

## VITA

### Dr. Michael Gottsegen

Michael\_Gottsegen@brown.edu

#### Education:

- 1997-2006. **Harvard University**  
Ph.D. Student. Committee on the Study of Religion  
Major Field: Theology  
Context of Study: The Modern West  
Areas of Specialization: Modern Theology, Theology and Philosophy,  
Jewish Theology
- 1992-1994. Rabbinical School, **Jewish Theological Seminary**  
Pre-matriculation, preparatory program in Jewish Studies
- 1982-1989. **Columbia University**  
Ph.D. Department of Political Science  
Major Field: Political Theory  
Area of Specialization: Modern and Contemporary
- 1976-1981. **Columbia College**, Columbia University  
A.B. in Political Science.
- 1972-1976. **Phillips Academy**, Andover, MA

#### Dissertations:

“Hannah Arendt: Action, Self and World” – The dissertation explores the development of Arendt’s political thought and the matrix of social and existential concerns that underlie it. (1989)

“The Thought Of Emmanuel Levinas: From Ethical Piety to Prophetic Politics” – The dissertation explores the relationship between Levinas’s ethical and political thought, and the relation of both to his “theology.” (forthcoming, 2007)

#### Honors and Awards:

- 1983-1985. Columbia University Fellow
- 1982-1983. Columbia University Presidential Fellow

#### Teaching and Work Experience:

- 2006-2007. Visiting Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies and Hirschfeld Presidential Fellow in Comparative Studies, **Brown University** (-- teaching "Good and Evil" and "Origins of Jewish Philosophy" in the fall and "Themes in Modern Jewish Thought" and "Ethics, Love and Justice: The Religious and Philosophical Thought of Emmanuel Levinas" in the spring)
- 1994-2006. Senior Teaching Fellow, **CLAL - The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership**. (At CLAL, I have taught courses in Judaica and Islamic Studies, developed curricula on religious ethics and on religious approaches to public policy issues, and have served as Editor-in-Chief of *eCLAL: An Online Journal of Religion, Public Life and Culture*. I also developed programs for inter-religious educators, including a 3-day symposium convened under the auspices of the Parliament of the World's Religions in Barcelona in July 2004. This year a major focus of my work at CLAL is on creating an inter-religious movement, and inter-religious education program, to promote the realization of the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals.)
1999. Teaching Assistant, **Harvard Divinity School**. ("Theological Hermeneutics," a one semester course in modern theological hermeneutics)
1999. Adjunct Professor, Department of Near Eastern and Jewish Studies, **Brandeis University**. (I taught "Twentieth Century German Jewish Thought: Cohen, Buber and Rosenzweig," a one semester undergraduate lecture course.)
- 1997-1998. Judaism Forums Manager, **MSN, The Microsoft Network**. (In this position, I conceived, created and developed a wide-ranging "Judaica Communities Area" that included a wide variety of topically focused, online sub-communities.)
- 1990-1991. Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, **Columbia University**. (I taught "The History of Political Thought," a two semester graduate level survey course (Fall: Theories of the Ancient and Medieval periods; Spring: Theories of the Modern period) and "Contemporary Civilization," a year-long undergraduate seminar in the great books of social and political thought.)
- 1989-1990. Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, **Columbia University**. (I taught "The History of Political Thought," a two semester undergraduate lecture course.)
- 1985-1989. Preceptor, Contemporary Civilization Program, **Columbia University**. (I taught "Contemporary Civilization.")

- 1985            Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, **Columbia University**. ("Marxism and its Critics.")
- 1982-1983.    Research Associate, Project on Issues of Values and Ethics in Health Care, **Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons**.

Publications:

**Books, Published Articles and Monographs:**

"America's Religions Come Together to Overcome Global Poverty," on *Beliefnet.com* (2005)

"Religion and the Public Good," in Alan Mittleman, ed., *Religion as a Public Good* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003)

*Jewish Ethics, Jewish Organizations and the Challenge of Ethical Fundraising* (CLAL, 2000)

*Ethical Leadership in a Time of Change* (CLAL, 1997)

*The Jews and Arabs of Israel: The Challenge of Coexistence* (CLAL, 1996)

*The Political Thought of Hannah Arendt* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1994)

**Recent Talks:**

"Interfaith Dialogue for the Sake of Global Peace and Development" a speech delivered at the United Nations' *Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace* (October, 2006)

**Recent Academic Papers:**

"Buber's Construction of the Thou"

"Derrida's The Gift of Death, a Critical Reflection"

"On John Dewey's Uncommon Faith"

"Judaism and Peacemaking"

"On Levinas's Political Theology: From *Totality and Infinity* to *Otherwise than Being*"

“On the Religious Thought of Hilary Putnam”

“On the Religious Thought of Mircea Eliade”

“Religion as a Public Good”

“Rosenzweig: On Politics, the State and Redemption”

“Sacrifice, Sacred Violence and the Administration of Justice”

“On Soloveitchik’s Halakhic Man”

References: Available upon request.