

# Sarah Imhoff

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## Academic Positions

**Indiana University**, Bloomington, IN.  
Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Chair in Jewish Studies, 2022-present  
Professor, 2023-present  
Associate Professor, 2018-present  
Assistant Professor, 2012-2018  
Religious Studies and Borns Jewish Studies Program  
Affiliated Faculty, Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society  
Affiliated Faculty, Gender Studies Department  
Adjunct Faculty, History Department  
Adjunct Faculty, Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures Department

Visiting Assistant Professor, 2010-2012  
Religious Studies and Borns Jewish Studies Program

## Education

**University of Chicago Divinity School**, Chicago, IL.  
PhD, History of Judaism, 2010.  
*Dissertation: Making Jewish Gender: Religion, Race, Sexuality, and American Jews, 1910-1924*  
MA, Study of Religion, 2005.

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA.  
BAS: dual Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies and in Mathematics, 2002.

## Publications

### Books

*The Lives of Jessie Sampter: Queer, Disabled, Zionist*  
Duke University Press, 2022  
\* 2022 National Jewish Book Award finalist  
\* TOME grant, supporting full open access publication

*Masculinity and the Making of American Judaism*  
Indiana University Press, March 2017

*Jewish Studies and the Woman Question*  
Co-authored with Susannah Heschel  
Princeton University Press, February 2025

*American Judaisms: A Hemispheric History*  
Under contract with Routledge

### **Edited Volumes**

*Jewish Women Thinkers*  
Co-edited with Andrea Cooper  
Under contract with Wayne State University Press

*Jews of Color: A Reader*  
Co-edited with Samira Mehta, SooJi Min Maranda, and Sandra Lawson  
In preparation

*Judaism in 5 Minutes*  
Part of *Religion in 5 Minutes* Series  
Under contract with Equinox, full manuscript submitted December 2024

### **Journal Edited**

*American Religion*  
co-founder, co-editor with M Cooper Harriss, 2019- present

### **Current Projects**

“Friendship is the Cream of Life: Mary Antin and Jessie Sampter’s Religious Creativity,” co-authored with Rachel B. Gross  
*Religion and American Culture* (forthcoming, Fall 2025)

“The Gendered Landscape of American Judaism”  
*American Jewry*, ed. Frederick Greenspahn (July 2025, NYU Press)

“Zionism and Disability”  
*Disability History in the Modern Middle East*, ed. Sara Scalenghe and Beverly Tsacoyianis (submitted, Bloomsbury Press)

“Gender and Sexuality”  
*Oxford Handbook of American Jewish History*, eds. Michael Cohen and Shari Rabin (accepted, Oxford University Press)

“Bodies and Havruta-Style Learning in the Classroom”  
*Transforming the Classroom: Embodied Pedagogies in the Study of Religion*, ed. Sarabindh Levy-Brightman and Sravana Borkataky-Varma (submitted, Bloomsbury Press)

“Judaism ”

book chapter accepted for *Sexuality in Key Concepts in Interreligious Dialogues* series, ed. Georges Tamer (accepted, De Gruyter Press)

“American Zionist Women’s Writing as Political Thought”

*Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook* (resubmitted)

“Shofar Vibrations and Braille Scrolls: Judaism, Disability, and Community”

*Religions*, special issue on disability and material religion (submitted)

### Refereed Articles and Book Chapters

“Ability”

*Critical Terms in Religious Studies*, (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) ed. Sarah Hammerschlag (University of Chicago Press, 2025)

“The Trouble with Freedom: A Response to *Loving Our Own Bones*”

*Journal of Disability & Religion* ([Fall 2024](#))

“Jessie Sampter’s Pacifism”

*An Equal Share of Freedom: American Jews and World War I*, eds. Mark A. Raider and Gary P. Zola (University of Cincinnati Press, 2024)

“Race and American Judaism”

*Oxford Bibliographies*, ed. Naomi Seidman (New York: Oxford University Press) May 30, 2023.

“Floating Jews: The Luftmentsh as Economic Character,” co-authored with Nicolas Vallois

*Oeconomia* 12.2 (2022)

“Homemaking in Palestine: Jessie Sampter, Religion, and Relation” in *The Politics of Religion at Home and Abroad*, ed. Elizabeth Shakman Hurd and Winnifred Sullivan

(Columbia University Press, 2021)

“Racial Standing: How American Jews Imagine Community, and Why That Matters”

*Judaism, Race, and Ethics: Conversations and Questions*, ed. Jonathan Crane (Penn State University Press, 2020)

“A Redemptive Masculinity: American Images of Jewish Men from the Holocaust to the Six Day War”

*The Holocaust and Masculinity: Critical Inquiries in to the Presence and Absence of Men*, ed. Bjorn Krondorfer and Ovidiu Creanga (SUNY Press, 2020)

“Jewish Women and Race, Religion, and Sexuality in the Age of Immigration”  
*Religion is Raced: Understanding American Religion in the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Grace Yukich and Penny Edgell (NYU Press, 2020)

“Belief”

*Religion, Law, USA*, ed. Joshua Dubler and Isaac Weiner (NYU Press, 2019)

“Jews, Jewish Studies, and the Study of Islam”

*Identity, Politics, and the Study of Islam: Current Dilemmas in the Study of Religion*, ed. Matthew Sheehy (Equinox, 2018)

“Religion, Geography, and the Impossibility of Jewish Identity”

in *Theorizing “Religion” in Graeco-Roman Antiquity*, ed. Nickolas Roubekas (Equinox, 2018)

“Why Disability Studies Needs to Take Religion Seriously”

*Religions* 8.9 (2017)

“Lineage Matters: DNA, Race, and Gene Talk in Judaism and Messianic Judaism”  
coauthored with Hillary Kaell

*Religion and American Culture* 26.2 (2017)

“Hoover's Judeo-Christians: Jews, Judaism, and Communism in the Cold War”

in *“True Faith and Allegiance”: Religion and the FBI*, eds. Sylvester A. Johnson and Steven Weitzman (University of California Press, 2017)

“The Myth of American Jewish Feminization”

*Jewish Social Studies* 21.3 (July 2016)

“The Creation Story of Religious Studies, or How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Schempp”

*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (June 2016)

“Lost, Hidden, Discovered: Theologies of DNA in North American Judaism and Messianic Judaism”

in Leonard Greenspoon, ed. *Mishpachah: The Jewish Family in Tradition and Transition* (Purdue University Press, 2016)

“Half-Jewish, Just Jewish, and the Oddities of Religious Identifications”

*Journal of Religion and Society* (March 2016)

“DNA and the Problem of Jewish Embodiment”

*Critical Research in Religion* 2.2 (Aug 2014)

“Wild Tribes and Ancient Semites: Israelite-Indian Identification and the American West”

*Culture and Religion* (May 2014)

“Traces of Race: American Jewish Identity”

in Leonard Greenspoon, ed. *Who Is A Jew? Reflections on History, Religion, and Culture* (Purdue University Press, 2014)

“Manly Missions: Jews, Christians, and Religious Masculinity in Progressive Era America”

*American Jewish History* 97.2 (Winter 2012)

“My Sons Have Defeated Me: Walter Lippmann, Felix Adler, and Secular Moral Authority”

*Journal of Religion* 92.4 (Oct 2012)

“The Heart of the Ghetto? The Founding of the Maxwell Street Settlement House”

*Journal of Illinois History* 15.3 (Autumn 2012)

“Hasidism”

in *The Encyclopedia of Religion in America*. Charles Lippy and Peter Williams, eds. (C.Q. Press, 2010)

“The Spirit and the Law: American Jewish Spirituality”

in Charles Lippy, ed. *Spirituality in America*. (Westport, CT: Praeger Press, 2006).

## Other Articles and Chapters

“ ‘The Deposed Queen’: A Reflection on Crises in Religious Studies”

*Religious Studies Review* 50:2 (June 2024) <https://doi.org/10.1111/rsr.17248>

“The Impossibility of Ethical Citation”

*Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses* 53:2 (Spring 2024)

“Gender Inclusivity: A Preliminary Guide for Jewish Studies Scholars”

co-authored with Susannah Heschel, *AJS Perspectives*, “The Patriarchy Issue” (Spring 2019)

“Women and Gender, Past and Present: A Jewish Studies Story”

*Jewish Social Studies* 24:2 Feminist History retrospective (Winter 2019)

“When Science Made Jews Both a Race and a Religion” *Cosmologics* (Oct 2018)

<https://cosmologicsmagazine.com/sarah-imhoff-when-science-made-jews-both-a-race-and-a-religion/>

“Carlebach and the Unheard Stories”

*American Jewish History*, (Oct 2016)

“The Man in Black: Matisyahu, Identity, and Authenticity”

*Religion and Culture Web Forum*. University of Chicago, (Feb 2010).

Book Review Essay: “All in the Family? Jewish Inter-marriage in America,”  
*Religious Studies Review* 36:4 (Dec 2010)

**Selected Online Content:**

[“Nonbinary Genders Beyond Male and Female Would Have Been No Surprise to Ancient Rabbis”](#)

*The Conversation*, July 2023

[“The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Social Model of Disability”](#)

Collecting These Times, February 2022

[“Lauren Tuchman”](#)

Jewish Women’s Archive, June 2021

[“Shofar Blast”](#)

Uncivil Religion (Smithsonian), December 2021

[“The Complexity of Race, Religion, and Jewishness – And What that Might Teach Us”](#)

Jewish Studies/Ethnic Studies, May 2021

[“FBI Reaches out to Hasidic Jews to Fight Antisemitism – but Bureau has Fraught History with Judaism”](#)

*The Conversation*, April 2021

[“Practices of Relation,”](#) co-authored with Marc Baer.

*Immanent Frame*, July 2020

[“Judaism, COVID-19, and Crip Wisdom”](#)

Berkley Center (Georgetown), April 2020

[“Jews, Sex Positivity, and Abuse”](#)

*The Revealer*, March 2020

[“Body”](#)

*Immanent Frame*, A Universe of Terms, Nov 2019

[“Gender and the Goy”](#)

*Political Theology*, Oct 2019

[“Error 404: Women Not Found”](#)

*Feminist Studies in Religion* July 2019

[“The Myth of Secular Law as Savior”](#)

*Immanent Frame*, Sex and the Catholic Church, Feb 2019

[“Where are the Women in Jewish Studies”](#) co-authored with Susannah Heschel  
*Forward*, July 3, 2018.

[“Future Imperfect”](#),

*Immanent Frame*, Feb 2018

[“Intermarriage and the Complexity of Jewish Identity”](#)

*Marginalia Review of Books*, Dec 2015

[“The Supreme Court’s Faith in Belief,”](#)

The Immanent Frame, Dec 2014

“How Should One Teach Introduction to Jewish Studies?” *AJS Perspectives*, Fall 2014

[“Reflections on Jewish Studies,”](#) *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, 24.4 (2014)

[“All Religion is Local,”](#) *Jewschool*, May 2014

“Marrying Out, or Marrying In? Jewish-Chinese American Marriages” *Sh’ma*.  
November 2013.

“Is Male Model Posing on Bed Sexy? Not If He’s a Hasid” *Sightings* October 3, 2013.

“Jews Who Choose: Conversion and the Americanization of Judaism” in *Sh’ma*. April  
2013.

Contributor to Religion in the American West (published through Yale University,  
website: [relwest.blogspot.com](http://relwest.blogspot.com)) 2011-2013

“Violence and Secrecy: On Masculinity and the Akedah” in *Sh’ma*. September 2011.

“The Shtetl Strongman.” *Sightings*. Published by Martin Marty Center. December 9,  
2010.

[“Hyphen Nation”](#)

*Tablet*. July 16, 2009.

“Jewish Girl, American Doll.” *Sightings*. Published by Martin Marty Center. June 18,  
2009.

“The Rebbe’s Body.” Invited response to Jeffrey Shandler, “The Virtual Rebbe,”  
*Religion and Culture Web Forum*, University of Chicago, February 2009.

“American Anti-Semitism, New and Old.” *Sightings*. Published by Martin Marty Center. January 30, 2008.

### Selected Book Reviews, by journal:

#### *Journal of Church and State*

*Heathen* by Kathryn Gin Lum (Feb 2024)

#### *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*

*Religious Freedom: The Contested History of an American Ideal* by Tisa Wenger (2018)

#### *Journal of Religion*

*Jews on the Frontier* by Shari Rabin (2019)

*The Figural Jew* by Sarah Hammerschlag (2012)

*The Status of Women in Jewish Tradition* by Isaac Sassoon (Oct 2011)

*Jews and the American Soul* by Andrew Heinze (Apr 2006)

#### *History of Religions*

*The Urban Origins of American Judaism* by Deborah Dash Moore (2016)

#### *In Geveb*

*A Provincial Newspaper and Other Stories* translated by Jessica Kirzane (Feb 2024)

#### *AJS Review*

*Material Culture and Jewish Thought* by Kenneth Koltun-Fromm (April 2011)

#### *H-net Reviews*

*Jewish Radical Feminism* by Joyce Antler (August 2019)

#### *American Jewish History*

*That Pride of Race and Character: The Roots of Jewish Benevolence in the Jim Crow South* by Caroline Light (July 2016)

*Jews Across the Americas*, ed. Adriana M. Brodksy and Laura Arnold Leibman (2025)

#### *Reading Religion*

*Judaisms* by Aaron Hahn Tapper (2017)

#### *Philip Roth Studies*

*Borrowed Voices* by Jennifer Glaser (2018)

#### *American Jewish Archives Journal*



*America's Jewish Women* by Pamela Nadell (2019)  
*The White Negress* by Lori Harrison-Kahan (Summer 2011)

*Practical Matters*

*Women Remaking American Judaism*, Riv Ellen Prell, ed. (Fall 2009).

*Journal of Illinois History*

*Sundays at Sinai* by Tobias Brinkman (Fall 2012)

*Gender Forum*

*Jewish/Christian/Queer: Crossroads and Identities*, Frederick Roden, ed.  
*Gender, Memory, and Judaism*, Judit Gaszi, Andrea Peto, and Zsuzsanna Toronyi, eds.

*Musica Judaica Online Reviews*

*The Naming* (recording), Galeet Dardashti, (December 20, 2010).

Fellowships  
and Awards

**Research (selected)**

IU Presidential Arts & Humanities Fellowship, \$50,000 (2023-24)  
Indiana University

IAS Collaborative Research Award, \$9,000 (2023-24)  
Institute for Advanced Study (IU)

Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman Memorial Fellowship, \$1800 (2021)  
American Jewish Archives

Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities (IDAH) Faculty Fellowship, \$11,000 (2021)  
Indiana University

Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME), \$15,000 (2021)  
(Supports making *Lives of Jessie Sampter* book open access)  
Indiana University

“American Religion,” with M. Cooper Harriss, \$25,000 (2018)  
Indiana University Arts & Humanities Council

Matching grant, with M. Cooper Harriss, \$5,000 (2018)  
Indiana University Gateway

Hadassah-Brandeis Research Award, Senior category, \$3,500 (2017)  
Hadassah-Brandeis Institute

New Frontiers Research Fellowship \$22,000 (2016)  
Indiana University

College Arts and Humanities Institute Research Fellowship (2016)  
Indiana University

Ostrom Program Grant (2016), awarded for “Taking Exception” workshop with M. Cooper Harriss  
Indiana University

College Arts and Humanities Institute Conference Funding (2016), awarded for “Taking Exception” workshop with M. Cooper Harriss  
Indiana University

Women’s Caucus Book Subvention Grant (2014)  
Association for Jewish Studies

Research Grant (2012)  
Southern Jewish Historical Society

Lowenstein-Weiner Fellowship (2010)  
American Jewish Archives

## Teaching

Trustees’ Teaching Award (2023)  
Indiana University

“Teaching Religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom” (2018-2021) \$50,000  
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning

Trustees’ Teaching Award, At-Large Competition (2017)  
Indiana University

Faculty, “World Religions in Greater Indianapolis” (2015)  
National Endowment for the Humanities

## Teaching Experience

### **Indiana University - Bloomington**

*(classes cross-listed in Jewish Studies and Religious Studies)*

Undergraduate:

*Jews, Christians, Muslims*

Spring 2013, Autumn 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Autumn 2016, Spring 2018, Autumn 2018, Autumn 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024

*Religion and Law (Critical Approaches)*

Spring 2021, Spring 2019

*Jews and Race in America*

Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2014, Spring 2016  
*Judaism and Gender*  
Spring 2013, Spring 2015  
*Jewish History: Spanish Expulsion to the Present*  
Spring 2014  
*American Jewish History*  
Autumn 2011, Autumn 2012  
*Women in American Jewish History*  
Autumn 2010  
*Introduction to Judaism*  
Autumn 2012  
*Sex, Gender, and Rabbinic Literature*  
Spring 2011  
*Understanding the Rabbinic Mind*  
Autumn 2010, Autumn 2011

**Graduate:**

*Graduate Colloquium in Jewish Studies*,  
Spring 2012, Autumn 2015, Autumn 2016, Autumn 2017, Autumn 2018,  
Autumn 2019, Autumn 2020, Autumn 2021, Autumn 2022, Autumn 2023  
*Directed Readings in: American Religion; Gender Theory and Religion; Religion,  
Disability, and the Body; American Judaism; Women and American Religion; Religion  
and the Body, Jewish History across the Americas*  
Each offered various semesters, Spring 2010-present

**University of Chicago**

*Women in American Jewish History*, (History, Religious Studies & Gender Studies)  
Autumn 2009  
*American Jewish Identity* (Reading and Research)  
Autumn 2009  
*Writing Core*  
Autumn 2007- Spring 2008

**Conferences  
And  
Lectures**

**Conference Organized:**

Sole organizer:  
*Jews, Race, America.*  
*Indiana University Bloomington, October 2013*

**Co-Organizer:**

*Decentering American Religion Workshop (thinking with Canada)*  
*McGill University, April 2024*

*Subversive Religiosities and More-Than-Human Materialities in Latin America*  
*Mexico City, October 2022*

*Decentering American Religion*

*Virtual, hosted by IU Berlin Gateway, March 2021*

**Re-centering American Religion**

*UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico, March 2019*

**Taking Exception II**

*Indiana University Bloomington, March-April 2018*

**Taking Exception: Queering American Religion**

*Indiana University Bloomington, March-April 2017*

**Religious Studies 50 Years after Schempp: History, Institutions, Theory.**

*Indiana University Bloomington, September 2013.*

*Modernity's Other: Studies on Jewish Women.*

*University of Chicago, February 2007.*

**Endowed Lectures:**

**"A Queer Zionism: Jessie Sampter and the Paradoxes of Jewish Nationalism"**

*Klingenstein Lecture, New College Florida, March 2022*

**"The Lives of Jessie Sampter: Queer, Disabled, Zionist"**

*Faye Seligman Woman of Valor Lecture, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, March 2022*

**"Becoming American, Becoming Manly: A History of American Jewish Masculinity"**

*Jerry Jackson Lecture, Western Carolina University, NC, October 2021*

**"Manliness and Its Opposites: A Brief History of American Jewish Gender"**

*Jeremy Zwelling Lecture, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, April 2019*

**"Jessie Sampter, Zionist 'Cripple': One Woman's Story and How It Might Change the Way We See Religion and Disability"**

*Tate Lecture, University of North Carolina Charlotte, Charlotte, NC, October 2018*

**"Are Jewish Men Manly? A Story of American Masculinity"**

*Lichter Lecture Series, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, October 2018.*

**"Jewish Men Past and Present: Sexuality and Stereotypes"**

*Henry Samuel Levinson Lecture, University of North Carolina Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, March 2018.*

**"The Mild Tribe: 'Indians,' the West, and American Jewish Masculinity"**

*University of Northern Florida, Jacksonville, FL, Oct 2017*

**"The Pulpit and the Classroom: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and the Study of Religion"**

*Goldstein Lecture.* Morningside College, Sioux City, IA, March 2016.

## **Other Invited Lectures:**

Keynote: "We Have Always Been American: Jewish Origin Stories"  
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, April 2024

"American Genesis"  
Indiana University, Samuel New Institute, January 2024

"A Critical History of Zionism and Disability"  
UC Davis, Davis, CA, January 2024

"Validity and Invalidity: Jessie Sampter, Disability, and Zionism"  
Queens University, Kingston, ON, October 2023

"Disability, Embodiment, and the Limits of Knowledge"  
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, October 2023

"A Queer, Crip Zionism? The Not-So-Strange Case of Jessie Sampter"  
Penn State University, State College, PA, September 2023

"Another Zionism: Jessie Sampter, Queerness, and Disability"  
UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, February 2023

Keynote: "Validity and Invalidity: Jessie Sampter on Zionism and Disability"  
George Mason University undergraduate conference, Washington, DC, February 2023

Keynote: "Embodied Ways of Knowing: Promises and Limitations in Religious Studies"  
Boston University graduate conference, Boston, MA, October 2022.

"היהודיה החדשה? ישע סמפטר - אשה ציונית, נכה וקווירית"  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem, via videoconference, January 2023.

"Mammas Boys and Manly Men: Judaism and Masculinity"  
Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, September 2022.

"Angry Religion: The Rise of American Theocracy" panelist  
Montclair State University, Katz Center, February 2022.

"Jews in the US Racial Landscape"  
University of Pennsylvania, Katz Center, November 2021.

"Religion & Disability" panelist

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, via videoconference, October 2021.

“The Crime of the Century: Leopold, Loeb, and Jewish Gender”  
University of Florida, via videoconference, October 2021.

“Jewish Studies / Ethnic Studies”  
Stanford University and University of Southern California, Webinar, June 3, 2021

“Jews, Race, and the American West”  
UCLA, via videoconference, February 2021

“An Unlikely Zionist: Jessie Sampter, Judaism, and Disability”  
University of Alberta, via videoconference, November 2020.

“A Queer Zionism? Jessie Sampter and the Politics of the Body”  
Pomona College, Pomona, California, March 2020.

“Crippling the Religious Past? Jessie Sampter, Zionism, and Disability”  
University of California, Riverside, California, December 2019.

“Embodied Judaism: Masculinity and the US West”  
Colorado University, Boulder, Colorado, November 2019.

“The ‘Crippled’ Zionist: Jessie Sampter, Religion, and Disability”  
Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, September 2019.

"Bodies: Medical Innovations and Religious Interpretations of the Body" panel, with  
Hillary Kaell  
*Religion and Innovation*. Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC, April 2019.

"What's Reform about Reform Judaism?"  
*Religion and Reform Symposium*. Creighton University, Omaha, NE, February 2018.

“How the Balfour Declaration Changed Everything... And Nothing: A View from the  
United States”  
Joan & Samuel New Institute for the Study of Judaism and the Jews, Spertus Institute  
Chicago, Oct 2017.

"Calisthenics and Cows: Creating Manly Jews in Progressive Era America"  
University of Maryland, Silver Springs, MD, May 2016

"Racial Standing: How American Jews Imagine Community, and Why That Matters"  
*Race with Jewish Ethics*, Emory University, Oct 2015.

"Half-Jewish, Just Jewish, and the Oddities of Religious Identifications"  
*Religion and Identity Symposium*. Creighton University, Omaha, NE, February 2015.

“The Legal Birth of Religious Studies? A Judicious Look at the Roots of a Discipline”  
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, October 2014.

"Genes, Race, and the Anxiety of Jewish Identity"  
York University, Jewish Studies. Toronto, Canada, October 2014.

“Bad Jews and Soft Crimes: Dispatches from the Construction of Masculinity”  
Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, Canada, October 2014

“Members of the Tribe and Masculinity: Indian-Israelite Identification and American Religion”  
Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA, October 2013.

“Men, Women, and Other Jews”  
Lexington Havurah, Lexington, KY, March 2013.

Keynote Speaker  
Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs, Midwest Region, April 2012.

“Spines of the Sabras: Gender and Zionism in Popular American Novels”  
*American Religions/American Literatures*, University of Illinois, October 2012.

“American Jewry in Transition”  
Joan & Samuel New Institute for the Study of Judaism and the Jews, Indiana University 2012.

“My Sons Have Defeated Me: Secular Jews and Moral Authority,”  
*Writing Religion: Representation, Difference, and Authority in American Culture*,  
University of Chicago, May 2011

### **Conference and Workshop Presentations (selected):**

Panelist: “Talking Across Disciplines: New Directions in Gender and Sexuality Research”  
Association for Jewish Studies, Zoom, February 2024

“Thinking Disability in Early Twentieth-Century American Zionism and the Yishuv”  
Association for Jewish Studies, San Francisco, December 2024

Panelist: “Women in Publishing”  
American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, November 2023

“Retelling US History: A Roundtable”  
American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, November 2023

Panelist: Jewish Studies and American Studies

American Studies Association, October 2023

“Jessie Sampter: A Poet to Forget?”

Association of Jewish Studies, Boston, December 2022

“Gender, Genre, and American Jewish Thought: The Case of Irma Levy Lindheim”

American Academy of Religion, Denver, November 2022

“Sufferings of the Soul: The Friendship of Jessie Sampter and Mary Antin”

The History of Jewish Friendship, University of Michigan, October 2022

“Women as Zionist Thinkers”

World Congress of Jewish Studies, Hebrew University, August 2022

Panelist: “Jews of Color”

American Jewish Historical Society Conference, Tulane University, June 2022

Panelist: “Where do we go from here? Creating Responsiveness and Responsibility in Professional Organizations”

*Association for Jewish Studies*, Chicago, IL. Dec 2021

Panelist: “Women in the Profession: What Have We Learned?”

*Association for Jewish Studies*, San Diego, CA. Dec 2019.

Panelist: “Manthologies”

*American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, CA. Nov 2019.

Panelist: “Does Religious Studies Have a Jewish Problem?”

*American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, CA. Nov 2019.

Panelist: Book Panel for Harshita Kamath’s *Impersonations*

*American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, CA. Nov 2019.

“A Crip Zionism? Jessie Sampter, Disability, and Gender in the Yishuv”

Taube Institute’s Jewish Studies Colloquium, Brandeis. Jan 2019.

“Jessie Sampter’s Queer Story”

*Oxford Summer Institute*, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford University. July 2018.

Panelist: “After Multiculturalism, Beyond Is It Good for the Jews”

*American Jewish History Scholars Conference*, Philadelphia, PA. June 2018.

“The Healthy Body and Its Opposites: Bodily Norms of American Religion”

*Religion and the American Normal*, Princeton University. Feb 2018.

“Disability Studies Needs Religion: Lessons from a Queer Crippled Jew”

*American Academy of Religion*, Boston, MA. November 2017.



“Playing Cowboys and Indians: Masculinity and the American Jewish South”  
*Southern Jewish Historical Society*, Cincinnati, OH. November 2017.

“Critical Jewish Studies: In Theory and Practice” seminar: “Jessie Sampter and the Place of Jewish History”  
*Association for Jewish Studies*, San Diego, CA. December 2016.

“How Science Made Race and Religion: the Case of Jewishness in the United States”  
*American Academy of Religion*, San Antonio, TX. November 2016.

“American Religion Abroad: Jessie Sampter and the Boundaries of Judaism”  
*American Jewish Historical Society*, New York, NY. June 2016.

“Graetz’s Women”  
*Jewish Historical Writing*, Western Galilee College. Akko, Israel, March 2015.

“Afternoon Calisthenics at Woodbine: Jewish Agriculture and the Male Body,”  
*Association for Jewish Studies*, Baltimore, MD, December 2014.

“The ‘Nones’ and the Jews”  
*American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, CA, November 2014.

“Theological Families: Jews, Messianic Jews, and the Meaning of Lineage,” with Hillary Kaell.  
*Mishpachah: The Jewish Family in Tradition and in Transition*. Omaha, NE, October 2014.

“American Zionism and the Masculinity Question, 1901-1914”  
*Biennial American Jewish History Scholars Conference*. Atlanta, GA, June 2014.

“Race and the Genetic Jew”  
*Race and Religion in American History* conference, Princeton University, March 2014.

“Manly Members of the Tribe: How Masculinity Helped Jews Become American”  
San Francisco State University, February 2014.

“Race, DNA, and the Ethics of Jewish Identity”  
*Society for Jewish Ethics*, Seattle, WA, January 2014.

“Jewish Identities and Critical Theory: The Political Significance of Conceptual Categories,” panel speaker  
*American Academy of Religion*, Baltimore, MD, November 2013.

“The Creation Story, or How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Love *Schempp*,”  
*Religious Studies 50 Years After Schempp*, Indiana University Bloomington  
September 2013.

“Judaism’s “Removal Work”? Gender and the Landscape of American Immigration”  
*Actor Networks: Between Global Markets and the Nation*, Freie Universitat Berlin, Germany, August 2013.

“The Specter of Race: Biology and American Jewish Identity”  
*American Academy of Religion*, Chicago, IL, November 2012.

“American Sabras: Gender and Midcentury Novels”  
*Jewish American and Holocaust Literature*, Miami, FL, November 2012.

“Traces of Race: American Jewish Identity”  
*25<sup>th</sup> Annual Klutznick-Harris Symposium*, Omaha, NE, October 2012.

“Texas Jews and Other Others”  
*Organization of American Historians*, Milwaukee, WI, April 2012.

“Acting Jewish: Gender on the American Stage,”  
*Association for Jewish Studies*, Washington, DC, December 2011.

“City Jew, Country Jew”  
Religion in the American West Section, *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, November 2011.

“Constructing the American Jewish Body: Medical, Racial, and Gender Discourses”  
Study of Judaism Section, *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, November 2010.

“Gender, Race Science, and ‘the Jew’ in Progressive Era America.”  
Study of Judaism Section, *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*. Montreal, Canada, November 2009.

“After the Parliament: the Maxwell Street Settlement House.”  
Women and Religion Section, *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*. Montreal, Canada November 2009.

“Israel as a Woman: Wordplay and the Cultural Logic of Gender in *Song of Songs Rabbah*,”  
*Midwest American Academy of Religion Conference*. Loyola University. Chicago, IL, April 2009.

“Naturally Unnatural? Women in Midrash”  
*Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion Conference*. Luther Seminary. St. Paul, MN, March 2009.

“The Feminized Jew and Virile Americanism.”  
*History Graduate Student Conference*. Loyola University Chicago. Chicago, IL, April 2008.

"Sex Rashes and Intermarriage: Jews in the American Mind 1890-1920"  
*Graduate Symposium on Women's and Gender History*. University of Illinois at  
Champaign-Urbana. Urbana, IL, March 2008.

"Feminine Nature Shows in Nose: Jews and Gender in the American Mind, 1890–  
1925"  
*Religion, Community, and Conflict* conference. Florida State University. Tallahassee,  
FL, February 2008.

### **Guest on Podcasts, Interviews, etc.**

*Deadly Alliance: Leopold and Loeb*  
September 2024, WTTW, Chicago television

[\*Religion and Antisemitism\*](#)  
September 2024, Center for Religion and American Culture, IUPUI

[\*Antisemitism USA\*](#)  
May 2024, Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History

*Undisciplined*, episode on Jewish genders in rabbinic texts  
July 2023, Utah Public Radio

[\*Journeys in Jewish Studies\*](#)  
April 2023, University of Chicago

[\*Writing It!\*](#), episode on journal publishing  
September 2023

[\*Religion and Disability\*](#)  
October, 2021 Co-host, Center for Religion and American Culture, IUPUI

Academic  
Service

### **National/International**

*Jewish Quarterly Review*, editorial board member (2020-present)

*Darom*, Global South and Mizrahi book series, Wayne State University Press (2024-  
present)

Faculty Board, Indiana University Press (2024-present)

Academic Advisory Council, Jewish Women's Archive (2023-present)

Nominations Committee, Association for Jewish Studies (2021-2023)

Status of Women in the Profession, Committee Member, American Academy of Religion (2019-2022)

Task Force for Diversity and Inclusion, Task Force Member, Association for Jewish Studies (2018-2022)

Task Force for Discipline and Dismissal, Task Force Member, Association for Jewish Studies (2019-2020)

Men & Masculinities in Religion section, Steering Committee Member, American Academy of Religion (2019-present)

Modern Jewish History in the Americas, Co-chair, Association for Jewish Studies (2019-2021)

Study of Judaism section, Co-chair, American Academy of religion (2012-2018)

Study of Judaism section, Steering Committee member, American Academy of Religion (2010-2012)

Study of Judaism Section Chair, Midwest AAR, (2009-2015)

Co-editor, H-Judaic, international listserv for Jewish Studies (2012-2018)

### **Official Mentoring Programs - National/International**

Association for Jewish Studies Paula Hyman Mentoring Program (2020-21; 2022-23)  
Association for Jewish Studies Mentoring Program (2020-21)  
American Academy of Religion Mentoring Program (2020-21)  
Political Theology Mentoring Program (2020-2021)

### **University/Campus/College**

Instructional Faculty Promotion Committee (2024-2026)  
Patten Committee (2021-2024)  
Campus Assessment Committee on Gender & Faculty Satisfaction (2018-2019)  
College Policy Committee member (Fall 2020)  
Academic Fairness Committee member (2018-2021)  
CAHI graduate grant applications evaluator (2015-16)  
Strategic Planning Committee member – Integrated Arts & Humanities (fall 2013)

### **Department**

Director of Graduate Studies, Borns Jewish Studies Program, Indiana University (2014-2023, 2024-present)  
College Diversity Chair (Jewish Studies 2020-21, Religious Studies 2021-22)  
Co-Chair, Revising T&P Documents, Religious Studies (fall 2021)

Member, Community and Engagement Committee, Religious Studies (fall 2019)  
Chair, Teaching Excellence Committee, Religious Studies (2018-19)  
Chair, Community and Engagement Committee, Religious Studies (2016-17)  
Graduate Committee, Religious Studies (2016-17; 2017-18; 2022-23)  
Graduate Committee, Jewish Studies (2022-23; 21-22; 20-21; 19-20; 18-19; 17-18;  
16-17; 15-16; 14-15; 13-14)  
Faculty Affairs Committee, Jewish Studies (2015-16; 14-15; 12-13)

#### Languages

Reading and speaking knowledge of Modern Hebrew.  
Reading knowledge of French, German, Spanish, and Rabbinic Aramaic.  
Limited reading knowledge of Yiddish.

#### Affiliations

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