

**2020–2021**

**public programs**

We are grateful to everyone who has engaged with and supported ASU Jewish Studies throughout the years, and look forward to your continued participation.

To ensure *everyone* in the community has the opportunity to participate in our events, despite the novel coronavirus pandemic, all ASU Jewish Studies public programs for the 2020-2021 academic year will be held online via Zoom.

all times MST (Arizona) | schedules subject to change see website for up-to-date information

**pre-registration is required for all events via the websites provided in this calendar**

## October 2020

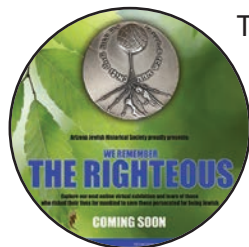
**October 5** | online exhibit

**We Remember: The Righteous**

online exhibit | [azjhs.org/exhibits](http://azjhs.org/exhibits)

in-person exhibit opens January 2021

122 East Culver Street, Phoenix



Through the talent of Arizona Artist, Robert Sutz, patrons of the humanities will make an emotional connection to the past by gaining a greater knowledge of those who risked their lives to save countless others. Using local as well as world-wide Righteous Gentiles, we will learn about the Holocaust through the stories and actions of these “heroes” and be able to apply these lessons to their lives today. The exhibit highlights ordinary people that took extraordinary action and stood up against hate, discrimination, prejudice, implicit bias, stereotyping, racism, and complacency.

community partnership with Arizona Jewish Historical Society

**October 14** | webinar

**Jews and Judaism Today: Some Burning Issues**

**The Future of Gender in Jewish Organizations**

Madeline Adelman, Arizona State University

7 p.m. | [jewishstudies.asu.edu/adelman](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/adelman)



Competing ideas about gender are not new, but today's personal, policy, and political debates about gender—Is gender a relevant way to categorize people? Are men and women “naturally” different? Is the gender category made up of a mutually exclusive binary?—raise questions for the future of gender in Jewish organizations.

Professor Adelman will unpack current debates over the meaning, manifestation, and management of gender, and reflect on the possibilities and pitfalls of single-gender Jewish community-based organizations, noting that some were originally designed to perpetuate, while others were launched to undermine, gender inequality.

receive event reminders and updates via email

**[jewishstudies.asu.edu/signup](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/signup)**

October 25 | lecture

## Jews, Race and Civil Rights: A History for Our Times

Cheryl Greenberg, Trinity College

4 p.m. | [jewishstudies.asu.edu/civilrights](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/civilrights)



Was there ever really a Black-Jewish alliance in 20<sup>th</sup> century America? And if there was, what happened to it? In this lecture based on her book, *Troubling the Waters: Black Jewish Relations in the American Century*, Cheryl Greenberg answers these questions more definitively than they have ever been answered before, drawing the richest portrait yet of what was less an alliance than a tumultuous political engagement—but one that energized the civil rights revolution, shaped the agenda of liberalism, and affected the course of American politics as a whole.

## November 2020

November 10 | webinar

Jews and Judaism Today: Some Burning Issues

### Celebrating Purim in DP Camps: How Holocaust Survivors Performed their Trauma

Timothy Langille, Arizona State University

7 p.m. | [jewishstudies.asu.edu/langille](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/langille)



After the Holocaust, Jews in Displaced Persons (DP) camps sought to find ways in which to reestablish and maintain Jewish cultures and identities, including through religious observances. Both Hanukkah and Purim held particular symbolic value in DP life. This talk will consider the Purim play, or *purimshpil*, in DP camps and the ways in which it represents the interface of memory, trauma, performance, and satire. In addition to addressing these issues, it will analyze the text of Samson Först's satire, *Der grager* (1947), and in doing so, will focus on life in DP camps; theories of trauma and memory; the 'myth of silence' in response to trauma; and *purimshpil* in the camps.

November 19 | community lecture

### Judaism and the Environmental Crisis

Hava Tirosh-Samuels, Arizona State University

1 p.m. | \$18 - Valley Beit Midrash

[valleybeitmidrash.org/judaism-environmental-crisis](http://valleybeitmidrash.org/judaism-environmental-crisis)



We live in the midst of a massive eco-crisis that challenges not only the future of human life but the future of life itself on Earth. The crisis challenges all world religions to reexamine their attitudes toward nature and reinterpret their tradition in response to the crisis. Since the 1970s in the diaspora and in Israel, Jews have become more environmentally aware and concerned, giving rise to the Jewish environmental movement. This lecture highlights the ethics of care and responsibility that undergird Jewish environmental activism. The Sabbath, the Sabbatical Year (*Shemita*), the prohibition on wanton destruction (*Bal Tashchit*), the concern for the welfare of animals (*Tza'ar Ba'aley Hayim*), and the laws of Kashrut offer the inspiration for Jewish religious environmentalism that links concern for the environment to worship of God and to social justice. The lecture highlights leading Jewish environmental organizations in the United States, explores the relevance of environmentalism for Jewish moral education, and encourages interfaith activism.

community partnership with Valley Beit Midrash and Congregation Or Tzion

## December 2020

December 1 | webinar

Jews and Judaism Today: Some Burning Issues

### Lost in the Shoah:

### The Rescuing Power of Genealogy

Janette Silverman, PhD | professional genealogist

7 p.m. | [jewishstudies.asu.edu/genealogy](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/genealogy)



Many people think discovering Jewish ancestral families is impossible. Often, memories of our families before immigration are lost to time—even names may have been forgotten—further compounding difficulties of discovering information about Jewish families are the tragedies of the Shoah. It is not uncommon to hear a Jewish family's conviction that the town their family lived in before WWII, and all the records from that town, were completely destroyed. While it is true that many records were destroyed during the war, it is incorrect to assume that no records exist and finding out about our Jewish ancestors is impossible. Learn what happened to those who remained in Europe, and how information was discovered. The research includes resources from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; Yad Vashem; and the Krakow, Poland archives.

**January 25, 2021**

**The Lowe Family Research Workshop**

## **Anti-Semitism in Comparative Perspective: Recent Trends and Research Frontiers**

Recent years have witnessed a dramatic rise in anti-Semitic incidents and the growth of anti-Semitic attitudes around the world. New research estimates more than a quarter of the world—1.09 billion people out of more than 4.1 billion people surveyed—harbors anti-Semitic attitudes. This workshop—organized by David Siroky and Lenka Bustikova of the School of Politics and Global Studies at Arizona State University—brings together leading scholars from around the globe to discuss the frontiers in the study of anti-Semitism and to debate critical factors that influence where and when ethnoreligious groups, and Jews in particular, are likely to be targeted and viewed with prejudice.

- 7:50 a.m. **welcome**
- 8 – 9 a.m. **The Jew In the Central European Imagination**  
**Hana Kubatova** | *Charles University*  
Prague, Czech Republic
- related work "The 'Jew' in the Czech and Slovak Imagination: Popular and Public Stereotypes in the Bohemian Lands and Slovakia, 1938–89" Hana Kubatova
- discussant  
**Anna Cichopek-Gajraj** | *Arizona State University*
- 9 – 10 a.m. **Middlemen Minorities and Pogroms in the Russian Empire**  
**Ekaterina Zhuravskaya** | *Paris School of Economics*  
Paris, France
- related work Irena Grosfeld, Seyhun Orcan Sakalli, Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. 2020. Middleman Minorities and Ethnic Violence: Anti-Jewish Pogroms in the Russian Empire. *The Review of Economic Studies* 87:1, 289-342; "Radio and the Rise of Nazis in Pre-War Germany," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 130(4): 1885-1939
- discussant  
**Eugene Finkel** | *Johns Hopkins University*
- 10 – 11 a.m. **Anti-Semitism on Universities in the U.S.: A View from the Student Body**  
**Jeffrey Kopstein** | *University of California, Irvine*
- related work with Rachel Shenhav-Goldberg "Antisemitism on a California Campus: Perceptions and Views Among Students," *Contemporary Jewry* 2020; Kopstein, Jeffrey S. and Wittenberg, Jason. 2018. *Intimate Violence: Anti-Jewish Pogroms on the Eve of the Holocaust*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press
- discussant  
**Devorah Manekin** | *Hebrew University*  
Jerusalem, Israel
- 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Contemporary Left Antisemitism**  
**David Hirsch** | *University of London*  
London, England
- related work David Hirsch, 2017 *Contemporary Left Antisemitism* Routledge; 'Left anti-Zionism' in Charles Small Ed *Antisemitism in Comparative Perspective*, 2006, Yale, Yale University Press; 'The Smart Way to Fight British Antisemitism' *Jerusalem Post*, November 1, 2005
- discussant  
**Daniel Stein-Kokin** | *independent scholar*
- 12 – 1 p.m. **break**
- 1 – 2 p.m. **Anti-Semitism in Germany in the Time of Pandemic**  
**Petra Guasti** | *Goethe University Frankfurt*  
Frankfurt, Germany
- related work "Hating Thy Imaginary Neighbor: An Analysis of Antisemitism in Slovakia," *Journal for the Study of Antisemitism* 42, 469-492
- discussant  
**Sara Wallace Goodman** | *University of California, Irvine*
- 2 – 3 p.m. **Explaining Ethnoreligious Minority Targeting: Variation in U.S. Anti-Semitic Events**  
**Ayal Feinberg** | *Texas A&M University-Commerce*
- related work Ayal Feinberg "Explaining Ethnoreligious Minority Targeting: Variation in U.S. Anti-Semitic Events." *Perspectives on Politics*. Book manuscript: *Insecurity in Paradise: Anti-Semitism in Modern America*
- discussant  
**Kyriaki Topidi** | *European Centre for Minority Issues*  
Flensburg, Germany
- 3 – 4 p.m. **Evaluating Coverage of Anti-Semitism in U.S. State Department Human Rights Reporting**  
**Thorin Wright** | *Arizona State University*
- related work "Changing standards or political whim? Evaluating changes in the content of U.S. State Department Human Rights Reports following presidential transitions," 191, *Journal of Human Rights*, Special issue on Quantitative Human Rights Measures
- discussant  
**Jose Kaire** | *Arizona State University*
- 4 p.m. **concluding remarks**

**pre-registration required**  
**[jewishstudies.asu.edu/lowe](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/lowe)**

**February 2021**

**February 21** | community program

**LimmudAZ Online**

9 a.m.-3 p.m. | [LimmudAZ.org](http://LimmudAZ.org)



Just because we can't gather in person doesn't mean we can't learn together! This year Limmud AZ is a full-day, *online* gathering of hundreds of Jews from all walks of life, all Jewish backgrounds, lifestyles and ages, offering a full schedule of workshops, discussions, arts, text-study sessions, and more!

community partnership with LimmudAZ

**February 21** | scholar-in-residence

**Albert and Liese Eckstein Scholar-in-Residence**

**American Jewry's Contemporary Scorecard:  
Anti-Semitism and Tolerance in the  
United States**

**Jeffrey Gurock**, Yeshiva University

4 p.m. | [jewishstudies.asu.edu/eckstein](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/eckstein)



In recent days, American Jews have been confronted with a spate of anti-Semitic attacks—often ideological and sometimes violent. However, even as these difficulties exist, American Jews still live in a nation that is uncommonly tolerant of them.

Through an examination of how one of America's foremost establishments—the world of organized sports—has treated Jews, now and in the past the problems of today can be better understood.

made possible through an endowment established for ASU Jewish Studies by the late Dr. Albert and Mrs. Liese Eckstein, with additional contributions from the Eckstein family and Friends of Jewish Studies

**February 28, 2021**

## **Judaism and Climate Change: Science, Theology, and Ethics**



**Judaism, Science  
and Medicine Group**  
annual conference

online via Zoom | open to all  
10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

in partnership with Valley Beit Midrash

pre-registration required  
[jewishstudies.asu.edu/science](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/science)



## program

10–10:15 a.m.

### welcome

Hava Tirosh-Samuelsan, Director of Jewish Studies  
*Arizona State University*

10:15–11:15 a.m.

### The Dr. Michael Anbar Memorial Keynote Lecture in Judaism, Science and Medicine

chair: Evan Berry | *Arizona State University*

#### keynote address

**The Environmental Crisis: What Do We Have to Teach? What Do We Have to Learn?**

Roger S. Gottlieb | *Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

11:15–11:30 a.m.

### break

11:30 a.m.– 12:45 p.m.

### Planetary Habitability: Earth and Beyond

chair: Forrest Clingerman | *Northern Ohio University*

**Science as a Complex System: What We Need to Know**

Ariel Anbar | *Arizona State University*

**Alone in the Universe: Why We and Our Planet Earth Are Exceptional**

Howard Smith | *Harvard University*

**Climate Science and Public Policy: The Challenge of Science as an Ongoing Process**

Peter Rez | *Arizona State University*

12:45–1 p.m.

### break

1–2:15 p.m.

### Climate Change and Environmental Health

chair: David Eisenman | *UCLA*

**Climate Change and the Future of Our Cities**

Bernice R. Rosenzweig | *Sara Lawrence College*

**One Health Movement: Human Health, Animal Health and Environmental Health**

Dr. Michael Kosoy | *KB One Health LLC*

**Earth, Climate, and Public Health: Judaism and the Sacred**

Rabbi and Dr. Nancy E. Epstein | *Drexel University*

2:15–2:30 p.m.

### break

2:30–3:45 p.m.

### Environmental Theology and Ethics

chair: Joel Gereboff | *Arizona State University*

**A Biblical Eco-Theology**

Rabbi Ellen Bernstein | *Founder of Shomrei Adamah*

**Voices from Tradition: Modern Jewish Spirituality and Theological Responses to Climate Change**

Professor and Rabbi Ariel Evan Maise | *Stanford University*

**The Environment in Halakhic Decision Making: Self Interest and Compassion**

Tanhum Yoreh | *University of Toronto*

3:45–4 p.m.

### break

4–5:15 p.m.

### Environmental Activism: Judaism, Ecology, and Social Change

chair: Hava Tirosh-Samuelsan | *Arizona State University*

#### panelists

Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb | *Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, Bethesda, Maryland*

Dr. Mirele Goldsmith | *co-chairperson, Jewish Earth Alliance*

Rabbi Jenny Rosenn | *Dayenu, Jewish Call for Climate Action*

Rabbi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein | *Temple Beth Israel, Eugene, Oregon*

Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz | *Valley Beit Midrash, Phoenix, Arizona*

5:15–5:30 p.m.

### closing discussion

## Jewish Studies Today | webinar series

Originating in the 1820s, the study of Judaism is a well-established academic discipline that transcends boundaries of the humanities of the social sciences (e.g., history, philosophy, religious studies, sociology, literature, political science, film and media, art and music, and more). Jewish studies scholars, who are not necessarily Jewish, investigate Jewish civilization from antiquity to the present and have transformed our understanding of Judaism and the Jews. These sessions will address the question “Why, how, and to whom is scholarship of Jewish Studies relevant today?”. **Separate pre-registration required for each webinar via the links below.**

### April 6 | webinar Jewish Studies Today

#### Antiquity

7 p.m.

[jewishstudies.asu.edu/antiquity](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/antiquity)

Antiquity (roughly from 1200 BCE to 500 CE) is the period during which the canonic sources of Judaism—the Bible, the Mishnah, the Talmud, and the Midrashim—were generated. Scholars of antiquity study how these texts have emerged, how Jews responded to Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman cultures, and how Jewish societies in the land of Israel, Babylonia, Egypt and Persia related to the geopolitics of the ancient Middle East. This webinar explores how new scholarship on ancient archeology, literature, and social organization helps us to understand the treasures of the Jewish tradition.



**moderator**

**Hava Tirosh-Samuelson**  
Director of Jewish Studies

**panelists**

**Joel Gereboff**  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies

**Timothy Langille**  
Lecturer – Religious Studies

**Francoise Mirguet**  
Jess Schwartz Memorial Professor/  
Associate Professor of Hebrew

### April 13 | webinar Jewish Studies Today

#### Medieval/Early Modern

7 p.m.

[jewishstudies.asu.edu/medieval](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/medieval)

During the middle ages (500-1500) and the early-modern period (1500-1800) Judaism greatly evolved to generate the masterpieces of biblical exegesis, jurisprudence, philosophy, mysticism, poetry, and liturgy. In the orbits of Islam and in Christendom Jewish life thrived despite legal inferiority of the Jewish minority and occasional persecutions. The Middle Ages was a period of intense creativity, often due to the cross-fertilization between Jews and non-Jews. This webinar explores how new studies of the interplay between Jews and non-Jews transformed our understanding of Jewish history and the history of Judaism. Special attention will be paid to new scholarship that sheds light on the dynamic of continuity and change, intellectual diversity within Jewish society, and the expansion of the Jewish Diaspora during the early-modern period.



**moderator**

**Joel Gereboff**  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies

**panelists**

**Stanley Mirvis**  
Harold and Jean Grossman Chair in Jewish Studies/Assistant Professor of History

**Hava Tirosh-Samuelson**  
Director of Jewish Studies

### April 20 | webinar Jewish Studies Today

#### Modern/Contemporary

7 p.m.

[jewishstudies.asu.edu/modern](http://jewishstudies.asu.edu/modern)

Since the French Revolution (1789) that granted Emancipation to the Jews of Western Europe, Judaism was profoundly transformed. Emancipation, acculturation, assimilation, urbanization, industrialization, mass migration, and secularization are the main forces that profoundly altered Jewish life in the modern period. Jews responded to these forces in numerous ways, including the reinterpretation of Judaism, thus resulting in religious pluralism and ideological diversity. Anti-Semitism, the backlash to Jewish integration into modern society, has resulted in the destruction of Jewish life in the Holocaust but also contributed to the rise of Zionism and the founding of the State of Israel. The webinar will reflect on new historical and sociological scholarship on the place of Jews in modern and contemporary societies with special attention to Post-Holocaust societies.



**moderator**

**Anna Holian**  
Associate Professor of History

**panelists**

**Volker Benkert**  
Assistant Professor of History

**Anna Cichopek-Gajraj**  
Associate Professor of History

**Michael Rubinoff**  
Lecturer - College of Integrative  
Sciences and Arts



painting by Robert Sutz

**April 12-17** | community program

## **Genocide Awareness Week** **#NotOnOurWatch**

Free and open to all.  
Presentations will be held virtually via WebEx.

[scottsdalecc.edu/genocide-awareness-week-2021](https://scottsdalecc.edu/genocide-awareness-week-2021)

**Not on Our Watch.** The 9<sup>th</sup> Genocide Awareness Week is a series of lectures, exhibits and storytelling by distinguished survivors, scholars, politicians, activists, artists, humanitarians and members of law enforcement. This week-long event seeks to address how we, as a global society, confront violent actions and current and ongoing threats of genocide throughout the world, while also looking to the past for guidance and to honor those affected by genocide.

Genocide Awareness Week is hosted by Scottsdale Community College and sponsored in part by local and national organizations, including ASU Jewish Studies. Arizona State University will begin hosting Genocide Awareness Week in 2022.

### **highlights**

- April 12 | 6 p.m. **A Conversation with Ambassador Samantha Power**
- April 13 | 6 p.m. **Restorative Pathways: Building trust in Rwanda with Carl Wilkins  
Founder, World Outside My Shoes**
- April 14 | 6 p.m. **U.S. Policy and Government Programs and Involvement Regarding Genocide  
and Human Rights with Ambassador Edward O'Donnell**
- April 15 | 10:30 a.m. **Holocaust by Bullets: A Genocide in Broad Daylight**
- April 16 | 9 a.m. **ADL Law Enforcement Workshop**
- April 17 | 9 a.m. **ADL Educators Workshop: Echoes and Reflections Teacher Training**



**learn more about giving opportunities to support Jewish Studies programs, including Genocide Awareness Week at ASU in 2022**

**Lisa Kaplan** Assistant Director of Jewish Studies

[Lisa.Kaplan@asu.edu](mailto:Lisa.Kaplan@asu.edu) | (480) 965-8094

September 2020 – May 2021 | adult education program

## The American Jewish Experience



### Stanley Mirvis

Harold and Jean Grossman Chair of Jewish Studies  
Assistant Professor of History, Arizona State University

- The Origins of Jews and Conversos in the Americas
- Caribbean Jewry
- Colonial North American Jewry
- The “German” Migration
- The East European Migration
- American Judaism
- Post War American Jewry

in-person attendance by invitation only

session recordings will publicly available online

[jewishstudies.asu.edu/adultlearning](https://jewishstudies.asu.edu/adultlearning)