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Emily P. Sigalow

Curriculum Vitae

Professional Positions

- July 2016– Perilman Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Jewish Studies, Duke University
- 2015–2016 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Sociology, Brandeis University
- Spring 2016 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Columbia University

Education

- 2015 Ph.D., Brandeis University, Near Eastern and Judaic Studies and Sociology (joint degree)
- Qualifying Area Exam passed with distinction
Dissertation: *The JUBUs: The Encounter between Judaism and Buddhism in America*
Committee Members: Wendy Cadge, Sylvia Barack Fishman, Jonathan Sarna, David Cunningham, and Thomas Tweed (University of Notre Dame).
- 2009 M.A., Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, History of the Jewish People
- Thesis Title: נשים יהודיות הקוראות בעת המוקדמת החדשה (Jewish Women Readers in Early Modern Times) Advisor: Robert Liberles
- 2002 B.A., Swarthmore College
- Sociology/Anthropology with a minor in Mathematics.
Graduated with Honors. Semester Abroad: Universite de Grenoble, 2000.

Book

American JUBU: Jews, Buddhists, and Religious Change in the United States (under contract with Princeton University Press).

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Emily Sigalow. 2016. "Towards a Sociological Framework for Religious Syncretism in the United States." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. Advance Access: doi:10.1093/jaarel/lfw033

Emily Sigalow

Emily Sigalow and Nicole Fox. 2014. "Perpetuating Stereotypes: A Study of Gender, Family, and Religious Life in Jewish Children's Books" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 53(2): 416-431.

- Winner of the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Student Award for significant work on Jewish Gender Studies

Wendy Cadge and Emily Sigalow. 2013. "Strategies for Negotiating Religious Diversity: The Case of Overbrook Hospital." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 52(1):146-158.

Emily Sigalow, Michelle Shain, and Meredith R. Bergey. 2012. "Religion and Decisions about Marriage, Residence, Occupation, and Children." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 51(2): 304-323.

- Article discussed in David Briggs, "Take this job and love it: Faith plays role in workplace satisfaction." *The Association of Religion Data Archives*, July 3, 2012. Reposted in *Huffington Post*, July 12, 2012. Also discussed in Matthew Brown, "Faith and work: Accommodating religion boosts morale and bottom line." *Deseret News*, May 3, 2013 and in Herb Scribner, "Religion carries weight in decisions about marriage and kids." *Deseret News*, October 2, 2013.

Book Chapters and Other Publications

Emily Sigalow. Forthcoming—Lead Article. "Cooking, Candlelighting, and Childrearing: A Study of Jewish Mothers and Mothering in Award-Winning Jewish Children's Literature." Book chapter in *Mothers in Jewish Culture*, eds. Marjorie Lehman, Jane Kanarek, and Simon Bronner (Oxford: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization).

Emily Sigalow. 2014. "Half-Jews, Bu-Jews, and Queer Jews: Mapping Jewish Identities in America: Some Teaching Reflections." *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* 32(4): 76-88.

Sylvia Barack Fishman with Rachel Bernstein and Emily Sigalow. 2011. "Re-Imagining Jewishness: Contemporary American Young Jewish Leaders and Culture Shapers," in *The New Leaders: Reshaping American Jewish Life*, edited by Jack Wertheimer. Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press.

Manuscripts in Submission

Emily Sigalow and Wendy Cadge. "Teaching Interreligious Encounters: Perspectives from a Case Study Initiative." Book chapter in publication for volume *Teaching Interreligious Encounters* (Oxford: Oxford University Press) in the American Academy of Religion's Teaching Religious Studies series.

Emily Sigalow. "JUBUs, Gender, and Social Scientific Perspectives." *Journal of Jewish Identities*. (under invited review)

Emily Sigalow. "From Jewish Prominence to Buddhist Prominence: Julius Goldwater and the Jewish-Buddhist Encounter from 1924-1958." *PaRDeS: Journal of the Association of Jewish Studies* (under review)

Emily Sigalow. "Breaking Down the Barriers: The 19th Century Meeting of Judaism and Buddhism in America." (under review)

Manuscripts in Preparation

Emily Sigalow. "Jewish Encounters with Buddhism in America: An Overview"

Emily Sigalow. "A Segmented Model of Religious Conversion: Identity Construction among Jews who become Buddhist."

Emily Sigalow. "Constructing a Culturally Jewish Identity."

Media and Public Writing

Podcasts/Articles about *American JUBU* research

- "A Brief History of JUBUS," podcast interview with Robert Wright, *The Wright Show*, MeaningofLive.Tv, March 30, 2016
- "Finding Path to Inclusion Through Exclusion at an Oakland Meditation Center" *The New York Times*. October 2, 2015
- "The Jewish Roots of Mindfulness" *Tablet Magazine*. October 8, 2015.
- "Sociologists to research 'Who is a JewBu?'" *BrandeisNow*. February 3, 2011

Public Writing

- Emily Sigalow. "Do Jewish Children's Books Have a Problem with Gender?" *Tablet Magazine*. January 22, 2014.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

2015-2017 Bronfman Brandeis-Israel Research Collaborative Grant (co-PI with Peter Conrad) (\$11,500). Project: *Evaluating Risk and Choice among BRCA Carriers in Israel and America: A Preliminary Study*

2015-2016 Invited Participant in the Paula E. Hyman Mentoring Program, Association for Jewish Studies. Mentor: Karla Goldman, University of Michigan.

May 2015 Brandeis Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Student Commencement Marshal

- *Honor given in recognition of a graduate student who has demonstrated exemplary service to the Brandeis community.*

2015 Invited Participant in "Grammars of Coherence and Difference: Jewish Studies through the Lens of Gender Studies" at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Emily Sigalow

- 2014-2015 Berman Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in Support of Research in the Social Scientific Study of Contemporary American Jewish Community (\$16,000)
- *Honor given to a graduate student whose research makes a significant contribution to the social scientific study of the contemporary American Jewish community.*
- Fall 2014 Helen Gartner Hammer Scholar-in-Residence at the Hadassah Brandeis Institute (\$12,000)
- May 2014 Invited Participant in American Academy for Jewish Research Graduate Student Seminar at Frankel Center for Jewish Studies, University of Michigan
- 2013-2014 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Dissertation Year Fellowship (~\$36,000)
- 2013 Research Circle on Democracy and Cultural Pluralism Grant, Brandeis University
- 2012 Mellon Dissertation Research Grant
- 2012 Tauber Institute Graduate Research Award
- 2011-2013 E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation Grant. Project title: "Buddhist-Jewish Encounters: A Case Study for Theological Students and Educators" (with Wendy Cadge (PI) and Sara Shostak) (\$40,000)
- 2010 Rena J. Olshansky '56 Grant for Research on Jewish Family Life
- 2010 3rd place winner of the Panel Study of American Religion and Ethnicity (PS-ARE): 2010 Graduate Student Paper Competition
- 2009 Lily Safra Graduate Student Internship, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, summer research support
- 2008 North Rhine-Westphalia Bursary Program, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf
- 2007 Journey to Jewish Heritage Grant, Zalman Shazar Center, Jerusalem, Israel.
- 2001 Joel Dean and Eugene Lang Grant, Swarthmore College, undergraduate research support

Teaching Experience

Instructor

- Spring 2016 *Judaism, Jewishness, and Modernity*, Columbia University, Department of Religion
- Fall 2015 *Introduction to Sociology*, Quinnipiac University, Sociology Department
- Fall 2014 *Half-Jews, Queer Jews, and Bu-Jews: Mapping Jewish Identities in America*, Brandeis University, cross-listed between Departments of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Sociology, and programs in Women's and Gender Studies, Religious Studies, and Sexuality and Queer Studies.

Teaching Fellow

- Fall 2011 ChaeRan Freeze, *The Jewish Family: Past and Present*, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
- Spring 2011 Bernadette Brooten and Wendy Cadge, *Religions in Greater Boston*, Departments of Sociology & Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.
- Fall 2010 Jonathan Sarna, *World Jewry since 1945*, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.
- Fall 2009 Sylvia Barack Fishman, *Sociology of the American Jewish Community*, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

Other Teaching Experience

- 2013-2014 Graduate mentor to undergraduate thesis writer in Sociology
- 2010-2013 Developed teaching guides and curricular material to assist faculty in teaching about issues related to inter-religious exchange. Piloted teaching guides at Brandeis University, Harvard Divinity School, and Auburn Theological Seminary. Worked with Elinor Pierce at the *The Pluralism Project* at Harvard University on Case Study Initiative for teaching about religious pluralism. Project materials can be found at www.jewbu.net.
- 2002-2003 Ninth and Tenth Grade Advanced Algebra and Geometry Teacher, Hong Kong International School, Hong Kong.
- 2008- Hebrew and Judaic Studies Teacher, Congregations Temple Beth Elohim (Wellesley, MA) and The Conservative Synagogue (Westport, CT)

Conference Presentations

Formal Paper Presentations

- 2016 “The Birth of the JUBU: American Jewish Encounters with Buddhism before the 1960s.” Paper presented at American Jewish History Biennial Scholars Conference.
- 2015 “Towards a Sociological Perspective on Religious Synthesis: A New Approach to Syncretism.” Presented at paper session at American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “Jewish Buddhist Encounters in America since 1893: A Historical Overview.” Paper presented at Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “Towards a Sociological Perspective on Religious Synthesis: A New Approach to Syncretism.” Paper presented at 2014 “Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School.”
- 2014 “Towards a Sociological Perspective on Religious Synthesis: A New Approach to Syncretism.” Paper presented at Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “From None to Both: Multireligiousness in Contemporary America.” Paper presented at Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “Switching, Mixing, and Matching: Towards an Understanding of Multireligiousness in Contemporary America” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2014 “Bridging Differences: The Jewish-Buddhist Encounter in America since 1893.” Paper presented at Biennial Scholar's Conference in American Jewish History.
- 2014 “Jewish Identities in a Pluralistic America: A Case Study Approach.” Paper presented at conference *Rethinking Jewish Identity and Jewish Education*, Brandeis University.
- 2013 “Jewish Meditation: A New Religious Hybrid or Ancient Jewish Form?” Paper presented at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting.
- 2013 “Hybridizing Beliefs: Jewish-Buddhist Perspectives on Death, Suffering, and God.” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2013 “I am a Jew and I am a Buddhist”: An Exploration of Multiple Religious Identities. Paper presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting.
- 2013 “Jewish Buddhist or Buddhist Jew?: An Exploration of Multiple Religious Belonging.” Presented at paper session American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

- 2013 "Encounters Among Neighbors: An Examination of Jewish-Buddhist Blending." Paper presentation at Columbia University IIJS Young Scholars Conference.
- 2012 "Jewish-Buddhist Encounters: An Exploration of Multiple Religious Belonging." Paper presentation at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting.
- 2012 "Perpetuating Stereotypes: A Study of Gender, Family, and Religious Life in Jewish Children's Books." Paper presentation at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting.
- 2011 "Strategies for Negotiating Religious Diversity: The Case of Overbrook Hospital." Paper presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (with Wendy Cadge).
- 2010 "Toward an Understanding of Religion, Perception, and Decision Making." Paper presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (with Meredith Bergey)
- 2009 "Exploring the Reading Habits of Jewish Women in Early Modern German Lands." Paper presentation at Women's and Gender Studies Conference, Brandeis University.

Respondent and Author Meets Critic Participation

- 2015 Respondent for session "Religious Hybridities and Multiple Religious Belonging: A Contested Concept?" at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference.
- 2015 Critic in "Author Meets Critic" Session for Theodore Sasson's *The New American Zionism* at Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting.

Conference Panel Organization

- 2014 *Conference Panel Organizer* for session "After THE JEW IN THE LOTUS: American Jews, Eastern Religions, and a New Culture of Jewish Spirituality." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference
- 2014 *Conference Panel Organizer* for session "New Innovations in Jewish Spirituality: A Scholarly Assessment." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference
- 2013 *Conference Panel Organizer* for session "New Perspectives on Buddhism and Multiple- Religious Belonging." American Academy of Religion Annual Conference.

Invited Presentations

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- Fall 2016 “The Encounter Between Judaism and Buddhism in America,” Department of Religious Studies and the Center for Jewish Studies, Duke University.
- 2015 “Making Meditation Jewish.” Invited talk at the University of Connecticut’s Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life
- 2015 “The Encounter between Judaism and Buddhism in America: An Overview.” Invited talk at session *After the Jew in the Lotus?: A Panel Discussion about Jewish and Buddhist Meditation*, Brandeis University

Consulting and Professional Experience

- 2015– Consultant for Legacy Heritage Foundation on the Nachson Project, with Prof. Joseph Reimer, Brandeis University.
- 2006-2008 Coordinator of the Peace and Social Justice Program, Hadassah WUJS-ARAD, Israel
Organized and taught seminars and workshops on issues of peace and social justice in Israel.

Languages and Specialized Skills

Languages: Modern Hebrew (fluent), Biblical Hebrew (graduate-level instruction), French (reading and basic speaking)

Service and Academic Affiliations

- 2015- Member of Religion and Social Sciences AAR Steering Committee
- 2014-2015 Graduate Student Representative to AAR section on Religion and Social Sciences
- 2014-2015 Co-organizer MASSCONN Graduate Sociology Symposium
- 2014-2015 Graduate Student Representative to Divestment Committee, Brandeis University
- 2014-2015 Senator to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Brandeis University
- 2013- Member of the Graduate Advisory Committee of the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute
- 2012-2013 Brandeis Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Career Fellow
- 2012-2013 Co-organizer of the Religion Roundtable Series, Brandeis University
- 2011-2012 Graduate Student Representative to the Sociology Department

Member of the *American Academy of Religion*, *Association for Jewish Studies*, *American Sociological Association*, *Association for the Sociology of Religion*, *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*; *Society for the Study of Social Problems*.

Reviewer for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Gender & Society*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, *Sociology of Religion*, and *Contemporary Jewry*.