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PRESENT AND RECENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Georgetown University, 2005-

Professor of Jewish Civilization, 2014-
Director, Center for Jewish Civilization, 2006-2020
Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Associate Professor of Jewish Civilization, 2007-2014
Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Visiting Associate Professor of Jewish Civilization, 2005-2007
Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Hofstra University 1997-2007

Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages, 1997-2003

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages, 2003-2005

Associate Professor of Religious Studies, 2005-2007

Director of Jewish Studies, 1997-2007
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Drew University, 1998-2002

Affiliated Faculty,
Caspersen School of Graduate Studies, Program in Religion and Society
Program in Official/Popular Religion in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Sociology), 1999

New School for Social Research

Ph.D. (Hebrew and Judaic Studies/Ancient Near Eastern Literatures and Languages), 1991

New York University

M.A. (Sociology), 1993

New School for Social Research

M.A. (Hebrew and Judaic Studies/Ancient Near Eastern Literatures and Languages), 1988

New York University

B.A. (Psychology), 1986

New York University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Can I Laugh at That? Global Comedic Controversies in the Digital Age (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2025; Forthcoming).

Secularism: The Basics (London: Routledge, 2022).

Secularism: The Basics. Expanded 2nd ed. (London: Routledge, 2024; Forthcoming).

Blacks and Jews in America: An Invitation to Dialogue (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2022). With Terrence Johnson.

The Philip Roth We Don't Know: Sex, Race, Autobiography (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2021).

Campus Confidential: How College Works, or Doesn't, for Professors, Parents, and Students. (New York: Melville House, 2017).

How to Be Secular: A Call to Arms for Religious Freedom (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012). (*Paperback version released 9/17/13*).

Thumpin' It: The Use and Abuse of the Bible in Today's Presidential Politics (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2008).

The Secular Bible: Why Nonbelievers Must Take Religion Seriously (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Heresy in the University: The Black Athena Controversy and the Responsibilities of American Intellectuals (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1999).

The Vow and the "Popular Religious Groups" of Ancient Israel: A Philological and Sociological Inquiry. JSOT Supplement Series 210 (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996).
(Re-released in paperback in 2009 by T and T Clark)

Edited Books

Secularism on the Edge: Church and State in the United States, France and Israel, Eds. Jacques Berlinerblau, Sarah Fainberg, Aurora Nou. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan; 2014).

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Scholarly Book Chapters

"Political Secularism in Canada and the United States" *Bloomsbury Religion in North America* Ed. Terrence Johnson. (London: Bloomsbury 2025; Forthcoming)

"Beware, White Male Rothians," *Philip Roth Studies* 19 (2023) pp. 82-91.

"Secular Africa?" Making Sense of Non-Compliance to Secular Constitutions in Sub-Saharan Africa," with Bethania Michael and Alexander Lin, *Journal of Church and State* (2023) pp. 1-17.

"Cheat Sheet for Political Secularism and Secular Studies," *Journal of Secular Studies* 5 (2023) pp. 53-82.

"Judaism and Secularism," in *Philip Roth in Context*, Ed. Magdalene McKinley (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021).

"Intertexts and Influence: A Comprehensive Table of Intertexts in Philip Roth's Fiction, 1952-2010." *Purdue University Research Repository*. doi:10.4231/HEAG-QX63 (with Michael, B., Walters, H., Pejša, S., 2021).

"Intertexts and Influence: A Comprehensive Table of Intertexts in Philip Roth's Fiction, 1952-2010," *Philip Roth Studies* 17. 2 (With Bethania Michael and Heather Walters, 2021).

"Donald J. Trump, The White Evangelicals, and Martin Luther; Exploring an Unlikely

- Hypothesis” *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology*, 73 (2019) pp. 18-30.
- “What is Secular Literature? Philip Roth as Case Study,” *Philip Roth Studies*, 14 (2018) pp. 66-89.
- “Reframing Secularist Premises: Divorce Among Traditionalist Muslim and Jewish Women within the Secular State” with Pascale Fournier, *Secularism and Nonreligion*, 7 2018. Online.
- “Political Secularism,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Secularism*, Eds. John Shook and Phil Zuckerman (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
- “Philip Roth and the Profanity Loop,” in *Profane: Sacrilegious Expression and the Challenge of Modernity*, Eds. Christopher S. Grenda, Chris Beneke, and David Nash (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2014).
- “Secularism and Its Confusions,” in *Secularism on the Edge: Church-State Relations in the United States, France and Israel*, Eds. Jacques Berlinerblau, Sarah Fainberg, Aurora Nou. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan; 2014).
- “Secular America: Nones, Atheists, and the Unaffiliated: *A Conversation between Phil Zuckerman and Jacques Berlinerblau*,” in *Secularism on the Edge: Church-State Relations in the United States, France and Israel*, Eds. Jacques Berlinerblau, Sarah Fainberg, Aurora Nou. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan; 2014).
- “America: A Christian Nation or a Secular Nation? A Conversation between John Fea and Jacques Berlinerblau.” in *Secularism on the Edge: Church-State Relations in the United States, France and Israel*, Eds. Jacques Berlinerblau, Sarah Fainberg, Aurora Nou. (New York: Palgrave Macmillan; 2014).
- “‘Imagine That!’: Philip Roth’s Threshold Scenes: The Case of ‘Femme Fatale,’” *Philip Roth Studies* 10: 35-58.
- “Jewish Atheism,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Atheism*, Eds. Stephen Bullivant and Michael Ruse (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013) pp. 320-336.
- “The Bible in the Presidential Elections of 2012, 2008, 2004 and the Collapse of American Secularism,” in *Interested Readers: Essays on the Hebrew Bible in Honor of David J. A. Clines*, Eds. James Aitken, Jeremy M. S. Clines and Christl M. Maier. (Atlanta, Ga.: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013).
- “The Bible in the Presidential Elections of 2012, 2008, 2004 and the Collapse of American Secularism,” in *The Bible in the Public Square*. Ed. Carol Meyers (Atlanta, Ga.: Society

- of Biblical Literature; 2014; *Note: This is a reprint of item 16 above, agreed to by all parties*).
- “Let the Study of American Secularisms Begin!,” *Critical Research on Religion: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 1 (2013) pp. 225-232.
- “Academic Roundtable: Harold Bloom’s *Jesus and Yahweh: The Names Divine*,” *Expositions* 1 (2007-2008) 71-77.
- “Durkheim’s Theory of Misrecognition: In Praise of Arrogant Theory,” in *Teaching Durkheim*, Ed. T. Godlove (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005) 213-233.
- “The Bible as Literature?” *Hebrew Studies* 45 (2004) 9-26.
- “Free Will and Determinism in First Isaiah: Secular Hermeneutics, The Poetics of Contingency, and Émile Durkheim’s *Homo Duplex*,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 71 (2003) 767-791.
- “The Delicate Flower of Biblical Sociology,” in *Tracking The Tribes of Yahweh: On The Trail of a Classic*, Ed. R. Boer (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2002) 59-76.
- “‘Poor Bird, Not Knowing Which Way to Fly’: Biblical Scholarship’s Marginality, Secular Humanism, and the Laudable Occident,” *Biblical Interpretation* 10 (2002) 267-304.
- “Max Weber’s Useful Ambiguities and the Problem of Defining ‘Popular Religion,’” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 69 (2001) 605-626.
- “Toward a Sociology of Heresy, Orthodoxy, and *Doxa*,” *History of Religions* 40 (2001) 327-351.
- “Ideology, Pierre Bourdieu’s *Doxa*, and the Hebrew Bible,” *Semeia* 87 (1999) 193-214.
- “Preliminary Remarks for the Sociological Study of Israelite ‘Official Religion,’” in *Ki Baruch Hu: Essays Submitted to Baruch Levine in Honor of his 65th Birthday*, Eds. R. Chazan, W.W. Hallo, and L.H. Schiffman (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1999) 153-170.
- “The Present Crisis and Uneven Triumphs of Biblical Sociology: Responses to N. Gottwald, S. Mandell, P. Davies, M. Sneed, R. Simkins and N. Lemche,” in *Concepts of Class in Ancient Israel*, Ed. M. Sneed (Florida: University of South Florida Press, 1999) 132-150.
- “Some Sociological Observations on Moshe Greenberg’s *Biblical Prose Prayer as a Window to the Popular Religion of Ancient Israel*,” *Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages* 12 (1995) 1-14.

“The ‘Popular Religion’ Paradigm in Old Testament Research: A Sociological Critique,” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 60 (1993) 3-26.

“The Israelite Vow: Distress or Daily Life?” *Biblica* 72 (1991) 548-555.

Articles in Scholarly Anthologies

“Introduction: Epistemological Canyons: The Anomic Academy,” in *Problems in African History: The Precolonial Centuries*. Ed. Ruth Iyob (New Jersey: Markus Weiner Publishers, Forthcoming 2014). Reprinted from *Heresy in the University*.

“Secularists and the Not-Godless World,” in *The Study of Religion: A Reader*, Hillary Rodrigues and John S. Harding, Eds. (London: Routledge, Forthcoming 2013). Reprinted from *The Secular Bible*.

“The Unspeakable in Biblical Scholarship,” in *Secularism and Biblical Studies*, Ed. Roland Boer (London: Equinox, 2008) 20-24.

“The ‘Popular Religion’ Paradigm in Old Testament Research: A Sociological Critique,” in *Social-Scientific Old Testament Criticism: A Sheffield Reader*, Ed. D. Chalcraft (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1997) 53-76. Reprint of No. 2 Above.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Sociology of Ancient Israel,” in *Encyclopedia Judaica*, Rev. Edition, Ed. David Sperling (New York: MacMillan Reference, 2006).

Other Articles

See Jacques Berlinerblau’s homepage at MSNBC.com

“Secular Conservatives? If Only. . . .” *The Freethinker*, June, 6 2022.

“Bibliographic Quarantine is Blurring our Understanding of Secularism,” *Times Higher Education*, February 6th 2022.

“Statement on the Possible Destruction of Materials Pertaining to Philip Roth,” *Philip Roth Society*, (With Aimee Pozorski) June 2021

“Modi’s India: Optical Neoliberalism In! Secularism Out! ” *Culturico*, March 17th 2021 (With Shareen Joshi)

“Philip Roth and Race,” *Salon*, February 7th 2021

“Religious Studies Strikes Back,” *The Chronicle Review* (January 30, 2021)

“Bad Religion in the Ivory Tower,” *The Chronicle Review* (January 21, 2021).

“Can Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock Reinvigorate the Black-Jewish Alliance,” *Salon*, January 18 2021 (With Terrence Johnson)

“The American (Secular) Charter,” *The American Charter Project* (2017).

“When Your Next College Free Speech Controversy Erupts, Don’t Blame Liberals,” *The Washington Post* (June 30, 2017).

“The Better the College, the Better the Scholar. Right?” *The Chronicle Review* (June 19, 2017).

“President Trump’s Anti-Secular Foreign Policy?” *Lawfare Blog* (February 26, 2017).

“This Guy Got Tenure. You Probably Won’t.,” *The Chronicle Review* (June 29, 2016).

“Teach or Perish,” *The Chronicle Review* (January 23, 2015).

“The Crisis in Secular Studies,” *The Chronicle Review* (September 8, 2014).

“Do We Know Philip Roth?” *The Chronicle Review* (April 7, 2014).

“You Can’t Talk People Out of Religion,” Response to Kenan Malik, *The New Humanist* (October 2012).

“The Death of American Secularism,” *The New Humanist* 127 (May/June 2012).

“The Bible Goes to Washington,” *Reform Judaism* (Summer 2008) 66-70.

“The Candidates’ ‘God Talk,’” *The Chronicle Review* (February 15, 2008) B12-14.

“What’s Wrong with the Society for Biblical Literature?” *The Chronicle Review* (November 10, 2006) B13-B15.

“On Philosemitism,” Georgetown University Program for Jewish Civilization, Occasional Papers.

“Official Religion and Popular Religion in Pre-Exilic Ancient Israel,” *The Twenty-third Annual Rabbi Louis Feinberg Memorial Lecture in Judaic Studies* (Cincinnati: University of

Cincinnati Press, 2000).

Interviews

“A Public Interview with David Bezmozgis,” *Occasional Papers on Literature and the Arts*, Program for Jewish Civilization (Fall 2010).

“A Public Interview with Gary Shteyngart,” Program for Jewish Civilization (Fall 2009).

“A Conversation with Cynthia Ozick,” *Occasional Papers on Literature and the Arts*, Program for Jewish Civilization (Fall 2008).

“God is My Running Mate,” Interview with Daniel Berger of *Jewcy.com*, (February 13, 2008).

“Ignorance in No Excuse: Interview with Jacques Berlinerblau, Author of *The Secular Bible: Why Nonbelievers Must Take Religion Seriously*,” *Free Inquiry* 26 (2005-2006) 8.

Book Reviews and Responses

“Review of *Philip Roth and the American Liberal Tradition* by Andy Connolly” (Lexington Books, 2017) *Philip Roth Studies* 14.1 (2018) Forthcoming.

“Review of Bernard Avishai, *Promiscuous: ‘Portnoy’s Complaint’ and Our Doomed Pursuit of Happiness*” (Yale University Press, 2012) *Studies in American Humor* 28 (2013) Pp. 75-77.

“Recent Scholarly Books on Life After Death,” *The Chronicle Review* (May 2010).

“Review of *No One Sees God: The Dark Night of Atheists and Believers*, by Michael Novak,” *Washington Post Book World* (September 28, 2008) 3.

“Review of *God is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*, by Christopher Hitchens,” *The Chronicle Review* (June 1, 2007) B6-B9.

“Review of *Heresy in Transition: Transforming Ideas of Heresy in Medieval and Early Modern Europe*, (Eds.) Ian Hunter, John Christian Laursen, Cary J. Nederman,” *Church History Reviews* (2007).

“Response to Basit Koshul,” *Conversations in Religion and Theology* 4 (2006) 73-77.

“The Observer Observed,” (Hebrew) Review of Saul Bellow’s *The Actual*. *Ha-Doar* (March 5, 1999) 19.

“To Our Enemies, Confusion!” (Hebrew) Review of Salman Rushdie’s *The Moor’s Last Sigh*. *Ha-Doar* (September 20, 1998) 37-38.

“We Scholars,” Review of Mary Lefkowitz’s *Not Out of Africa: How Afrocentrism Became an Excuse to Teach Myth as History* and *Black Athena Revisited*, Eds. M. Lefkowitz and Guy MacLean Rogers, *The Nation* (October 28, 1996) 42-48.

Articles Posted on Scholarly Websites

“The Unspeakable in Biblical Scholarship,” *SBL Forum*
(<http://www.sbl-site.org/Article.aspx?ArticleId=503>).

“Official Religion and Popular Religion in Pre-Exilic Ancient Israel,” on bibleinterp.org.

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Invited Scholarly Lectures

“Secularism and Sand Talk” Notre Dame University, October 3rd, 2022

“Secular Africa?” Library of Congress, July 19th 2022

“On Jewish Atheism,” Academy of the Jewish Museum, Berlin. April 20, 2020

“Metempsychosis: Philip Roth’s Grand Theme?” New York University, the Philip Roth Society. April 10, 2019.

“Understanding American Secularism” North Dakota State University. September 16, 2018

“On the Challenges of Being a College Teacher at the Twilight of the Humanities” North Dakota State University. September 16, 2018

“Donald J. Trump, The White Evangelicals, and Martin Luther; Exploring an Unlikely Hypothesis” University of Ottawa. March 28-29, 2018.

“The Secular Verities of the Book of Genesis,” Hudi Gross Memorial Lecture. Duke University. September 17, 2017.

“Keynote: How to be Secular,” — Secularism 2016. National Secular Society. London, UK. September 3, 2016.

“Reframing Secularist Premises: Divorce Among Traditionalist Muslim and Jewish Women

- within the Secular State,” Annual Law & Religion Roundtable. McGill University, Faculty of Law. Montreal, Canada. June 21, 2016.
- “Freedom of, and from, Religion: Understanding the American Secular Tradition,” Hood College. Frederick, MD. April 5, 2016.
- “Reconsidering AltMetrics,” Alt Metrics for Impact. Scholarly Communications Committee, Georgetown Library. Georgetown University. October 20th 2015.
- “Secularism: The Misunderstood and Essential –ism,” Critical Thinkers in Religion, Law and Social Theory, Lectures critiques sur la religion, le droit et la théorie en sciences sociales. University of Ottawa. October 7th, 2015.
- “The Radical Power of Fiction: Philip Roth's American Pastoral and the Whiteness of Jews/Le Pouvoir Radical de la Fiction: Pastorale Américaine de Philip Roth et la Blanchesse des Juifs,” Radical Readers Series, Sponsored by the Faculty of Law, Directed by Professor Pascale Fournier. University of Ottawa. October 6th, 2015.
- “The Radical Power of Fiction: Philip Roth's American Pastoral and the Whiteness of Jews/Le Pouvoir Radical de la Fiction: Pastorale Américaine de Philip Roth et la Blanchesse des Juifs,” Radical Readers Series, Sponsored by the Faculty of Law, Directed by Professor Pascale Fournier. University of Montreal. October 5th, 2015.
- "Anti-Semitism, Secularism, and Tolerance," A Talk for the PP225 Religion and Foreign Policy Course at FSI. United States Department of State. August 24th, 2015.
- “The (Surprisingly Religious) History of American Secularism,” Ellen S. Hurwitz Presidential Lecture on Faith, Reason and the Imagination. Albright College. April 9th, 2015.
- “Why America Needs More Secularists,” Alworth Center for the Study of Peace and Justice. College of Saint Scholastica. January 22nd, 2015.
- “Atheism and Catholicism,” Saint Mary’s University, Twickenham, UK. June 16th-18th, 2014.
- “Secularism and the American Future,” Center for Global Humanities, University of New England (March 31st, 2014).
- “Evangelicals in a Pluralistic Society: Evangelical Engagement, Interfaith and Ecumenical,” Saint Mary’s Seminary & University, Baltimore. March 21-22, 2014.
- “Understanding Secularism and Its Implications for American Foreign Policy,” *Council on Foreign Relations*. January 23rd, 2014.

- “Political Secularism in the United States: Lessons for Canada From an Unstable, Unfinished, and Unpopular Ideology” McGill University, Canada (October 23rd 2013).
- “Secularism: Understanding a Complex Concept and Thinking about Its Foreign Policy Implications an Analytic Exchange”, United States Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence and Research (June 19th, 2013).
- “The Secular Prospect,” Discussion of *How to Be Secular: A Call to Arms for Religious Freedom*, New York Public Library (April 11th, 2013).
- “What’s the Point of a Philip Roth ‘Biography’?” Roundtable: Roth and Literary Biography, Roth@80 Conference, Philip Roth Society (March 18th, 2013).
- “How to Be Secularish,” Public Values Seminar, Institute for the Study of Secularism in Society and Culture, Trinity College (November 27th, 2012).
- “Ten Biggest Misconceptions about Secularism,” Institute for the Study of Secularism in Society and Culture, Trinity College (November 26th, 2012).
- “Are American Jews the Most Secular People on Earth?” Jewish Studies Center, Baruch College (October 15th, 2012).
- “The Use of Religion in the 2008 and 2012 Presidential Elections,” and “Secularism: What Is It and Is It Dead?” Allen-Head Lecture Series, Austin College (October 9th, 2012).
- “The Bible in the Presidential Elections of 2012, 2008, and 2004,” Plenary Address, “The Bible in the Public Square” Conference, Duke University (September 11th, 2012).
- “Is Secularism Dead? Religious Moderates, Religious Extremists, New Atheists & the Fight for America’s Soul,” Center for Religion and Civic Culture, University of Southern California (November 15th, 2011).
- “Are Jews the Most Secular People in America?” Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles (November 15th, 2011).
- “The Paradox of Atheism,” Plenary Address, International Association for the History of Religions, University of Toronto (August 20th 2010).
- “Secularism and the Return of the Sacred,” Princeton University Theological Seminary (May 6th 2009).
- “Faith and Values in the 2008 Presidential Election,” Thiel College (March 26th, 2009).

“Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena Revisited*,” Department of Classics, Miami of Ohio University (March 5th 2009).

“Faith and Values in the 2008 Presidential Election,” Department of Political Science, Miami of Ohio University (March 6th, 2009).

“Faith, Values, Evangelicals and the Race for President,” Annual Batey Lecture, Rhodes College (October 28th, 2008).

“Political Theologies,” Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University (October 15th, 2008).

“Religion, Politics, Secularism and the Election of 2008,” Annual Colliver Lecture, University of the Pacific (September 25th, 2008).

“Religion and Religions,” Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University (September 4th, 2008).

“Votes, Values and Religion Go to the Primaries,” Wolfson Center for National Affairs, New School for Social Research (April 16th 2008).

“Forum on Religion and the Presidency,” Stanford University (February 21st, 2008).

“The Fate of Secularism,” Department of Religion, Stanford University (February 20th 2008).

“Religion, Politics and the 2008 Election,” Wolfson Center for National Affairs, New School for Social Research (November 1st, 2007).

“A Foreign Policy in Christ?” Departments of Religion and Political Science, Bowdoin College (April 20th, 2007).

“The Bible and Contemporary American Politics,” Program for Jewish Civilization, Georgetown University (September 5th, 2006).

“How Jews and Christians Invented the Bible,” with Provost James O’Donnell, Mortara Center for International Affairs, Georgetown University (March 15th, 2006).

“Is Secularism Dead?” Program for Jewish Civilization, Georgetown University (January 25th, 2006).

Panel Discussion, Jacques Berlinerblau’s *The Secular Bible: Why Nonbelievers Must Take Religion Seriously*. Respondents: David Clines, Michael Fox, Philip Davies. Presented by the Social Sciences and the Interpretation of Hebrew Scriptures Section of the Society of

- Biblical Literature (November 19th, 2005).
- “On Philosemitism,” Program for Jewish Civilization, Georgetown University (September 28th, 2005).
- “Is Secularism Dead?” Sponsored by the Wolfson Center for National Affairs of the New School for Social Research (September 27th, 2005).
- “On Alan Wolfe’s *The Transformation of American Religion*,” (Moderator/Discussant) Panelists: Alan Wolfe, Michael Lind, Peggy Steinfels, Juan Williams. New School for Social Research (November 19th, 2003).
- “Who Wrote the Bible? Some Heretical Responses Based on the Archaeological and Inscriptional Evidence of Seemingly Orthodox Israelites,” Distinguished Faculty Lecture, Hofstra University (February 28th, 2001).
- “The Goddess and Ancient Israelite Popular Religion,” The Twenty-Third Annual Rabbi Louis Feinberg Memorial Lecture in Judaic Studies, University of Cincinnati (May 11th, 2000).
- “Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena* and the Field of Classics,” Department of Classics, University of Cincinnati (May 12th, 2000).
- “What Does Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena* Teach Us about Heresy in the University?” The New School for Social Research (December 8th, 1999).
- “An Inquisition at Brooklyn College: Martin Bernal’s Heresies,” The Ewen Lecture in Civil Liberties, Sponsored by the Wolfe Institute for the Humanities at Brooklyn College (December 10th, 1996).
- “Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena* and the Sociology of Knowledge,” Sponsored by the Department of Sociology of the New School for Social Research (December 10th, 1996).
- “Politics and History in Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena*,” Center for Historical Studies Annual Conference, The New School for Social Research (April 30th, 1993).
- “Sociological Perspectives on Israelite Religion,” Columbia University Hebrew Bible Faculty Seminar (October 13th, 1992).

Conferences Directed and Scholarly Panels Organized

Organizer: “Secularism on the Edge: Church and State in the United States, France, and Israel,” Georgetown University (February 20th-22nd, 2013).

Organizer: “Evangelicals, Israel and American Foreign Policy,” Georgetown University (October 14th, 2008).

Organizer: “So Who Will the Jews Vote For in 2008? Movers and Shakers Weigh In.” Georgetown University (October 30th 2008).

Organizer (with Dr. Jorunn Buckley): “Secularism and the Study of Religion,” Wildcard Session of the American Academy of Religion (Washington DC, November 20th, 2006).

Organizer (with Dr. Daniel Varisco): “Islam, Hermeneutics and Secular Humanism,” Providence Rhode Island, Society for the Anthropology of Religion (April 2003).

Organizer, Moderator, Respondent: “Durkheimian Collective Representations and Religion: Possibilities and Problems,” Regional American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature (New Brunswick, March 2000).

Symposium Director: “Israel at 50,” Hofstra University (Fall 1998).

Papers Delivered at Scholarly Conferences

SBL=Society of Biblical Literature

AAR=American Academy of Religion

ASA= American Sociological Association

ASR=Association for the Sociology of Religion

AJS=Association for Jewish Studies

“‘The Secular’ and ‘The Religious’ Are Not Opposites, nor Necessarily Adversarial,” American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, Georgia. November 22nd, 2015.

“Secularism, Jewish Literature and the Return of the Sacred,” American Comparative Literature Association, New York University, N.Y. March 20-13, 2014.

“The Great Jewish-American Secular Novelist? Rethinking the Ideology of Secularism in Philip Roth’s Fiction,” AJS (Boston, December 15th, 2013)

“The Bible, the Public Schools, and American Secularism,” SBL (Baltimore, November 17th, 2013).

“Jazz Improvisation and Social Theory,” Response to Professor Arnold Davidson, AAR (Chicago, November 17th, 2012)

“How to be Secular: A Call to Arms for Religious Freedom,” Responses to Professors Kathryn

- Lofton, William Arnal, Susan Thistlethwaite,” AAR (Chicago, November 17th , 2012).
- “Why Do So Many Jews Refer to Themselves as Secular?” AJS (Washington, DC, December 18th, 2011).
- “Rhetoric and the New Testament” and “What is the Future of Biblical Studies in Academia? Questions, Challenges, Visions,” SBL (San Francisco, November 20th, 2011).
- “Barack and the Bible,” SBL (Boston, November 20th, 2008).
- “The Bible and the 2008 Presidential Election,” AAR (Chicago, November 1st, 2008).
- “The Use of Scriptural Allusions in Contemporary Political Rhetoric,” SBL (November 19th, 2007).
- “Secularism and the Study of Religion,” AAR (Washington DC, November 18th, 2006).
- “The Bible in Contemporary American Political Rhetoric,” SBL (Edinburgh, July 4th, 2006).
- “What’s Wrong with the SBL?” SBL (Edinburgh, July 3rd, 2006).
- “The Secular Study of the Qur’ān: Prospects and Problems,” SBL (Philadelphia, November 2005).
- “Ecumenicism and the Scholarly Study of Islam,” AAR (San Antonio, November 21st, 2004).
- “Textual Self-Consciousness, the Hebrew Bible, and the Qur’ān,” SBL (San Antonio, November 22nd, 2004).
- “The Bible as Literature? Against ‘Mono-Authorism,’” SBL (Atlanta, November 24th, 2003).
- “The Bible, The Quran and Secular Hermeneutics,” SAR (Providence, April 3rd 2003).
- “The Book of Genesis as Collective Representation,” SBL (Denver, November 2001).
- “Determinism and Freewill in Isaiah and Jeremiah,” SBL (Rome, July 10th, 2001).
- “Why Has a Tradition of Secular Humanism Never Developed in the Field of Biblical Scholarship?” SBL (Nashville, Nov. 20th, 2000).
- “Race, the Hebrew Bible, and Martin Bernal’s *Black Athena*,” SBL (Nashville, November 21st, 2000).

- “Bourdieu and Bible,” AAR (Boston, November 22nd, 1999).
- “The Doxa of Scripture,” SBL (Orlando, November 20th, 1998).
- “Northwest Semites in the Aegean?: Evaluating the Gordon-Astour-Bernal School,” SBL (San Francisco, November 23rd, 1997).
- “The Sociology of Israelite Religion After Twenty Five Years: A Critical Appraisal,” SBL (New Orleans, November 20th, 1996).
- “Israelite 'Official Religion': Some Preliminary Sociological Observations,” SBL (Philadelphia, November 19th, 1995).
- “Gender and Genocide: A Response to Professor Helen Fein,” ASA (Washington, DC, August 21st, 1995).
- “The Sociology of Israelite Religion: Introducing a New Paradigm,” SBL (Louvain, August 5th, 1994).
- “The Sociology of Sacred Texts: The Concept of Power From Nietzsche/Weber to Michel Foucault,” AAR (Washington, DC, November 20th, 1993).
- “Max Weber's *Ancient Judaism* and the Study of 'Popular Religion,’” ASA (Miami, August 15th, 1993).
- “'Official Religion': The Other Side of 'Popular Religion,’” ASR, (Miami, August 12th, 1993).
- “'Official Religion' and the Study of Ancient Israel,” SBL (Philadelphia, March 5th, 1993).
- “The 'Popular Religion' Paradigm: Where Do We Stand? Where Do We Go?” ASR (Pittsburgh, August 18th, 1992).
- “'Popular Religion' in the Sociology of Max Weber,” SBL (Washington, DC, February 27th, 1992).
- “'Popular Religion' in Studies of Ancient Judaism: A Sociological Reading and a Methodological Critique,” SBL (Kansas City, November 23rd, 1992).
- “The 'Popular/Official' Paradigm in the Study of Israelite Religion,” SBL (Rome, July 17th, 1991).
- “The Israelite Vow as a Window to the So-Called 'Popular Religion,’” SBL (New York, March

19th, 1991).

Professional Consulting

“Briefing on Secularism” United States Department of State, July 19th 2014

“Briefing on Political Religions and Secularism to Members of the Department of Defense,”
CENTRA (February 18th, 2010).

“Briefing on Jewish Voting Patterns, “ American Jewish Committee (December 3rd, 2008).

“Briefing on Global Anti-Semitism with Gregg Rickman, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat
Anti-Semitism, United States State Department of State,” Hosted by President Jack
DeGioia, Georgetown University (April 10th, 2007).

TEACHING

Georgetown University (2005-)

Blacks and Jews in America (team-taught with Professor Terrence Johnson)

The Bible and Contemporary Politics

Philo-Semitism and Anti-Semitism

How Jews and Christians Invented the Bible (team-taught with Provost James
O'Donnell)

Introduction to Jewish Civilization

Jewish-American Literature

Secularism, Atheism, Agnosticism

Senior Honors Thesis

Secular States and Political Religions

Philip Roth: Secular Jewish Fiction

American Secularism (SFS Proseminar)

Fiction of Politics and International Relations (SFS Proseminar)

Hofstra University (1997-2005)

Modern Jewish Intellectuals

Secularism: History and Prospect

Blacks and Jews: Interrelations in the Diaspora (team-taught with Dr. Heather Parker)

Women in the Hebrew Bible

The Bible as Literature

Who Wrote the Bible? (team-taught with Dr. Stephanie Cobb)

The Book of Genesis
Judaic Perspectives on the Hebrew Bible: Ancient and Modern
Biblical Hebrew I and II
Jewish-American Literature
Judaism and Islam
Approaches to the Study of Religion

Drew University Graduate School (1998-2002)

Durkheim, Religion and the Functionalist Tradition
Official Religion and Popular Religion in Ancient Israel
History of Social Theory
Social Theory and Religion
Sociology of Ancient Israel

Hebrew Union College (2003)

The Sociology of Ancient Israelite Religion

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

University Service

Georgetown University (2005-2016)

University Committee on Rank and Tenure, Chair (2018)
University Committee on Rank and Tenure (2015-2018)
Grievance Committee (2015-2018)
Georgetown College Executive Council (2014-2017)
Faculty Senate (2013-2016)
Executive Committee, Center for Security Studies (2013)
Search Committee for Jewish Chaplain (2010)
Faculty Library Advisory Committee (2009-2016)
Chaired Search Committee, Visiting Professor of Jewish Civilization (2009)
Moderated Televised Debate for Lauinger Library Associates (October 21st, 2008)
Public Lecture with Dr. Michael Eric Dyson for Lauinger Library Associates (March 26th,
2008)
Search Committee for CULP Assistant Professor (2008)
Prelude Program (2006)
Parents Weekend (2006)

Hofstra University (1997-2006)

Chair, Departmental Personnel Committee, 2005
Faculty Policy Review Board (2004)
Ad Hoc Tenure Committee (2003-2004)
Departmental Representative, AAUP (2000-2005)
Chair, Faculty Search for Hebrew and Judaic Studies (2003, 2005)
Chair, Departmental Tenure Committee (2004)
Curriculum Proposals Committee (2000)
Hofstra University Honors College (2001, 2005)

Professional Activities

Co-Chair, Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion Section, American Academy of Religion (2012-2015)

Member Steering Committee: "Social Sciences and the Interpretation of Hebrew Scriptures" Section, Society for Biblical Literature (1999-2004)

Professional Reviewing and Responsibilities

External Proposal Evaluator for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2014

External Reviewer for *Sociology of Religion*.

Book review editor *Philip Roth Studies*

Representative of the Society of Biblical Literature to the American Council of Learned Societies

External Referee of Book Manuscripts:

Cambridge University Press
Oxford University Press
Duke University Press
Purdue University Press
Bloomsbury Press

Professional Associations

Society of Biblical Literature
American Academy of Religion
American Sociological Association
Association of Jewish Studies

Languages

Modern Hebrew, competency (speaking, writing, reading)

French, near native fluency (speaking, reading)

Italian (reading and speaking ability)

German (reading ability)

Biblical Hebrew

Canaanite Dialects