

# Matthew D. Berkman

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## 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

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies**, Oberlin College (2019 – present)
- American Jews and the Politics of Identity
  - Antisemitism and White Supremacy
- Instructor**, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Wyncote, PA (Fall 2014)
- Israeli Politics and Society Since 1948
- Teaching Assistant**, University of Pennsylvania (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

- Associate Editor**, *Israel Studies Review*, Association for Israel Studies (2019 – present)
- Research Assistant**, Applied Research Collective for American Jewry at NYU (2019)
- Producer and Host**, Podcast, Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy, U. Penn (2018 – Present)
- Research Associate**, U.S./Middle East Project, New York, NY (Full Time, 2009 – 2011)

## PUBLICATIONS

“Anti-Zionism, Antisemitism, and the American Racial Order: Revisiting the American Council for Judaism in the Age of Trump,” *American Jewish History* (under review).

“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

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“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.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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)

## **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**

Proficiency in Arabic; intermediate reading in French; some basic German  
Web and graphic design on a variety of platforms; audiovisual recording and editing.  
Grassroots fundraising and non-profit administration

## **REFERENCES**

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

**Beth Wenger**, Professor, Department of History University of Pennsylvania  
College Hall, Room 320  
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