translation Studies Concentration (2025-26, 2022F)

### **Appointed Committees**

Faculty Council representative to the Committee on Academic Priorities (2024-2025)

Academic Board (2022-23)

Committee on Study Abroad (2022-23)

Committee on Honorary Degrees (2022-23)

Board of Counselors (2021-2023, 2011-2017)

Ad-Hoc Working Group on Chairs Compensation (2021-22)

Lewis Global Studies Center, Faculty Advisory Committee (2014-2017; 2011-2013)

Campus Discourse Working Group (2014-2015)

Sherrerd Teaching Prize Selection Committee (Chair, 2011-2013; member, 2010-2011)

Committee on Public Safety (2008-2009)

Collaborations Day Organizing Committee (2008-2009)

Committee on College Writing (2004-2006)

Council on Community Policy (2005-2006)

Study Group on Admissions, Financial aid, and the Presentation of Smith (2004-2005)

### **Smith College Grants**

Building Academic Leaders in the Humanities, Advanced Five College Faculty Cohort (2024-2025)

Fine Fellowship course development grant (summer 2023)

Sams Fund Grant for Middle East Studies course development (fall 2019)

Mid-Career faculty research course release grant (fall 2019)

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity fellowship (spring 2018)

Faculty travel grant for course development: Palestinian Territories (2015) and Warsaw (2014)

Rappoport Fellowship for interdisciplinary course development (2012)

Center for Environmental and Ecological Design Course Development Grant (2012)

Smith-Wesleyan Mellon Faculty Development Grant (2005)

*Kahn Institute for the Liberal Arts, Smith College*

Co-organizer and faculty fellow, “Israel/Palestine: Behind the Headlines” (2024)

Co-organizer and faculty fellow, “Academic Freedom” (2023)

Co-organizer and faculty fellow, “Antisemitism” (2019)

Faculty fellow, “Evil” (2011-2012)

Faculty fellow, “Translating and Promoting Minority Languages” (2008)

Co-organizer and faculty fellow, “City Lives and City Life” (2005-6)

*Institutional Grants* (lead applicant)

America-Israel Cooperative Endeavor: successfully applied for major grant to bring Schusterman

Visiting Professors of Israel Studies to Smith College (2012-2014)

### **Departmental Service**

(Membership in the following academic units includes full voting rights and advising responsibilities)

### **Program in Jewish Studies (2001-present)**

Chair (2024-2026, 2019-2023, 2014-2018S, 2011-2013, 2006-2009)

Co-drafted request for a new tenure-track position in Jewish studies (2024, 2023)

Decennial Review Coordinator and co-author (2023)

Coordinator of the team-taught course “Thinking Through Jewish Studies” (2023, 2021)

Curriculum committee chair (2001-present)

Study Abroad Advisor (2001-present)

Drafting committee for the new major in Jewish Studies (2006-7; revised 2015)

Five College Hebrew Initiative: worked collaboratively with the Office of the Dean of Faculty and Five College Inc. to implement ongoing joint lectureship in Hebrew language

Search committee member:

Schusterman visiting professor of Israel Studies (2013-14, 2012-2013)

Lecturer in Modern Hebrew (2013; 2011, 2006, 2005)

Assistant professor of German (2008-9)

Service to Jewish Studies in the Five Colleges:

Co-Organizer, Five College Jewish Studies Undergraduate Research Colloquium (2018-2020)

Co-organizer, Five College Jewish Studies faculty planning committee (2017-2018; 2015-2016)

Organizer, Five College Yiddish Studies Faculty Seminar (2016-2017)

### **Program in World Literatures (formerly Comparative Literature, 2001-present)**

Chair (2024-26, 2022-2023)

Drafted request for new tenure track position in critical theory (2024)

Search committee chair

Lecturer in World Literatures (2025)

Drafting committee for a new multi-track major in World Literatures (2018) and minor (2022)

Manuscript reviewer, *Metamorphoses: The Journal of the Five College Seminar on Literary Translation*

**Program in Middle East Studies (2003-present)**

Chair (2011-2013)

Drafting committee for the new major in Middle East Studies (spring 2016), minor in Arabic (2012), and minor in Middle East Studies (2007)

Search committee member:

Lecturer in Middle Eastern History (2021-22)

Ketcham professor in Middle East Studies (chair of search, 2014-15)

Assistant professor of Middle East history (2018-19)

Visiting assistant professor in Middle Eastern history (spring 2016)

Five College lecturer in Arabic (2012)

Service to Middle East Studies in the Five Colleges:

Five College Arabic Initiative: worked collaboratively with the Office of the Provost and Five College Inc. to develop the Five College Arabic Initiative (2012-2013)

**Program in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (2019-present; 2014-2018)**

Drafting committee for the creation of the new major in REEES (2013-14)

Search committee member:

Lecturer in Russian language (2019)

Assistant professor of Russian and East European Studies (2016-17)

**Concentration in Translation Studies (2016-present)**

Director (2022F)

**Previous Appointments**

Program in American Studies (2007-2017); Concentration in Archives (2010-2013)

**Other College Service**

*Alumnae Affairs and Development*

Alumnae Travel: Faculty lecturer and host on alumnae trips to The Baltics and St. Petersburg (2017), Prague (2016), Israel (2014, 2010), and Poland (2008)

Alumnae Club Lectures: "Perspectives on Israel/Palestine," Smith College Clubs of Washington, DC (2015), Paris, France (2014), Sarasota FL (2012); reunion weekend alumnae lecture (2015)

One-on-one meetings with potential donors in Connecticut (2024), Miami (2016), Palm Beach (2016, 2015), and Boston (2015), and virtual meetings with alumnae in NYC (2025), Boston (2024), Cleveland (2024) and California (2024)

Regular consultation with colleagues in Development to discuss appropriate stewardship of donors

*Center for Religious and Spiritual Life and Office of Equity and Inclusion*

Regular consultation with the Director of Religious and Spiritual Life, the VP for

Equity and Inclusion, the Dean of the College, and the rabbi on matters related to the Jewish student experience on campus



## **Courses Taught**

### *Literature and Cultural Studies Courses:*

Yiddish Literature and Culture; The Yiddish Novel; Yiddish Film; Jewish Fiction; American Jewish Literature; Holocaust Literature; Jewish Humor; The Secret Worlds of Fiddler on the Roof; Israeli Literature

### *History and Politics Courses:*

The Jew in the Medieval World; The Jews of Eastern Europe; The Holocaust; History of Israel; The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

### *Religious Texts Courses:*

Judaism and Environmentalism; The Jewish Tradition

### *Global Engagement Seminars and Global Flex Courses with Smith Students Abroad:*

Yiddishlands (in Poland and Lithuania)  
Environmental Challenges in Israel and the West Bank  
Jerusalem

### *Coordinator of Team-Taught Courses:*

Thinking Through Jewish Studies (with members of the Program in Jewish Studies)  
Antisemitism (with members of the Program in Jewish Studies)

### *Independent Studies*

Jewish Women's Archive (2023, 2022); Beginners Yiddish Language II (2022-23); Lower Intermediate Yiddish Language (2021-2022, spring 2011, fall 2008); Jews and Comics (2022); The Israeli Labor Party (fall 2020); Non-Normative Temporalities (spring 2019); A Night in the Old Marketplace (fall 2018); Jews in Victorian Literature (spring 2018); Yiddishlands (fall 2017); Afforestation in Israel (spring 2017); Translating Yiddish Diaries (fall 2016); Oral Histories of Jewish Women Activists in Israel and the West Bank (spring 2016); Yiddish Translation (spring 2016); Contemporary American Jewish Women Writers (fall 2015); Readings in Modern Hebrew Language (fall 2015, spring 2005); Jewish Humor (spring 2015); Readings in Modern Yiddish Language (fall 2015); Reading the Israel-Palestine Conflict (fall 2014, spring 2016); Yiddish Film (spring 2011); Yiddish Theater (fall 2010); The Child in Modern Jewish Fiction (2007-8); Readings in Yiddish Fiction (spring 2004)

## **Advising**

### *Honors Theses and Graduate Diploma Theses*

Queer Yiddishist Pasts, Queer Yiddishist Futures (2024-25)  
Synagogues and the Border as Sites of Resistance to White Supremacy (2022-23)  
Modern Art and Yiddish Literature in Interwar Paris: Translating Wieviorka and Aronson (2020-21)  
Anticipatory Illuminations: The Performance of the Jewish Sabbath as Queer Futurity (2019-20)  
Grains of Wheat: A Play in Two Acts (2018-19)  
The Yiddish Fiction of Rikuda Potash (2017-18)

I am Supermentsh: The Jewishness of the American Comic Book Superhero (2017-18)  
American-Jewish Anti-Zionism (2017-18)  
Post-vernacular Yiddish: A Case Study of the National Yiddish Book Center (2012-13)  
Feminism Confronts Tradition: Halachic Egalitarianism (2012-13)  
Quest for Representation: Contemporary Post-Holocaust Fiction (2007-8)  
Representing Jewish Identity in Broadway Musicals, 1940-1960 (2007-8)

*STRIDE Advising (faculty-student collaborative research project)*

The Vilna Ghetto (2018-20)

Theresienstadt Archive: A Woman's Microhistory of the Holocaust (2016-2018; 2003-4)

*Fellowships*

Fulbright Fellowship (my mentees received fellowships in 2016, 2014, 2013)

Killam Fellowship for Study in Canada (2002-2013)

### **Smith College and Five-College Lectures**

*Invited College Addresses*

"Antisemitism and Islamophobia: A Conversation Among Friends (with Suleiman Mourad and Darcy Buerkle)," invited by the Provost and Dean of Faculty (2024)

Smith College Convocation Address: "Beyond Cynicism: Towards Experiencing the Transcendent in a Liberal Arts Education," invited by the President to deliver the annual address to students on behalf of the faculty (2011)

"Freedom and Responsibility," invited by the Dean of the College to deliver the annual lecture on behalf of the faculty to the entering First-Year class (2008)

*Public Lectures and Presentations at Smith or within the Five Colleges (selected)*

"Kristallnacht Memorial Lecture, with author Julie Metz" Smith College (November 2021)

"Understanding the Israeli Elections," Lewis Global Studies Center (2019; 2015; 2009)

"Antisemitism: Here and Now," faculty panel hosted by the Kahn Institute (2019)

"Reflections on *Ecologies of Witnessing*," Institute for Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies, UMass-Amherst (2019)

"Yiddish Matters," Smith Emeriti Faculty Luncheon (2018)

"Opposing Views on Israel and Palestine," inaugural debate of the University Union, co-sponsored by Students for Justice in Palestine and Student Alliance for Israel, UMass-Amherst (2015)

"Reflections on a Year in Israel: Rethinking Zionism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," Emeriti Faculty Luncheon (2015)

"Yiddishland as Imagined Homeland," Art and Exile Lecture Series, Hampshire College (2006)

"Teaching Writing in a Large Class," Teaching Arts Lunch panel participant (2005)

*Guest Lectures in Smith or in Five College Classes (selected)*

"Zionism Then and Now" in "Intro to Middle East Studies" (2025, 2022, 2021)

"When History is Personal" in D. Buerkle "The Historian's Craft" (2024)

"Yiddishland" in J. Westerdale "Transnational Humanities" (2022, 2021)

"Yiddish Poets," in S. Knight "Dwelling Poetically" (2022)

- “When the Archives are Personal,” in S. Fein “Women and Gender in Jewish History (2021)  
“Tel Aviv: The First Hebrew City” in I. Bouachrine’s “Cities” (2019)  
“Daniel Deronda” in C. Pearsall’s “The Victorian Novel” (2019)  
“Understanding the Israeli Elections,” in B. Welbourne’s “The Arab Israel Conflict” (2019, 2021)  
“Yiddish and Modernity” in M. Benjamin’s “Jewish Modernities,” Mount Holyoke College (2019)  
“The Language of Holocaust Literature” in J. Skolnik’s “Representing the Holocaust,”  
UMass-Amherst (2018; 2016)  
“Translating the Holocaust” and “Gender, Power and Translation,” in C. Shread “Issues in  
Translation” (2019, 2018, 2016, 2013, 2012, 2011)  
“Marginality,” in American Studies’ “Thinking Through the American Election” (2017)  
“Yehuda HaLevi: Poet-Philosopher,” in J. Kaminsky’s “Jewish Civilization (2012)  
“Education in Israel,” in L. Mule’s “Comparative Education” (2012, 2011, 2010)  
“Jewish Politics in Imperial Russia,” in S. Glebov’s “Russia and Its Cultural Frontiers” (2008, 2006)  
“The Modern Hebrew Revival,” in S. Mourad’s “The Holy Land” (2006)  
“S.Y. Agnon: Reimagining Hebrew Literature,” in C. Zaleski’s “Intro to World Religions” (2006)

### **Community Engagement**

#### **Service**

- Co-president (2010-11), President (2008-2010), Vice President (2007-8), Trustee (2003-2015),  
Lander-Grinspoon Academy, Northampton MA  
Trustee, Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts (2020-2021, 2008-2013)

#### **Recent Community Lectures**

- “Why Yiddish Matters,” Congregation Knesset Israel of the Berkshires (2024); Community Scholars  
Program of Southern California (2021); Valley Beit Midrash, Phoenix, AZ (2019)  
“From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg,” Baxt Lecture, Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education  
Center, Providence RI (April 2024); The Park Avenue Synagogue (November 2021)  
“A Journey through Central Europe: Monuments & Memory in Poland, Germany, and the Czech  
Republic,” traveling seminar with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (October 2023)  
“In Search of the Modern Jewish Literary Hero,” The Park Avenue Synagogue (June 2021);  
Community Scholars Program of Southern California (2020)

#### **Youth Education**

- Faculty, Tikvah high school programs (2023-present)  
Educator-in-Residence, Camp Yavneh, Northwood, NH (Summers 2021, 2017-2019)

### **Other Curious Work Experiences**

- Constituency Assistant, Member of Parliament Gerry Weiner, P.C., the Honorable Minister of  
Multiculturalism and Citizenship (1993)  
Actor, *You Can't Do That On Television* (Nickelodeon, 1982-1984)  
Voice actor, *The Care Bears in the Land Without Feeling* (1982)

Last updated: January 2025