

MIKA AHUVIA

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502 Thomson Hall
Jackson School of International Studies

EDUCATION

- PhD** Princeton University, Religion August, 2014
Dissertation: “Israel Among the Angels: A Study of Angels
in Jewish Texts from the Fourth to Eighth Century CE.”
Committee: Martha Himmelfarb and Peter Schäfer
- Tel Aviv University, Hebrew Culture Fall 2011–Spring 2012
Visiting Student
- MA** University of Michigan, Judaic Studies December, 2008
- BA** Rollins College, Classical Studies with Honors May 2005
Graduated Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Angels in Late Ancient Judaism. Oakland: University of California Press, 2021.

Co-edited with Alexander Koçar, *Placing Ancient Texts: the Rhetorical and
Ritual Use of Space*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2018.

Refereed Journal Articles

“Gender and the Angels in Late Antique Judaism.” *Jewish Studies Quarterly*,
forthcoming.

“Analogies of Violence in Rabbinic literature.” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*
34:2 (2018): 59–74.

With Sarit Kattan-Gribetz, “The Daughters of Israel: An Analysis of the Term in Late
Ancient Jewish Sources.” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 108.1 (2018): 1–27.

Book Chapters

With Rena Lauer, “Women’s Movements in the Pre-Modern Era.” *The Routledge Global History of Feminism*. Edited by Bonnie G. Smith and Nova Robinson. Routledge, forthcoming.

“Jewish Towns and Neighborhoods.” *The Blackwell Companion to Late Ancient Jews and Judaism*. Edited by Naomi Koltun-Fromm and Gwynn Kessler. Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.

“The Spatial and Social Dynamics of Jewish Babylonian Incantations.” Pages 243–269 in *Placing Ancient Texts: the Rhetorical and Ritual Use of Space*. Edited by Mika Ahuvia and Alexander Koçar. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2018.

“Darkness Upon the Abyss: Depicting Cosmogony in Late Antiquity.” Pages 255–270 in *In the Beginning: Jewish and Christian Cosmogony in Late Antiquity*. Edited by Lance Jenott and Sarit Kattan-Gribetz. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013.

With John Gager, “Some Notes on Jesus and his Parents: From the New Testament Gospels to the *Toledot Yeshu*.” Pages 997–1019 in *Envisioning Judaism: Studies in Honor of Peter Schäfer on the Occasion of his Seventieth Birthday*. Edited by Ra’anan Boustani et al. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Mysticism” and “Liturgy.” *The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization*. Vol. 2. New Haven: Yale University Press, forthcoming.

“Mediator,” “Memra,” “Metatron,” “Michael.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*. Edited by Barry Walfish. De Gruyter, forthcoming.

“Angelology.” *Routledge Dictionary of Ancient Mediterranean Religions*. New York: Routledge, 2016.

“Popular Religion and Magic” and “Sexual Violence in Early Judaism,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Gender Studies*. Edited by Julia O’Brien. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Book Reviews

Review of *Religious Studies and Rabbinics: A Conversation* by Elizabeth Shanks Alexander and Beth Berkowitz. *Ancient Jew Review*, forthcoming.

Review of *The Myth of Rebellious Angels: Studies in Second Temple Judaism and New Testament Texts* by Loren T. Stuckenbruck. *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, forthcoming.

Review of *Writing on the Wall: Graffiti and the Forgotten Jews of Antiquity* by Karen Stern. *AJS Review* 43:1 (2019): 199–201.

Review of *Jewish Messiahs in a Christian Empire: A History of the book of Zerubbabel* by Martha Himmelfarb. *Studies in Late Antiquity* 1.3 (Summer 2017): 311–314.

Review of *The Dynasty of the Jewish Patriarchs* by Albert Appelbaum. *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 24.2 (Summer 2016): 293–4.

Web-Based Essays

“A Patriarchal Miseducation.” *AJS Perspectives: The Patriarchy Issue* (Summer 2019).

“Us vs. Them: Challenging Stereotypes about Judaism in the Wake of the Pittsburgh Shooting.” Stroum Center for Jewish Studies Blog (November 1, 2018).
<https://jewishstudies.washington.edu/jewish-history-and-thought/challenging-christian-stereotypes-judaism-legalism-pittsburgh-synagogue-shooting/>

“Reading the Rabbis in the Age of #MeToo.” *Feminist Studies in Religion Blog* (October 23, 2018). <http://www.fsrinc.org/reading-rabbis-metoo/>

“An Ancient Jewess Invoking Goddesses: Transgression or Pious Adaptation?” *AJS Perspectives: The Transgression Issue* (Summer 2017): 24-25. <http://perspectives.ajsnet.org/transgression-issue/an-ancient-jewess-invoking-goddesses-transgression-or-pious-adaptation/>

“Jewish Queens: From the Story of Esther to the History of Shelamzion.” *The Torah & Biblical Scholarship* (March 18, 2016). <http://thetorah.com/jewish-queens-from-the-story-of-esther-to-the-history-of-shelamzion/>

“A Jewish Historian’s Plea for Global Refugees.” Stroum Center for Jewish Studies Blog (September 9, 2015). <http://jewishstudies.washington.edu/jewish-history-and-thought/jewish-historian-plea-for-global-refugees/>

“A Quick Introduction to Toledot Yeshu,” *Ancient Jew Review* (December 25, 2014).
<http://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2014/12/25/a-quick-introduction-to-toledot-yeshu>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Short-Term Research Publication Grant: Alternate American Association of University Women (AAUW)	2020
Royalty Research Fund Fellowship University of Washington	2018–19
Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship Recipient of the Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Jewish Studies	2013–14
Fellowship at Center for the Study of Religion Graduate research fellow at the Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University	2013–14
Stanley J. Seeger Fellowship Princeton University	Summer 2013
Jean and Samuel Frankel Chair Award For academic excellence in the study of ancient Judaism, University of Michigan.	April 2007
Jean & Stanley Frankel Fellowship Scholarship for one year of MA study at the University of Michigan.	2006–2007
Outstanding Senior Scholar in the Humanities Division Rollins College	May 2005

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

“Israel Among the Angels.” Dept. of History, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. May 10, 2017.

“Israel Among the Angels: Angels from the Bible to Judaism and Christianity.” Dept. of Theology and Religious Studies, Seattle University, WA. May 4, 2017.

“Drawing on the Past: Biblical Women in History, Memory, and Ritual Life.” Public presentation in conjunction with the international debut of the *Women of the Book* exhibition. Stroum Jewish Community Center, Seattle, WA. September 29, 2016.

UW Campus Lectures

“Religion, Rapture, and the End of Times in the Middle East.” Guest lecture for Trump in the World (JSIS 478). Virtual lecture, April 21, 2020.

“Ancient Jewish Magic.” Public Lecture at Odegaard Library, April 17, 2018.

“Israel Among the Angels: Views from Jewish Antiquity.” Public Lecture at UW-Hillel. March 31, 2015.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Co-Chair of the Social History of Formative Judaism and Christianity section of the Society of Biblical Literature (2020–2023)

Member of Steering committee (2014 – present)

Conference Papers

“The Mechanics of Healing.” A response to Michael D. Swartz’s *The Mechanics of Providence* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2018). Conference of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA. November 23, 2019.

Respondent to Karen Stern’s *Graffiti and the Forgotten Jews of Antiquity*. Conference of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA. November 23, 2019.

“Gender, Sex, and the Angels.” Presenter at symposium for Scholars of Ancient Judaism in the Pacific Northwest. Portland State University, Portland, OR. April 14–15, 2019.

Respondent to a panel on “Incarceration in Late Antiquity.” Conference of the Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, CO. November 18, 2018.

“Introduction to Ancient Jewish Magic: Methods, Gender Issues, and Comparative Perspective.” Guest Lecture in “Jews, Christians, and Others in the Ancient Mediterranean.” Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, NY. October 30, 2014.

Participant in roundtable on “Jews, Gender, and Cross-confessional Interactions in the Premodern Mediterranean.” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington D.C. December 18, 2017.

“The Social and Spatial Dynamics of Ancient Incantation Bowls,” Paper presented at the Conference of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, TX. Nov. 21, 2016.

“Texts and Artifacts Beyond the Rabbinic Corpus.” Guest Lecture (via Skype), Fordham University, New York, NY. Dec. 17, 2015.

“Why Be an Angel When You Can Be a Goddess? Jewess Magic in Antiquity.” Paper presented at the Conference of the SBL, Atlanta, GA. Nov. 22, 2015.

“‘Stolen waters are sweet’: Analogies of Violence in Rabbinic literature.” Paper presented at the Conference of the SBL, Atlanta, GA. Nov. 22, 2015.

“‘The Law according to (the Daughters of) Israel’: Revisiting Rabbinic and Other Late Antique Sources.” Paper co-presented with Sarit Kattan Gribetz at the Conference of the AJS, Baltimore, MD. Dec. 16, 2014.

“Rabbis, Authority, and the Angels.” Paper presented at the Conference of the SBL, San Diego, CA. Nov. 23, 2014.

“Priestly Depiction of Sacrifice in the Mishnah: The Case of Tractate Tamid.” Paper presented at the Conference of the SBL, San Diego, CA. Nov. 24, 2014.

“At Home with the Angels: the Spatial and Social Dynamics of Jewish Babylonian Incantations.” Paper Presented at the Conference of the AJS, Boston, MA. Dec. 17, 2013.

“Augustine’s Imagined Community of the Dead: Commentary on Post-tractum 142 De sepultura catechumenorum.” Paper presented at the Conference of the SBL Atlanta, GA. Nov. 22, 2010.

COURSES AND TEACHING

Regularly offered courses

- **Introduction to Judaism** (RELIG / JEW ST 145): redeveloped this required core course with a religious studies perspective for the program in Jewish Studies (2017 and 2019).
- **Introduction to Western Religions** (RELIG 201): redeveloped this required core course with equal emphases on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam for the comparative religion program. I have been increasing enrollment after a prolonged decline (offered winters of 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020).
- **Gender, Sex, and Religion** (RELIG/GWSS 334/534): developed this course to attract students to the study of religion. This is the only religion course cross-listed with the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies and serves a wide variety of students without any background in the study of religion (2016, 2019, 2020).
- **Introduction to Rabbinic Literature** (JSIS C 258): developed this course for undergraduates and rebranded it as JEW ST 330/530 “The Sages: Foundations of Classical Judaism.” I offer this course every other year (2015, 2017, 2019).
- **Angels: From the Bible to American Spirituality** (RELIG 440). Building on my book project, I developed this advanced seminar on angels in religious texts. Though its first iteration attracted 25 students from all over the university, I realized it functions best with

students with some background in the study of religion. Current enrollment is 10 students, about half seniors and half graduate students.

Out of Rotation

- **Beyond Comparison:** Judaism and Christianity (2016): developed this graduate seminar for Comparative Religion MA students and doctoral students.
- **Protest Movements in the US and the World** (2014 and 2017): Building on my research into religious movements as protest movement in antiquity, I developed this seminar for the International Studies major (JSIS 498).
- **Heroes, Heretics, and Radicals:** the Origins of Judaism and Christianity (JSIS C 155): developed this new course to appeal to new undergraduate audiences (2015 and 2016).

In Development

- **Lessons from the Holocaust:** I am organizing this team-taught course for the Autumn of 2020, which will invite faculty participation from across the university. Based on faculty, student, and public response, we will either proceed with the creation of a Holocaust Studies minor or continue offering this team-taught course.
- **Catastrophe and Resilience:** In conjunction with my next book project, I plan to develop a hybrid undergrad/grad seminar on ancient Jewish responses to catastrophe and exile. It will incorporate material from my courses that are out of rotation as well as from ancient Jewish texts that are generally omitted from the regular curriculum: apocryphal texts, ancient texts from Hellenistic Egypt, and synagogue art and liturgy.

Doctoral Students Advised

Jennifer Hunter, Near and Middle Eastern Studies, ongoing (2018–2020).
Corinna Nichols, Near and Middle Eastern Studies, incoming.

Masters Students Advised

Keah Neal-Calluccie, Comparative Religion, 2020.
Jonathan Wegner, Comparative Religion, 2016.
Summer Satushek, Comparative Religion, 2015.
Mara Sobotka, Comparative Religion, 2015.

Graduate School Representative

Claire Barwise, Department of English, 2020.
Molly Fitzmorris, Department of Linguistics, 2017.

Jewish Studies Faculty Advisory Council	(Spring 2019 – Present)
Jewish Studies Curriculum Committee Chair	(Fall 2014 – Present)
Center for Global Studies Executive Committee	(Fall 2015 – Present)
Comparative Religion MA Committee	(Winter 2016 – 2018)
JSIS Faculty Council	(Winter 2016 – Winter 2018)
Religious Studies Club of UW	(Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)
Women in Religion	(Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Advisor for FaithTrust Institute on “Why Faith Matters: A Resource for Advocates and Allies to Recognize the Spiritual and Religious Needs of Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault and Abuse” (2018–2019).

Scholar in Residence with Congregation Kol Shalom. Arlington, WA. April 6–8, 2018.

“Jewish Queens: From Esther to Shelamzion Alexandra.” Beth Shalom Synagogue, Seattle, March 12, 2016.

“Jewish Women in Ritual and Memory.” Beth Shalom Synagogue, Seattle, WA. July 18, 2015.

LANGUAGES

Modern: Hebrew (native), French, German (reading).

Ancient: Biblical and Mishnaic Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Aramaic.