

DANIEL DAVID MAY

EDUCATION

- 2020 Ph.D. Department of Religion, Princeton University
Dissertation title: "Isaiah Berlin and Leo Strauss: The Jewish Question and the Limits of Politics."
- 2016 M.A., Department of Religion, Princeton University
- 2010 Masters in Theological Studies, Harvard Divinity School
Thesis: "For the Sake of Politics: Hannah Arendt and the Organizing of the Industrial Areas Foundation."
- 2000 A.B. *magna cum laude*, Pomona College
- 1998 Spanish Intensive, The University of Seville, Spain
- 2015 German Intensive, The Goethe Institute, Berlin
- 2015 Hebrew Intensive, Tel Aviv University

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern Jewish thought, intellectual history, political theory, nationalism, race, religion and society, democracy

FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS

- 2020-2021 Research Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America
- 2018-2020 North American Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America
- 2018-2019 Association of Jewish Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2017-2018 Laurance S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellow, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University
- 2014-2015 Department of Religion Teaching Award, Princeton University
- 2013-2018 Graduate Fellowship, Princeton University
- 2014 Princeton Program in Judaic Studies summer research and travel grant
- 2014 Princeton Institute for International and Regional summer research and travel grant
- 2008-2010 Graduate Fellowship in Jewish Thought, Harvard Divinity School
- 2009 Abraham Joshua Heschel Fellow, The Religious Action Center of the Reform Movement
- 2000 Edward M. Sait Award winner, granted to one member of the senior class at Pomona College for excellence in the study of American politics
- 2000 Phi Beta Kappa Member

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"The Politics of Friendship: Hannah Arendt and the Community Organizing of the Industrial Areas Foundation," *The Good Society: A Journal of Civic Studies* 27, No. 1-2 (Winter, 2019).

"The Ouroboros: Leo Strauss's Critique of Zionism," *Jewish Quarterly Review* (Forthcoming).

TEACHING

Lecturer, Hebrew Union College

2022 American Judaism and Social Justice: History, Theory, Practice

2021 Dilemmas in Jewish Justice: The Climate Crisis

2021 The Crisis of Zionism

Visiting Instructor, Bard College:

2020 Anti-Semitism, Racism and the Limits of Liberalism

2020 Freshman Seminar: The Self in the World

Visiting Instructor, Hebrew Union College:

2020 Dilemmas in Jewish Justice: American Judaism and the Struggle for Black Liberation

2019 Dilemmas in Jewish Justice: Liberal Zionism and its Discontents

Visiting Instructor, the Department of Religion, Haverford College:

2019 Politics and Power in Modern Jewish Thought

Assistantship in Instruction:

2016 The Life and Thought of Abraham Joshua Heschel
Assistant in Instruction to Prof. Cornel West, Union Theological Seminary

2104 Christian Ethics and Modern Society (Religion 261)
Assistant in Instruction to Prof. Eric Gregory, Princeton University

Selected Guest Lectures:

2018 “Religious Appeals in Broad-Based Organizing”
Faith and Critical Reason, Fordham University, Professor Shira Billet
“Faith and Conflict in Congregational Organizing,” Princeton Theological Seminary
Theology and Practice in Broad Based Community Organizing, Professor John Bowlin

2017 “Zionism and Zionisms, a History,” Pace University
Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion, Professor James Reich
“Organizing in the Synagogue: Context and Conflicts,” Jewish Theological Seminary
4th Year Rabbinic Student Seminar

Other Teaching:

2008-2010 Instructor with the Prison Education Initiative, Riker’s Island, New York City

2005-2006 Lecturer, Social Justice and the Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2017 “The Jewish Question as the Human Question: Isaiah Berlin, Leo Strauss and the Pursuit of a Tragic Zionism.” The 17th World Congress of Jewish Studies. Jerusalem, Israel
- 2016 “For the Sake of Politics: Power and Plurality in Hannah Arendt and the Organizing of the Katrina Survivors Network.” Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting. New Orleans, MO
- 2016 “Hermann Cohen’s Tragic Politics.” Judaism and Modern Philosophy: Spinoza, Hermann Cohen, and the Legacies of German Idealism. A conference at Princeton University, NJ.
- 2020 “Liberal Zionism and its Discontents,” Association of Jewish Studies, December 2020
- 2019 “Hannah Arendt’s Refugee Politics: Jewish Identity and The Politics of The Prepolitical.” American Academy of Religion National Conference, November 2019
- 2018 “Like All People Only More So: The Paradox of Isaiah Berlin’s Zionism.” Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting. Portland, OR
- “Race in Reconstruction: Blood and Nation in Morecai Kaplan and W.E.B. DuBois.” Association of Jewish Studies. Washington, DC
- “Liberal Zionism and its Discontents: Louis Brandeis, Isaiah Berlin and The Formation of a Fragile Consensus” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference. Boston, MA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE THE ACADEMY

- 2022- Present Publisher, *Jewish Currents*
- Research Consultant, *The Colombe Foundation*
- 2015-2020 Senior Trainer in Strategy and Storytelling, *Auburn Seminary*
- National Director, J Street U
- 2010-2014 J Street, New York City
- National Director, Political and Community Organizing
- 2007-2008 *Campaign to Improve Assisted Living, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), New York, New York*
- Senior Organizer, One-LA
- 2001-2007 *Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), Los Angeles CA*
- Organizer
- 2001-2002 *Minnesota Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), Minneapolis, MN*
- Project Director
- 2000-2001 *New York Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), Bronx, NY*

SELECTED JOURNALISM

- 2017 “Does the Peace Movement Have a Future?” *The Nation* (cover story), March 2017
“The Problem isn’t Black Lives Matter, It’s the Occupation,” *Tablet*, April 15
- 2016 “Democratic Activists are now Marked as Israel’s New Traitors,” December 28, *Haaretz*
- 2015 “Orwell Would Ask Where Does ‘Pro-Israel’ Leads Us?” *The Forward*, August 10
“What would Goerge Orwell Say about Gaza War?” *The Forward*, July 20, 2014
- 2014 “Partners in Power,” in *Reform Judaism*, Vol. 37, No. 3
- 2009 “Justice and Judaism: Community Organizing in the Conservative Movement,” *CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, Summer, With Peter Dreier

LANGUAGES

Spanish (reading, speaking, basic writing), German (reading), Hebrew (reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion, Association of Jewish Studies, World Congress of Jewish Studies, Phi Beta Kappa

REFERENCES

Professor Jeffrey Stout
Professor of Religion and Philosophy
Princeton University
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Professor Leora Batnitzky
Professor of Religion and Jewish Thought
Princeton University
batnitzk@princeton.edu

Professor Eddie Glaude
Professor of Religion and African American Studies
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esglaude@princeton.edu

Professor Cornel West
Professor of Religion and African
American Studies
Harvard Divinity School
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Professor Ken Koltun-Fromm
Professor of Social Responsibility and Religion
Haverford College
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