



THE SUE AND LEONARD MILLER
CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY JUDAIC STUDIES

PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

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THE MILLER CENTER

The Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies was established in late 1998 as a university-wide, academic research center. It provides a framework for an objective, in-depth exploration of the issues, trends and processes that have affected the Jewish people over the last 100 years. The Center is engaged in research, publications and outreach activities—such as lectures, conferences and symposia—to which the university community and the general public are invited. The Center serves as a resource dedicated to the academic study of all aspects of Jewish society and culture in an effort to foster a better understanding of the contemporary Jewish experience. By concentrating on the 20th and 21st centuries, the Center examines an important historical period that includes the birth of Zionism, the horrors of the Shoah, the creation of the State of Israel, and the successful growth of the Jewish communities in North and South America. The Center works in close cooperation with the University’s Judaic Studies Program and with other relevant Jewish cultural organizations in South Florida.

THE JUDAIC STUDIES PROGRAM

The Judaic Studies Program is an interdisciplinary teaching and degree-granting program that operates within the University of Miami’s College of Arts and Sciences. Offering both a major and a minor, the Program lists numerous courses on its own or in cooperation with other departments and programs in all aspects of Jewish civilization, from its origins in Biblical times to its diverse expressions in the twenty-first century. Nearly twenty full-time faculty, from all parts of the university, along with several visiting scholars, participate in the Program by teaching, engaging in research, and otherwise collaborating in the study of Jewish culture, society, politics, and religion.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF
THE SUE AND LEONARD MILLER CENTER
FOR CONTEMPORARY JUDAIC STUDIES

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter.

By way of introduction, I would like to share with you some brief background about how we arrived at our impressive permanent home on the main UM campus.

On September 10, 1998, then UM President Tad Foote and Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Luis Glaser convened a gathering of prominent community and business leaders to announce the decision to establish a center for the study of contemporary Jewish civilization at UM. Following approval of the mandate for the Center by the UM Faculty Senate, it was named the "Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies". Shortly thereafter, Sue and Leonard Miller made a significant gift and the Center was renamed the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies. Our academic launch took place on February 15, 2000 featuring a lecture by Nobel Prize Laureate and internationally renowned author Elie Wiesel, on "A Jew Tomorrow: The Challenges Faced by the Jewish People." On November 26, 2001 we held a Groundbreaking Ceremony, presided over by Dr. Phillip Frost, Chairman of the UM Board of Trustees, UM President Donna E. Shalala, the late Leonard Miller, his wife, Sue and their children and grandchildren. We moved into our new premises in January 2003.

The Miller Center now houses the offices of the Director (myself), the Director of Development and Outreach, Ms. Maxine Schwartz, the Assistant to the Director, Mitch Dabach and our Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Adriana Cassinera. Helped by its spacious, state-of-the-art auditorium, the Center has expanded its own activities by extensive outreach programming to the UM community and the general public, as called for in its original mandate. On offer are several annual lecture series featuring prominent speakers, including academic experts, rabbis, authors, politicians, and diplomats on a wide array of relevant contemporary topics.

Having included in its facilities offices for visiting research fellows, the Center has also embarked on another key aspect of its mandate by emphasizing research and publications. We are now hosting a number of visiting scholars about whose projects you can read in the pages that follow. The Center continues to foster collaborative relationships with other local cultural institutions, such as the annual Jewish Book Month, the annual Jewish Film Festival, the annual music "Festival Miami," the Dora Teitelboim Center for Yiddish Culture, the Central Agency for Jewish Education and the Holocaust Memorial of Miami Beach.

The Miller Center brings under the same roof its own operations and those of the Judaic Studies Program (JSP), the teaching and degree-granting arm of Judaic Studies at UM. The Program's Director, Dr. Jeffrey S. Shoulson, and his Program Assistant, Mrs. Angie Berezin, have their offices at the Center. This semester also marks the first time that Judaic Studies classes will be held on our premises.

I hope you will have an opportunity to visit our new facilities and to see, along with the offices, auditorium, research library, and seminar room, the beautiful artwork and photography adorning the main hallway of the Center. Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Ann and Dr. Norman Jaffe, we have on display nine original pieces of art from the Andy Warhol series "Portraits of Ten Great Jews of the 20th Century". The opposite wall contains the striking portrait photography of Mr. Arnold Newman, who most kindly donated his exquisite work to our Center. Mr.



Newman—one of the leading photographers of the second half of the 20th century—was a student of the UM Art Department and the originator of environmental portrait photography. In addition to photographing every U.S. President from Truman to Clinton and many other world luminaries, he was invited to photograph all the Prime Ministers of Israel, from David Ben Gurion to Ariel Sharon, and other major Israeli figures like Moshe Dayan, Abba Eban and Teddy Kalleck. We are also fortunate to have contemporary paintings from the series “Millenium Doors” on permanent loan to us by the Miami-based artist Tina Spiro. Her vivid artwork interprets the four elements of nature: earth, wind, water and fire, calling upon symbols rich with Jewish mystical significance. Two beautifully crafted, colorful camel saddles that hang in the auditorium were donated by Pat and Marty Fine

Of course, none of our achievements to date would have been possible without the necessary financial means. The Miller Center has an ongoing fund raising campaign of “Chai” (\$18 million dollars) two thirds of which is already secured. We are most grateful to all of our donors as well as the UM officers—in particular President Shalala and Provost Glaser—who have been so supportive in the creation of the Center and its development.

A special note of recognition is due to the late Leonard Miller, his dear wife Sue, and the rest of the Miller Family. Leonard was known to one and all as a leading light in the business community, and particularly at UM, where he served as Trustee (1983-2002) and Chairman of the Board of Trustees (1995-1999). We are truly very sorry that he did not live to see the fruit of all his labors culminating in this Center that bears his name. A master builder and developer by trade, Leonard was closely involved even in the minutest details of the planning of the Center’s physical premises. Since Leonard personally approved the final work plans for the Center, one may say that—being a builder himself—he could visualize what you are actually seeing today. The Center’s dedication date was planned to coincide with Leonard’s birthday.

To Sue Miller, I am pleased to convey my sincere appreciation for her gracious chairmanship of our fund-raising campaign, her unstinting interest, and her involvement in and support of this complex project. We all cherish especially her warm and sincere friendship.

In closing, it is not a mere coincidence that the first edition of this newsletter appears simultaneously with the formal dedication of the Center. One should note that the term ‘dedication’ has a double meaning: its common usage is to inaugurate the new, as on the occasion of a ‘ribbon cutting’ event. The other meaning of the word is to dedicate oneself.

We dedicate ourselves to making the Miller Center—in close partnership with the JSP—a major source of learning and enlightenment in Judaic Studies on the national and international levels.

I warmly invite everybody to visit our premises, partake in the classes offered here either as students or auditors, and attend our lecture series and other public programs.

You are always welcome!

Sincerely,
Dr. Haim Shaked
Director, Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies
The Dr. M. Lee Pearce Professor of Middle East Peace Studies

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES

It gives me great pleasure to greet you as we begin a new academic year in our wonderful new facilities in the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies. These are exciting times for Judaic Studies and I'd like to take a few moments to offer some history of the Program at UM and to reflect on where Judaic Studies is headed.

The University of Miami's Judaic Studies Program was established in 1972 and offered its first BA in 1976. Yehuda Shamir, who was appointed in the Department of Religious Studies, served as the Program's first director. He was succeeded by Helen Fagin, who held her tenure in the English Department. She remained the Program's director until she retired in 1984. In that year the College hired Dr. Henry Green to direct the Program and to take a position in the Religious Studies department. Dr. Green continued as director until 2000, when he stepped down to take a much deserved leave. Dr. Perri Lee Roberts, who was already Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, was asked to step in as interim director in 2000. In 2002, I was appointed director.



My appointment to the position of Director of the Program in Judaic Studies (JSP) has coincided with the arrival of new leadership in the College of Arts and Sciences senior administration. It has thus been very gratifying to begin my term as director of an interdisciplinary program like Judaic Studies in a renewed intellectual atmosphere where, thanks to new initiatives, there is a determined push toward interdisciplinary work in both research and teaching. The College's investment of resources, time, and energy in the development of centers and institutes dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty coincides with what is already in place as a working model in Judaic Studies at the University of Miami, one that we look forward to developing even further.

As an interdisciplinary program offering a major, a minor, and a variety of undergraduate courses, the Judaic Studies Program currently serves as a vital focal point for faculty across the College (and the University, more generally) with research and teaching interests in Judaic Studies and includes scholars working in the humanities, the social sciences, legal studies, public policy, and more. The program offers innovative courses drawing on a diversity of disciplinary methodologies and, not infrequently, featuring collaborative work and team teaching.

While much of the above could equally be said about other interdisciplinary programs at UM, what gives the Judaic Studies Program a distinct advantage is its relationship with the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies. Though some of its functions are independent of the College, in collaboration with the JSP the Miller Center has much to offer both the interdisciplinary research and interdisciplinary teaching in Judaic Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. Together, the JSP and the Miller Center offer a wide range of lectures and presentations on diverse areas of Judaic Studies and these events serve not only to reach out to the local Miami community, but also to enrich the intellectual lives of our students on campus.

In the last year the Judaic Studies Program has undertaken a complete overhaul of its major and minor. The most significant change in this regard is that students in the College can now elect to major in Judaic Studies without having to choose a second major. The new Judaic Studies major also now includes a required capstone course, to be taken in the final year of study, that incorporates significant independent research and prompts

students to make use of the various disciplinary methodologies in which they have been trained during their four years in the program.

Our program has been enriched in the last several years by the appointment of new faculty. You can read their profiles in the pages that follow, but I want to call your attention to the recent arrival of the following scholars to UM: Dr. Samantha Baskind (Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History and Judaic Studies), Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman (Assistant Professor of English and Judaic Studies), and Dr. Ghil'ad Zuckermann (Visiting Assistant Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature). We are delighted to welcome these new colleagues and know that they will make significant contributions to the growth and development of the Program.

The impressive cohort of faculty affiliated with the Program regularly offer a diverse array of innovative courses. This semester is no exception. We are offering courses on "Women in the Hebrew Bible," "Religion and Democracy in Israel," "The Israeli Language in its Cultural Context," and "Jews and Arabs: Representations of the Semitic Self and Other in Literature and Film." For descriptions of these last two courses, please see the pages that follow.

There are more developments on the horizon. In the Spring semester, thanks to the support of the Miller Center and the College of Arts and Sciences, Professor Yaffa Eliach will join us as Distinguished Visiting Professor. In addition to offering a series of lectures on her fascinating work on the reconstruction of pre-war European Jewish communities, Professor Eliach will be teaching "The Holocaust in Historical Perspective." We also expect to be appointing our first post-doctoral fellow in Judaic Studies for a two-year term, beginning in the 2004-05 academic year. This new position is meant to foster further research and publications by recent PhDs, who will also be asked to teach courses in their areas of expertise for the Program.

Many recent developments in Judaic Studies, both nationally and internationally, grow out of trends in multiculturalism, and its attendant cross-disciplinary fields of area studies and ethnic studies. What is important about this aspect of contemporary Judaic Studies is partly what it means for the potential "consumers" of a Judaic Studies program. Historically, in most universities the vast majority of students enrolled in Judaic Studies courses or majoring in Judaic Studies have themselves been Jewish. Now, while that has not entirely changed (and probably never will), there have been, and will continue to be, shifts in the demographics of our clientele. Just as increasing numbers of non-African American students are taking courses in African American Studies, for example, it is the case that more and more non-Jewish students are becoming interested in Judaic Studies. This is a trend that we have every wish to encourage and it is yet another aspect of the exciting changes that are going on in our Program.

We hope you will have the opportunity to visit our offices in the Miller Center, to join us at any of our numerous events, and, perhaps, to sit in on some of our classes. I would be delighted to speak with anyone who has questions about our program and am most eager to greet you should be able to visit us on campus. Best wishes for a happy and healthy Shanah Tovah.

Dr. Jeffrey Shoulson
Director, Program in Judaic Studies
Associate Professor, Department of English
Associate Master, Hecht Residential College

MILLER CENTER FELLOWS

As part of its commitment to the advancement of cutting edge research in contemporary Judaic Studies, the Miller Center is hosting four research Fellows and supporting their diverse projects.

Dr. Samantha Baskind

Dr. Baskind, who is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History and Judaic Studies, as well as Visiting Fellow at the Miller Center, earned her Ph. D. at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The Miller Center is sponsoring her current work on a university-level survey textbook entitled *Modern Jewish Art and Culture*. The text provides a chronological and thematic framework of Jewish artworks (material culture such as Judaica, through oil painting and postmodern art), and discusses the myriad interpretations of Jewish art from the seventeenth-century through the end of the twentieth century. Along with presenting four hundred years of Jewish art in a concise and accessible manner, *Modern Jewish Art and Culture* examines the varied understandings of Jewish art from the Second Commandment's prohibition against representing divinity to the formalist critic Harold Rosenberg's assertion that Jewish art must be defined by style, while also explaining how and why these meanings have changed over time. Other issues considered include why, and why not, "Jewish" artwork is derivative of the cultures and places where the Jewish artist resides, the notion that for Jewish art to exist a singular Jewish art must be defined, the exclusion of Jewish art from the Christianocentric canon, and the subjects and symbols of Jewish art. Discussions of Jewish identity, the Diasporic experience, and anti-Semitism are woven directly into chapters on Rembrandt's relationship with the Jews in seventeenth-century Holland, Marc Chagall and the Circle of Montparnasse, Nazi Germany and Degenerate Art, the painting of Jewish life in nineteenth-century Europe, and America and the art of assimilation.

Dr. Dana Evan Kaplan

Dr. Kaplan joined the Miller Center in 2002 as a Visiting Fellow. He received his Ph.D. in History from Tel Aviv University and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion. He has taught at the

University of Missouri, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Cape Town. Dr. Kaplan's publications include *Contemporary Debates in American Reform Judaism: Conflicting Visions* (Routledge, 2001), *Platforms and Prayer Books: Theological and Liturgical Perspectives on Reform Judaism* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2002) and *American*

Reform Judaism: An Introduction (Rutgers University Press, June 2003). He was recently appointed the general editor for the Cambridge Companion to American Judaism, which is scheduled to appear in late 2004.

With the support of the Miller Center Dr. Kaplan is currently writing a book on the Jews in Cuba since the 1959 Revolution. He has traveled to Havana a number of times to research the renaissance of Jewish life on the island since 1991, and has done archival research as well. Some of his findings have already been published in the CCAR Journal, Congress Monthly, and Judaism. Recently, The American Jewish Yearbook asked him to write a comprehensive article on the subject for their authoritative reference work. Kaplan's work on the Cuban Jewish community is part of his on going research into the Jewish Diaspora. He has previously published a great deal on Jews and Judaism in South Africa and the United States and hopes to research and write on other communities in the future.

Dr. Eugene Rothman

Eugene Rothman has joined the Miller Center as Visiting Senior Research Fellow. He studied Middle East History for his BA at the Hebrew University, MA at Columbia University and PhD at the School of Oriental and African History of the University of London. For over 30 years, Rothman has been a professor at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada where he heads the Jewish Studies program at the College of the Humanities, teaching in the area of modern Jewish history and the modern Middle East. Rothman has authored, co-authored or edited 8 books including *A Guide to the Middle East for United Nations Peacekeeping Forces* for the United Nations Peacekeeping Directorate; *The Middle East* for Encyclopaedia Britannica Educational Corporation; and *The Biblical Mosaic*.

Dr. Rothman has undertaken several research projects with the support of the Miller Center and in collaboration with its Director, Dr. Haim Shaked. These are:

& SPONSORED RESEARCH

• Cuban Jewish Documentation Project

This project is designed to create an integrated documentation program and repository of the history and culture of the Jews of Cuba and of Cuban Jewish origin mainly in the United States and elsewhere through a broad range of activities, such as: a multi-media documentation center (including an archive); an interactive website; a broadcast-quality video documentary; an academic conference and published proceedings; video- and audio-based personal and family memoirs of members of the Cuban Jewish Community (including a “digital family scrapbook”); an illustrated book in coffee table format; a traveling exhibit.; and, an on-line bibliography. This integrated documentation program and repository will provide the means to preserving actively the Cuban Jewish experience for Jews of Cuban origin and their descendants, the Jewish Community-at-large, and the broader public. This project is developed in collaboration with UM’s Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies.

• Peace Education for Palestinian and Israeli Youth

This project involves the design, development, piloting, delivery and evaluation of an educational program intended to enable Palestinian and Israeli youth, ages 17-to-20, to be aware of how the other perceives events, history, processes, and developments especially what constitutes “hot buttons” for the other, particularly within the context of Arab-Israel relations. Such awareness, it is hoped, will lead eventually to better mutual understanding and, eventually, rapprochement. It will be carried out in collaboration with American, Canadian, international, Israeli, and Palestinian agencies and institutions.

• Cross Cultural Awareness for Israeli Jewish and Arab Youth

This is an adaptation of the above project (Peace Education for Israeli and Palestinian Youth) and focuses on the need for cross-cultural awareness between young Israeli Jews and Arabs. It will be developed as a pilot and delivered in conjunction with local non-governmental organizations working in this area in mixed towns, such as Lod, Ramleh, and Nazareth as well as academic institutions such as Haifa University’s Center for Peace Education and its Jewish-Arab Center and Tel Aviv University’s Konrad Adenauer Center for Jewish-Arab Cooperation.

• Dead Sea Reclamation Project

The objective of the Dead Sea Reclamation Project is to contribute to the peace process through the initiation of a program that will involve Israeli and Jordanian partners (with the possibility of eventual adding Palestinian partners) under international funding and supervision to work towards the reclamation of the rapidly shrinking Dead Sea. It is intended to prevent the further deterioration of the Dead Sea and the preservation of its unique ecology through options such as a Red Sea-Dead Sea canal that will raise the water level of the Dead Sea. In collaboration with international and regional agencies, this project will provide part of the conceptual infrastructure and scientific research framework for such work.

• Aqaba and Persian Gulf-to-Mediterranean Land Bridge Project

This project involves the research, design and implementation of an inter-modal (sea/land/sea) land bridge between the Jordanian port of Aqaba and Israel’s Mediterranean coast. This project will enhance relations between Israel and Jordan, encourage regional cooperation and promote regional economic integration. It is being carried out as part of an international consortium involving leading public and private sector figures in Israel, Jordan and the Persian Gulf.

Dr. Ira Sheskin

Dr. Sheskin is Associate Professor of Geography and Regional Studies at UM and directs the Jewish Demography Project at the Miller Center. The purpose of the Project is to promote Jewish demographic research. For the purposes of this project, Jewish demography is defined in broad terms, including, but not limited to, Jewish geography, demography, religiosity, Jewish education, social service needs, and Jewish philanthropic behavior. The analysis of these subject areas and their relationship to major issues within the Jewish community, particularly the issue of Jewish continuity, is an important focus of the activities of the Project. The Project also includes a community service component, aiming to communicate the results of Jewish demographic research to the Jewish community in a fashion that will facilitate its use for planning purposes. The Project works in cooperation with other academic and community organizations in the pursuit of its goals, including the North American Jewish Data Bank at the City University of New York, United Jewish Communities, and Jewish Federations throughout the country.

Judaic Studies Faculty Areas of Research and Teaching

David Abraham

Professor of Law

M.A. and Ph. D., History, University of Chicago;

J.D., University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Abraham is author of *The Collapse of the Weimar Republic: Political Economy and Crisis* (Princeton, 1981), numerous articles on migration, labor, and citizenship, and is currently completing a book-length project titled *The Boundaries and Bond of Citizenship: Recognition and Redistribution in the U.S., Germany, and Israel*.

Joseph Alkana

Associate Professor, Department of English

M.A. and Ph. D., University of Texas

Dr. Alkana is the author of *The Social Self: Nineteenth-Century Psychology and the Writings of Hawthorne, Howells, and William James* (Kentucky, 1996), and co-editor of *Cohesion and Dissent in America* (SUNY, 1994). He is currently at work on a study of the American Jewish literary imagination. As a member of the Judaic Studies Program, he has taught courses in a wide range of areas, including literature of the Holocaust, American Jewish literature, and Sephardic literature.

Robin Bachin

Charlton W. Tebeau Associate Professor, Department of History

M.A. and Ph. D., University of Michigan

Dr. Bachin is the author of *Building the South Side: Urban Space and Civic Culture in Chicago, 1890-1919*, forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press, and articles on urban planning and design, historic preservation, images of "nature" in urban development, and urban leisure and recreation.

Her current book is a comparative study of vacation sites along the Atlantic seaboard. Bachin is co-curator of an exhibition at the Wolfsonian Museum in Miami Beach entitled "In Pursuit of Pleasure: The Hotel, Travel and Tourism in New York, Miami, and Havana," scheduled to open in November 2004. She teaches courses on urban, environmental, immigration, and cultural history. Bachin has received fellowships from the Andrew Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Driehaus Foundation, and was a winner of the 2003 Excellence in Teaching Award.

Samantha Baskind

Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History and Judaic Studies

M.A. and Ph. D., University of North Carolina

Dr. Baskind's areas of specialty include the role of the Jewish American artist in the modern world, Jewish art, documentary photography, and American art from colonial times to the present. Her book, *Lost in America? Raphael Soyer and the Search for Modern Jewish Art*, is due to be published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2004. Her current research focuses on the intersection of American literature and American art, including John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, Washington Irving's stories, and Isaac Bashevis Singer's stories, and the art produced for, inspired by, and derived from the texts. She is also currently working on the first general, university-level survey book on Jewish art.

Steven F. Butterman

Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

M.A. and Ph.D., University of

Wisconsin

Dr. Butterman is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship and a winner of the Brazilian International Press Award. He has published articles and presented papers on a wide range of topics, including 19th and 20th century Luso-Afro-Brazilian Literature and Culture; Contemporary Brazilian Poetry and Music; Queer Theory; Women's Studies; Brazilian Jewish Writers; Postmodernism; and Aesthetics. He is the author of *Perversions On Parade: Brazilian Literature Of Transgression And Postmodern Anti-Aesthetics In Glauco Mattoso*, forthcoming with San Diego State University Press. Butterman's current research examines "Journalistic and Cinematic Representations of Brazilian Carnival During Dictatorship."

Dexter Callender, Jr.

Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies

M.A.T.S., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

A.M. and Ph. D. in Near Eastern Languages, Harvard University

Dr. Callender is the author of *Adam in Myth and History: Ancient Israelite Perspectives on the Primal Human* (Harvard, 2000); his current research interests include the nature of religious discourse, myth and society, and issues of monotheism. He is presently working on a book titled *The Early History of Angels*. Dr. Callender is the winner of the Provost's Excellence in Teaching Award as well as the Panhellenic Association's "Professor of the Year," his teaching includes "Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)," "Prophecy and Prophetic Literature," and "Religion and Culture in the Ancient Near East."

Nancy Clasby

Full-time Lecturer, Department of English

M. A., Theology and Scriptural Studies, Barry University; M.A. and Ph. D., English Literature, University of Wisconsin

Dr. Clasby is the author of *New Jerusalem: Myth, Literature, and the Sacred* (Scranton, 2000) as well as numerous articles on American literature. She regularly teaches the Bible as Literature and is currently at work on a book relating biblical narrative to the symbol structures of world myth.

Malvina Engelberg

Lecturer, Program in Composition

M.A., University of Miami

Ms. Engelberg is currently completing her Ph. D. in English at the University of Miami. Her dissertation explores twentieth-century Jewish travel writing. The recipient of the University of Miami Excellence in Teaching Award, she teaches courses on "Slavery and the Holocaust," "Latin American Jewish Writers," "The Conundrum of the American Jew," and "Global Jewish Literature."

John Fitzgerald

Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies

M. Div. and Ph. D., Yale University

Dr. Fitzgerald is the author of *Cracks in an Earthen Vessel: An Examination of the Catalogues of Hardships in the Corinthian Correspondence* (Scholars Press, 1988), translator and editor of *The Tabula of Cebe* (Scholars Press, 1983), editor of *Friendship, Flattery, and Frankness of Speech: Studies on Friendship in the New Testament World* (Brill, 1996) and *Greco-Roman Perspectives on Friendship* (Scholars

Press, 1997), and co-editor of *Early Christianity and Classical Culture* (Brill, 2003) and *Philodemus and the New Testament World* (Brill, in press). Winner of the Freshman Teaching Award and Honors Professor of the Year, he teaches courses in "Introduction to the New Testament," "Jesus and the Gospels," "St. Paul: His Letters and Controversies," "Jesus in Myth and History," and various special topics and projects courses. He is currently at work on a book on Paul for Norton's Critical Edition series.

Edwin Goldberg

Lecturer, Judaic Studies

D. H. L., Hebrew Union College

Dr. Goldberg was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and currently serves as Rabbi at Temple Judea in Coral Gables. He is the author of *Midrash for Beginners* (Aronson, 1996) and *Heads and Tales: Stories of the Sages that Enlighten our Minds* (UAHC Press, 2002). He teaches in the area of rabbinic literature and Jewish thought. He has taught courses in talmudic and midrashic literature, Bible, the New Testament, and Jewish mysticism. He is especially interested in rabbinic short stories, understanding them from a literary perspective.

Henry Green

Professor, Department of Religious Studies

Ph. D., St. Andrews University

Dr. Green, who is former Director of Judaic/Sephardic Studies, has also completed postgraduate work at the Sorbonne and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He specializes in interdisciplinary research and Jewish Civilization of different epochs. He has published on modern Israel, and in particular issues around

Sephardic/Mizrachi ethnicity—*Research in Action* (1979)—Second Temple Judaism and Hellenism—*The Economic and Social Origins of Gnosticism* (1985)—and American and Florida Jewry—*Mosaic: Jewish Life in Florida* (1991) and *Gesher Vakesher, Bridges and Bonds: The Life of Leon Kronish* (1995). Dr. Green is the Founding Director of the Jewish Museum of Florida and serves as the USA national chair of the Home Instruction Program for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPPY), a literacy and school readiness program for at-risk children and families that was piloted in Israel. He teaches courses on Israel, American Jewry, comparative Jewish civilization, and spirituality and education.

Anthony Krupp

Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
M.A. and Ph.D., German, Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Krupp's research and teaching focuses on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century German prose, the European Enlightenment, and the city of Berlin. His work on representations of childhood has appeared in the *Goethe Yearbook* and is forthcoming in *New German Literary History*. He is currently preparing a series of articles on childhood and autonomy and a book on Karl Philipp Moritz. He serves as Director of Undergraduate Studies in German, sings with the Miami Bach Society, and is the recipient of the Greek Community's Outstanding Faculty Award.

Peter Moore

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
M.A., University of Virginia; Ph. D., McGill University

Judaic Studies Faculty Areas of Research and Teaching

Dr. Moore has published articles on the political and economic situation in the Middle East and has recently completed a book-length manuscript, *Buy Low, Sell High, and Organize for Politics: Fiscal Crisis and Business-State Relations in the Arab World*. He teaches courses in comparative and international politics, war and state in Africa in the Middle East, and the politics of international terrorism.

Ranen Omer-Sherman

Assistant Professor, Department of English

M.A. and Ph. D., University of Notre Dame

Dr. Omer-Sherman is the author of numerous articles and the recently published book, *Diaspora and Zionism in Jewish American Literature: Lazarus, Syrkin, Reznikoff, and Roth* (New England, 2002). He is currently editing a collection of essays on "Jewish Orientalism" and writing a book-length study on the relationship between Jewish writing and the desert, from Exodus to Amos Oz and beyond. He teaches courses in Israeli literature, especially in relation to representations of Arab identity and culture, Jewish literature as a global and diasporic phenomenon, as well as Holocaust literature.

Robert Rosen

Professor of Law

J.D., Harvard Law School; Ph.D., Sociology, University of California at Berkeley

Dr. Rosen's current research interests include Jewish law, Jewish ethics, and Jewish interpretations of forgiveness. He teaches courses in professional responsibility, business associations, children and the law, sociology of law, and contracts.

Haim Shaked

Professor, Department of International Studies

Ph. D., History, University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies
Dr. Shaked is founding Director of the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, Director of the Middle East Studies Institute, and the incumbent of the Dr. M. Lee Pearce Chair in Middle East Peace Studies. His academic specialization is in the modern history and politics of the Middle East, Islam as a political force, and Arab-Israeli relations. He was the co-founder and editor of the annual publication "Middle East Contemporary Survey". In addition, he founded and edited the first fully computerized, comprehensive annotated bibliography on the Middle East, "Mideast File". He has authored and edited several books and numerous articles about the Middle East. He was one of the founders of the Shiloah (now Moshe Dayan) Center for Middle Eastern and African History at Tel Aviv University. He served as its Head from 1973-80 and as Dean, Faculty of Humanities from 1975-80. In 1983 he established at UM the Graduate School of International Studies (which later became the School of International Studies and is now the Department of International Studies).

Danielle Sharon

Lecturer, Program in Judaic Studies

M.A., Languages and Literature, University of Rome; M.A., Judaic Studies, Barry University; M.A., English Literature, Barry University
Ms. Sharon has taught widely in the field of Hebrew language and literature and has developed numerous innovative curricula that take advantage of the interactive advances in computer technology.

Ira Sheskin

Associate Professor, Department of Geography and Regional Studies
M.A., SUNY-Buffalo; Ph. D., Ohio State University

Dr. Sheskin is Director of the Jewish Demography Project at the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, where he is also a Fellow. He is a human geographer with interests in quantitative methods, urban geography, the Middle East, and Jewish geography. Recent publications include "The Dixie Diaspora," "American Jewish Ethnicity," and "The Changing Spatial Distribution of American Jews." His books include *Survey Research for Geographers* and *How Jewish Communities Differ*. He is also the author of more than 30 demographic/geographic studies of Jewish communities throughout the United States.

Jeffrey Shoulson

Associate Professor, Department of English

M. Phil., Renaissance Studies, University of Cambridge; M.A. and Ph. D., English Literature, Yale University

Dr. Shoulson is Director of the Program in Judaic Studies and Fellow at the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies. His first book, *Milton and the Rabbis: Hebraism, Hellenism, and Christianity* (Columbia UP, 2001), was awarded the American Academy of Jewish Research's Salo Baron Prize for Best First Book in Jewish Studies. He is co-editor of *Hebraica Veritas? Christian Hebraists and the Study of Judaism in Early Modern Europe* (forthcoming, U of Pennsylvania Press, 2004). He is currently completing his second book, tentatively titled *Fictions of Conversion: Community, Identity, and Instability in*

Early Modern England, which explores the idea of conversion as it functions within a diverse range of early modern discourses. He regularly teaches courses in the areas of early modern English literature and culture, Jewish literature, and the Bible as literature.

George Wilson

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
M.A., Brown University; J.D., Rutgers University; Ph. D., Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Wilson's research interests focus on the institutional production of racial and ethnic inequality in the workplace and the social structural causes and policy-related consequences of adherence to tenets of racial and stratification ideology and he has published widely in these areas. He teaches courses on Socioeconomic Inequality, Race and Ethnic Relations, and the Dynamics of Poverty in the United States.

Ghil'ad Zuckermann

Visiting Assistant Professor,
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

M.A., Linguistics, Tel Aviv University;
D.Phil., Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford

Dr. Zuckermann has published widely in the fields of comparative linguistics and the development of Hebrew and Israeli. His book, *Language Contact and Lexical Enrichment in Israeli Hebrew* (2003) is published by Palgrave Macmillan, and he has two further books in preparation: *Mosaic' or mosaic? The Genetics of the Israeli Language* and *The Etymology of Phono-Semantic Matches in Israeli*. He teaches introductory, intermediate, and advanced Hebrew classes, and courses on the Israeli language in its cultural context.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature, Dr. Ghil'ad Zuckerman, published the following important letter in The Times Higher Education Supplement on August 8th, 2003.

There is a story about a Jew who applied for a job as an auctioneer, but failed the interview. When his wife asked him what had gone wrong, he replied An-an-ti-ti-ti-Se-Se-mi-ti-ti-s-s-m! I do not believe that Andrew Wilkie of Oxford University, who rejected an Israeli doctoral applicant, is an anti-Semite. But this does not mean that the university's disciplinary panel should not remove him from his prestigious professorship.

Yet one ought not to focus exclusively on a single case. The most disturbing sentence in Wilkie's pathological email rejecting the student is not "no way would I take on somebody who had served in the Israeli army," but rather, "as you may be aware, I am not the only UK scientist with these views." For those who would dismiss Wilkie's case as exceptional, this sentence demonstrates that his action was, in fact, encouraged by the general atmosphere in the British media. Certainly the boycott of Israeli academics, which began in Britain, played a role. This action has led to the dismissal of academics, rejection of articles, cancellation of conferences, and other moves designed to isolate the Israeli academic community. So it should come as no surprise that Wilkie's judgement was clouded and that he did not attempt to camouflage his prejudice. But he is the tip of an iceberg—others, shrewder and less honest, might simply invent spurious reasons for rejecting an Israeli applicant.

The initiators and supporters of the boycott have sought to justify it by drawing parallels with the boycott of South African academic and cultural institutions in the 1980s and early 1990s. Neither they nor their opponents have detected the crucial difference between the two situations. The apartheid boycott was believed to be a supportive gesture rather than a hostile measure directed against the nation as a whole. Those who initiated it were actively involved in South African affairs and sought the advice and involvement of the country's academic community.

In contrast, the boycott of Israel is an internal European initiative directed against all academics affiliated to Israeli institutions. Mona Baker, editor of translation studies journals, took the liberty of firing Miriam Shlesinger, a former president of Amnesty International Israel, from their editorial boards. When the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology investigated Baker's action, she argued that as a private citizen she had the right to boycott anyone she chose.

But, as Gideon Toury, another of her victims, observed, the boycotting by a British private citizen of an Israeli public representative is gross double standards. How is Baker more private than Shlesinger or Toury? Does Baker really believe the boycott can do any good? Similarly, would Wilkie outlaw doctoral applicants from China, Russia, Libya, Syria or Iran? Has he ever rejected an American applicant, or does he agree with US policies?

Any such excommunication is eviscerated of intellectual integrity. Academic boycotts oppose the very idea of UNIVERSity, supplanting it with the notion of VILLAGity. They infect academia with discrimination, weakening its ability to serve as a global model for independent thought. We should not allow the boycotters to ban us from inviting an Iranian colleague for a High Table dinner or stop us quoting a Damascus-based scholar. We should continue to write academic articles with Shanghai professors and participate in conferences in Moscow, Alaska or a law school near Al-aqsa. We must not allow censorship and racism to destroy our already fragile academia.

THE PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES *CURRICULUM AND COURSE NEWS*

The Judaic Studies Program is a broad, flexible, interdisciplinary program designed for undergraduates to gain an understanding of Jewish civilization and its diverse cultural experiences. The program, which is non-theological in orientation, is an academic exploration of the multi-faceted, socio-historical, 4,000-year record of the Jewish people. Courses taught in and cross-listed with the program highlight the variety of cultural, political, social, and religious experiences of Jews in different times and places.

The program is structured to provide an in-depth liberal arts education that will constitute a foundation for advanced academic study, professional careers in a variety of fields, and a more complex and rich understanding of the world. Judaic Studies courses frequently meet University of Miami distribution requirements for both the Humanities and Social Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, the School of Communication and School of Business, and can be used to satisfy requirements by majors and non-majors.

This past Spring, the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences gave final approval to a proposal submitted by the programs in African American Studies, Judaic Studies, and Women's Studies to eliminate the requirement for a second major for students majoring in these programs.

Courses Listed and Cross-Listed in Judaic Studies for Fall 2003

- JUS 231, Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture, and Religion, Henry Green
JUH 200, Women in the Hebrew Bible, Danielle Sharon
JUS 375, Religion and Democracy in Israel, Henry Green
JUS 401, The Israeli Language in its Cultural Context, Ghil'ad Zuckermann

- ARB 101, Elementary Arabic, Abla Khalil
ARB 201, Intermediate Arabic, Abla Khalil
ENG 205, Jewish Literature, Jeffrey Shoulson
ENG 395/FLL 300, Jews and Arabs: Representations of the Semitic Self and Other in Literature and Film, Ranen Omer-Sherman and Christina Civantos
HEB 101, Elementary Hebrew, Ghil'ad Zuckermann
HEB 201, Intermediate Hebrew, Ghil'ad Zuckermann
HIS 396, World War II, Edward Dryer
HIS 544, The Weimar Republic and Hitler's Rise to Power, Hermann Beck
POL 387, Politics of the Middle East, Peter Moore
REL 111, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible, Dexter Callender
REL 121, Introduction to the New Testament, John Fitzgerald
REL 300, Sacred Violence, Ivan Petrella
REL 402, Angels, Myth and Reality, Dexter Callender
REL 402, Myth and Religion, Dexter Callender

Course Spotlights

JUS 401, The Israeli Language in its Cultural Context

Dr. Ghil'ad Zuckermann

The course will examine the language of politics and the politics of language in Israel since the nineteenth century, focusing on the emergence of the Israeli language and on its contemporary cultural context. Students will learn about the complexities of Israel's society, religion, media, film and music. General issues, such as the Americanization of Israel, Zionism, language planning and purism (as dictated, for example, by the Academy of the Hebrew Language), will be considered both for what they can tell us about the Israeli language and for what they reveal about Israeli identity. This class requires no previous knowledge of Hebrew. All readings will be in English.



Three interior views: The main hallway with the Warhol prints facing the Newman portraits (left). Above, the entrance and below, the Auditorium.



ENG 395/FLL 300,

Jews and Arabs: Representations of the Semitic Self and Other in Literature and Film

**Dr. Ranen Omer-Sherman and
Dr. Christina Civantos**

This highly interdisciplinary course introduces students to 20th-century literary texts and films which both reflect and shape Arab and Jewish images of self, homeland, nation, and the Jewish/Arab Other from 1948 until the present. The course, led by two professors, one with

expertise in the field of Hebrew literature and the other with expertise in Arabic literature, will strive to have students discuss a variety of issues while maintaining open, yet respectful, dialogue. The course will be organized around particular themes which, in spite of the conflicts between these two Semitic peoples, run through both Jewish and Arab historical experience and cultural production: Exile, Placement and Displacement, Diaspora, Home, Nation, Semitic Other, Gender & Sexuality, and Spirituality.

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The Miller Center extends sincere thanks to these donors whose major gifts have allowed for the creation and continued development of the center.

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The Miller Center and the Judaic Studies Program are offering and/or participating in a wide array of events this coming semester.

All dates are subject to change. Please contact the Miller Center to verify several days before the event in question.

Wed. Sept. 24 Professor Ilan Stavans, Amherst College.
Lunch and Learn on “Are Graduate Programs Failing Latino Students?” At the Miller Center, 12:00-1:30 pm.
RSVP required.
Ilan Stavans public lecture “Jews and Latinos: An Unlikely Partnership?”
Co-sponsored by the Miller Center, Department of English, Department of Foreign Languages, Program in Latin American Studies, and the Judaic Studies Program. At the Miller Center,
8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 7 Poet Marilyn Hacker will read from her work.
Co-sponsored by Program in Judaic Studies and Department of English.
4:00-5:30 pm. Place TBA

Wed. Oct. 15 Hankus Netsky, leader of the Klezmer Conservatory Band on “History of Klezmer.” Co-Sponsored with the Dora Teitelboim Center for Yiddish Culture. Miller Center 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 18 South Florida Klezmerim. Co-Sponsored with the Dora Teitelboim Center for Yiddish Culture.
At the Miller Center. 8:00-10:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon Oct. 20 “Third Monday” Judaic Studies Faculty Works in Progress. Brown bag lunch at Miller Center, 12-1:30 PM. Presenter: Samantha Baskind, Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History and Judaic Studies. Subject, TBA.

Wed. Oct. 22 Warren Bass, author, *Support Any Friend: Kennedy’s Middle East*. Part of the 23rd Annual Jewish Book Festival co-sponsored with the Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center. This lecture co-sponsored by Miller Center and Temple Judea.

At Temple Judea, 5500 Granada Blvd. 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 23 Braman Foundation Conference on the ‘New’ Anti-Semitism. Participants: Prof. Irwin Cotler, Mr. Arthur Teitelbaum, Prof. Haim Shaked. At the Miller Center. 8:00–10:00 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 28 The Third Annual Jack Chester Lecture. Prof. Stephen M. Berk, Prof. of Judaic Studies at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y. “Lessons of the Holocaust.” Miller Center. 8:00–10:00 P.M.

Thurs. Oct. 30 Peter Z. Malkin, (the man who captured Adolph Eichmann) author of *The Argentina Journal* and *Casting Pebbles on the Water With A Cluster of Colors*. Part of the 23rd Annual Jewish Book Festival co-sponsored by Miller Center and the Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center. This lecture also co-sponsored with the Holocaust Memorial of Miami Beach. At the Miller Center. 8:00–10:00 p.m.

Friday October 31 Teacher’s Workshop with Alexandra Zepruder, author of *Salvaged Pages: Diaries of the Holocaust*. Dr. Miriam Klein Kassenoff, Dr. Anita Meinbach, facilitators. Co- sponsors:

Holocaust Memorial, MDCPS, Miller Center, Young Israel of Kendall.
At Alper JCC.

Tues. Nov. 4 Prof. Ghil’ad Zuckerman on “Between Revival and Survival: Yiddish and the Emergence of ‘Israeli Hebrew.’”
Campus Lunch and Learn Series at the Miller Center, 12:00–1:30 p.m.

Wed. Nov. 5 Daniel Levitas on The Terrorist Next Door: The Militia Movement and the Radical Right; Barry Rubin on Yasser Arafat: A Political Biography; Phyllis Chesler on The New Anti-Semitism. Part of the 23rd Annual Jewish Book Festival co-sponsored by Miller Center and the Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center. This lecture also co-sponsored with Congregation Bet Breira.
At Bet Breira , 9400 S.W. 87th Ave. 8:00 p.m.

Fri. Nov 14 UM Homecoming Weekend “The Miami Experience”
Lecture on the Middle East by Dr. Haim Shaked.
At the Miller Center, 12:00–1:30 p.m.

Mon Nov. 17 “Third Monday” Judaic Studies Faculty Works in Progress. Brown bag lunch at Miller Center, 12:00-1:30 PM. Presenter TBA

Thur. Nov 20 Dr. Jael Silliman, Director, Ford Foundation’s Division of Reproductive Rights, author of *Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames: Women’s Narratives from a Diaspora of Hope*.
Lunch and Learn on her work in the area of reproductive rights, 12-1:30 pm, place TBA. Co-sponsored with Women’s Studies
Dr. Silliman will lecture on her memoir, 3:30-5:00 pm, place TBA.

**Program in Judaic Studies
University of Miami**

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