

PAUL E. NAHME
CURRICULUM VITAE

Dorot Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies
and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
Program in Judaic Studies,
Department of Religious Studies
Brown University

Judaic Studies
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Brown University
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POSITIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2014- **Brown University**
Dorot Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, (tenure-track),
Department of Religious Studies and Program in Judaic Studies
- 2013-2014 **University of Kansas**
Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Department of Religious Studies
- 2016, Spring **Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania**
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
- 2011-2013 **NYU School of Law**
Scholar-in-Residence, Tikvah Center for Law and Jewish Civilization
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University,
Graduate Fellow, Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization
- 2017-present **Shalom Hartman Institute of North America,** Research Fellow

EDUCATION

- 2008-2013 **University of Toronto**
Ph.D. Centre for the Study of Religion, Centre for Jewish Studies
Dissertation: "From Critical to Prophetic Idealism: Ethics, Law, and Religion in the Philosophy of Hermann Cohen"
Committee: David Novak, Robert Gibbs, Paul W. Franks, (Reviewers: Benjamin Pollock, Kenneth H. Green)
- 2006-2008 **University of Toronto**
M.A. Centre for the Study of Religion

Master's Thesis: "Law, Judgment, and the Transcendental: Hermann Cohen's Critical Jurisprudence"

Thesis Supervisor: David Novak

2002-2006 **University of Toronto, Innis College**
H.B.A. (with High Distinction) in Philosophy, Minors in Semiotics and Communication Theory and in Sexual Diversity Studies

OTHER EDUCATION

2012-2014 **Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School**, Riverdale, New York

2007 **Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies**, Jerusalem, Israel
Advanced study of Talmud and Rabbinic Literature

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Fluent: French
Translation Proficiency: Modern Hebrew, German
Reading Competency: Biblical Hebrew, Babylonian and Palestinian Aramaic, Rabbinic Hebrew, Arabic, Judaeo-Arabic, Spanish, Greek, Latin

AWARDS AND HONOURS

2017 Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award (\$15,000)
2016 Brown Humanities Research Fund
2016 Brown Faculty Travel and Research Fund
2008-2011 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Canada Graduate Scholarship

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Hermann Cohen and the Crisis of Liberalism: The Enchantment of the Public Sphere
(Indiana University Press, forthcoming 2019)

The Invention of the Jewish Race (working title)

A Parchment of the Self: Modernity, Orthodoxy, and the New Jew
(working title)

(Co-Editor with Yaniv Feller) *The Challenge of Covenantal Thinking: Essays in Honour of David Novak* (under contract with University of Toronto Press)

PUBLICATIONS

- “Foreign Spirits in the “Nation of Kant”: Racializing Anti-Semitism and the Secularization of German Philosophy” *Jewish Quarterly Review*, forthcoming.
- “The Enchanted Thinking of Oral Torah: On Lithuanian Talmudic Conceptualism (*Lomdus*)” in *Jews Beyond Reason*, eds. Lital Levy, Anne Dailey, & Martin Kavka, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, forthcoming)
- “The Questionability of a Future Jewish Philosophy” in *The Future of Jewish Philosophy*, ed. Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, (Leiden: Brill, 2018)
- “Revealing What’s Implicit: Maimonides’ Account of Creation and Revelation, Beyond Politics and Naturalism” in *The Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy* vol. 26, no. 1 (2018): 1-33
- “*Wissen und Lomdus*: Idealism, Modernity, and History in some Nineteenth-Century Rabbinic and Philosophical Responses to the *Wissenschaft des Judentums*” in *Harvard Theological Review* vol. 110, no. 3 (2017): 393-420
- “God is the Reason: Hermann Cohen’s Monotheism and the Liberal Theologico-Political Predicament” *Modern Theology* vol. 33, no. 1 (2016): 116-139
- with Daniel H. Weiss, “Hermann Cohen,” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, ed. Naomi Seidman, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016)
- Franz Rosenzweig’s “Introduction to the Academy Edition of Hermann Cohen’s *Jewish Writings*,” (Contributing translator). Brandeis Library of Modern Jewish Thought, Samuel Moyn and Robert Schine, eds. (Brandeis University Press, forthcoming)
- “Law, Principle, and the Theologico-Political History of Sovereignty,” in *Political Theology*, vol. 14 no. 4, (2013): 432-479
- Review Essay on *Faith and Freedom: Moses Mendelssohn’s Theologico-Political Thought* by Michah Gottlieb, in *Ancient Traditions, New Conversations*, The Blog of the Center for Jewish Law at Cardozo School of Law. May, 2013
- “Forces of Law: A Bibliography” with Amy Fischer, Shari Goldberg, and Pamela Klassen. *Religion and Diversity Project* (2011), <http://religionanddiversity.ca/en/projects-and-results/bibliographies-and-databases/>
- Review Essay on *The Jews as a Chosen People: Tradition and Transformation* by S. Leyla Gurkan in *Philosophy East and West: A Quarterly of Comparative Philosophy*, vol. 61 no. 1, 2012
- “On Repentance: An Interview with Michael L. Morgan on the Thought of Emil Fackenheim,” co-authored with Michael L. Morgan, Karen Nissenbaum, Jessica Radin in *The University of Toronto Journal for Jewish Thought* Vol. 2, 2011
- Introduction: “On Repentance,” co-authored with Karin Nissenbaum and Jessica Radin in *The University of Toronto Journal for Jewish Thought*, Vol. 2, 2011
- Introduction: “Religion and Reason,” co-authored with Karin Nissenbaum in *The University of Toronto Journal for Jewish Thought*, Vol. 1. 2010

INVITED LECTURES AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

“Judaism, Public Religion, and the Minority Past of Protestantism: Two Later Essays by Hermann Cohen” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, 17 December, 2018

“Foreign Spirits in the “Nation of Kant”: Racializing Anti-Semitism and the Secularization of German Philosophy,” Princeton Workshop in Modern Jewish Thought, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. 15, October, 2018

“Critical Idealism in an Age of Identity Politics: Cohen’s Ethics of Minority” Keynote Address at *Die Zukunft des kritischen Idealismus: Hermann Cohen nach 100 Jahren / The Future of Critical Idealism: Hermann Cohen After 100 Years*, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 29 October, 2018

“God, or How to Untranslate” Response to Hent de Vries and Joan Copjec at *Judaism – Christianity – Islam: Untranslatables and Crossovers, A Collaborative Project*, Brown University, 12 October, 2018

“Leo Strauss and Zionism: Response to Daniel May” Princeton Workshop in Modern Jewish Thought, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. Friday, 23 January, 2018

“Secularism and Semitism: Jewish Class Consciousness Between Race and Religion” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Boston, MA. Monday, 20 November, 2017

“Race, Religion, and Identity: The Politics of Kantianism and German-Jewish Liberalism” invited lecture at Indiana University, Bloomington, 20 April, 2017

“Hermann Cohen and the Legacy of German-Jewish Liberalism” invited lecture at Yale University, 8 March, 2017

“Idealism and Enchanted Thinking in Lithuanian Talmudic Conceptualism” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, 19 December, 2016

“Messianism and Melancholia in the Thought of Hermann Cohen” invited paper, the University of Chicago Divinity School, 13 April, 2016

“The Open Secret of Secular Religion: Hermann Cohen on Heine and Spinoza” invited speaker, *Judaism in Modern Philosophy: Spinoza, Hermann Cohen, and the Legacies of German Idealism*,” Princeton University, 3 April, 2016

“The Formations of the Secular in Modern Jewish Thought: The Case of Hermann Cohen” invited lecture, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pittsburgh, 13 April, 2015

“The Friend, the Enemy, and the Foreigner: Of Jewish Political Myth in Carl Schmitt and Hermann Cohen” presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, Baltimore, MD, 16 Dec., 2014

“The Formations of the Secular in Modern Jewish Thought: Hermann Cohen’s Critique of Pantheism” presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, 24 Nov., 2014

“Legal Idealization in the “History” of *Halakhah*: A Cohenian Reading of Brisker Method” presented at *Jewish Studies as Philosophy* at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, 24 March, 2014.

“The Problem of the Secular in Modern Jewish Thought” Invited public lecture at Brown University, Providence, RI. 27 January, 2014

“Between Marburg and Brisk: Ethics and the Construction of Law in Hermann Cohen and Joseph B. Soloveitchik” presented at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass. 15 December, 2013

“From Kant to (the new) Hegel: Hermann Cohen’s Interpretation of the Noahide and the Aesthetics of the Secular” presented at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. 26 November, 2013

“Between Pantheism and Positivism: Hermann Cohen and the Problem of the Secular in Modern Jewish Thought,” Invited Lecture at Department of Religious Studies, University of Kansas, 6 February, 2013

“Methodological Subversion of the Human Sciences in the Philosophy of Hermann Cohen,” Invited Lecture at Department of Religion, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., 9 January, 2013

“What Contemporary Zionism Can Learn from Hermann Cohen’s Religious (Anti-) Zionism,” Presented at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill., 18 December, 2012

“Law and Jewish Practice in Herman Cohen’s *Ethics of Pure Will*,” presented at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill., 19 November, 2012.

“Salomon Maimon and the Jewish Constellations of German Idealism,” Invited Response at the New York German Idealism Workshop, New School for Social Research, New York, 12 October, 2012

“Critique of Prophetic Reason,” Colloquium in Religious Studies, Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto, 27 October, 2011

“Anti-Eschatological Religious Reason: Monotheism and Legal Pluralism,” Workshop Presentation at Max Planck Institute for Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen, Germany, 23 February, 2011

“Sovereignty in Principle: The *latinization* of the Church and the ‘auto-immunity’ of the Judaeo-Christian,” 2nd annual Derrida Today International Conference, Goodenough College, University of London, London, UK, 20 July, 2010

“Natural and Political Science: Reading Cohen’s *Ethik des reinen Willens* with Medieval Eyes,” *Die Natur des Denkens, das Denken der Natur-Spinoza, Trendelenburg, und H. Cohen*, hosted by the Amsterdam Colloquium for Jewish Philosophy and the *Hermann Cohen Gesellschaft*, Leiden, Netherlands, 22 June, 2010

“The Hypothesized *Jewgreek*: Is there such a thing as the Jewish theologico-political?” The 2nd annual University of Toronto Centre for Jewish Studies Graduate Conference, 27 April, 2010

“The Violence of Principled Law in the Talmud Trial of 1240 and Jewish Law as a Figure of Resistance,” Graduate Symposium: “Fighting Religion: Expressions of Violence and Resistance,” Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto, 16 April, 2010

SERVICE, BROWN UNIVERSITY

Reviewer, Campus Committee for Fulbright Awards, Brown (2018)
Concentration Adviser, Judaic Studies
Reviewer, Brown University OVPR Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Religious Studies (2016-17)
Student Research Awards Committee, Judaic Studies
Undergraduate Essay Award Committee, Judaic Studies
Bishop McVickar Essay Award Committee, Religious Studies (2017)

SERVICE IN THE FIELD

Program Unit Chair, Study of Judaism Section, American Academy of Religion
Reviewer, Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) program at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC)
Peer Reviewer, *Modern Theology*, *Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy*, *Harvard Theological Review*, *Jewish Studies Quarterly*
Reviewer, *Choice*

TEACHING

Methods in Religious Studies
A Game of Thrones: Religion and Nationalism, 1789-1933
Ethics After Auschwitz?
Foreigners, Refugees, and the Ethics of Minority
Heidegger, the Jews, and the Crisis of Liberalism
Race, Religion, and the Secular
Fascism: 1933-Present

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
Association for Jewish Studies
Secretary and Treasurer, *Hermann Cohen Gesellschaft*