

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Josef J. Stern

July 2024

William H. Colvin Professor Emeritus in the Department of Philosophy, Committee on Jewish Studies, Divinity School (Associate Member), and the College  
Inaugural Director, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies 2009-14  
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U.S. and Israeli Citizen; b. 1949

## EDUCATION:

Columbia College	B.A., 1972, cum laude
Columbia University	M.A., 1976
Graduate School of	M. Phil., 1978
Arts and Sciences	Ph.D., 1979, awarded with distinction
Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh	
(Talmudical Academy), Israel	Non-degree studies, 1967-70

## PREVIOUS AND VISITING POSITIONS:

Joyce Z. Greenberg Visiting Professor, Department of Philosophy and the Joyce Z. and Jacob Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies, The University of Chicago, Spring 2021, Winter 2022.

Visiting Professor, Gregorian Pontifical University, Rome, Italy, February-March 2020

Mandel Visiting Professor, Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, Fall 2019.

Russell Berrie Visiting Professor, The Angelicum, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, Rome, Italy, November 2014.

William H. Colvin Professor, Department of Philosophy, Committee on Jewish Studies, Divinity School (Associate Member), and the College, 2010-2016.

Professor, Department of Philosophy, Committee on Jewish Studies, Divinity School (Associate Member), and College, 1998-2010; Chair, 2008-9; Associate Professor, 1988-1998; Assistant Professor, 1981-1988; William Rainey Harper Fellow in the College, 1979-81.

Fellow, Library, Van Leer Institute Jerusalem, Israel, 1990 - \*

Russell Berrie Visiting Professor, The Angelicum, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, Rome, Italy, November 2011,

Gruss Visiting Professor of Jewish Law, The Law School, University of Pennsylvania, Fall 2003, Fall 2004.

Professor, Bar-Ilan University (Israel), Department of Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Program in Brain Sciences, 2000-2003 (On leave of absence 10/02-9/03)

Visiting Professor, Northwestern University, Department of Religion, 1998, 1999; Department of Philosophy, 1993.

Lady Davis Visiting Associate Professor, The Hebrew University, Department of Philosophy, 1996.

Visiting Instructor, Yeshiva University, Department of Philosophy, 1978.

Preceptor, Columbia University, Department of Philosophy, 1974-77.

#### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

Philosophy of Language, Jewish Medieval Philosophy

#### AREAS OF COMPETENCE:

Epistemology and Metaphysics, Islamic and Latin Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Logic, Philosophy of Art

#### PUBLICATIONS:

##### Books:

1. *Problems and Parables of Law: Maimonides and Nahmanides on Reasons for the Commandments (Ta'amei Ha-Mitzvot)* (Albany, New York, SUNY Press, Series in Judaica: Hermeneutics, Mysticism, and Religion, 1998)
2. *Metaphor in Context* (Cambridge, MA, M.I.T. Press/Bradford Books, 2000); paperback edition 2016.
3. *The Matter and Form of Maimonides' Guide* (Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press, 2013)
4. *Ha-homer ve-ha-tzurah Be-Moreh Nevukhim Le-RaMBaM* (Heb.), Sifriyat Heillel ben Hayyim, Kibbutz Ha-Me'uhad Publishers, Israel, 2017.
5. *Quotations as Pictures* (Cambridge, MA, M.I.T. Press, 2022)

##### Edited Volumes:

1. *Adaptations and Innovations: Studies on the Interaction between Jewish and Islamic Thought and Literature from the Early Middle Ages to the Late Twentieth Century, Dedicated to Professor Joel L. Kraemer.* Co-ed. with Y. T. Langermann, (Paris-Louven: Peeters, 2007)
2. *Themes in the Thought of Eliezer Berkovits.* Special Issue of *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* v. 31, n. 4 (Summer 2013).

3. Editorial Board (with responsibility for Judaism), *Religion, War, and Ethics: A Sourcebook of Textual Traditions*, Eds. Gregory Reichberg and Henry Syse, Cambridge University Press, 2014.
4. *Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed in Translation: A History from the Thirteenth Century to the Twentieth*, co-ed. with James T. Robinson and Yonatan A. Shemesh, University of Chicago Press, 2019.

#### Major Articles:

1. "Metaphor and Grammatical Deviance," *Nous*, November, 1983, pp. 577-599.
2. "Metaphor as Demonstrative," *The Journal of Philosophy*, December, 1985, pp. 677-710.
3. "The Idea of a Hog in Maimonides' Explanation of the Law," in S. Pines and Y. Yovel (eds.), *Maimonides and Philosophy* (Dordrecht, Martinus Nijhoff, 1986), pp. 92-130; rep. in revised form in 1.
4. "Modes of Reference in the Rituals of Judaism," *Religious Studies* (23), July 1987, pp. 109-128. Rep. in Catherine Z. Elgin (ed.), *The Philosophy of Nelson Goodman*, 4 Vols., (Garland, 1997): 303-322.
5. "Metaphor Without Mainsprings: A Rejoinder to Elgin and Scheffler," *The Journal of Philosophy*, August 1988, pp. 427-438.
6. "On an Alleged Contradiction between Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed and Mishneh Torah" (in Heb.), *Shenaton Ha-Mishpat Ivri* ( *Annual of the Institute for Research in Jewish Law*), Hebrew University, Israel, 1989, pp. 283-298; rep. in revised form in English in 1.
7. "Logical Syntax as a Key to a Secret of the Guide of the Perplexed," (in Heb.), *Iyyun* 38 (April 1989):137-166
8. "Philosophy or Exegesis: Some Critical Comments," in N. Golb (ed.), *Judaeo-Arabic Studies: Proceedings of the Founding Conference of the Society for Judaeo-Arabic Studies*(*Studies in Muslim-Jewish Relations III*) (Amsterdam, Harwood Academic Publishers, 1997): 213-228.
9. "What Metaphors Do Not Mean," in P. French, T. Uehling, and H. Wettstein (eds.), *Philosophy and the Arts* (*Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, Vol. XVI) (Notre Dame University Press, 1991): 13-52.
10. "Maimonides' Parable of Circumcision," *S'vara* Vol. 2, Num. 2 (Winter 1991): 35-48.
11. "Maimonides on the Covenant of Circumcision and the Unity of God," in Michael Fishbane (ed.), *The Midrashic Imagination: Jewish Exegesis, Thought and History* (SUNY Press, 1993):131-154; rep. in revised form in 1.
12. "Nahmanides' Conception of Ta'amei Mitzvot and its Maimonidean Background," forthcoming in Daniel Frank (ed.), *Community and Covenant: New Essays in Jewish Political and Legal Philosophy* (SUNY Press, 1994); rep. in revised form in 1.
13. "Maimonides' Conceptions of Freedom and the Sense of Shame," in C. Manekin and M.Kellner (eds.) *Human Freedom and Moral Responsibility: General and Jewish Perspectives* (College Park, MD., University Press of Maryland, 1997): 217-266.

14. "The Fall and Rise of Myth in Ritual: Maimonides versus Nahmanides on the Huqqim, Astrology, and the War Against Idolatry," Journal of Jewish Philosophy and Thought, 6, (1997): 185-263; rep. in revised form in 1.
15. "Maimonides on Education," in Amelie Rorty, (ed.), Philosophers on Education (London, Routledge, 1998): 109-123.
16. "Metaphors in Pictures," Philosophical Topics 25: 1 (Spring 1997): 255-293.
17. "Maimonides on Language and the Science of Language," in R. S. Cohen and H. Levine (eds.), Maimonides and the Sciences (Boston Studies in the Philosophy of Science, Vol. 211 (Dordrecht, Kluwer, 2000): 173-226.
18. "Maimonides on Amalek, Self-Corrective Mechanisms, and the War against Idolatry," in Jonathan Malino (ed.), Judaism and Modernity: The Religious Philosophy of David Hartman (London, Ashgate, 2004): 371-410.
19. "Maimonides' Demonstrations: Principles and Practice," Medieval Philosophy and Theology 10 (2001): 47-84.
20. "Knowledge by Metaphor," P. French and H. Wettstein (eds.), Midwest Studies in Philosophy XXV: Figurative Language (Boston, MA and Oxford UK, Blackwell, 2002): 187-227.
21. "Maimonides on the Growth of Knowledge and the Limitations of the Intellect," in T. Levy and R. Rashed (eds.), Maïmonide: Perspectives arabe, hébraïque, latine (Louvain, Peeters, 2002).
22. "Maimonides' Epistemology," in K. Seeskin, ed., Cambridge Companion to Maimonides (Cambridge, UK, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2005), pp. 105-133.
23. "Figurative Language," in M. Devitt and R. Hanley, eds., The Blackwell Guide To Philosophy Of Language (Boston, MA and Oxford UK, Blackwell, 2006), pp.168-185.
24. "Metaphor, Literal, Literalism," Mind and Language Vol. 21, No. 3 (June 2006): 243-79.
25. "The Enigma of Guide I: 68" (Heb.) in A. Ravitzky, ed., Maimonides, Tradition, Originality, and Innovation (Shazar Institute Press, Jerusalem, 2007), 437-51.
26. "Metaphor, Semantics, and Context," in R. Gibbs, ed., Cambridge Handbook of Metaphor (Cambridge, UK, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2008), pp. 262-279.
27. "Meaning and Language," in S. Nadler and T. Rudavsky, eds., Cambridge History of Medieval Jewish Philosophy (Cambridge, UK, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2008), pp. 230-266.
28. "The Knot that Never Was," Aleph (2008): 203-233.
29. "The Life and Death of a Metaphor, or the Metaphysics of Metaphor," The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic, and Communication: A Figure of Speech, Vol. 3 (2008) <<http://thebalticyearbook.org/journals/baltic/issue/current>>
30. "The Maimonidean Parable, the Arabic Poetics, and the Garden of Eden," Midwest Studies in Philosophy: Philosophy and Poetry XXXIII (2009): 209-247.
31. "Metaphor and Minimalism," Philosophical Studies (February 2011)
32. "Maimonides on Wars and their Justification," Journal of Military Ethics 11:3 (2012): 245-263.
- 33a. Maimennide zhaxue de dangdai yanjiu lujin" (in Chinese) ("Contemporary Approaches to the Study of Maimonides"), trans. Cao Zheyu and Song Lihong, Xue Hai 2016: 5, pp. 92-99.
- 33b. "Contemporary Approaches to the Philosophy of Moses Maimonides," in Song Lihong, ed. *Representations and Identities in the Jewish Diaspora. Essays in*

- Honor of Professor Xu Xin*, Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press, 2018, pp. 186-206.
34. "What is 'Jewish Philosophy'? A view from the Middle Ages," *Yearbook of the Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies—Jewish Skepticism*, ed. G. Veltri, Berlin: DeGruyter Press, 2017: 185-204.
  - 35a. "What a Jewish Philosophy Might Be (If It Exists): A View from the Middle Ages," *Iyyun: The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly*. Vol. 66. (July 2017): 227-257.
  - 35b. "Was jüdische Philosophie sein konnte (wenn es sie gabe)—Ein mediavistischer Blick" ("What Jewish Philosophy Might be (if it exists)") (in German) *Zeitschrift für Kulturphilosophie* 2017/2.
  36. "Maimonides on 'Useless Stories' in the Bible," In *A Tribute to Hannah: Jubilee Book in Honor of Hannah Kasher*, eds. A. Elqayam and A. Malachi, Idra Publishing, Tel Aviv, 2018: 61\*-91\*.
  37. "Pines' Agendas for Reading the *Guide* from 1963 to 1979" in C. Manekin and D. Davies, eds., *Interpreting Maimonides*, Cambridge University Press, 2019: 208-227.
  38. "What is Maimonidean Skepticism?" in G. Veltri, R. Haliva, S. Schmid, and E. Spinelli, eds., *Sceptical Paths: Enquiry and from Antiquity to the Present*. (De Gruyter, 2019): 97-126.
  39. "Maimonides and his Predecessors on Dying for God as 'Sanctification of the Name of God'," in S. Lebens, D. Rabinowitz, and A. Segal, eds. *Jewish Philosophy in an Analytic Age* (Oxford University Press, 2019): 149-180
  40. "Introduction," in *Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed in Translation: A History from the Thirteenth Century to the Twentieth*, J. Stern, J. T. Robinson and Y. A. Shemesh, eds. (University of Chicago Press, 2019): 1-32.
  41. "Profayt Duran's *Ma'aseh Efod*: The Philosophical Grammar of a Converso," forthcoming in S. Harvey and N. Germann, eds., *The Origin and Nature of Language and Logic: Perspectives in Medieval Islamic, Jewish, and Christian Thought*, Brepols (Turnhout, 2020) : 97-145.
  42. "Luzzatto's *Socrate* and the History of Jewish Philosophy." *Filosofia Italiana* XVI:1 (2020):13-33; <http://www.filosofiaitaliana.net/>
  43. "Maimonides, the *Falasifa*, and Al-Ghazali in *Guide* I: 69," *Iyyun: The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly* 68 (July 2020): 245-279.
  44. "Maimonides' Modalities," in D. Frank and A. Segal, eds. *Cambridge Critical Guide to Maimonides's Guide of the Perplexed*, Cambridge University Press, 2021: 184-205.
  45. "Saadia on *what is in the hearts of people when they reach the limits of endurance in a trial*," in Kelly James Clark and Jeffrey Koperski, eds. *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2021): 339-357.
  46. "Where is Maimonides' Logic?" *Studia Graeco-Arabica* (11/2) 2021, Special issue: "Logica Graeco-Arabico-Hebraica," 81-92.
  47. "Two Moments in the Biography of *Qedushah* (aka Holiness)," *Harvard Theological Review* 1:115 (July 2022): 387-415.
  48. "A Guide to the AfterDeath: Maimonides on *olam haba*'," *Religious Studies* 60, (May 2024): 574-590.
  49. "Maimonides' Dream Argument and the Certainty of Prophecy," in *Religious and Intellectual Diversity in the Islamicate World and Beyond*:

- Essays in Honor of Sarah Stroumsa*, eds. Omer Michaelis and Sabine Schmidtke, 2 vols, Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2024, 461-500.
50. "What Kind of (Sceptical) Work is Simone Luzzatto's *Socrate?*," in *Simone Luzzatto's Scepticism in the Context of Early Modern Thought*, ed., Giuseppe Veltri and Michela Torbidoni.. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2024, 15-42.
  51. "Quotation, *Ha'omer davar beshem omro*, and the very idea of intellectual property in Rabbinic Judaism," in *Beloved David—Advisor, Man of Understanding, and Writer: A Festschrift in Honor of David Stern*, eds. Naftali S. Cohn and Katrin Kogman-Appel, Providence, R.I.: Brown Judaica Series, 67-90.
  52. "The Unbinding of Isaac: Maimonides on the *Aqedah* and Dying for God," in Eleonore Stump and Judith Wolfe, eds. *Knowledge Through Narrative: Biblical Narratives and Human Flourishing*. London: Routledge, 43-61.
  53. "Maimonides on Worship, True and False," forthcoming in Aaron Segal and Sam Lebens, eds., *New Essays in the Philosophy of Worship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Short Essays, Encyclopedia Articles, and Reviews:

1. "Gesture and Symbol," in A. A. Cohen and P. Mendes-Flohr (eds.), *Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought* (New York, Scribners', 1986), pp. 275-283. Rep. in David Shatz, ed., *Philosophy and Faith: A Philosophy of Religion Reader* (New York, McGraw Hill, 2002), pp. 131-36.
- 2a. "Language," in A. A. Cohen and P. Mendes-Flohr (eds.), *Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought* (New York, Scribners', 1986), pp. 543-551.
- 2b. "Safah" (Heb.) in A. A. Cohen, P. Mendes-Flohr, and A. Shapira (eds.),
3. Critical Comment on Lenn E. Goodman, "Three Meanings of the Idea of Creation," in D. Burrell and B. McGinn (eds.), *God and Creation: An Ecumenical Symposium* (Notre Dame University Press, 1990), pp. 114-121
4. "Gersonides," in R. Audi (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (Cambridge, U.K.; Cambridge University Press, 1995)
5. "Philo Judaeus," in R. Audi (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (Cambridge, U.K.; Cambridge University Press, 1995)
6. "Metaphor," in M. Kelly (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Aesthetics* (Oxford University Press, 1998)
7. "Nahmanides," in E. Craig (ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*
8. "Isaac Arama," in E. Craig (ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*
9. (with Joel Kraemer) "Shlomo Pines on the Translation of *the Guide of the Perplexed*," *Jewish Philosophy and Thought* 7 (1998)
10. Review of M. Johnson, ed., *Contemporary Perspectives on Metaphor, Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* (Winter, 1982): 231-234.
11. Review of J. F. Ross, *Portraying Analogy, The Journal of Philosophy* (July 1987): 392-397.
12. Review of David Hartman, *A Living Covenant, Journal of Religion* (Oct. 1990): 663-5.
13. Review of R. Link-Salinger et al (eds.), *A Straight Path: Studies in Medieval Philosophy and Culture, Essays in Honor of Arthur Hyman, Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* (Vol. 74, Number 3) 1992: 335-338.
14. Review of Ehud Benor, *Worship of the Heart, Iyyun* 46 (July 1997): 339-344.

15. Review of Idit Dobbs-Weinstein, *Maimonides and St. Thomas on the Limits of Reason*, *Shofar* (Summer 1998), 16, 4: 114-16.
16. Review of Charles Travis, *Unshadowed Thought*, *Mind* (Oct. 2003):805-811.
17. Review of Maud Kozodoy, *The Secret Faith of Maestre Honoratus: Profayt Duran and Jewish Identity in Late Medieval Iberia* (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015), *Revista Hispanica Moderna* (December 2019)
18. "Nosh," in Ruth Fredman Cernea, ed., *The Great Latke-Hamentasch Debate* (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 2006), p. 152
19. "Thoroughly Modern Maimonides?: A Response," *Jewish Review of Books* 5, 4 (Winter 2014), 49-50.
20. "Isaac Arama," *Encyclopedia of Renaissance Philosophy*, ed. Marco Sgarbi. (Springer International Publishing AG, 2018)
21. Memorial Notice for Herbert A. Davidson, American Academy of Jewish Research website <http://aajr.org/obituaries/herbert-a-davidson-1932-2021/>.
22. Book Review Notes on J. Fodor, *Representations* and M. Halle et al (eds.), *Linguistics and Psychological Reality*, *Ethics*, March 1983; N. Goodman, *Of Mind and Other Matters*, *Ethics*, July 1985; C. Sirat, *A History of Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages*, *The Journal of Religion*, July 1987; A. Hyman, Ed., *Maimonidean Studies I*, *Review of Metaphysics* (Winter 1992).
23. Syllabus, "Judaic Civilization II: Jewish History and Culture in Spain and the Mediterranean Lands in the Middle Ages," in Ivan Marcus (ed.), *Medieval Jewish Civilization* (New York: Markus-Wiener, 1988)

#### WORK IN PROGRESS:

- "Maimonides on the False Prophet: The Epistemology of Prophecy and the Maimonidean Circle" (book ms.)
- "The Unbinding of Isaac: Maimonides on the Parable of the Aqedah" (book ms.)
- "Maimonides on Providence, the Problem of Evil, and the Parable of Job" (book ms.)
- "Maimonides on a False Picture of Providence"
- "Maimonides on the True Evil"
- "A Little of 'This' and a Little of 'That'"
- "The Reception of Quine's Indeterminacy Thesis: A Case-Study in the History of a Philosophical Problem"
- "Hume on the Very Idea of God."
- "The Divine Loser: A Reading of BT Baba Metzia 58b-59a"
- "Five Models of Filial Piety in Medieval Jewish Philosophy: from Father to Sage and from Child to Disciple."
- "Maimonides' Skeptical Critique of a Divine Intellect, or the Curious Case of *Guide I: 68*"

#### SELECTED INVITED ADDRESSES:

- "Metaphor as Demonstrative," University of Wisconsin, 1979; University of Illinois at Chicago, 1981; Hebrew University, 1981; Chicago Linguistic Society, 1983.
- "A Little of 'This' and a Little of 'That'," Hebrew University, 1996; Ben Gurion University, 1996.

- “Metaphor in Context,” The Israel Colloquium for the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, 1985.
- “The Idea of a Hoq in Maimonides’ Explanation of the Law,” Sixth Jerusalem Philosophical Encounter: Maimonides and His Philosophy, 1985.
- “Metaphorical Competence and Cognitive Significance,” Conference on Figurative and Visionary Language, Israel, 1986
- “Maimonides on Language and the Interpretation of Language,” Boston Colloquium for the History and Philosophy of Science, Symposium on Maimonides and the Sciences, 1987
- “Skeptical Themes in the Guide of the Perplexed,” Maryland Colloquium in Jewish Studies: Maimonides and the Limits of Philosophy: Perspectives on Recent Interpretations of the Guide of the Perplexed, University of Maryland, 1987
- “Nahmanides’ Conception of Ta’amei Mitzvot and its Maimonidean Background,” Special Session on Medieval Jewish Legal Philosophy, Association for Jewish Studies, 1987.
- “Logical Syntax as a Key to a Secret of the Guide of the Perplexed,” Hebrew University, 1988; Bar-Ilan University, Israel, 1989
- “Excrement and Exegesis: Maimonides on Bar Qappara on Deut. 23:14,” The Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University, 1989.
- “Maimonides in the Skeptical Tradition,” Special Session on New Perspectives in Jewish Philosophy, co-sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research and the New York University Colloquium on Medieval Philosophy, 1991; Invited Paper, Central Division, American Philosophical Assoc., 1991; University of Georgia, 1994; Ben Gurion University, 1996; University of Haifa, 1996; University of Southern California, 2002.
- “Knowledge by Metaphor,” Conference on Metaphor and Cognition,” Tel Aviv University and Bar-Ilan University, Israel, 1992; Centre de Recherche en Epistémologie Appliquée (CREA/CNRS), Paris, 1995; Ya’el Cohen Memorial Lecture, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1996; NEH Summer Institute on Art, Cognitive Science and Mind, University of Maryland, 2002; Rutgers University 2003.
- “The Fall and Rise of Myth in Ritual: From Maimonides to Nahmanides on the Huqqim,” Skirball Conference on “Myth and Ritual,” New York University, 1994.
- “Maimonides’ Compatibilist Conception of Freedom and the Sense of Shame,” 27th Maryland Colloquium in Jewish Studies on “Freedom and Moral Responsibility: General and Jewish Perspectives,” University of Maryland at College Park, 1994.
- “Maimonides on the Limitations of the Intellect and the Growth of Knowledge,” Centre D’Histoire des Sciences et des Philosophies Arabes et Médiévales (CNRS-ÉPHÉ), Paris, 1995.
- “Donald Davidson on ‘The Objectivity of Values,’” Conference on Practical Reason, 11th Jerusalem Encounter: Practical Reasoning, 1995.
- “Nahmanides on the Idea of Qedushah and its Maimonidean Background,” Hartman Institute, 1996.
- “Metaphors in Pictures,” Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1997.
- “Two Types of Maimonidean Skepticism,” at “Maimonide: Traditions philosophiques et scientifiques médiévales arabe, hébraïque, latine; Centre d’histoire des sciences et philosophies arabes et médiévales, CNRS Paris, 1997



- “Maimonides on the Study of Astronomy as a Spiritual Exercise,” Invited Paper,  
“Medieval Hebrew Science: The Contexts,” A Dibner/Israel Conference in the  
Philosophy of Science, Jerusalem, July 1999
- “Maimonides’ Demonstrations: Principles and Practice,” Invited Paper at Annual  
Conference of the Association of Jewish Studies, Chicago 1999
- “In the Inner Chamber of the Ruler’s Palace: Maimonides’ Physics,” Ben Gurion  
University, December 2001; Boston University: Conference on Maimonides:  
Philosopher and Scientist,” November 2004; University of Toronto, Jan. 2007;  
Hebrew University, March 2007.
- “Maimonides on Qedushah: Holiness as Commandment,” The Gruss Lecture I,  
University of Pennsylvania Law School, November 2002
- “Nahmanides on Qedushah: Holiness despite the Commandments,” The Gruss Lecture II,  
University of Pennsylvania Law School, November 2002
- “Two Concepts of Qedushah,” Dept. of Jewish Studies, Rutgers University, Jan. 2003,  
Templeton Workshop on Happiness, Virtue, and the Meaning of Life, Chicago,  
June 2017.
- “The Unbinding of Isaac: Maimonides on the Parable of the Aqedah: (I) Martyrdom vs.  
the Life of the Law and (II) Law and the Excesses of Philosophy,” The Gruss  
Lectures, University of Pennsylvania Law School, September 2003; (in shortened  
form), Conference on “Philosophers and the Bible,” Meyerhoff Center for Jewish  
Studies, University of Maryland, November 2003; Ohio State University,  
Conference on Maimonides: Sources and Influences,” November 2004; Davar  
Institute, Teaneck NJ, November 2005; University of Toronto, Nov. 2006;  
Marquette University, Conference on the Abrahamic Traditions, Feb. 2007; James  
Lehman Memorial Lecture, NY, June 2009; Shandong University, Jinan, June  
2012; Nanjing University, June 2012; Fudan University, 2013; Centro Pro Unione  
and John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue, Rome, Italy, Nov. 2014;  
Tantur 2022 Summer Virtual Lectures on Narrative Cognition, August 2022.
- “On ‘Saying That’ and Samesaying ‘That’” (co-authored with David Ebrey), Israel  
Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Spring 2001; Ben Gurion University  
(Israel), December 2003.
- “The Enigma of Guide I: 68,” Conference on “Maimonides: Conservative, Innovator,  
and Revolutionary, Shazar Center/Harvard University, Jerusalem, May 2004
- “The Life and Times of Maimonides” and “Maimonides’ Halakhic work,” Congregation  
Sinai Lectures on Maimonides, Milwaukee, Wis. April 2003
- “Maimonides on the Commandments to Eradicate Amalek Part I: The Torah,  
Terrorism, and Counter-Terrorism,” Part II: Law, Memory, and the War against  
Idolatry,” The Law School, University of Pennsylvania, October 2004;
- “Metaphor, Literal, Literalism,” at “Metaphor: An Interdisciplinary Conference,”  
sponsored by Mind and Language and University of London, January 2005.
- “Maimonides on Death and the After-death,” Medieval Studies and Philosophy,  
Loyola University, Chicago, March 2005
- “Language and the Structure of Thought: Critical Comments,” Semantics Workshop on  
the Philosophy and Linguistics of Jim Higginbotham, Center for Cognitive  
Science, Rutgers University, May 2005
- “Address and the Second Person” (with Nat Hanson and Ben McMyler), Wittgenstein  
Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2005
- “Maimonides and Hume,” World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem July 2005

- “Maimonidean Skepticism, the Intellect, and Divine Unity,” Invited Paper, A.P.A. Eastern Division Meeting, Washington D.C. Dec. 2006; Tel Aviv University Dec. 2006
- “Metaphor and Minimalism,” A Figure of Speech, Conference at the University of Riga, Riga, Latvia, Dec. 2007; University of Illinois-Chicago, April 2009
- “Monotheism and Maimonides’ Critique of the Theory of Separate Intellects,” Invited paper for Israel Science Foundation Research Workshop on The Jews and the Sciences of the Stars,” Bar Ilan University, February 2010
- “Maimonides on War,” Conference on “Fostering Peace through the Abrahamic Religions: The Promise and the Pitfalls,” Basel Switzerland, February 2010.
- “Maimonides on Useless Stories in the Bible,” Kol Dodi, Jerusalem. 2011
- “Maimonides on the False Prophet, the Parable of Mt. Sinai, and the Maimonidean Circle,” Conference on Hypocrisy and Dissimulation II, Jerusalem June, 2012; University of Toronto, March 2015
- “Pines’ Guide at 50: Philosophy in Translation, Translation in Philosophy,” Shlomo Pines Lecture, The Pines Society and The Israel Academy of Sciences, June 2013.
- “Four Models of Filial Piety in Medieval Jewish Philosophy: from Father to Sage and from Child to Disciple,” Symposium on Judaic and Confucian Ethics,” Shandong University, Jinan China
- “Pines ’63 vs. Pines ’79,” Conference on “Pines’ Maimonides: The History of the Translation and Interpretation of the Guide of the Perplexed.”
- “Relations between Jewish and Shi’ite Philosophers in the Middle Ages,” webinar, Rome Dec. 2014, skyped to various sites in the United States and to the University of Religions and Denominations, Qom, Iran.
- “Quotations and Pictures,” Invited paper, Eastern Division of the American Society of Aesthetics, Philadelphia PA March 2015; Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago, March 2016; Conference on Pervasive Context-Dependence, University of Reading (G.B.), June 2016; Linguistics and Philosophy of Language Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2016; Department of Philosophy, Saarbrücken University, France, Nov 2016; Institut Jean Nicod, Paris, February 2017; Department of Philosophy, University of Hamburg, March 2017; Department of Philosophy, Fudan University, Shanghai China December 2017; Department of Philosophy, Peking University and the UChicago Beijing Center, Beijing, China December 2017; Departments of Philosophy and Linguistics, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, January 2018; Dept. of Philosophy, University of Haifa, Nov. 2019.
- “What is ‘Jewish Philosophy’? A view from the Medieval Ages,” Inaugural Lecture, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies-Jewish Skepticism, University of Hamburg, October 2015; CISMOOR, Dashisha University, Kyoto, Japan, December 2015; Conference on Engaging Leon Roth, University of Toronto, May 2017.
- “Profayt Duran’s Speculative Grammar in the *Ma’aseh Efod*,” Conference on Medieval Hebrew and Aramaic, The Academy of the Hebrew Language, Dec. 2016.
- “What is Maimonidean Skepticism?” International Conference on Skepticism from Antiquity till the Present,” Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, University of Hamburg, May 2017; Department of Jewish Thought, Hebrew University June 2017.

- “The *Ma‘aseh Efod* and Profayt Duran’s Linguistic Theology, World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, August 2017
- “Zev Harvey and the Contemporary Study of Maimonides,” Hebrew University October 2017.
- “Maimonides’ *Guide* and Hume’s *Dialogues*: A Tale of Two Sceptics,” Workshop on Skepticism and Religion: Maimonides, Al-Ghazali, and Hume,” Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, University of Hamburg, November 2017
- “A Converso’s Judaism: Profyat Duran’s Linguistic Theology in the *Ma‘aseh Efod*,” International Symposium on Reconstructing Traditions through Interpretation in Jewish and Chinese Classical Hermeneutics, Beijing Center of the University of Chicago and Shandong University, China, December 2017.
- “Maimonides, Nature, and Science.” Institute for Jewish Studies, Washington D. C., March 2017
- “Maimonides and the *Falāsifa* on Certainty and the Certainty of Prophecy,” University of Toronto, March 2018; Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, Research Group on Aristotelian Logic in Medieval Jewish Culture and Thought,” Oct. 2018.
- “Maimonides and Abulafia on Language and Meaning,” Workshop on Idel’s Abulafia, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, University of Hamburg, March 2018
- “Dying for God, or Martyrdom, in Medieval Jewish and Islamic Thought,” Series on the Qur’an and Torah, Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, April 2018.
- “Saadia on What it is Like to Suffer,” Workshop on the Problem of Evil and Philosophical Commentaries on the Book of Job, Munich School of Philosophy, May 2018; Conference in honor of Tzvi Langermann, Bar-Ilan University, May 2019.
- “Maimonides on Providence, the Problem of Evil, and the Parable of Job,” Workshop on the Problem of Evil and Philosophical Commentaries on the Book of Job, Munich School of Philosophy, May 2018; Templeton Workshop on Providence and Randomness, Ohrid, Macedonia, June 2018.
- “Maimonides on Learning to Be Human: Skepticism, Accommodation, and Spiritual Exercises,” World Congress of Philosophy, Beijing, August 2018.
- “Two Conceptions of Idolatry in the Thought of Maimonides,” Conference “There Was None Like Moses: Maimonides, Man of Law, Thinker, and Leader,” The National Library of Israel, December 2018.
- “Joel Kraemer in Chicago,” Memorial for Joel Kraemer, Yad ben Tzvi, Jerusalem, December 2018.
- “Saadia on “*what is in the hearts of people when they reach the limits of endurance in a trial*”” Conference in honor of the retirement of Tzvi Langedrmann, Bar-Ilan University, May 2019; Templeton Conference on Providence and Randomness, Casablanca, Morocco May 2019.
- “Maimonides on Worship, True and False,” Templeton workshop on Worship, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, August 2019.
- “Where is Maimonides’ Logic?” Conference on Aristotelian Logic in Medieval Cultures, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, June 2019.
- “What Kind of a (Sceptical) Work is Simone Luzzatto’s *Socrate*?” Workshop on Luzzatto’s *Socrate*, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, University of Hamburg, October 2019
- “Maimonides’ Dream Argument and the Certainty of Prophecy,” Department of Philosophy, Society for Early Modern Philosophy, Yale University, March 2022;

- Conference on Medieval Arabic and Jewish Philosophy, The University of Illinois at Chicago, November 2023.
- “Mark Steiner on Maimonides and Jewish Philosophy,” Memorial for Mark Steiner, Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University, April 2022.
- “Profayt Duran’s Grammar Wars against Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism in the *Ma’aseh Efod*,” Israel Institute for Advanced Studies: the 5<sup>th</sup> Advanced School in the Humanities: Grammar Wars, May-June 2022.
- “Quotation, *Ha’omer davar beshem omro*, and the very idea of intellectual property in Rabbinic Judaism,” Jacob and Joyce Z. Greenberg Lecture, Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies and Alumni Center, The University of Chicago, November 2023
- “Maimonides’ Skeptical Critique of a Divine Intellect, or the Curious Case of *Guide I: 68*,” Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies, University of Hamburg, July 2024.

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

- Referee: *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, *Critical Inquiry*, *The Journal of Religion*, *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, *Nous*, *Mind and Language*, *Linguistics and Philosophy*, *Synthese*, *Journal of Jewish Philosophy and Thought*; *European Journal of Philosophy*; *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *Philosopher’s Imprint*, *Iyyun*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialogue: The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Tarbiz*, *Nous*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Analysis*, *Harvard Theological Review*, *Religious Studies*, University of Chicago Press, Harvard University Press, Magnes Press (Hebrew University), Columbia University Press, SUNY Press, Cambridge University Press, Rowman and Littlefield, Princeton University Press, Cambridge University Press, Emet Prize, Prime Minister’s Office, Israel; The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities; National Foundation for Jewish Culture, College de France, Oxford University.
- Chicago Academic Representative, The Hebrew University, 1984-7
- Program Committee, Central Division, American Philosophical Association 1999-2000.
- Royce Lecture Committee, Committee on Awards and Prizes, American Philosophical Association.
- Co-director, Webinar Series on Shi’a and Jewish Philosophy and Thought, with Catholic University of America, Najaf University, Iraq, and the University of Religions and Denominations, Qom, Iran.
- Reviewer, Fellowships, American Council of Learned Societies, 2015, 2016, 2017.

#### SELECTED UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE:

- Department of Philosophy, The University of Chicago:
- Dept. Undergraduate Advisor, 1981-1987; Graduate Placement Officer, 1982-4, 1989-90, 1991-2; Director, Undergraduate Studies, Dept. of Philosophy, 1990-1; Department Ad hoc Tenure and Renewal Committees, 1991, 1993, 1995, 2000; Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of Philosophy, 1998-2000, 2002-7; Associate Chair, 2004-7; Co-Director, Philosophy-Linguistics Ph.D. program, 1985-2016; Chair, Dept. of Philosophy 2008-9; Co-Director, Workshop on Linguistics and Philosophy, 2005-16.

University Service: College Council, 1982-4; Standing Committee on Admissions and Enrollment of the College Council, 1982-4; College Dean of Students' Committee on an Israel Study Program, 1985-7; Harper InstructorS Search Committee, 1983, Co-chairman, 1986; Provost's Committee to Review Student Disciplinary Procedures for the University, 1987-8; Governing Committee on Curriculum, Humanities Collegiate Division; Tave Fellowship Committee, 1994; Standing Committee on Curriculum of the College Council, 1993-6; Mellon Fellowship Selection Committee 1999, 2000; Governing Board, Beijing Center, University of Chicago.

Jewish Studies and Joyce Z. and Jacob Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies: Jewish Studies Workshop Steering Committee, 1984-8; Special Subcommittee to Report on the State of Jewish Studies at the University, 1985-6; Executive Committee, Undergraduate Concentration in Jewish Studies, The University of Chicago, 1992-4; Founding Member, Judaic Civilization Sequence, College Civilization Program, 1993; Co-director, Klein Memorial Library Project, The Divinity School, 1992-4; Coordinator, Faculty Working Group on Jewish Studies, Chicago Humanities Institute, 1993-4, 1994-5; Ear Committee, Committee on Jewish Studies 2006; Co-chair, Working Group for a Center for Jewish Studies; Founding Director, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, 2009-2014; Governing Board, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, 2015-16.

Bar-Ilan University 2000-2: Committee on Programs and Appointments, Faculty of Humanities; Special Rector's Committees for Appointments of Excellence in Humanities and Jewish Studies; Committee on Research; Committee on Honorary Degrees.

#### ACADEMIC HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS:

Research grant, Emeriti Center, The University of Chicago, 2022

Marie Curie Senior Fellow, European Union Institutes of Advances Studies (EURIAS) Fellowship Program, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, 2018-19

Senior Fellowship, Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies—Jewish Scepticism, University of Hamburg, Germany, 11/16, 1-3/17, 5/17

Trustee, Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies—Jewish Scepticism, University of Hamburg, Germany, 2015—2024.

Fellow, American Academy for Jewish Research, 2015-\*

2014 Book Prize for the best book on the history of philosophy published in 2013, awarded to The Matter and Form of Maimonides' Guide by the Board of Directors of the Journal of the History of Philosophy.

President (Honorary), Association for the Philosophy of Judaism, 2013-14

Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies, 2007-08

Fellow, The Library, The Van Leer Jerusalem Foundation, 1988-\*

Research Grant, Israel Science Foundation, Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, 2001-3

Research Grant, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, 2000-1

Fellowship, The National Endowment for the Humanities, 1996-7

Lady Davis Associate Professorship, The Hebrew University, Spring 1996

Research Grant, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, 1994-5

Scholar, Franke Institute for the Humanities, The University of Chicago, 1991-2

Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies, 1988-9  
 Lady Davis Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Hebrew University, Israel, 1984-5  
 William Rainey Harper Fellow, The University of Chicago, 1979-81  
 Mellon Fellow, Society of Fellows, Columbia University, 1979-80, (Declined)  
 Whiting Fellow in the Humanities, Columbia University, 1977-8  
 Chamberlain Fellow, Columbia University, 1977-8  
 Linguistics Institute Scholar, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Summer 1974  
 Siff Award in the Philosophy of Science, Columbia University, 1974  
 Graduate Fellowship, Columbia University, 1972-4  
 Phi Beta Kappa, 1972

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

American Philosophical Association; Linguistics Society of America; Society for Philosophy and Psychology; Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy; Association for Jewish Studies; Society for Judaeo-Arabic Studies; Société Internationale pour L'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale, (Fellow) Center for Jewish Philosophy-Hartman Institute (Israel); (Fellow) Academy for Jewish Philosophy.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANIZED:

- “Art, Society, and Politics in Modern Hebrew Letters: A Conference in honor of Menachem Brinker,” February 2006, University of Chicago, Chicago.
- “Spiritual Exercises: From Antiquity to the Present,” January 2011, co-organized with Arnold Davidson, University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, Chicago.
- “A Jewish Theologian in Chicago: Themes in the Thought of Eliezer Berkovits,” March 2011, co-sponsored by the University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies and Spertus Institute, Chicago. The papers from this conference were published as edited volume 2 above.
- “Hypocrisy and Dissimulation in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam I,” May 2011, co-organized with David Nirenberg, The University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, Chicago.
- “The State of American Jewish Belief: A Crisis or a New Threshold?,” March 2012, co-organized with Paul Mendes-Flohr, co-sponsored by the University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies and Spertus Institute, Chicago.
- “Maimonides and Medieval Jewish Thought,” April 2012, University of Chicago Center in Beijing, co-organized with Prof. Fu Youde, Shandong University, China.
- “Hypocrisy and Dissimulation in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam II,” June 2012, Jerusalem, co-organized with David Nirenberg and Moshe Sluhovsky (Hebrew University), co-sponsored by the University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, Van Leer Institute Jerusalem, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel.

- “Ethics and Filial Piety in Judaism and Confucianism,” December 2013, co-organized with Prof. Fu Youde, co-sponsored by University of Chicago Center in Beijing and Shandong University, Jinan, China.
- “Pines’ Maimonides: The History of the Translation and Interpretation of *The Guide of the Perplexed*,” January 2014, co-organized with James Robinson, Warren Zev Harvey, and Jeffrey Macy, University of Chicago Center for Jewish Studies, Chicago. Selected papers from this conference (with some additions) are being published as edited volume 4 above.
- “Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik as a Philosopher,” February 2014, co-organized with Arnold Davidson, co-sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies and Divinity School of the University of Chicago and Spertus Institute, Chicago.
- “Reconstructing Traditions through Interpretation: International Symposium on Jewish and Chinese Classical Hermeneutics,” December 2017, co-organized with Prof. Fu Youde and Dong Xiuyuan, co-sponsored by University of Chicago Center in Beijing and Shandong University, Qingdao, China.
- “Scepticism and Religion in Al-Ghazālī, Maimonides, and Hume,” International Workshop, Maimonides Center for Advanced Studies—Jewish Skepticism,” University of Hamburg, Germany, November 2017, co-organized with Stephan Schmid and Máté Veres.
- “The Ideal of the Sage in Jewish and Chinese Thought,” December 2024, co-organized with Haun Saussy, Fu Youde, and Dong Xiuyuan, co-sponsored by UChicago Global through the University of Chicago Center in Beijing and Shandong University, Jinan, China.

#### CONCEPTUAL ART:

“*Philosophy Specials III*” (July 12, 2016)

In collaboration with Stephanie Brooks

Thought inscribed in colored chalk on black board *and laminated for posterity*. Stuart Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, The University of Chicago.

“*Philosophy Specials II*” (July 14, 2014)

In collaboration with Stephanie Brooks

Thought inscribed in *colored* chalk on black board.

Victim of the Great (University of) Chicago (Department of Philosophy) Fire, September 20, 2015. Purified out of existence by anti-carcinogenic zealots.

“*Philosophy Specials I*” (May 14, 2010)

In collaboration with Stephanie Brooks

Thought inscribed in *white* chalk on black board.

Erased into oblivion by the Chicago Maintenance Taliban (October 8, 2013).

#### DISSERTATIONS SUPERVISED:

Kenneth Taylor (Ph.D., 1984), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Cynthia Welsh (Linguistics and Philosophy, Ph.D., 1988), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Donald Breen (Ph.D., 1993), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Chris Schmidt (Linguistics Ph.D., 1991), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 James Shelley (Ph.D., 1994), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Robin Jeshion (Ph.D., 1995), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Irene Appelbaum (Ph.D., 1995), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Diane Perpich (Ph.D., 1997), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Jesse Prinz (Ph.D., 1997), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Philip Robbins (Ph.D., 1999), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 John Kulvicki (Ph.D., 2001), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Guy Dove (Ph.D, 2001), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 David Svolba (Ph.D. 2008), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Ben McMyler (Ph.D. 2008), Philosophy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Nat Hanson (Ph.D., 2010), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Daesuk Han (Ph.D., 2010), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Aidan Gray (Ph.D. 2012), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Joseph Lam (NELC, Ph.D. 2012) 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Tom Lockhart (Ph.D. 2013), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Rachel Goodman (Ph.D. 2013), 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Igor de Souza (Committee on Jewish Studies, Ph.D. 2014) 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Joshua Schwartz (Ph.D. 2014), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Joseph Steinenger (Divinity, Ph.D. 2014) 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Silver Bronzo (Ph.D. 2015), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reader  
 Chaim Neria (Divinity, Ph.D. 2015), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Nick Kozoliak (Ph.D. 2015), 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader  
 Dawn E. Chow (Ph.D. 2017) 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Hannah McKeon (In Progress) 1<sup>st</sup> Reader  
 Sandrine De Clerck, Free University of Brussels (In Progress), Co-director