

OXFORD  
CENTRE FOR  
HEBREW  
AND JEWISH  
STUDIES  
&  
OXFORD  
SCHOOL OF  
RARE  
JEWISH  
LANGUAGES

OSRJI

# OXFORD SCHOOL OF RARE JEWISH LANGUAGES LECTURE

Week 4

Dr Peter Nahon  
(University of Neuchâtel)

## 'Dialects of the Jews in the South of France: From Written Sources to Spoken Varieties'

**Peter Nahon** (École des chartes 2017; MA, PhD Sorbonne 2020), is Research Fellow in Romance dialectology and linguistics at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. His main research interests are linguistic variation in Gallo-Romance, language contact, as well as Hebrew and Romance philology. At the intersection of these areas, he particularly focuses his research on the dialects of the Jews in France (Judeo-Provençal, Judeo-Gascon, Judeo-French), of which he published several linguistic descriptions and analyses based on historical sources as well as direct fieldwork.

**Abstract:** Former research on Judeo-Romance dialects from the South of France (Jewish varieties of Occitan) has long focused primarily on partial documentation: a handful of texts all coming from a narrow part of the Provençal area. New research has shown, in the past few years, that this linguistic field is considerably wider. Judeo-Occitan linguistic varieties are attested in a geographical area spanning from Gascony to Nice. As for Judeo-Provençal proper, most of the surviving texts have not yet been published and linguistically studied. Moreover, Judeo-Provençal and other cognate varieties, long deemed extinct, still survive in the form of a vast array of linguistic features now used within their French dialects by descendants of their speakers. These varieties are now duly described through recent and extensive fieldwork. The comparative analysis of these spoken remnants and the largely understudied written sources sheds new and considerable light on Jewish linguistic variation in southern Gallo-Romance.

Tuesday, 7 February 2023

6.00 pm (UK time)

In-person at the Catherine Lewis Lecture Theatre,  
Clarendon Institute, Walton Street (no need to register) and  
please register to attend online via Zoom:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ1kf--prjgqE9wkLLvOqU4EG05B6zCazv\\_5](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ1kf--prjgqE9wkLLvOqU4EG05B6zCazv_5)

ALL LECTURES ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Clarendon Institute  
Walton Street  
Oxford, OX1 2HG  
01865 610422  
enquiries@ochjs.ac.uk  
www.ochjs.ac.uk

