

**Claire E. Sufrin**  
Curriculum Vitae

Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies  
Northwestern University  
1860 Campus Drive  
Evanston, IL 60208

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847/491-3080

**Education**

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- 2008 PhD Stanford University**, Department of Religious Studies  
Dissertation: *Martin Buber's Biblical Hermeneutics*
- 2000 BA Yale University**, Department of Religious Studies  
Distinction in the Major

**Academic Appointments**

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**2010— Northwestern University**, Evanston, Ill.

- Associate Professor of Instruction in Jewish Studies (2017-present)
- Affiliated Faculty, Department of Religious Studies (2017-present)
- Assistant Director of Jewish Studies, Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies (2016-present)
- Lecturer in Jewish Studies (2013-2017)
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies (2010- 2013)

**2013 University of Notre Dame**, South Bend, Ind.

- Visiting Assistant Professor of Theology (Fall 2013)

**2011-2013 University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)**, Chicago, Ill.

- Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies (2011-2013)

**2007-2010 Northeastern University**, Boston, Mass.

- Schusterman Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow in Jewish Studies (2008-2010)
- Visiting Lecturer in Philosophy and Religion (2007- 2008)

**2001-2006**      **Stanford University**, Palo Alto, Calif.

- Instructor, Department of Religious Studies (Fall 2006)
- Curriculum Development Assistant, Humanities Program (2004-2007)
- Graduate Associate, Honors College (2005-2006)
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Religious Studies (2001-2003)

## Publications

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### *Journal articles*

- 2018**            “Buber, the Bible, and Hebrew Humanism: Finding a Usable Past” *Modern Judaism* 38:1 (2018): 29-43.
- 2013**            “History, Myth, and Divine Dialogue in Martin Buber’s Biblical Commentaries” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 103:1 (Winter 2013): 74-100.

### *Book chapters*

- 2020**            Commentary on Elie Wiesel’s Nobel Acceptance Speech (1986) in *The New Jewish Canon*, ed. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, forthcoming in 2020).
- 2020**            Commentary on Susannah Heschel, ed., *On Being a Jewish Feminist* (1982) and Evelyn Torton Beck, ed., *Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology* (1981) in *The New Jewish Canon*, ed. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, forthcoming in 2020).
- 2019**            “Reading Martin Buber’s Bible: Translation and Commentary” in *Luther, Barth, and Movements of Theological Renewal (1918-1933)*, ed. Heinrich Assel and Bruce McCormack (Berlin: De Gruyter, forthcoming in 2019).
- 2017**            “Liberal Judaisms” in *Cambridge History of Judaism*, vol. 8, edited by Mitchell Hart and Tony Michels (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017): 337-362.
- 2014**            “Beyond the Chasm: Religion and Literature after the Holocaust” in *Thinking Jewish Culture in America*, edited by Ken Koltun-Fromm (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2014): 131-156.
- 2012**            “On Myth, History, and the Study of Hasidism: Martin Buber and Gershom Scholem,” in *Encountering the Medieval in Modern Jewish Thought*, edited by Aaron W. Hughes and James Diamond (Boston: Brill, 2012): 129-151.

- 2011 “Telling Stories: The Legal Turn in Jewish Feminist Thought” in Marion Kaplan and Deborah Dash Moore, ed., *Gender and Jewish History: Essays in Honor of Paula Hyman* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010): 233-250.  
2011 National Jewish Book Award Winner in the category of anthologies and collections.

### ***Book Reviews and Review Essays***

- 2020 Review of *Martin Buber: A Life of Faith and Dissent* by Paul Mendes-Flohr, *Journal of Modern History* (forthcoming in 2020).
- 2020 Review of *Martin Buber's Theo-Politics* by Samuel Hayim Brody, *Journal of Religion* (forthcoming in 2020).
- 2017 Review of *Judaism*, edited by David Biale, *Religious Studies Review* 43:1 (2017): 15-17.
- 2017 Review of *Secularism in Question*, edited by Ari Joskowitz and Ethan B. Katz, *Journal of Politics, Religion, and Ideology* 17:4 (2017), 370-372.
- 2014 Review of *Israeli Feminism Liberating Judaism: Blood and Ink*, by Bonna Devorah Haberman, *Religion & Gender* 4:1 (2014), 83-85.
- 2011 Review of *Aesthetics of Renewal: Martin Buber's Representation of Hasidism as Kulturkritik*, by Martina Urban, *AJS Review* 35:1 (2011), 187-190.
- 2010 Review of *Leo Strauss and Emmanuel Levinas: Philosophy and the Politics of Revelation*, by Leora Batnitzky, *Sophia* 49 (2010), 161-163.
- 2009 Review of *Modern Judaism and Historical Consciousness: Identities, Encounters, Perspectives*, edited by Andreas Gotzmann and Christian Wiese, *AJS Review* 33:1 (2009), 198-201.

### **Work-in-Progress**

#### ***Book***

*Storytelling and Meaning-Making: Jewish Literature and Jewish Thought in America*

#### ***Journal Article***

“A Judaism of Ethics in a Post-Holocaust World: Cynthia Ozick and the Interplay of Literature and Religion” Under review.

#### ***Edited Book***

With Yehuda Kurtzer, *The New Jewish Canon*. Under contract with Academic Studies Press with publication expected in 2020.

**Invited Presentations**

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- 2019** “How and Why to Remember: Jewish Thought and Jewish Literature Addressing a Troubled Past”  
Illinois Wesleyan University, March 2019.
- 2018** “Buber’s Changing Notions of Revelation”  
A German-Jewish Hermeneutics Conference, Northwestern University, October 2018.
- 2018** “For What May We Hope? Themes of Messianism in American Jewish Literature”  
Workshop in Constructive Jewish Theology, University of Illinois at Chicago, July 2018.
- 2017** “Martin Buber between Revelation and Scripture”  
Luther, Barth, and Movements of Theological Renewal (1918-1933), Annual Karl Barth Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary, June 2017.
- 2016** “Cynthia Ozick’s Literary Messiah”  
Midwestern Inter-University Workshop in Jewish Studies, Northwestern University, January 2016.
- 2015** “Buber, the Bible, and Hebrew Humanism: Finding a Usable Past”  
Martin Buber: Philosopher of Dialogue Conference, University of Chicago, October 2015.
- 2015** “Philip Roth, the Double, and the State of Israel”  
Lefell Seminar, New York, August 2015.
- 2015** “Martin Buber: Jewish Existentialist”  
University of North Carolina, Asheville, April 2015.
- 2014** “On Teaching Post-Holocaust Theology”  
Beyond History and Memory Conference, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, November 2014.
- 2014** “Searching for a Meaningful Past: Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics”  
University of Notre Dame, April 2014.
- 2014** “Asking the Right Questions: On the Quantity and Quality of Jewish Life”  
Jewish University for a Day: A Program of the Jewish Theological Seminary, January 2014.
- 2013** “The God of Modern Judaism”  
Vanderbilt University, May 2013.

- 2011**        Comments on *Faith, Religion, and Philosophy: Lessons from Modern German Intellectual Thought* by John H. Smith.  
Northwestern University, November 2011.
- 2011**        “Between History and Myth: Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics”  
Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, January 2011.
- 2010**        “Martin Buber, Myth, and History”  
Institute of Jewish Thought and Heritage, University of Buffalo, June 2010.
- 2010**        “Telling Stories: The Legal Turn in Jewish Feminist Thought”  
With responses from Judith Plaskow and Suzanne Last Stone.  
Jewish Theological Seminary, January 2010.

### **Academic Conference Papers and other Participation**

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- 2019**        “New Frames for Jewish Thought and Philosophy”  
Roundtable participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference,  
December 2019.
- 2019**        “On the Negotiation of Tradition and Modernity: Hirsch’s *Nineteen Letters*”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2019.
- 2019**        “Theology in a Different Genre: Jewish Religion and Literature in Post-Holocaust  
America”  
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019.
- 2018**        “Shifting Positions: The Power of the Self in Jewish Memory, Ritual, and Law”  
Roundtable participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference,  
December 2018.
- 2018**        “The Role of Jewish Studies within Colleges and Universities”  
Roundtable moderator and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual  
Conference, December 2018.
- 2018**        “Reading Literature as Religious Thought in America: Philip Roth as a Case Study”  
Fractured Paradigms: Rethinking the Study of American Jews, Biennial Scholars’  
Conference on American Jewish History, June 2018.
- 2018**        Response to “Interpreting Human Suffering: Biblical, Rabbinic, Modern” panel  
Society for Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2018.
- 2017**        “Cynthia Ozick’s Literary Messianism”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2017.

- 2016** “Ritual as a Marker and Means of Transition in *Transparent*”  
Roundtable organizer and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2016.
- 2016** “The State of Israel as Counter-Narrative”  
Rethinking Exile, Center, and Diaspora in Modern Jewish Culture Conference, University of Cambridge, May 2016.
- 2015** “Jewish Literature as Jewish Thought: The Case of the Counter Narrative”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2015.
- 2014** “Buber and Heschel Reading the Prophets”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2014.
- 2013** “Reading Literature as Religious Thought: A Case Study”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2013.
- 2010** “The Impact of Contemporary Legal Theory on the Study of *Halakha*” Roundtable  
Organizer and Participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2010.
- 2008** “Martin Buber and the Biblical Prophets of Zionism”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2008.
- 2007** “The Kingship of God in Buber’s Reading of the Hebrew Bible”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2007.
- 2007** “Martin Buber’s Biblical Hermeneutics In and Beyond *I and Thou*”  
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2007.
- 2006** “Martin Buber’s Earliest Biblical Hermeneutics”  
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2006.

## Teaching Experience

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### *Undergraduate Courses*

#### **Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences**

- A Priest and A Rabbi Walk into a Bar to Talk about God (first-year seminar)
- American Judaism
- Gender and Sexuality in Judaism
- God after the Holocaust
- Introduction to Judaism
- Jewish Studies: An Overview
- Modern Jewish Thought
- Religion and Literature

**University of Notre Dame**

- Introduction to Judaism
- Modern Jewish Thought

**University of Illinois at Chicago**

- American Judaism
- History of Jewish Biblical Interpretation
- Introduction to Judaism

**Northeastern University**

- Jewish Religion and Culture
- Modern Judaism
- Zionism and its Critics

**Stanford University**

- Martin Buber: Theologian, Philosopher, Prophet

***Advising*****Graduate Student Advising at Northwestern University**

- Amanda Ruppenthal Stein, Bienen School of Music, “Sounding *Judentum*: Assimilation, Art Music, and Being Jewish Musically in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Germany”
  - Comprehensive exam committee (German Jewish history)
  - Dissertation committee
  - Defense expected in Spring 2020
- Stephanie Brenzel, Department of Religious Studies, “As Strong as Death: Franz Rosenzweig’s Philosophy of Love in the *Star of Redemption*”
  - Comprehensive exam committee (Modern Jewish Thought)
  - Dissertation committee
  - Defended May 2019
- Benjamin Ricciardi, Department of Religious Studies, “The Weekday Amidah as a Performative Anti-Theodicy”
  - Comprehensive exam committee (Modern Jewish Thought)
  - Defended May 2019

**Undergraduate Student Advising**

- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor: Avi Goldstein, “The Role of American Jewish Summer Camps after the Holocaust,” Ad Hoc Major in Holocaust Studies, 2019-2020.
- First-year Undergraduate Student Advising in conjunction with teaching first-year seminar in fall quarter, 2017-present.

### *Independent Study Advising at Northwestern University*

- Independent Study on Martin Buber: Carly Bortman (PhD Student, German and Comparative Literary Studies), Fall 2019
- Independent Study on Martin Buber: Ariel Wiener (PhD Student, German and Comparative Literary Studies), Winter 2019
- Independent Study on Gender in Judaism: Grace Overbeke (PhD Student, Interdisciplinary Program in Theatre and Drama), Winter 2015
- Independent Study on American Judaism: Amanda Ruppenthal Stein (PhD Student, Musicology), Winter 2014
- Independent Study on Modern Jewish Thought: Stephanie Brenzel (PhD Student, Religious Studies), Winter 2013

### **Fellowships, Grants, and Awards**

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- 2018**      **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Grant**  
In support of *A German-Jewish Hermeneutics* workshop held at Northwestern University, October 2018.
- 2018**      **Undergraduate Research Assistant Program Summer Research Grant**  
Northwestern University Office of Undergraduate Research  
In support of research assistance with religion and literature project.
- 2018**      **Hartman Philosophy Conference Invited Participant**  
Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, June 2018.
- 2018**      **Crown Family Center Israel Studies Research Grant**  
In support of research on Philip Roth at the Library of Congress.
- 2018**      **Society of Jewish Ethics Travel Grant**  
For travel to the Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2018.
- 2017**      **Knapp Family Foundation Travel Grant**  
For travel to the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, December 2017.
- 2017**      **Hartman Philosophy Conference Invited Participant**  
Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, June 2017.
- 2012**      **Annual Seminar for Seminary and Religious Studies Faculty Fellow**  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, June 2012.



- 2008-2010 Schusterman Teaching Fellowship in Jewish Studies**  
Northeastern University.
- 2008-2010 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship**  
Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto (declined).
- 2006 Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry Research Award**
- 2003 American Academy of Jewish Research Graduate Student Seminar**
- 2002-2007 Jewish Community Endowment Newhouse Fund Grants**  
Stanford University, 2004-2005, 2006-2007 and Summers 2002-2007.
- 2000-2004 Reinhard Graduate Fellowship**  
Stanford University, 2000-2002 and 2003-2004.
- 2000 American Jewish Congress Award**  
Yale University.

#### Service to the Profession

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- 2018— Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion member**  
Association for Jewish Studies
- 2018 A German-Jewish Hermeneutics Workshop Co-convenor**  
Hosted by Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies with co-sponsorship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); the Berman Center for Jewish Studies at Lehigh University, and the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University.
- 2015— Area Editor for Jewish Thought and for Modern Judaism**  
*Religious Studies Review*
- 2013— Manuscript Review Requests**  
*AJS Review*  
*Indiana University Press*  
*Journal of the American Academy of Religion*  
*Journal of Political Theology*  
*Journal of Religion*  
*Shofar*  
*Sophia*
- 2007-2011 Co-Chair, Works-in-Progress in Modern Jewish Studies Group**  
Association for Jewish Studies

### Service to the University

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- 2016—        **Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS), Jewish Studies Program,  
Northwestern University**
- 2015—        **Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies Committee, Northwestern  
University**
- 2008-2010    **Jewish Studies Executive Committee, Northeastern University**

### Language Proficiency

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**Modern Hebrew** near fluency  
**Biblical Hebrew** reading  
**German** reading

### Professional memberships

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American Academy of Religion  
Association for Jewish Studies  
Society for Jewish Ethics