

Chaviva Levin
Visiting Assistant Prof. of Jewish History
Yeshiva College, Yeshiva University
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Education:

Ph.D., Hebrew & Judaic Studies and History, New York University, 2006

Concentrations: Medieval Jewish History, Medieval History, Jews and Christians in the Middle Ages, Medieval Hebrew Historical Narrative

Major Field Exams: Medieval History; Medieval Jewish History

Oral Comprehensive Exam: Medieval Jewish Christian Relations (With Distinction)

Dissertation: "Jewish Conversion to Christianity in Medieval Northern Europe Encountered and Imagined, 1000-1300"

Supervisors: Prof. Robert Chazan, Prof. Penelope Johnson

M.S., Medieval Jewish History, Yeshiva University, 1993

Concentrations: Medieval Jewish History, History of Halakha

B.A., summa cum laude, History and Jewish Studies, Stern College for Women, Yeshiva University, 1993

Teaching Experience:

Visiting Assistant Professor, Yeshiva College, Yeshiva University, 2006-Present

Courses:

Medieval Jewish History

Honors Medieval Jewish History

Jewish Conversion to Christianity in Historical Perspective

Jewish Historiography

Medieval Jewish-Christian Encounter

Medieval Idea of Crusade - In Development for "Cultures Over Time"

Adjunct Instructor, Yeshiva College, Yeshiva University, 1999-2005

Medieval Jewish History

Instructor, Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls, Teaneck, NJ 1998-1999

A.P. Medieval Jewish History

Morse Academic Preceptor, New York University, 1996-1997

Conversations of the West – Enlightenment

Responsibilities: Grading Papers, Discussion Sections

Teaching Assistant, New York University, 1994

Civilization and Culture of the Middle Ages

Responsibilities: Grading Papers, Discussion Sections, Classroom Lecture

Scholarly Presentations:

“Conversion as Immigration: The Case of Jewish Conversion to Christianity in Medieval Northern Europe,” AAR Working Group on Immigration and Theology, American Academy of Religion Conference, San Francisco, Nov. 2011

“Herman (Judah) of Cologne's ‘Opusculum de conversione sua’: A Medieval Jewish Narrative of Conversion to Christianity Constructed and Deconstructed,” American Academy of Religion Conference, Montreal, Nov. 2009

“Apostasy Imagined: The Rhetoric and Realities of Conversion in Medieval Ashkenaz,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Washington, D.C., Dec. 2008

“Constructing Memories of Martyrdom: Portrayals of Martyrdom in the Hebrew Narratives of the First and Second Crusades,” Remembering the Crusades: Myth, Image, Identity: 28th Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval Studies, Fordham University, March 2008

“Sefer Zekhira’s Portrayal of Christians: An Alternate Ashkenazic Voice,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Toronto, Dec. 2007

“Poetry and Narrative: Divergent Goals and Strategies in R. Ephraim of Bonn’s Sefer Zekhira,” Yeshiva College, March 2007

“Ideal Jewish Converts to Christianity as Reflected in Medieval Miracle Tales,” International Medieval Congress, Leeds, England, June 1997

Articles:

“Constructing Memories of Martyrdom: Contrasting Portrayals of Martyrdom in the Hebrew Narratives of the First and Second Crusades,” in Remembering the Crusades: Myth, Image, and Identity, ed. Nicholas Paul and Suzanne Yeager, Johns Hopkins University Press, March 2012.

Forthcoming:

Sefer Zekhira’s Attitude Toward Christians: An Alternate Ashkenazic Voice
(accepted for publication, *Journal of Jewish Studies*)

In Preparation:

Apostasy Imagined: The Rhetoric and Realities of Conversion in Medieval Ashkenaz
(for submission Spring 2011)

Ephraim of Bonn: Lachrymose Jewish Historian?
(for submission Summer 2011)

Conversion as Immigration: The Case of Jewish Conversion to Christianity in Medieval Northern Europe, in conjunction with AAR Working Group on Immigration and Theology, by invitation (for submission Summer 2011)

Institutional Service:

Yeshiva College:

Member, “Cultures Over Time” Working Group, Yeshiva College Curriculum Revision

Academic Advisor, Yeshiva College Academic Advising Center, 2010-2011

Member, Honors Committee, Yeshiva College (2007-Present)

Honors Sub-Committee on Evaluation of Honors Program Course Proposals, Fall 2008

Co-Organizer, Faculty Brown-Bag Lunches on Student Writing, 2007-9

Member, Curriculum Review Task Force on Scientific and Quantitative Literacy

Jewish Studies Department:

Coordinator, Jewish Studies Pedagogy Initiative, Fall 2011-Present

Coordinator, Jewish Studies Major-Faculty Mentor Program, 2009-10

Jewish Studies Major Advisor,

Yeshiva University College-Level Equivalence Exam, Medieval Jewish History, Exam
Composition and Grading,

Professional Service:

Member, Steering Committee, “Religious Conversions” Consultation, American Academy of
Religion, 2008-present

Public Lectures:

RIETS Shavuot Yarchei Kallah, 2012

“Passover Through Medieval Jewish Eyes,” JTS ConText, Jewish Community Center of
Paramus, March 2012

Yeshiva University Scholar in Residence Weekend, Palo Alto, CA, November 2011

Co-Scholar in Residence, Young Israel of Toco Hills, Atlanta, GA, July 2011

“Ephraim of Bonn’s Stories of Two Rabbis: Rabbi Amnon, Rabbenu Tam, and their Interactions
with the Christian World,” Cong. Rinat Yisrael, Teaneck, NJ, August 2010

“Temple and Sacrifice in Jewish Memories of First Crusade Martyrdom,” Camp Stone, Sugar
Grove, PA, June 2010

Co-Scholar in Residence, Yeshiva University Kollel Torah MiTzion, Chicago, IL, June 2010

Co-Scholar in Residence, Shavuot 5768, Riverdale Jewish Center, Riverdale, NY, June 2008

“Rebelling and Repenting: Teshuva and Apostasy in Medieval Ashkenaz,” Three lecture series, Edah at the JCC, New York, NY, Sept. 2006

“Adolescents, Anxiety, and Medieval Ashkenaz,” Teaneck Women’s Tefillah Shavuot Study Program, Teaneck, NJ, June 2003

“Af Al Pi she-Hata Yisrael Hu: Returning Medieval Jewish Apostates Communal Tension and Rabbinic Response,” West Hartford, CT , Sept. 2003; Drisha Summer High School Program, Teaneck, NJ, July 2000; Yeshiva University-St. Louis Mini-Kollel Program, February 1996; Yom Iyun, Torah Academy Parents Association, Teaneck, New Jersey, September 1995

“Is Madeleine Albright Jewish? Medieval Rabbinic Authorities on the Jewishness of Apostates and their Descendants,” Cong. Rinat Yisrael, Teaneck, NJ, July 1997

“Jewish Women in the First Crusade,” Amit Women Study Series, Teaneck, NJ, June 1995

“Kol Yisrael Areivim Zeh BaZeh: An Historical Model,” Torah Academy Parents Association, Teaneck, NJ, Sept. 1995

Awards and Honors:

Adjunct Fellow, Katz Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, “Conversion to and from Judaism,” 2010-11

Wexner Graduate Fellow (Judaic Studies), Wexner Graduate Fellowship Program, 1992-1996