

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rachel S. Harris

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EDUCATION

- 2001 – 2008 DPhil in Hebrew Literature
The University of Oxford
Thesis Title: “The Role of Suicide in Modern Israeli Literature”
- 2000 – 2001 MA Near & Middle Eastern Studies
The School of Oriental and African Studies
(The University of London)
Dissertation Title:
“Deconstructing the Hebron Myth; Shooting Yourself in the Foot”
- 1996- 2000 MA General (hons) 2:1
Edinburgh University
Dissertation Title: “Translating the *Qur’an*”

PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS: Articles

- Jan 2009 ““This city doesn’t deserve to exist. This is just a misunderstanding:” Urban Topoi in Literary Depictions of Tel Aviv” *Israel Studies* FORTHCOMING
- Jan 2008 Casting Lots to Nonstop City: Current Discourse on the Cultural History, Identity and Construction of Tel Aviv *Journal of Jewish Identities*
- Oct 2006 “Forgetting the *Forgotten Ones*: the case of Haim Gouri’s “*Hanishkahim*”” *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* FORTHCOMING
- Jul 2006 “Samson: Deconstructing the Sabra” *Cahiers du Judaisme* FORTHCOMING

PUBLICATIONS: Translations

- Aug 2007 Translated Hebrew-English: the short story “Water” by Yechezkel Rachamim Zeek: *A Journal of Jewish Thought and Culture*
- Oct 2005 Translated Hebrew – English “Yizhar Returns to Prose” by Dan Miron
Commissioned by The Institution for the Translation of Hebrew Literature (ITHL)

PUBLICATIONS: Book Reviews and Encyclopaedia Entries

- Mar 2008 Eric Zakim "To Build and be Built" Penn University Press *Jewish Culture and History*, Valentine Mitchell FORTHCOMING
- Feb 2008 3 Entries in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish Culture and Religion* ed., Judith Baskin, Cambridge University Press, 2009 FORTHCOMING
- Dec 2004 16 Entries in *The Companion to Jewish Culture* ed. Glenda Abramson, Routledge, London, 2004. (Also worked on the bibliography for this large reference work.)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Jul 2008 **NAPH Conference (Montreal, Canada)**
The Bus as Liminal Space in Modern Hebrew Literature
- Dec 2007 **AJS Conference (Toronto, Canada)**
Tel Aviv Literary Journals: The New and The Now in Writing
- June 2007 **AIS Conference (Ra’anana, Israel)**
“Existentialism *al ha-autobus*: Encounters in Modern Hebrew Literature”

- Dec 2006 **AJS Conference (San Diego, USA)**
“There is no privacy in the anonymity of Tel Aviv: Poetic representations of the city”
- Dec 2005 **AJS Conference (Washington D.C., USA)**
“Tel Aviv Necropolis: The City of Dystopia in Keret and Shabtai,”
- Dec 2004 **Association for Israel Studies and the Institute for the Study of Israel in the Middle East Dissertation Workshop** participant (by selection)
- May 2004 **AIS Conference (Jerusalem, Israel)**
“Cultural Negotiations with the Audience, the Case of Haim Gouri’s *Hanishkahim*”
- Dec 2003 **AJS Conference (Boston, USA)**
“The Rise and Fall of Samson: A Study in Suicide”
- Dec 2002 **Limmud Conference (Nottingham, UK)**
“War and Peace, Israeli War Poetry: Memory” 1/2
“War and Peace, Israeli War Poetry: Place” 2/2
- Dec 2001 **Limmud Conference (Nottingham, UK)**
“Shooting Yourself in the Foot: Hebron Riots 1929”

PUBLIC LECTURES

UNIVERSITY

- Apr 2008 **Youngstown Ohio State University, Ohio**
City of Gold: Reading Jerusalem
- Mar 2008 **Wellesley College, Massachusetts** (Invited talk)
The Bus as Icon in Israeli Literature
- Feb 2008 **Middlebury College, Vermont** (Invited talk)
The Bus:
Conceiving Departures in the works of Alterman, Keret, Miren and Birshtein
- Sep 2007 **Yale, New Haven** (Invited talk)
The Bus as Icon: Travelling through Israeli Society
- May 2005 **QEH, Oxford University** (International Gender Studies Centre seminars:
‘Issues of women, gender, and development’)
“Barrenness a Curse, Motherhood a State in Modern Hebrew Literature”
- Feb 2005 **SUNY, Albany Judaic Studies**
“Cultural Negotiations with the Audience, the Case of Haim Gouri’s *Hanishkahim*”

COMMUNITY

- Apr 2008 **Agudat Achim, Schenectady**
City of Gold: Jerusalem – Its History and Poetry
- Apr 2007 **Schenectady JCC**
Lecture “Commemorating the War Dead in Hebrew Poetry”
- Dec 2006 **Schenectady JCC**
Speaker for screening of the film “Syrian Bride”

JOURNAL REVIEWER

- Nov 2007 External reviewer for The Journal of Jewish Identities
Apr 2008

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2005 – Current **University at Albany (SUNY) Judaic Studies**
(Assistant-Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature and Language)
Courses offered:
- Jewish Civilisation from Noah to the Holocaust
 - The Changing Face of the *Sabra*
 - Writing the Landscape of Israel
 - War in Hebrew Literature
 - The Arab in Israeli Literature
 - Love and Sex in Hebrew Literature
 - The Holocaust in Hebrew Literature
 - The development of Hebrew literature
 - Elementary Hebrew Language
 - Intermediate Hebrew Language
 - Advanced Hebrew Language
 - Jewish Literary Imagination: European Fin de Siècle
- Academic Year **The University of Oxford**
2004 - 2005 **(Lecturer in Modern Hebrew Language)**
Teaching beginners, intermediate and advanced Hebrew
- Academic Year **London Jewish Cultural Centre**
2004 – 2005 **(Lecturer in Jewish History)**
Invited to write and present three, one year courses,
- The Jews of the Ottoman Empire
 - The Rise of Zionism until the Balfour Declaration
 - European Jewry 1750-1950
- Spring 2004 **London Jewish Cultural Centre**
(Lecturer in Modern Hebrew Poetry)
Invited to present a series of eight lectures on Modern Hebrew Poetry
“War and Peace”
- Sep – Dec 2002 **Reform Synagogues of Great Britain**
(Lecturer in Modern Hebrew Poetry)
Delivered a series of six two-hour lectures on ‘Modern Hebrew Poetry and
the Peace Process’
- Sep 1999– Sep 2004 **Supervisor and Teacher of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)**
Various Organisations (information available on request)

SUPERVISION OF STUDENT RESEARCH**GRADUATE RESEARCH**

- Fall 2007 Shoshana Stein Independent Study in “Readings in Nationalism”
Spring 2007 Shoshana Stein Independent Study in “Jewish History of the Islamic World”

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS

- Spring 2008 Zakhar Berkovitch “Contemporary Russian writing in Hebrew and English”
Fall 2007 Zakhar Berkovitch “Contemporary Russian writing in Hebrew and English”
Spring 2007 Zakhar Berkovitch “Contemporary Russian writing in Hebrew and English”

UNDERGRADUATE INDEPENDENT STUDY

- Spring 2008 Hebrew Pedagogy Language Resources Project
Liora Saat, Rachael Woren, Yitzhak Elyahou, Mark Hayut, Bracha Krafchow and
Hila Milkovitch
- Spring 2007 Zohar Kastner “Contemporary Hebrew Journals”
Fall 2006 Zohar Kastner “Contemporary Hebrew Journals”
Fall 2006 Elliot Saavedra “Contemporary Hebrew Journals”
Fall 2005 Elizabeth Vandrei “Translating Hebrew Literature”

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Apr 2003 – Jan 2004 **Q News Muslim Magazine (Columnist)**

Sept 2002 – Sep 2005 **The Jewish Chronicle (Book Reviewer)**

Apr 2002 – Apr 2005 **The Jewish Chronicle (Regional Correspondent)**
Report on community, national and international events

Jan 2002 – Mar 2004 **Thames Valley One Day Limmud (Chair)**
Delegate to Limmud Council

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

May 2003 – 2005 **Centre for Development Studies, International Gender Studies
Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford (Research Associate Member)**

The Association of Israel Studies (**AI**S) The Association for Jewish Studies (**AJ**S) The British
Association for Jewish Studies (**BAJ**S) The European Association of Jewish Studies (**EAJ**S) National
Association of Professors of Hebrew (**NAP**H) Modern Language Association (**ML**A)

AWARDS

UAlbany Torch Award: Senior Class 2008

Excellence in Teaching (nominated) UAlbany (2008)

Faculty Appreciation Award UAlbany (2008)
(Presidential Award Granted by Outstanding Senior: Zakhar Berkovitch)

UAlbany (2007)
(Presidential Award Granted by Outstanding Senior: Steven Linder)

Michael and Morven Heller Award for Doctoral Research 2001-2002

Anglo-Jewish Association Award for Doctoral Research 2001-2002