

Third Annual

**OXFORD SUMMER INSTITUTE
IN MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY JUDAISM
(OSI – MCJ)**

27 June – 4 July 2016

Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies
in conjunction with the
Phillip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies, Lehigh University

**Academic Jewish Studies and Judaism:
Reciprocal Influences**



PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, JUNE 26 (Arrival day at Eynsham Hall)

7:30pm Informal buffet dinner



MONDAY, JUNE 27

8:00am Breakfast

10:00am **SESSION 1: Opening**

Adam Ferziger and **Hartley Lachter**:

Welcome, explanation of concept, expectations

Round table self-introductions/research focus of each participant

12:30pm Lunch

2:00pm **SESSION 2: Contemporary Biblical Scholarship**

Chair: **Miri Freud-Kandel**

Michael Fishbane – Biblical Studies during the past Half-Century

Respondents: **Sylvie-Anne Goldberg**, **Elad Lapidot**

Discussion

4:00pm Coffee break

4:30pm **SESSION 3: Academic Jewish Studies in Western Europe**

Chair: **Amihai Radzyner**

Sylvie-Anne Goldberg – A French Exception? Academic Jewish Studies *versus* Congregational Studies

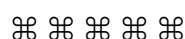
Hannah Tzuberi – Jewish Studies in Berlin: Two Different Schools and their Missing Jews

Respondents: **Alicja Maślak**, **Peter Lintl**

Discussion

7:00pm **Formal Welcome Dinner**

Greetings: **Sara Hirschhorn**, **Hartley Lachter**, **Miri Freud-Kandel**



TUESDAY, JUNE 28

8:00am Breakfast

10:00am **SESSION 4: Academia and Theology**

Chair: **Kata Zsófia Vincze**

Miri Freud-Kandel – A Synthetic Paradigm: Louis Jacobs on Scholarship and Faith in Accounting for *Torah min Hashamayim*

Elad Lapidot - Knowing People - On Modern Jewish Epistemico-Politics

Respondents: **Ari Kelman, Michael Fishbane**

Discussion

12:30pm Lunch

2:00pm **SESSION 5: Scholarship and Jewish Identity**

Chair: **Sylvie-Anne Goldberg**

Ari Kelman – Traditional Judaism: The Conceptualization of Jewishness in the Lives of American Jewish Post-Boomers

Kata Zsófia Vincze – Cultivating Identity in the Shadow of a Romanticized Glorious Academic Past: Jewish Studies and Community Education in Post-Communist Hungary

Respondents: **Jodi Eichler-Levine, Wojciech Tworek**

4:30pm Coffee Break

5:00pm **SESSION 6: Material Culture and Religion**

Chair: **Hartley Lachter**

Jodi Eichler-Levine – Crafting Judaism: American Jewish Women and Creativity

Respondents: **Kata Zsófia Vincze, Sara Hirschhorn**

7:00pm Dinner



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

8:00am Breakfast

9:15am **SESSION 7: Legal Research and Practical Halakhah**

Chair: **Wojciech Tworek**

Amihai Radzyner – Rabbinical Courts and the
Research of Jewish Law

Respondents: **Elad Lapidot, Adam Ferziger**



11:30am Bus Departure to Waddesdon Manor – Rothschild Family Estate

12:30pm Picnic Lunch

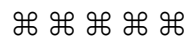
1:30pm Independent touring

3:30pm Guided Tour of the Jewish Collection provided by
the Rothschild Foundation

4:30pm Depart for Eynsham Hall

7:00pm Dinner

8:00pm Film



THURSDAY, JUNE 30

8:00am Breakfast

10:00am **SESSION 8: Political Studies and Religion**

Chair: **David N. Myers**

Peter Lintl – Political Jewish Identities in Modernity: Theoretical Considerations and Historical Sketches

Sara Hirschhorn – Unsettled Questions: Studying the Israeli Ultra-Nationalist Movement in Comparative Perspective

Respondents: **Amihai Radzyner, Jodi Eichler-Levine**

12:30pm Lunch

2:00pm **SESSION 9: Herr Rabbiner Doktor**

Chair: **Sara Hirschhorn**

Alicja Maślak – “Religiously Conservative and Academically Educated” – 19th Century Krakow’s Progressive Preachers and their Religious Views

Adam Ferziger – Rabbi Doctors and the Emergence of the New Israeli Rabbinate

Respondents: **Leore Sachs Shmueli, David N. Myers**

4:30pm Coffee Break

5:00pm **SESSION 10: Beyond Secularism**

Chair: **Miri Freud-Kandel**

Graham Ward - Beyond Secularism - Where Theologies are Heading

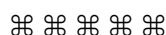
Respondent: **Martin Goodman**

7:00pm Dinner



FRIDAY, JULY 1

- 8:00am Breakfast
- 10:00am **SESSION 11: Biblical Exegesis**
Chair: **Sara Hirschhorn**
- Elie Assis** – Mind the Gap: Reassessing the Disparity between Traditional and Modern Interpretation of the Song of Songs
- Respondents: **Hannah Tzuberi, Michael Fishbane**
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Transfer to St. Anne's College, Oxford
- 4:30pm Bodleian Library Hebrew Manuscript Treasures Tour –
César Merchán-Hamann (Director, Leopold Muller Memorial Library and Hebraica and Judaica Curator at the Bodleian Library)
- 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat – Oxford Jewish Congregation, 21 Richmond Road
- 8:30pm Dinner
- Dvar Torah: **Michael (Buzzy) Fishbane**



SHABBAT, JULY 2

- 9:45am Tefillah – Oxford Jewish Congregation
- Kiddush after the service
- 12.30pm Lecture (open to congregation): **Leore Sachs Shmueli** - Eros and Thanatos in the Mystical Kiss of God: Zoharic and Feminist Readings
- 1:30pm Lunch
- Dvar Torah: **Hartley Lachter**
- 5:30pm Oxford Tour – **Ezra Margulies** (meet at entrance to St. Anne's College)
- 7:30pm Talmud Study (open to congregation): **Elad Lapidot**
- 8:30pm Seudah Sheleesheet - Light Dinner



SUNDAY, JULY 3

8:30am Breakfast – Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies,
Walton Street, Oxford, OX1 2HG

10:00am **SESSION 12: Mysticism and Contemporary Judaism**

Chair: **Jodi Eichler-Levine**

Hartley Lachter – Sealed Books: Kabbalah and the Writing of Jewish History

Leore Sachs Shmueli – The Case of the Feminist Theological Discourse and Practices in Reviving the Image of Shekhinah

Respondents: **Michael Fishbane, Naftali Loewenthal**

12:30pm Lunch

2:00pm **SESSION 13: Hasidism and the Academy**

Chair: **Alicja Maślak**

Wojciech Tworek - Beyond Hagiographies with Footnotes: the Biographies of the Last Habad Rebbe, R. Menachem Mendel Schneerson

Naftali Loewenthal - Chabad and the Academy

Respondent: **Hartley Lachter**

6:00pm Dinner

7:30pm **SESSION 14: Evening Session**

Chair: **Adam Ferziger**

David N. Myers – On Identity and Scholarly Engagement

Respondents: **Ari Kelman, Elie Assis**



MONDAY, JULY 4

8:00am Breakfast

9:30am **SESSION 15: Summary Session – Adam Ferziger and Hartley Lachter**

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Convenors:

Adam Ferziger (Bar-Ilan University)
Hartley Lachter (Lehigh University)



Founding Co-Convenor

Miri Freud-Kandel (University of Oxford)



OCHJS Academic Liaison

Sara Hirschhorn (University of Oxford)



Participants:

Elie Assis (Bar-Ilan University)
Jodi Eichler-Levine (Lehigh University)
Michael Fishbane (University of Chicago)
Sylvie-Anne Goldberg (EHESS, Paris)
Ari Kelman (Stanford University)
Elad Lapidot (Freie Universität Berlin)
Peter Lintl (Friedrich Alexander Universität, Erlangen-Nürnberg)
Naftali Loewenthal (University College, London)
Alicja Maślak (Jagiellonian University, Krakow)
David N. Myers (UCLA)
Amihai Radzyner (Bar-Ilan University)
Leore Sachs Shmueli (Bar-Ilan University)
Wojciech Tworek (University of Wrocław)
Hannah Tzuberi (Freie Universität Berlin)
Kata Zsófia Vincze (ELTE University, Budapest)
Graham Ward (University of Oxford)



Administration

Tara Coyle, Sue Forteath, Martine Smith-Huvers



Programme Assistant

Ezra Margulies



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Targum Shlishi, Aventura, FL**

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