

# Matthew D. Berkman

mberkman@oberlin.edu – 118 King St., Oberlin, OH 44074 – 954.261.3354

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## RECENT EMPLOYMENT

- Fall 2019 – **Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies**, Oberlin College
- Fall 2016 – **Instructor**, Critical Writing Program, University of Pennsylvania  
Spring 2017
- Fall 2014 **Instructor**, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

## EDUCATION

- PhD **University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA – 2018**  
Department of Political Science  
Committee: Professors Ian Lustick, Rogers Smith, Adolph Reed, and Beth Wenger (History)  
Dissertation: “Coercive Consensus: Jewish Federations, Ethnic Representation, and the Roots of American Pro-Israel Politics.”  
Specializations: Comparative Politics, American Jewish Politics, American Political Development, Race and Ethnicity, Israel-Palestine Conflict, Social Movements
- MA **New York University, New York, NY – 2009**  
Near Eastern Studies  
Advisor: Professor Zachary Lockman
- BA **New York University, New York, NY – 2007**  
Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

## PUBLICATIONS

- “The Conflict on Campus,” in *The Routledge Companion to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (2022)
- “Anti-Zionism, Antisemitism, and the American Racial Order: Revisiting the American Council for Judaism in the Twenty-First Century,” *American Jewish History*, vol. 105, nos. 1/2 (Jan/April 2021): 127-155.
- “Making Jewish Philanthropy a Democratic Good” (with Lila Corwin Berman), *ARC Journals* series, Applied Research Collective for American Jewry at NYU (2021)
- “Democratizing American Jewish Philanthropy: New Models for Capital Circulation” (with Lila Corwin Berman), *ARC Journals* series, Applied Research Collective for American Jewry at NYU (2019)
- “The West Bank ‘Alternative Peace Movement’ and Its Transnational Infrastructure: A Case Study in ‘Primordialist Universalism,’” *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, vol. 17, no. 3 (2018): 304-325.
- “Transforming Philanthropy: Finance and Institutional Evolution at the Jewish Federation of New York, 1917–86,” *Jewish Social Studies: History, Culture, Society*, vol. 22, no. 2 (Winter 2017): 146–195.
- “Zionist Theories of Peace in the Pre-state Era: Legacies of Dissimulation and Israel’s Arab Minority” with Ian

Lustick, in *Israel and Its Palestinian Citizens: Ethnic Privilege and Equal Citizenship*, Nadim N. Rouhana and Sahar S. Huneidi, eds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (2017): 38-72

## BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *An American Friendship: Horace Kallen, Alain Locke, and the Development of Cultural Pluralism* by David Weinfeld, *Journal of Jewish Identities*, in process/forthcoming (2022/23).

Review of *From Left to Right: Lucy S. Davidowicz, the New York Intellectuals, and the Politics of Jewish History* by Nancy Sinkoff, *American Jewish Archives Journal*, vol. 73, no. 1 (2021): 121-124

Review of *Covenant Brothers: Evangelicals, Jews, and US-Israeli Relations* by Daniel G. Hummel, *Political Science Quarterly*, vol. 135, no. 3 (2020): 524-525.

Review of *The Politics of Chaos in the Middle East* by Olivier Roy, *The Arab Studies Journal*, vol. 18, no. 1 (2010): 397-401

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Walter Dean Burnham Award for Best Dissertation in History and Politics, American Political Science Association (2020)

Loewenstein-Wiener Fellowship, Jacob Rader Marcus Center, American Jewish Archives (Summer 2019)

SAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (2017-2018)

Fellow, Leffell Seminar on the Impact of Israel on American Jewry (Summer 2017)

Berman Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Association for Jewish Studies (2016-2017)

Critical Writing Teaching Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (2016-2017)

Research Award, Jewish Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania (2015)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Arabic (Summer 2012)

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (2011-2016)

Critical Language Scholarship in Oman, Arabic, U.S. State Department (Summer 2008)

MacCracken Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Science, NYU (2007-2009)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Arabic (Summer 2007)

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Jewish Organizations, the Federal Government, and the Institutionalization of Anti-Antisemitism,” May 16, 2022, American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Conference, New Orleans, LA.

“Between State Subversion and Trope-ology: American Jewish Approaches to Anti-Antisemitism,” December 21, 2021, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Chicago, IL.

“Engagement and Dissent in American Jewish Encounters with Israel,” roundtable participant, December 17, 2020, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, over Zoom.

“J-Zombie.org: The Afterlives of Undead Jewish Organizations,” October 28, 2020, Jewish Zombies Conference, Pennsylvania State University, over Zoom.

“Between Lawfare and Warfare: Jewish Communal Strategy and the Fight Against Antisemitism in the 1930s and 1940s,” December 15, 2019, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, San Diego, CA.

“Jewish Federations and the Making of Political Centralization,” September 19, 2019, Jewish Philanthropy

Research Workshop, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, U. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

“Jewish Philanthropy and the Institutional Origins of the U.S. Pro-Israel Lobby,” April 19, 2019, Western Political Science Association Conference, San Diego, CA.

“Antisemitism, Anti-Zionism, and the American Racial Imagination,” for roundtable “It Can't Happen Here? Rethinking Antisemitism and Americanism,” December 17, 2018, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Boston, MA.

“Identities and Institutions in American Jewish Politics,” June 19, 2018, American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars' Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

“The Shifting Bases of U.S. Support for Israel: The Decentering of Jewish Advocacy and the Rise of Christian Zionism,” December 18, 2017, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Washington, DC.

“Generating Jews, Generating Resistance: The Internal Contradictions of the Federation Identity Apparatus,” August 9, 2017, Leffell Seminar on the Impact of Israel on American Jewry, West Harrison, NY.

“Indigeneity and the ‘Decolonization’ of Jewish Peoplehood: The Anatomy of an Emerging Movement,” December 20, 2016, Association for Jewish Studies Conference, San Diego, CA.

“Indigeneity and the ‘Decolonization’ of Jewish Peoplehood: The Anatomy of an Emerging Movement,” April 11, 2016, Wrestling with Jewish Peoplehood Conference, National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia, PA.

“The Jewish Federation of New York and the Development of a Social Infrastructure for Ethnic Political Mobilization,” December 8, 2015, Comparative Politics Workshop, University of Pennsylvania.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Oberlin College (2019-2022)**

- Jewish Identity and American Politics (Fall 2019, 2020, and 2021)
- Antisemitism and White Supremacy (Spring 2020 and 2021)
- Is the U.S. a Democracy? (Spring 2019, Fall 2021)
- The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (Spring 2021 and 2022)
- Zionisms (Spring 2022)

### **University of Pennsylvania (Fall 2016 – Spring 2017)**

- The Invention of Race (Critical Writing Seminar)
- The Good Life (Critical Writing Seminar)

### **Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (Fall 2014)**

- Israeli Politics and Society Since 1948

### **University of Pennsylvania, Teaching Assistance (Fall 2012 – Spring 2014)**

- International Politics of the Middle East: The Arab-Israeli Conflict (Prof. Ian Lustick)
- International Human Rights (Prof. Eileen Doherty-Sil)
- Political Change in the Third World (Prof. Rudra Sil)
- Contemporary African Politics (Prof. Guy Grossman).

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Hebrew Heritage House Program Coordinator**, Oberlin College (Fall 2019 – present)

**Producer and Host**, Podcast, Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy, U. Penn (2018 – Present)

**Associate Editor**, *Israel Studies Review*, Association for Israel Studies (2019 – present)

**Research Assistant**, Applied Research Collective for American Jewry at NYU (2019-2021)

**Research Associate**, U.S./Middle East Project, New York, NY (Full Time, 2009 – 2011)

## **OTHER ACADEMIC STUDY**

Hedayet Institute for Arabic Study, Cairo, Egypt – Certificate in Media Arabic (Summer 2012)

Dhofar University, Salalah, Oman – Certificate in Advanced Arabic (Summer 2008)

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany – Coursework in German Language (Summer 2006)

## **LANGUAGES AND SKILLS**

Reading proficiency in Arabic; intermediate reading in French; some basic German and Hebrew.

Web and graphic design on a variety of platforms; audiovisual recording and editing.

## **REFERENCES**

**Ian Lustick**, Professor (Emeritus), Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania, Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics, Room 326  
Tel: (215) 898-5719, Email: [ilustick@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:ilustick@sas.upenn.edu)

**Rogers Smith**, Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania, Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics, Room 329  
Tel: (215) 898-7662, Email: [rogerss@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:rogerss@sas.upenn.edu)

**Cynthia Chapman**, Professor, Department of Religion and Chair of Jewish Studies  
Oberlin College, Rice Hall, Room 330  
Tel: (440) 775-8579, Email: [cindy.chapman@oberlin.edu](mailto:cindy.chapman@oberlin.edu)