

Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman
phil.lieberman@vanderbilt.edu

CV as of 1 November 2016

Education

2002 – 2007

Princeton University

Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies, November 2007

Dissertation Title: “A Partnership Culture: Jewish Economic and Social Life Viewed through the Documents of the Cairo Geniza”

Dissertation Adviser: Mark R. Cohen

Master of Arts in Near Eastern Studies, November 2004

1996 – 2002

Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York

Rabbinic Ordination, May 2002

Master of Arts in Talmud and Rabbinics, August 2002

1990 – 1991

London School of Economics, London

Master of Science in Economics

1987 – 1990

University of Washington, Seattle

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Economics

Employment History

2009 – Present

Vanderbilt University

Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Law

Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Affiliated Associate Professor of Islamic Studies and History

2008 – 2009

New York University

Dorot Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, Hebrew and Judaic Studies

2008 – 2009

University of Pennsylvania, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

Adjunct Fellow

Spring 2008

New York University

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies

2007 – 2008

Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Pomona, New Jersey

Visiting Assistant Professor of Middle East History

Awards and Fellowships

- Finalist, National Jewish Book Award in the category of Sephardic Culture, 2014
- Vanderbilt University Research Scholar Fellowship, 2012-2013
- J. William Fulbright Scholar, al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt, 2010-2011 (relinquished due to political turmoil)

- Junior Faculty Fellow, Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University, 2010-2011
- Irmgard Coninx Stiftung Berlin Roundtable, April 2011 (declined)
- Publication Subvention Grant, Lucius N. Littauer Foundation, 2009
- National Foundation for Jewish Culture Dissertation Fellow, 2006-2007
- Lawrence of Arabia Fellow, Princeton University, 2006-2007
- Donald and Mary Hyde Fellowship for Overseas Study, Princeton, University, Summer 2006
- Ertegun Prize for All Years of Study, Princeton University
- David Scharps Memorial Prize in Talmud, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2002
- Joseph Zubow Memorial Prize in Codes, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2002
- William B. Hackenburg Prize in Midrash, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2002
- Berliner Prize in Jewish History, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2001 and 2002

Research

Books

From the Rising of the Sun...to Where it Sets: The Shifting Fate of Iraqi Jewry in the Medieval Period (Manuscript in preparation)

The Guide to the Perplexed: A New Translation (Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, Forthcoming September 2017). With Lenn Goodman.

The Business of Identity: Economics, Culture, and the Jews of Medieval Egypt (Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 2014)

Finalist in the category of Sephardic Culture for the National Jewish Book Award 2014

Books (as Editor)

A Jew's Best Friend? The Image of the Dog throughout Jewish History, (Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, 2013). Co-edited with Rakefet J. Zalashik.

Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World, ed. Norman Stillman (Leiden: Brill, 2010). Section Editor, Modern Arabic-Speaking World.

Articles in Refereed Journals

“Arabic Legal Terminology in Judeo-Arabic: Loanwords or Loan Shifts?”. *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 44 (2017): 1-10.

“The Historiography of Jewish Economic Life”. *Jewish History*. With Roxani Margariti of Emory University (Forthcoming, Fall 2016).

“What Historians Can Yield From Medieval Jewish Commercial Contracts”. *Jewish History* (Forthcoming, Fall 2016).

“Encounters with Disruptive Substances: Chinese Porcelain and the Material Taxonomies of Medieval Rabbinic Law”. With Elizabeth Lambourn of Montfort University. *Medieval Globe* 2.2 (Fall 2016):197-236.

“A Reflection on Goitein’s Unfinished Legacies”. *Jewish History* (Forthcoming, Fall 2016)

“Revisiting Jewish Occupational Choice and Urbanization in Iraq under the Early Abbasids”. *Jewish History* 29.2 (June, 2015): 113-135.

“‘As A Father Shows Compassion for His Children:’ Ancient and Contemporary Perspectives on Judicial Empathy”. With Terry Maroney of Vanderbilt Law School. *The Journal of Law, Religion and the State* 3 (2014): 240-275.

“The Disappearance of the Early Phonetic Judeo-Arabic Spelling (EPJAS) and Sa‘adya Gaon’s Translation of the Bible”. *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 41 (2014): 137-172.

“Legal Pluralism among the Court Records of Medieval Egypt”. *Bulletin d’Etudes Orientales* 63 (2014): 79-112.

“Commercial Forms and Legal Norms in the Jewish Community of Medieval Egypt”. *Law & History Review* 30.4 (2012): 1007-1052.

“Contractual Partnerships in the Geniza and the Relationship between Islamic Law and Practice”. *Journal of the Social and Economic History of the Orient* 54 (2011) 646-676.

“The Women’s Right to Choose: An Unsigned Responsum from Ottoman Safed”. *Jewish Studies Quarterly* 17.2 (2010): 99-113.

Book Chapters

“Jewish Demography and Migration in Islamic Lands through the 15th Century”. *Cambridge History of Judaism, vol. 5*, ed. Marina Rustow and Robert Chazan. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Forthcoming 2017).

“The Muḥammadan Stipulations: *Dhimmī* Versions of the ‘Pact of Umar’”. *Jews, Christian and Muslims in Medieval and Early Modern Times*, ed. Arnold Franklin, Marina Rustow, and Uriel Simonsohn (Leiden: Brill, 2014): 197-206.

“Uncultured, Uncontrolled, and Untrustworthy—Yet Protective and Productive: The Dog in the Mindset of the Jews of Medieval Islam”. In Rakefet J. Zalashik and Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman (eds.), *A Jew’s Best Friend? The Image of the Dog throughout Jewish History* (Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, 2013): 90-112.

“Teaching the Jews and the Dog: A Pedagogical Essay”, with Katharine Baker. In Rakefet J. Zalashik and Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman (eds.), *A Jew’s Best Friend? The Image of the Dog throughout Jewish History* (Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, 2013): 251-277.

“Comparison between *Halakha* and *Sharī‘a*”, *History of Jewish-Muslim Relations from the Quran to the Present Day*, ed. Abdelwahab Meddeb and Benjamin Stora (Paris: Albin Michel, 2013): 667-677 (also translated into French).

“Legal Writing in Medieval Cairo”. In Siam Bhayro and Benjamin Outhwaite (eds.), *From a Sacred Source’: Genizah Studies in Honour of Professor Stefan C. Reif* (Leiden: Brill, 2010): 1-

24.

Encyclopedia Articles

“Judaism and War” (2000 words), “Maimonides and War”, “Milchemet Mitzvah” and “Milchemet Reshut”, *War and Religion: An Encyclopedia of Faith and Conflict* (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2016).

“Banks and Banking (Historical)”, *Encyclopedia of Islam*, Version 3 (Leiden: Brill, 2015) (3000 words).

“Islamic Finance”, *Muhammad in History, Thought, and Culture: An Encyclopedia of the Prophet of God*, ed. Coeli Fitzpatrick and Adam H. Walker (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2014).

“Onomastics” (2000 words), *Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World*, Version 2 (Leiden: Brill: 2015). Methodological introduction to major article (20000 words).

“Taxation” (5000 words), “Slavery”, “Long Distance Trade” and 20 other articles in the *Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World*, ed. Norman Stillman. (Leiden: Brill, 2010).

“Nagid” and “Masorettes” in the *Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish Religion, History and Culture*, ed. Judith Baskin (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).

“Alms (Medieval)”, “Begging”, “Charity”, and “Labor—Medieval World” in the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, ed. Hans-Josef Klauck and Paul Mendes-Flohr. (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2008-2017).

“Jewish Law”, “Jewish Legal Codes” and 23 other articles in the *Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages*, ed. Robert E. Bjork (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010)

Book Reviews

Maristella Botticini and Zvi Eckstein, *The Chosen Few: How Education Shaped Jewish History 70-1492*. *Journal of Economic History* 73.1 (March 2013): 310-311

Menahem Mautner, *Law and the Culture of Israel*. *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* (September 2013):1-3

Étan Levine, *Marital Relations in Ancient Judaism*. *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 73.4 (October 2011): 874-876

Mark Glickman, *Sacred Treasure: the Cairo Genizah* and Martin Gilbert, *In Ishmael’s House*. *Jewish Daily Forward* (21 January 2011)

Devora Steinmetz, *Punishment and Freedom*. *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 72.1 (January, 2010): 165-166

Chibli Mallat, *Introduction to Middle Eastern Law*. *Islamic Law and Society* 16.3/4 (November, 2009): 409-412.

Literature Review of S.D. Goitein/Mordechai A. Friedman, *India Traders of the Middle Ages* and Roxani E. Margariti, *Aden & the India Ocean Trade*. *Journal of the Social and Economic History of the Orient* 52.1 (2009): 164-171

Marc S. Bernstein, *Stories of Joseph: Narrative Migrations between Judaism and Islam*. *Hebrew Studies* 48 (2007).

Invited Scholarly and Popular Presentations

“Augmenting Geniza Studies with Archaeological Research”. Fustat Haifa Conference, Haifa University, May 2017

“From Partners to Debtors: A Partnership Investment Turns into a Loan”. Ethics, Globalisation and Business in the Judeo-Islamic Milieu, Cambridge University, July 2016

“With Profit Comes Responsibility: Partnership and Profit among Jews in the Medieval Economic Orbit”. Jewish Attitudes toward Wealth and Poverty, Brown University, November 2015

“Partnership Law in the Medieval Mediterranean”, The Funding of Business in the Pre-Industrial World, Yale University, May 2015

“Linguistic and Rhetorical Norms in Legal Writing”, UCLA Geniza Conference, December 2014

“Jewish Law, Agency Documents and Long-Distance Trade”, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, October 2014

“Beards in the Military and the New York State Get Law: Two Vignettes about Religion in the Public Square”, Aspen Center for Social Values, Aspen, August 2014

“The Permeability of Intercommunal Boundaries in Early Abbāsīd Iraq”, First International Conference on Conversion and Interreligious Encounters, Ben Gurion University, May 2014

“Compassion as an Element of Judicial Wisdom”, Law and Emotion in Comparative Perspective, Yeshiva University Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, April 2014. With Terry Maroney, Professor of Law, Vanderbilt Law School

“S.D. Goitein as a Scholar of Jewish Studies”, “Goitein in Perspective”, Brandeis University, March-April 2014

“Jewish Conversion to Islam in Early Abbāsīd Iraq”, Vanderbilt Department of Religion Overlook Seminar, February 2014

“Jewish Commercial Practice in the Medieval Islamic World: Is It Really Between Jewish and Islamic Law?”, “Finance in Religious Law: A Comparative Conference”, Harvard Law School,

December 2013

“The Early Phonetic Judeo-Arabic Spelling and the Influence of Iraqi Jewry on the West”,
“Everyday Writing in the Medieval Near East: Documentary History and the Cairo Geniza”,
Yale University, November 2013

“Introduction to the Study of Legal Documents,” Typologies and Diplomatics Workshop,
“Everyday Writing in the Medieval Near East: Documentary History and the Cairo Geniza”,
Yale University, November 2013, session convener and primary presenter

“Jews and Dogs: On *A Jew’s Best Friend*,” New York University, October 2013
“*A Jew’s Best Friend: The Image of the Dog Throughout Jewish History, A Discussion*,” The
Jewish Theological Seminary of America, October 2013

“Straying Just Far Enough: the Jewish Courts of Medieval Egypt”, “In-Between: Trade and
Legal Pluralism in the Era of the *Geniza*”, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, May 2013

Panel Chair, “Sephardi/Mizrahi Jews and representations of Otherness: Photographs,
Movies, Music and Novels”, Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, December 2012

Panel Respondent, “Minority and Dissenting Opinions”, Legal Heterodoxy in Islamic and Jewish
History, University of California, Berkeley, April 2012

Panel Chair, “Medieval Judaism in East and West”, Association for Jewish Studies,
Washington, DC, December 2011

“Competing Ethnic Identities: Jewish Life in Muslim Lands”, Edward Said Lecture
Portland State University, May 2011

“Alternate Dispute Resolution and the Social Role of the Courts of Medieval Jewish Egypt”,
Golieb Legal History Colloquium, New York University School of Law, November 2009

“Seeking Justice: the Social Role of the Jewish Courts of Medieval Egypt”. Skirball Department
of Jewish Studies Lunchtime Colloquium Series, New York University, April 2009

“An Introduction to Islamic Law”, Islam in the Middle East and South Asia, Middle East
Institute, Columbia University (March 2009)

“What Can the Cairo Geniza Tell Us about the Organization of Trade in the High Middle Ages?”
Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, January 2009

Invited Respondent at the Economics and Sociology Workshop 2008-09
Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, December 2008

“Jerusalem: Holy City in Judaism and Islam”, Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture, Temple
Emeth, Teaneck, New Jersey (October 2008)

“The Judeo-Muslim Connection”, Everett Institute at the 92nd Street Y, New York (May 2008)

“Studying the Jews: the Substance and the Profession”

American Academy for Jewish Research Graduate Student Seminar, June 2007

“Jewish Life under Islam”, Long Island Scholars Program at UJA/Federation of Syosset, Long Island (Spring 2005)

“Is Jerusalem Sacred to Islam?” Princeton 55 Plus Club, Princeton (January 2005)

Academic Talks and Seminars

“One Case, Two Answers: ‘Pairs’ of Teshuvot”, Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, December 2016

“Onomastics and Migration in the Cairo Geniza”, Society for Judeo-Arabic Studies, Vanderbilt University, August 2016

“Development of Rabbanite, Karaite, and Islamic Commercial Law and the Medieval ‘Commercial Revolution’”, Jewish Law Association, Tel Aviv, July 2016

“From the Rising of the Sun in the East...to Where it Sets in the West: Jewish Migration from Iraq in the Early Middle Ages,” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, December 2015

“Jewish Onomastics, the Cairo Geniza, and Westward Migration in the Medieval Period”, The Twelfth Annual International Conference on Jewish Names, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, March 2015

“Religiously Mixed Families in the Medieval Middle East: Intermarriage and Its Consequences”. Middle East Studies Association, Washington, DC, November 2014

“Are Jewish Court Decisions Bounded by Those of Muslim Courts?” European Association for Jewish Studies, Paris, July 2014

Moderator, “Premodernity in the Digital Age”, Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, December 2013

“Malthusian Economics and the Decline of Babylonian Jewry,” Economic History of the Jews throughout the Ages: Sources, Methodologies, Narratives, Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv, June 2013

“The Publication of Michael Toch’s *Economic History of European Jews*,” Economic History of the Jews throughout the Ages: Sources, Methodologies, Narratives, Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv, June 2013, presenter and respondent

“Judeo-Arabic Linguistic and Demographic Shifts in the 10th-11th Centuries”
American Oriental Society, Portland, Oregon, March 2013

“Literacy, Urbanization, and Religious Identity in Early Abbasid Iraq”
Medieval Academy of America, Knoxville, Tennessee, March 2013

“Jewish Urbanization under the Abbasids”, Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, December 2012

“Arabic (Muslim) Documents in the Jewish Courts of Medieval Egypt”, Jewish Law Association, Yale University, July/August 2012

“Arabic Legal Terminology in Judeo-Arabic: Loanwords or Loan Shifts?”, The First International Conference on Written Arabic and Writing Arabic, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, June 2012

“Legal Pluralism among the Court Records of Medieval Egypt”, Judicial Pluralism Conference, Institut français du Proche-Orient, Beirut, May 2012

Session Moderator, “Animals and Judaism: New Research and the Emerging Subfield”. Association for Jewish Studies, Washington, DC, December 2011

“The Geniza and the Islamic ‘Commercial Revolution’”. The Archive and Jewish Migration, Capetown, April 2011

“The ‘S’ Word—the Jewish Slave Trade in Islamic Lands in the Medieval Period”. Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, December 2010

“Mediation, Arbitration, and Legal Norms among the Jewish Community of Medieval Egypt”. Jewish Law Association, Netanya, Israel, June 2010

“Sacred Institution or Charitable Institution: The Self-Conception of the Babylonian Yeshivot”. Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, March 2010

“Transcending Time, Space, and Communal Boundaries: Goitein’s Vision of the Mediterranean”. Medieval Academy of America, New Haven, March 2010

“The Modern Encyclopedia in Jewish Studies”. Association for Jewish Studies, Los Angeles, December 2009

“Documents of a Polyglot Court: Abraham Maimonides and the Resurgence of Hebrew in the 13th Century” Language and Cultural Mediation in the Mediterranean, 1200-1800”. European University Institute, Florence, March 2009

“The Influence of Islamic Law on Jewish Partnership Practice”. Association for Jewish Studies, Toronto, December 2007

“Copy or Likeness: Scribal Practice in 11th-13th Century Egypt”. Taylor-Schechter Geniza Studies Conference, Cambridge, August 2007

“Formalism and Informalism in the Economic Institutions of Medieval Islam”. Jews and Muslims in the World of Islam Conference, University of Maryland, Baltimore, August 2007

“Partnership Agreements in the Geniza: a Window into Social and Economic Life”. Society for Judaeo-Arabic Studies, Cordoba, June 2007

“Risk Management Practices of Jewish Traders in the Medieval Mediterranean”. International Medieval Congress, Leeds, July 2005

“Revisiting Coalitions among Maghribi Traders in the 11th-13th Centuries”. World History Association, Ifrane, Morocco, June 2005

Service to the University and to the Profession

Co-book series editor, “Études sur le Judaïsme Médiéval”, Brill Publishers

Co-book series editor, “Christians and Jews in Muslim Contexts”, Brill Publishers

Co-book review editor, *Intertwined Worlds* (peer-reviewed online journal)

Co-Chairperson, Jewish Law Association

Secretary/Treasurer, Society for Judeo-Arabic Studies

Book manuscript reviewer, Oxford University Press, Brill Publishers, Touro College Press, and Springer Verlag

Outside article reviewer, *AJS Review*, *Asian Women*, *Digest of Middle East Studies*, *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, *Hebrew Union College Annual* (Hebrew), *Journal of Law & Religion*, *Journal of Religion, Law & History Review*, *Mathal/Mashal*, *Medieval Encounters*, *Nashim*, *Sefarad*, and *Zion* (Hebrew).

Proposal reviewer, Foundation for Jewish Culture

Student-Faculty Relations Committee, College of Arts & Science, Vanderbilt

Steering Committee, Classical and Mediterranean Studies, Vanderbilt

Jewish Studies Representative to the Heard Library at Vanderbilt

Professional Affiliations

American Oriental Society

Association for Jewish Studies

Jewish Law Association

Medieval Academy of America

Society for Judeo-Arabic Studies