

## ADAM RUBIN

Assistant Professor of Jewish History  
Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion  
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### EDUCATION

University of California at Los Angeles

Ph.D. in Modern Jewish History, 2000

Specialization: Modern Jewish Politics and Culture in Eastern Europe and the Yishuv/Israel

Dissertation: "From Torah to *Tarbut*: Hayim Nahman Bialik and the  
Nationalization of Judaism"

Dissertation Advisor: Professor David Myers

M.A. in Modern Jewish History, 1992

Thesis: "History as Modern Midrash: Yitzhak Baer's *Galut*"

University of California at Berkeley

B.A. in History, with Distinction, 1987

Senior Thesis: "Science on Trial: The I. G. Farben Company at Auschwitz and the  
Nuremberg Trials"

Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies, Jerusalem

Courses in Hebrew Bible, Mishnah, and medieval commentaries, 1987-1989

Hebrew Union College, Jerusalem

Courses in Hebrew language, Bible, and Israeli history, 1986

### SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

"'Like A Necklace of Black Pearls Whose String Has Snapped': Bialik's 'Aron hasefarim' and the  
Sacralization of Zionism." Forthcoming, in *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* (Vol 28,  
No. 3, Fall 2008)

"'Turning *Goyim* into Jews': *Aliyah* and the Politics of Cultural Anxiety in the Zionist Movement,  
1932-1945." Forthcoming, in *The Jewish Quarterly Review* (2008/2009)

Book Review of *Converging Alternatives: The Bund and the Zionist Labor Movement, 1897-1985*, by  
Yosef Gorny (Albany: SUNY Press). Forthcoming, in *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish  
Studies* 2008

Book Review of *The Jews of Eastern Europe, 1772-1881*, by Israel Bartal (Philadelphia: University  
of Pennsylvania: 2005). *AJS Review* 2007

"Hebrew Folklore and the Problem of Exile." *Modern Judaism* (Vol. 25, No. 1, Feb. 2005)

"Jewish Nationalism and the Encyclopedic Imagination." *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* (Vol. 3, No. 3, Nov. 2004)

"A Nation Like All Other Nations: Historical Revisionism and the Normalization of Israel." *The Jewish Book Annual, 1997-1999*. (New York, 2001)

Book Review of *Reform Zionism: An Educator's Perspective*, by Michael Livni. *CCAR Journal* (Winter, 2001)

Short Book Review ("Booknote") of *Christianity in Jewish Terms*, edited by Tikva Frymer-Kensky, David Novak, et al. *Religious Studies Review* (January 2002)

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Between Sacred and Profane: Judaism, Hebrew Culture and the Sacralization of the Zionist Project* (book manuscript)

"Counting Jews: Jacob Lestschinsky's Demographic Research and the Transformation of Jewish Life after WW II" (article)

## SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

"The Sacralization of Nationalism in Zionist Thought and Practice." Student/Faculty Workshop, UCLA Center for Jewish Studies, May 5, 2009 (forthcoming)

"HUC-JIR Sephardic Studies: Integrating Sephardi/Mizrahi History." Presented to the HUC conference Integrating Sephardi & Mizrahi Studies: Research and Practice, November 16-18, 2008

"Bialik's Aron Ha-Sefarim and the Politics of the Jewish Literary Canon." Presented to the Jewish Studies Colloquium of the Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry, Brandeis University, January 31, 2008.

"Jacob Lestschinsky and the Creation of Jewish Economics." Presented at the U.C. Berkeley Yiddish Studies Conference. Berkeley, May 14-15, 2007

"The People of the Book or a People Constructed by Books? The Mobilization of Classical Jewish Texts for Nation-Building in Mandatory Palestine." Presented at the annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies. San Diego, December 2006.

"Tsienizm un di yidishe shprakh" Lecture given (in Yiddish) to the Los Angeles Yiddish Society. May 2006.

Commentator for a panel at a Jewish studies conference at UCLA. "Turning It Over and Over Again: Reading Jewish Texts." February 13-14, 2005

Commentator for a panel at a conference at the University of Southern California. "The Early Modern Travel Narrative: Production and Consumption." April 2004

"Black Panthers, Black Hats, and Beyond: Rethinking Mizrahi Politics in Israel." Presented at the annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies. Boston, December 2003.

"To Build and Be Rebuilt by *Galut*: Labor Zionism and the Reinvention of Jewish Tradition." Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies. Los Angeles, December, 2002.

"'Geven a Yidish Poyln': Yiddish Memoirs and the Representation of Jewish Life in Pre-War Poland." Paper presented at the Center for Jewish Culture. Cracow, Poland, October 2002.

"From Odessa to Tel Aviv: Hebrew Culture and the Reinvention of the Jewish Past." Paper presented at Claremont McKenna College. The Atheneum Lectures on Contemporary Judaism. Claremont, CA, November 2001.

"'Vos iz azoyns yidishe etnografye?': Mapping Yiddish Culture in Interwar Poland." The Dina Abramowicz Memorial Lecture, sponsored by YIVO and Presented at the Center for Jewish History. New York, July 2001.

"In Defense of the New History." Paper presented at a conference on "Israeli Historical Revisionism from Left to Right," sponsored by Brandeis University, Tel Aviv University, and the Center for Jewish History. New York, February 2001.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"'Silence is Akin to Assent': Judaism and the War in Iraq." Or Rose, Jo Ellen Green Kaiser, and Margie Klein, eds., *Righteous Indignation: A Jewish Call for Justice* (Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2008)

Consulting Historian for *The History of the Jewish People, Volume 2*, edited by Jonathan Sarna and Jonathan Krasner. (Springfield, NJ: Behrman House, 2007)

"Has the Clock Struck Midnight?: The Settlements in the West Bank." *Sh'ma* (May 2004)

Consulting Historian for *World Literature and its Times, Vol. 6: Middle Eastern Literatures and Their Times*, edited by Joyce Moss. (Detroit: Gale Group, 2004)

Biographical entries on Simhah Assaf, Menahem Kasher and Avraham Firkowitsch, *The Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion*. Edited by R. J. Zwi Werblowsky and Geoffrey Wigoder. (New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997)

Various opinion pieces in *The Jewish Journal*

"Israeli History the Dershowitz Way" (October 16, 2003)

[www.jewishjournal.com/arts/article/israeli\\_history\\_the\\_dershowitz\\_way\\_20031017/](http://www.jewishjournal.com/arts/article/israeli_history_the_dershowitz_way_20031017/)

“Questioning Sharon” (May 2, 2002)

[www.jewishjournal.com/world/article/questioning\\_sharon\\_20020503/](http://www.jewishjournal.com/world/article/questioning_sharon_20020503/)

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Modern Jewish History

Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History

Culture and Politics of Eastern European Jewry

Hebrew and Yiddish Literature

History of Zionism and Israel

Israel Studies

Arab-Israeli Conflict

## **PERSONAL**

Birthday: 2/26/65

Birthplace: Santa Monica, California

Languages: Hebrew, Yiddish, reading knowledge of German