

**LAURENCE H. KANT**  
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**Lexington, KY 40503**  
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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D.	1993	Yale University, Department of Religious Studies, (honors in comprehensive exam)
M.A.	1982	Yale University, Department of Religious Studies
M.T.S.	1981	Harvard Divinity School, New Testament and Christian Origins
B.A.	1978	Tufts University, Classics (Greek and Latin), <u>magna cum laude</u>
*	1983-84	Harvard University, Exchange Scholar in Rabbinics
*	1977	Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome (Italy) (Stanford University)

Ph.D. Dissertation

“The Interpretation of Religious Symbols in the Graeco-Roman World: A Case Study of Early Christian Fish Symbolism” (3 vols.)

Adviser: Bentley Layton

Readers: Steven D. Fraade, Wayne A. Meeks, Charles McClendon

**HONORS**

Fellow of the American Academy in Rome (since 1986)

Boston Greek Prize (Tufts, 1976)

William Frank Wyatt Prize, for excellence in Latin (Tufts, 1975)

**FELLOWSHIPS AND RECOGNITION**

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend (1994)

Josephine de Kármán Fellowship, for excellence in the humanities (1988-89)

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Fellowship (Mittelstufe II) at the Goethe Institute in Berlin (Summer, 1988)

National Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (1987-88)

Fondazione Lemmermann borsa di studio, for study of Italian history in Rome and Latium (1987-88)

The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Scholarship (1987-89)

Rome Prize in Classics, American Academy in Rome (1986-87)

Leo and Elsa Guttman Links Fund, for excellence in Judaic Studies (Yale, 1983-85)

**FELLOWSHIPS AND RECOGNITION (cont.)**

Yale University Fellowship (1981-83)

Pfeiffer Fellowship in Biblical Archaeology (Harvard Divinity School), to participate in early Christian archaeological excavation on the island of Thasos in northern Greece (1980)

My 2003 two-part article on the *Aqedah* (Genesis 22, cited below) was cited by Isaac Kalimi as one of the most important works on the subject during the past decade (found in his review of Edward Kessler, *Bound by the Bible: Jews, Christians and the Sacrifice of Isaac*; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004) in the on-line journal, *Review of Biblical Literature* (04, 2005)

R. Alan Culpepper cites my 1993 Yale University Ph.D. dissertation, “The Interpretation of Religious Symbols in the Graeco-Roman Period: A Case Study of Early Christian Fish Symbolism,” as the definitive study of fish symbolism in early Christianity and the Graeco-Roman world: “Designs for the Church in the Imagery of John 21:1-14,” in *Imagery in the Gospel of John: Terms, Forms, Themes, and Theology of Johannine Figurative Language*, edited by Jörg Frey, Jan G. van der Watt, and Ruben Zimmermann, *Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2006), pp. 395-98.

My 1987 article, “Jewish Inscriptions in Greek and Latin,” continues to be cited and discussed as a fundamental work for the study of Jewish inscriptions in numerous publications including the following: Bruce Malina and John Pilch, *Social-Science Commentary on the Letters of Paul* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2006) and Stephen G. Wilson, *Leaving the Fold: Apostates and Defectors in Antiquity* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2004). It is also cited on websites (including the University of Wales, Lampeter, Department of Classics).

“Professor Brings Jewish Perspective to Seminary,” *Lexington Herald Leader*, Faith/Values, F1, F3 (story about me carried worldwide by many news services emphasizing my receipt of tenure as a Jewish professor in a Christian seminary): April 15, 2007

Lexington Theological Seminary (LTS) course, Thinking Theologically, was cited for approval and recognition as part of the LTS Quality Enhancement Project (QEP) in the Report of the Affirmation Committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS, as part of the accreditation process): March 28-30, 2006

## PUBLICATIONS

“What Ultimately Matters: Recovering and Transforming our Spiritual Heritage”  
(completed, to be published)

“Arguing with God and *Tiqqun Olam*: A Response to Andre LaCocque on the *Aqedah*,”  
*Lexington Theological Quarterly* 40 (2005) 203-19 (this was a response to an article by  
André Lacocque, “About the ‘Akedah’ in Genesis 22: A Response to Laurence H. Kant,”  
*Lexington Theological Quarterly* 40 (2005) 191-201)

“First-Century Christians in the Twenty-First Century: Does Evidence Matter?” (co-authored  
with Dianne M. Bazell), in *Restoring the First-Century Church in the Twenty-First  
Century: Essays on the Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement in Honor of Don Haymes*.  
Edited by Hans Rollman and Warren Lewis. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2005,  
pp. 355-66

“Hearing the Call: Interpreting the Voice of God in the Hebrew Bible,” *Lexington  
Theological Quarterly* 39 (2004) 175-83

“Some Restorative Thoughts on an Agonizing Text: Abraham’s Binding of Isaac and the Horror  
on Mt. Moriah (Gen. 22),” “Part 2” *Lexington Theological Quarterly* 38 (2003) 161-94

“Some Restorative Thoughts on an Agonizing Text: Abraham’s Binding of Isaac and the Horror  
on Mt. Moriah (Gen. 22),” “Part 1,” *Lexington Theological Quarterly* 38 (2003) 77-109

“The Earliest Christian Inscription: Bishop Avercius’ Last Words Document the Emergence  
of the Church,” in *Bible Review* 17.1, February, 2001, pp. 10-19, 47

“Jewish Inscriptions in Greek and Latin,” in *Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt*  
2.20.2:671-713. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1987

## Book Reviews

James H. Charlesworth, *The Good and the Evil Serpent: How a Universal Symbol Became  
Christianized* (Anchor Yale Bible Reference Library: New Haven/London: Yale  
University Press, 2010): in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 72 (2012) 146-47.

Abraham H. Foxman, *Jews and Money: The Story of a Stereotype* (New York: Palgrave  
Macmillan, 2010): in *Shalom*, August, 2011, pp. 4, 6

William A. Horbury and David Noy (eds.), *Jewish Inscriptions of Graeco-Roman Egypt*: in the  
electronic journal, *Ioudaios* 4.018, August, 1994

**PUBLICATIONS** (cont.)

**Book Reviews** (cont.)

Adia Konikoff, *Sarcophagi from the Jewish Catacombs of Ancient Rome: A Catalogue Raisonné*: in *Gnomon* 60 (1988) 376-78 (co-authored with Leonard V. Rutgers)

Several "Book Notes" for *Religious Studies Review*

**In Preparation**

*Genesis: A Poetic Translation, with Commentary*

*One God: The Limits of Monotheism* (full analysis of why "monotheism" does not accurately characterize Judaism and Christianity)

*The Avercius Inscription (edition, background, commentary, interpretive essays on the oldest, extant, datable, Christian inscription)* (in preparation for *Texts and Studies for the New Testament*, E. J. Brill)

*Religious Symbols in the Graeco-Roman World: Comparative Study of Menorah and Fish* (revision and extension of my 1993 dissertation)

**Newspapers**

"Richard Goldstone's Sort-Of Apology," Opinion, *Shalom*, May, 2011

"Rand Paul Wrong on Israel," Op-ed (with Linda Ravvin and Mike Grossman), *Lexington Herald-Leader*, February 18, 2011

"A Personal View of Kashrut," Opinion, *Shalom*, September, 2010, p. 11

"Israel and Iran," Opinion, *Shalom*, September, 2009, p. 9

"Anti-Semitism on Rise in West," op-ed, *Lexington Herald Leader*, January 8, 2007

"Musings on Jews and Christians", Letter to the Editor, *Shalom*, September, 2005 (and a widely circulated email), pp. 16, 19

"Jewish Vitality and Interfaith Dialogue," From a Local Perspective, *Shalom*, August, 2000, p. 12

**PAPERS AND SCHOLARLY TALKS**

"The Arab-Israeli Conflict in the American Religious Imagination," Temple Adath Israel, March, 2012

"Who Are We, You and I: Meditations on Death and Afterlife": Late Life Concerns: The Final Miles, Newman Center, Lexington, KY, August, 2010

"Tower of Babel: Diaspora as the Human Condition," Scholar's Weekend, Temple B'rith Sholom, Springfield, IL, January, 2010

"The Aqedah: Abraham's Weakness and Our Moral Duty," Scholar's Weekend, Temple B'rith Sholom, Springfield, IL, January, 2010

**PAPERS AND SCHOLARLY TALKS** (cont.)

- “Re-Envisioning Jesus: Jewish Ancestor, Christian Model,” Scholar’s Weekend, Temple B’rith Sholom, Springfield, IL January 2010
- “The Jewish Contribution to Human Values and Spirituality,” Lexington Havurah Annual Meeting, Lexington, KY, June, 2008
- “Teaching Genocide and the Holocaust at a Christian Seminary,” for a workshop, “Teaching about Atrocity: Issues in Genocide and Holocaust Education at the College Level,” sponsored by the Central Kentucky Faculty Genocide and Holocaust Working Group,” University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY March, 2008
- “What Ultimately Matters: “Recovering and Transforming our Spiritual Heritage,” Installation Lecture (in recognition of tenure): Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, April, 2007
- “Arguing with God and Healing the World (*Tiqqun Olam*),” Lexington Theological Seminary Lexington, KY, March, 2006)
- ”One God: A Critique of Monotheism,” Lexington Theological Seminary Convocation, April, 2004; Hellenistic Judaism Section, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA November, 2003
- “Paul and *Nomos*,” as part of a panel on the “New Revised Standard Paul,” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature, Southeast Regional Meeting, Atlanta, GA March, 2004
- “With Paul in My Carriage: Ambiguity in the Oldest Christian Inscription (Avercius),” Paul and Pauline Literature, International Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Cambridge, UK, July, 2003 (by invitation)
- “Some Restorative Thoughts on an Agonizing Text: Abraham’s Binding of Isaac and the Horror on Mt. Moriah (Gen. 22),” Inaugural Address, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, April, 3, 2003. Led a seminar on this topic for “Humanistic Medicine,” University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, KY, February, 200
- “The Real Meaning of *Shalom*”: Given in various forms at Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, February, 2002; Christ the King Cathedral, Lexington, KY; and Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY, November, 2001

**PAPERS AND SCHOLARLY TALKS (cont.)**

Jewish-Catholic Dialogue of Lexington, KY, AMOS (“A Meeting of Souls”):

“Forgiveness, Repentance, Reconciliation” April, 2001; “A Personal Search,” September, 2000

“Contemporary Judaism and Asian Religions,” Lay School of Theology Seminar, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, April, 2001

“The New Testament as a Jewish Text: Reshaping Our Educational and Spiritual Landscape,” panel discussion entitled “Jewish-Christian Dialogue in New Testament Interpretation: Progress, Problems, and Prospects,” Southeastern Society of Biblical Literature, Charlotte, NC, March, 2001 (by invitation)

Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, April, 2000: “Diversity in Early Judaism and Modernity: Coming to Terms With Who We Are”

“Syncretism? Multiculturalism? Coming to Terms with Jews and Christians Who Refer to More Than One God.” Given in various forms: for the international conference, “Flavius Josephus in Flavian Rome,” York University (Toronto, Canada), May, 2001 (by invitation); University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY March 2000 (by invitation from the Department of Classics); Late Ancient. Studies Forum at Duke University, Durham, NC April, 1997 (by invitation); Classical Studies and Religious Studies Colloquium, York University, Toronto, Canada, March, 1996 (by invitation); and American Philological Association/Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, December, 1989

“Fish and Fishing Symbolism in the Synoptic Gospels,” Synoptic Gospels Section, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL November, 1994

“Who’s In and Who’s Out: Jewish Inscriptions and Graeco-Roman Divinities,” Hellenistic Judaism Section Panel, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November, 1994

“Early Christianity and Graeco-Roman Religions: The Example of the Avercius Inscription,” Greco-Roman Religions Group, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November, 1993 (Given in similar form at Cornell University conference, “Religion, Politics and Cultural Dynamics,” Ithaca, NY, April, 1994)

**PAPERS AND SCHOLARLY TALKS** (cont.)

- “The Literary Composition of the Avercius Inscription and Its Significance for Our Knowledge of Early Christianity at the Turn of the Third Century,” North American Patristic Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL June, 1993
- “Early Jewish Synagogues in Epigraphic Evidence,” Archaeology of the New Testament World Group, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November, 1992 (by invitation)
- “Views of the Family in Roman Jewish Epitaphs,” Hellenistic Judaism Section Panel on the Ancient Jewish Family, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA November, 1990 (by invitation)
- “Reassessing the Interpretation of Ancient Symbols,” Hellenistic Judaism Section Panel on Erwin Goodenough, American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA November, 1989
- “Roman Jews in a Roman World: What the Inscriptions Tell Us,” The Cultural Legacy of Italian Jewry, Jewish Museum, New York, NY, September, 1989
- “Some Religious Ideas and Their Contexts in the Late Roman World: The Plurality of Meanings in Jewish and Christian Inscriptions and Symbols,” Shoptalk, American Academy in Rome (Italy, June, 1987

**OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

**ACADEMIC CONTEXTS**

- “Monotheism in Early Judaism and Christianity,” for a class, Jesus the Jew, (taught by Jerry L. Sumney), Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, May, 2008
- “Work in Progress,” Convocation, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, November, 2005
- “Avercius Inscription,” faculty presentation, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, December, 2004
- “Jewish Views of Salvation,” Senior Symposium, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, September, 2002
- Panel Participant on response to September 11, 2001; my presentation was “Jewish Views of Moral Discourse”: Convocation, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, September, 2002
- Lexington Theological Seminary, Convocation, “Jewish-Christian Dialogue: Personal Reflections and New Paradigms,” Lexington, KY, March, 2000
- “How to Make a Squeeze of an Inscription,” American Academy in Rome (Italy), Spring, 1988, Archaeological site tours in Rome, Italy, 1986-88

**OTHER PRESENTATIONS** (cont.)

**MISCELLANEOUS CONTEXTS**

- “Reading the Bible Mystically”: Monthly Bible study seminars starting with Genesis Table Discussion Leader, Roundtable Discussions, Yom Ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue, Lexington, KY, Spring, 2011-14
- “A New Day,” Essay for the Evolutionary Envisioning Circle of the Annual Great Mother Celebration, Lexington, KY September, 2010
- “Vayeira Parsha (Genesis 18-22): You Never Know,” Temple Adath Israel, November, 2009
- Panel Discussion, “Jewish View of Divine Masculine,” Institute of Whole Life Healing, Lexington, KY September, 2009
- English recitation from Homer’s Catalogue of Ships, All-Day Iliad Reading, University of KY, September, 2008
- Abraham and Isaac, two-week course, First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, KY, October, 2007
- Participated in convocation panel, “The Human Condition,” Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, KY, November, 2006
- Presentations on Judaism to churches in Central Kentucky: Walnut Hill Christian Church, October, 2006; Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, March, 2004; Central Christian Church, Harrodsburg Christian Church, Pax Christi Catholic Church, Tates Creek Christian Church, Lexington, KY, 2000-02
- Organized, and participated in, a convocation: panel discussion of “The Public Intellectual” on September, 2006
- Interviews on local radio and television regarding the Gospel of Judas and the situation in the Middle East, 2006
- Panel discussion on Karen Armstrong’s *The Battle for God* at Joseph-Beth Bookstore (sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance), Lexington, KY, January, 2006
- Presenter and discussion leader, “Rescuers and the Holocaust,” for the adult Jewish study group, Kollel, Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, Fall, 2005
- “The *Aqedah* and *Tikkun Olam*,” Rosh ha-Shanah, Lexington Havurah, Lexington, KY, September, 2005
- “Righteous Gentiles and the Holocaust,” Kollel, Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY
- “Jesus the Jew,” Crestwood Christian Church, Lexington, KY, February/March 2004
- “Abraham, Isaac and the *Aqedah*,” Lexington Havurah, Lexington, KY October, 2004
- “Wisdom in the Public Square, Walnut Hill Church, Lexington, KY, October, 2004
- “The Passion of the Christ” (film): Christ the King Cathedral; William S. Hayes Shalom Symposium, Central Christian Church. Lexington, KY, March/April, 2004
- Assist in leading the Kollel study group, Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, 2003-
- “Leaders Facing Death: Numbers 27:12-23,” Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, June, 2002
- Presentation on World Religions, Pax Christi Catholic Church, Lexington, KY, May, 2002
- Radio interviews on Jewish-Catholic dialogue on “The Meeting House,” WRGV, Georgetown, KY, 2000
- Presentation for the film, “Nasty Girl,” Temple Adath Israel, Adult Jewish Growth, April, 2000

**OTHER PRESENTATIONS** (cont.)

Miscellaneous Contexts (cont.)

Berea College Interfaith Dialogue Program (invitation from Professor Maria Lichtmann):

“Personal Reflections on the Current State of Jews, Judaism, and Jewish-Christian Dialogue,” Berea, KY, February 2000

“We the Missing: Community and Identity in the Ancient and Modern World,” First Church of Cambridge, MA (UCC), February, 1999

Radio and Television interviews in Canada and the U.S.

Lectures in Italian to donors to the Fondazione Lemmerman describing my research in Rome, Italy, 1987-88

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ACADEMIC)**

University of Kentucky (Lexington, KY),; Visiting Scholar, Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures (2009-11); Visiting Graduate Faculty, Department of English, 2009-11)

Ph.D. Qualifying Exam and Prospectus Examiner; Dissertation Reader: Department of English Andrew Battista, “Knowing, Seeing, and Transcending Nature: Judaic Holiness and the Control of the Environment in Early Modern English Literature and Culture”, Dissertation Reader, Spring, 2011); Andrew Battista, “The Old Testament Holiness Collection and Environmental Awareness in Early Modern Literature” (Fall, 2008);

Lexington Theological Seminary (LTS) (Lexington, KY)

Associate Professor of the History of Religion, 2006-09 (received tenure May, 2006)

Associate Professor of Religious Studies, 2003-06

Assistant Professor Religious Studies, 2002-03

Visiting Professor of Religious Studies, 2001-02

Adjunct Professor in New Testament Greek, 2000-01

Bible, Holocaust, and Jewish and Christian Memory: Fall, 2004

Biblical Ethics and Modern Dilemmas (focus on ethical issues in both biblical and modern contexts): Spring, 2002; Fall, 2003

Confronting God: Stories of Resistance and Acceptance in the Bible: Summer, 2003

Hatred, Violence, Genocide, and the Human Condition, Spring, 2007

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew: Spring, 2004

Introduction to New Testament Greek: 2000-01, 2002-03, Fall, 2004; 2006-7; 2008-09

Introduction to Theology (done from a comparative religion perspective): Spring, 2002

Jesus in Film and Literature (the life of Jesus through films and literature): Summer, 2004

Jewish-Christian Dialogue (introduction to Jewish culture, civilization, thought, and religion): January, 2006; Spring, 2009

New Testament Exegesis in Greek: Parables: Spring, 2009

New Testament Narrative (Gospels): Fall, 2001; Fall, 2002

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ACADEMIC)** (cont.)

Lexington Theological Seminary (cont.)

Poets, Prophets, Wisdom, and Apocalyptic (Hebrew Bible: focus on Prophets and Writings):  
Spring, 2004

Religion and Values in American Society: Fall, 2001; Fall, 2003

Religious and Mythic Symbols, Fall, 2007

Spiritual Practices Beyond Religious Boundaries, Spring, 2008

Survey of World Religions, Fall 2007 (two sections); Fall, 2008

Thinking Theologically (introductory theological course on constructing meaning, using  
literature, film, and social engagement), 2005-7 (each semester)

War and Peace in Biblical Tradition: Fall, 2005

World Scriptures: Spring, 2003; Spring, 2006 (comparative review of scriptures from major  
world religions)

Lilly Teaching Fellow, Lexington Theological Seminary, participant in “Seminar on  
Theological Teaching,” led by Professor Malcolm Warford, 2001-02

MA Thesis Director:

Matthew Branstetter, “The Neurological Soul: Reflections on an Emerging Paradigm,”  
(LTS, completed Spring, 2008)

Joshua Fraley, “Ritual Dramas: The Executions of John Hus and Michael Servetus”  
(LTS, completed Spring, 2009)

David Sutherland, “A Seed with Wings: Thomas Merton’s Journey Fosters  
Inter-Religious Understanding” (LTS, completed Fall, 2008)

MA Thesis Reader

Susan Brown, “Resurrecting the Cross: A Reclamation of the Symbol” (LTS, completed  
Spring, 2009)

Michael Burke, “Christian Unity for the 21st Century” (LTS, completed Spring, 2009)

Gerald V. Klim, “Luther’s Theology of the Cross and the Spiritual Well-Being of  
Caregivers of Brain Injury Survivors” (LTS, completed Spring, 2008)

Michelle Grace Lyerly, “Rescuing Creation from the Platonic Demiurge: Moving beyond  
Platonic Dualisms to Reclaim the Integrity of God, Creation, and the Gospel  
(LTS, completed Spring, 2004)

MAPS (Masters in Pastoral Studies—Catholic Studies) Research Paper Director

Donna Rougeux, “Rituals Pertaining to Death” (LTS, completed Spring, 2009)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ACADEMIC)** (cont.)

York University (Toronto, Canada), Assistant Professor (non-tenure-track),  
Division of Humanities, Programs in Religious Studies, Jewish Studies, and Classical  
Studies, 1995-96

Jesus and Interpretation: Search for the historical Jesus and the interpretation of Jesus in the  
New Testament (Fall); Jesus in literature, art, and film from late antiquity to modernity  
(Spring)

Founders of Christianity: New Testament (Fall); early Christianity from the second to the fifth  
century (Spring)

Judaism in the Graeco-Roman World: Second Temple Judaism (Fall); Rabbinic Judaism  
(Spring)

Cornell University (Ithaca, NY), Assistant Professor (non-tenure-track), Cornell University,  
Department of Near Eastern Studies, Religious Studies Program and Jewish Studies  
Program, 1992-95 (part-time, 1992-94); and Lecturer (part-time), 1991-92; Visiting  
Scholar, 1996-97

History of Ancient Christianity

The Missions of Paul and His Successors

Early Christian Literature

Varieties of Judaism in the Graeco-Roman World

Jewish Art and Archaeology (cross-listed in the Departments of Classics and Archaeology)

Jewish Literature and Thought in the Rabbinic Period (cross-listed in the Department of  
Classics)

Topics in Religion: Religious Symbols in Graeco-Roman/Near Eastern Late Antiquity

Miscellaneous Activities

Adviser and Reader for undergraduate honors theses

Graduate Reading: Dreams in Rabbinic Literature

Occasional guest-lecturing in the introductory course for the Religious Studies Program,  
Understanding the Religions of the World

Other Areas of Teaching Competence

Introduction to the Study of Religion; Introduction to the Jewish Tradition; Religious Festivals  
and Celebrations; Death and Afterlife; Religion and Film; Religion and Literature Hebrew Bible  
(Narrative); Jewish Mysticism; Jewish and Christian Identity from Antiquity to the Present;  
Diaspora Judaism in Antiquity; Jewish Literature Prior to the Rabbinic Period; Jewish and Early  
Christian Epigraphy; Early Christian Art and Archaeology; Graeco-Roman Religions; Near  
Eastern, Greek, and Roman Mythology; Greek and Roman Religious Literature; Near Eastern,  
Greek, Hellenistic, and Roman History; Israel and the Modern Middle East; Languages--Latin,  
Hebrew (Qumran, Rabbinic), and Aramaic

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** (cont.)

Teaching Fellow

Yale University, Divinity School (New Haven, CT): History of Christianity, John Stroup, 1985-86

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA), Core Curriculum: The World of the Early Christians, Zeph Stewart, Spring, 1984

Yale University, Department of Religious Studies: Introduction to New Testament History and Literature, Wayne A. Meeks, Spring, 1983

Yale University, Department of Religious Studies: History of Ancient Christianity, Bentley Layton, Fall, 1982

Grader (as an undergraduate), Tufts University  
Greek and Roman Comedy, Jack Zarker, Fall, 1976

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Editor, *Lexington Theological Quarterly*, 2007-09

Member of the Board (Constituent Representative), Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion (SECSOR), 2005-08: Attended SECSOR Regional Meeting, March, 2005 in Winston Salem, NC

Chair, Faculty Assessment Committee, 2005-07

Member, Faculty Assessment Committee, Lexington Theological Seminary, 2004-5

Member, Editorial Board, *Lexington Theological Quarterly*, 2001-02, 2005-07

Member, Programming Committee, 2005-06

Member, SACS Annual Conference Team, Lexington Theological Seminary, Atlanta, December, 2004

Chair, Institutional Integrity Committee, Lexington Theological Seminary for the American Theological Schools accreditation process, 2003-04

Chair, Multicultural Affairs Committee, Lexington Theological Seminary, 2003-05

Member, Moosnick Committee, Franklin B. Moosnick Lectures and Professorship, 2003-08

Chair, Programming Committee, Lexington Theological Seminary (see "Related Professional Experience" below), 2002-04

Senior Symposium Reader, 2001-09

Secretary of the Faculty, Lexington Theological Seminary, 2001-02

Article Referee

Religious Studies Program, Cornell University, 1991-95

Jewish Studies Program, Cornell University, 1991-95

Faculty Search Committee to find the first Professor of Jewish Studies at a divinity school or seminary in the USA, Harvard Divinity School, 1980-81

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Founder, The Gateway to Civic and Spiritual Renewal, or “The Gateway” (formerly known as The Interfaith Center for Civic and Spiritual Renewal), Lexington, KY, 2000-01, 2008- : The Gateway is an organization dedicated to embodying and modeling what it means for individuals and communities to cultivate wisdom and to live lives of deep and integrated knowledge and learning.

Co-Founder and Co-Organizer, “Ripples of Change”: multi-faith group in which participants deal with issues of meaning and spirituality (Lexington, KY, 2008-09)

Chair, Convocation Committee: Responsible for organizing weekly presentations by civic leaders and scholars at Lexington Theological Seminary, 2002-04

Chair and Founder, “Wisdom in the Public Square,” a series of panels and workshops on ethics, sponsored by Lexington Theological Seminary. This project was designed to help the public see controversial issues as undergirded by much deeper philosophical and spiritual questions so that we can engage as a society in more serious, more attentive, more humane, and wiser dialogue. We wanted to move people away from the obvious point-counterpoint and tired clichés to the much broader context of history, literature, philosophy, and religion. Program: a year of pilot discussions and plans (2001-02); “Education as a Moral Path” (November, 2002); “The Human Face of the Fetal Tissue Question” (February, 2003); “Religion and Aging” (April, 2004)

Initiator, Organizer and Teacher, a course for adult education: Finding a Jewish Path while the Ground Shifts Beneath Us: Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, 2001-12. The class dealt with the Tanakh, *midrash*, the Jewish prayer book, and spirituality.

Participant and Organizational Adviser: Integrative Studies Seminars organized through the College of Medicine by Prof. Joseph Engelberg (physiologist and biophysicist): 2000-03:

Humanistic Psychiatry Grand Rounds  
Conferences on Sacred History,  
Integrative Study of the Biosphere

Organizer, AMOS. (“A Meeting of Souls”), a series of Catholic Jewish dialogues, sponsored by the Lexington Catholic Diocese and the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass (2000-01).

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** (cont.)

Interfaith and Intercultural Organizer (Lexington, KY 1999- ): Participated in numerous events (multi-faith, Jewish, Christian, Yoruban, and secular), including gatherings, celebrations, panels, rituals. Have offered numerous reflections and readings (including poems). Write articles and letters on interfaith matters and public policy issues. 24-Hour Homeless Experience participant for Keep the Heat On (Lexington, March, 2002). Lexington voting delegate, Jewish Council of Public Affairs Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (February, 2002). Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Super Sunday volunteer (2001-02, 2008-). Helped to organize a model seder at Christ the King Cathedral (March, 2000). See “Community Service” below for additional information.

Research Assistant for Wilfred Cantwell Smith’s research on scripture, Harvard University, (1983-84): Provided bibliography and analyses of scriptural developments among ancient Jews, Christians, Greeks, Romans, Zoroastrians, Manicheans, and Mandaeans.

Coordinator of Student Activities, Harvard Divinity School, 1980-81: Organized major social and community events; acted as liaison between student committees and central governing body of student association.

Member of the Research Team for the Study of Religion and Culture of the Aegean in New Testament Times, Harvard Divinity School (1979-80): Evaluated archaeological evidence including architecture, numismatics, sculpture, and urban planning; specializing in epigraphy; lectured on the cult of Asclepius; photographed sites; assisted in fundraising efforts.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Member, Board of Directors, Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Lexington, KY, 2011-14 , 2008-11, 2000-03

Member, Board of Trustees, Temple Adath Israel, Lexington, KY, 2011-14 . Also member of the following committees: Adult Jewish Growth (2001- ), Library (2011- ), Long-Term Planning (2011- 12), Publications (2010- ), Social Action (2000-06), and Technology (2010- )

Co-Chair and Chair, Community Relations Committee, Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, 2011- : Committee responsible for external relations (schools, universities, interfaith, political), social action and justice, support for Israel, community safety, and combatting antisemitism

Chair, Library Committee, Temple Adath Israel, 2012-

Co-Chair, Technology Committee, Temple Adath Israel, 2012-

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** (cont.)

Member, Community Relations Committee, Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Lexington, KY,  
2007- , 2000-03

Member, Trialogue (Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue group), Lexington, KY, 2000-03

Member, Dialogue on Youth, sponsored by Speak Out Lexington, Lexington, KY, 2000-01

**LANGUAGES:** Ancient Greek (Classical, Koine, Byzantine), Latin (Classical, Medieval), Hebrew (Biblical, Qumran, Rabbinic), Aramaic (Biblical, Targumic, Rabbinic), Syriac. French, Italian, German, modern Greek. Basic reading knowledge of Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, Modern Hebrew.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion  
American Historical Association  
American Philological Association  
American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy  
Archaeological Institute of America  
Association for Jewish Studies  
Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine  
North American Patristics Society  
Society of Biblical Literature

**OTHER MEMBERSHIPS**

Anti-Defamation League  
Hadassah (Associate)  
Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass  
The Lexington Havurah  
Temple Adath Israel  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum