

Academic appointments

Hamilton School, University of Florida
Assistant Professor

Gainesville, FL
2024 –

Yeshiva University
Associate Director and Clinical Assistant Professor, Straus Center
Associate Director and Research Fellow
Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Fellow

New York, NY
2021 –2024
2018 – 2021
2015 – 2018

Publications**Book**

[*Israel's Declaration of Independence: The History and Political Theory of the Nation's Founding Moment*](#) (with Dov Zigler)
Cambridge University Press, March: 2023

- Winner of the Concordia-Azrieli prize for best book in Israel Studies (2023)
- Academic reviews: *The Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, *Jewish World*, *Church and State*, *Israel Studies Review*, *American Political Thought*
Other reviews and references: *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Liberties*, *Commentary*, *Real Clear Politics*, *Jewish Book Council*, *National Review*, *Algemeiner*, *City Journal*, *Deseret News*, *The Bulwark*, *Times of Israel*, *Jerusalem Post*, *The Hub*, *Jerusalem Strategic Tribune*
- Hebrew translation, “*Hi Medinat Yisrael: Keytzad notzra megilat ha’atzmaut*” (trans. Rachel Levi), Shibolet, September: 2023
- Chinese & Spanish translations in progress

Peer-reviewed articles and book chapters

“Liberal Zionism: There is No Alternative,” (Under review @ an academic journal)
“Menachem Begin’s Radio Address and the Principles of Israel’s Founding,” *Israel Studies Review* (Forthcoming)
“The Natural Right of the Jewish People: Joseph Schechtman and the Founding of Israel,” *Shofar* (Forthcoming)
“Michel Houellebecq as Comparative Political Scientist of Religion,” in Michael S. Kochin and Alberto Spektorowski eds. *Decline and Submission: Michel Houellebecq, the Cassandra of Freedom*, Brill, October: 2021
“Between J Date and J Street: American foreign policy and the liberal-Jewish dilemma in America,” (w/Yossi Shain)
In *Diaspora Lobbies and the US Government*, New York University Press, October: 2014
“Are Plebiscites Constitutional? A Disputed Question in the Plebiscite Campaign of 1870,” *French History*, June: 2013

Books in progress

Statesmanship: The Political Theory of David Ben-Gurion (Under Review: Cambridge University Press)

The Founding of Israel: Basic Texts (collection of political texts from Israel’s founding period)

Editorial position

Co-Editor, *Israel Affairs*

December 2025 –

Israel Affairs publishes peer-reviewed research in Israeli history, politics, literature, art, strategic affairs, economics, the Arab–Israeli conflict and Israel–diaspora relations.

Secondary Appointment

(Non-Resident) Research Fellow, Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, Tel Aviv University

Education

Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge

Cambridge, UK

PhD in Political Thought and Intellectual History	2010 – 2014
ERASMUS-funded visiting doctoral student, École Normale Supérieure, Paris	2011 – 2012
Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Jerusalem, IL
Asper Scholarship in Humanities and Social Sciences	2006 – 2008
University of Toronto	Toronto, ON
Master of Arts in Political Science	2005 – 2006
McGill University	Montreal, QC
Bachelor of Arts (great distinction) in intellectual history	2001 – 2004

Invited academic lectures

“America in the Eyes of Israel’s Founders,” John Loeb Program in Religious Liberty, George Washington University, April 9, 2025
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” Ursinus College, March 31, 2025
 “David Ben-Gurion on Constitutional Government,” Mary Anna and Rabbi Julian B. Feiberlman Memorial Lecture, Tulane University, March 24, 2025
 “Statesmanship: Introduction to the Political Thought of David Ben-Gurion,” Co-sponsored by: Straus Center, Honors’ College, Israel Studies Program. Yeshiva University, December 5, 2024
 “Defining the Jewish State: Lessons from 1948,” Providence College, April 24, 2024
 “Defining the Jewish State: Lessons from 1948,” Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Vermont, April 10, 2024
 “The Political Theory and History of Israel’s Founding,” Perelandra Program, Portland State University (virtual), February 22, 2024
 “Israeli Foreign Policy in May 1948,” Universidades Privadas Madrid, School of Government, October 4, 2023
 “Israel’s Constitutional Aspirations,” UFD Madrid/Centro Sefarad, October 3, 2023
 “The American Roots of Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” Declaration of Independence Center, University of Mississippi, August 31, 2023
 “Crisis in Israel: The Courts, the Constitution, and the Declaration of Independence,” Guarini Institute, John Cabot University, Rome, April 26, 2023
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” Program on Constitutional Government, Harvard University, April 14, 2023
 “Sovereignty, Religion, and Political Right in Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” Department of Political Science and Eric Voegelin Institute, Louisiana State University, April 6, 2022
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” Mary Anna and Rabbi Julian B. Feiberlman Memorial Lecture, Tulane University, April 5, 2022
 “The *Gilets-Jaunes* as Case Study in the Failure of Representative Government,” College of the Mainland, Texas, October 3, 2019
 “America in the Israeli Founding,” Program on North American Studies, McGill University, January 17, 2018.
 “The Politics of Israeli Public Diplomacy from the Second Intifada to the Present,” ISGAP Winter 2015 Lecture Series, Harvard University, February 8, 2016
 “Obstacles to Political Constitutionalism: The Case of Second Empire France,” The Jerusalem Seminar in the History of Political Thought, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, March 20, 2013

Conference presentations and papers

“Israel and the United States: The Alliance Between ‘the Satans?’” Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, December 23, 2025
 “David Ben-Gurion and Nahum Goldmann on Israel’s Strategic Situation in 1958,” ASMEA Annual Meeting, November 1, 2025
 “The Modern Israeli Right in Historical Context,” Working group participant Jewish Studies, Tulane University, Fall semester, 2025
 “The Maccabees Warred on Sabbath: David Ben-Gurion’s Biblical Politics,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, September 14, 2025
 “Between Words and Deeds: Ben-Gurion’s Claims to Liberalism,” Association for Israel Studies Annual Meeting, University of Haifa, July 7-9, 2025 (Paper accepted, talk canceled due to war)
 “The Thought of Charles Krauthammer,” Liberty Fund conference participant, February 27-28, 2025

- “Defining Liberty: The Herut Constitutional Debate, 1948-1950,” Association for Israel Studies Annual Meeting, Prague, July 2, 2024
- “David Ben-Gurion’s Declaration of Independence,” Association for Israel Studies Annual Conference, New York University, June 25, 2023
- “Jewish Identity Today: Lessons from Israel’s Founding Document,” Emergency Conference on Diaspora-Israel Relations, Brandeis University/Tel Aviv University Joint Conference, Tel Aviv, May 3, 2023
- “The Declaration of Independence and the Spirit of the Laws,” Department of Jewish Thought, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, March 9, 2023
- “Studying the American and Israeli Declarations of Independence in tandem,” Natural and Historic Right Conference, Yeshiva University, Center for Jewish History, December 2, 2022
- “David Ben-Gurion and Plato’s *Laws*,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual (Virtual) Meeting, November 11, 2021
- “Seminar on Gotthold Friedrich Lessing,” invited faculty conference participant, Salvatori Center, Claremont McKenna College (virtual), May 30, 2020
- “Seminar on Jerusalem and Athens,” invited faculty conference participant, Salvatori Center, Claremont McKenna College (virtual), April 24, 2020
- “Montesquieu and Decadence,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 28, 2019
- “Populism, Free Trade, and the Rule of Law,” (Conference moderator and participant), The Canada-U.S. Relationship: Past and Future, Max Bell School for Public Policy, McGill University, April 26, 2019
- “Montesquieu’s Romans, Denys Arcand’s Americans,” (Paper presenter and panel chair), Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, November 10, 2018
- “Israeli Political Economy: Theory and Practice,” New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 21, 2018
- “Gotthold Friedrich Lessing and Religion,” invited faculty conference participant, Salvatori Center, Claremont McKenna College, May 5, 2017
- “Political Turmoil and Political Parties in France and the United States,” New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 21, 2017
- “The Situation in France,” Yeshiva University Fireside Chat, December 9, 2015
- “Alexis de Tocqueville on Decentralization Revisited,” Yeshiva University Lunchtime Honors’ Seminar, October 14, 2015
- “Presidentialist Foreign Policy and The Pacificus-Helvidius Debates,” Program on North American Studies, McGill University, February 24, 2015
- “The ‘Grievous Evil’ and the People of the Book: An Interpretation of Maimonides’ ‘Letter on Astrology’,” Midwestern Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, April 23, 2010
- “Xenophon’s *Meno*,” Northeastern Political Science Association meeting, Philadelphia, November 21, 2009
- “On Propriety and Politics: Lessons from Xenophon’s *Anabasis of Cyrus*,” Georgetown University Political Theory Workshop, November 11, 2009
- “Philosopher King: How Spinoza read Ecclesiastes,” Midwestern Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2, 2009

Selected essays, scholarly and general-interest book reviews, translations, op-eds, longform journalism

- “Athens, Sparta, and the Future of Israel,” *First Things*, October 8, 2025
- “Where Do American Jews Go From Here?” Civitas Institute, University of Texas, May 28, 2025
- “The Return of *Mamlachtiyut*: Ben-Gurionite Lessons for a post-10/7 world,” *Mosaic*, January, 2024
- “The New Israel, and the Old,” *City Journal*, Winter: 2024
- “Israel’s Declaration of Independence: A Biography” (with Dov Zigler), *Jewish Review of Books*, Spring: 2023
- “Ha’yesod shelanu: lama kulam tzreechim at megilat ha’atzmaut” (Founding Principles: Why All Sides Need the Declaration,”) *Walla News* (Israel), September 14, 2023
- “Review of David Tal: *The Making of an Alliance*” *Israel Studies Review*, Summer, 2023
- “Israel’s Other Tyranny of the Minority,” *Mosaic*, March 16, 2023
- “Jeremiah, David Ben-Gurion, and Hillel Halkin” (Reply to Hillel Halkin) *Jewish Review of Books*, January 10, 2023
- “The Decline of the Israeli Left: Response to Anshel Pfeffer,” *Jewish Quarterly Review*, Winter: 2022
- “Will Israel’s Next Government Last Longer than a Container of Hummus?” *Mosaic*, October 31, 2022
- “Does the Internet have a Theory Bro Problem” *Mosaic*, September 28, 2022
- “Fouad Ajami’s When Magic Failed Captures Lebanon at its Best and Worst” *Mosaic*, August 22, 2022
- “Checking in on Thomas Friedman,” *Mosaic*, July 28, 2022
- “Israel’s Spiritual Transformation” (Interview with Ruth Calderon), *Mosaic*, June 27, 2022

- "Toward the Creation of a 'Single Highest Authority,'" David Ben-Gurion at the *Va'ad ha-Poel ha-Tz'ioni* conference, Tel Aviv, April 6, 1948, Introduction and translation, *Mosaic*, May 22, 2022
- "The Israelization of Judaism or the Judaization of Israel?" *The Scroll*, January 28, 2022
- "Netanyahu: The Figures that Formed Him," (Introduction and translation), *Mosaic*, December 21, 2021
- "Speech to the Knesset Committee on Constitution, Law, and Justice," David Ben-Gurion, July 13, 1949, Introduction and translation, *Mosaic*, March 10, 2021 [Essay cited and discussed in *The Wall Street Journal*, *972 Mag*, and other publications]
- "Ta'aseh ha'rov ke'de'ato," [Let the Majority Decide] *Ha'Shiloach*, Spring, 2021
- "Ben-Gurion: The Man Who Willed a State," *Mosaic*, July 1, 2020
- "We Were all Born in Jerusalem," Menachem Begin, 1972, Introduced and translated with Michael Weiner, *Mosaic*, May 14, 2020
- "The Not-so-Strange Death of Israel's Labor Party," *American Affairs*, Spring, 2020
- "Spare your People a Fourth Election, O Israel, and Form a Minority Government," *Mosaic*, March 12, 2020
- "After AIPAC," *American Affairs*, February 27, 2020
- "Want to Save Israel from Another Meaningless Election? Change the Way Israel Votes," *Tablet*, January 01, 2020
- "What Kind of God is the God of the Jews?" *Mosaic*, November 6, 2019
- "Contemporary Marxism: A Flag Without an Army" *American Interest*, October 2, 2019
- "In Israel, The Return of the Strong, Silent Type," *American Interest*, February 5, 2019
- "The Return of Shlomo Sand," *Mosaic*, December 26, 2018
- "The Best Books of 2018," *Mosaic*, December 12, 2018
- "A First Draft of the Life of Benjamin Netanyahu," *Mosaic*, July 2, 2018
- "Self-Portrait of a Zionist Statesman and Thinker," *Mosaic*, March 28, 2018
- "Paris, Now," *City Journal*, January 24, 2018
- "Best Books of the Year, as Selected by *Mosaic* Authors," *Mosaic*, December 27, 2017
- "Statesmanship at the Movies," *American Interest*, December 07, 2017
- "The Ardent, Stiff-Necked Spirit of Golda Meir," *Mosaic*, November 29, 2017
- "After Netanyahu," *Weekly Standard*, October 06, 2017
- "The Only Language He Understands," *Mosaic*, August 10, 2017
- "French Islam's Radical Turn, and its Ramifications for French Jews," *Mosaic*, June 29, 2017
- "The Flaws of 'Oslo' are the Same as the Flaws of Oslo," *Mosaic*, May 17, 2017
- "The Genius of Bernard-Henri Lévy," *Jewish Review of Books*, Winter: 2017
- "Restoring the Fortunes of Zion," *Wall Street Journal*, October 21, 2016
- "On the Terror Beat," *Weekly Standard*, July 29, 2016
- "*Nathan the Wise*: An Ambiguous Plea for Religious Toleration," *Mosaic*, June 29, 2016
- "Who Was Abba Eban?" *Mosaic*, February 17, 2016
- "Defending a Civilization," *Weekly Standard*, November 29, 2015
- "Agents of their Own Destiny," *Wall Street Journal*, September 24, 2015
- "*Le Donald* and Western Democracy's Populist Problem," (with Benjamin Haddad), *Foreign Policy*, August 21, 2015
- "The Fragile Eggs of Haruki Murakami," *American Interest*, July 23, 2015
- "A New Israeli Consensus," *Mosaic*, June 15, 2015
- "Playing Dumb in Palestine," *Wall Street Journal*, April 1, 2015
- "On Terror: France is on the Right Track," *American Interest*, February 4, 2015
- "The Unwritten Rule," *Mosaic*, October 27, 2014
- "Can the Left Govern?" *American Interest*, April 18, 2014
- "Israel Apart," *Mosaic*, February 26, 2014
- "My Heart is in the East...and West," *Jerusalem Post*, January 25, 2014
- "The Endangered United Kingdom," *The National Interest*, October 26, 2012
- "The High Theater of the French Presidential Election," *The Atlantic*, March 23, 2012
- "*Plus ça Change*—in the French Economy," *American Interest*, July 13, 2012
- "Losing Their Religion," *Claremont Review of Books*, Spring, 2012
- "Lessons from the French Election: Globalization is a Killer," *American Interest*, May 7, 2012
- "Studying Abroad," *Claremont Review of Books*, Winter, 2011
- "Rent-a-Crowd Fridays in Palestine," *American Interest*, November 1, 2010
- "Summer in the City," *Jerusalem Post*, May 30, 2010
- "Why Lobbies Don't Matter," (with Yossi Shain), *Ha'aretz*, Dec. 31, 2009
- "Benjamin Netanyahu: A Realtor with No Buyers," *Commentary*, July 28, 2009
- "The Cult of Capitalism," *Jerusalem Post*, February 18, 2008
- "When Virtue Sleeps: The Moral World of Denys Arcand's *L'Age Des Ténèbres*," *Bright Lights*, Jan. 31, 2008
- "My Interrupted Greek Lesson," *Jerusalem Post*, May 14, 2007

Media

“First street in Israel named for Masorti Rabbi who influenced the Declaration of Independence,” Mati Wagner, *Times of Israel*, December 15, 2024
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence: A History,” a two-part course organized by *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, May 7 - 14, 2024
 “Ben-Gurion’s Statesmanship,” Webinar with Neil Rogachevsky, Avi Shilon, and Ran Baratz, *Mosaic*, January 30, 2024
 “Constitution and Courts in Israel,” Webinar with Neil Rogachevsky and Martin Kramer, Association of Scholars of Middle East and Africa, (ASMEA), April 4, 2023
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” *Israel from the Inside* with Daniel Gordis, August 23, 2023
 “Is Israel Heading in the Wrong Direction?” *Open to Debate*, National Public Radio debate between Jeremy Ben-Ami and Caroline Glick (expert questioner)
 “Israel’s Declaration of Independence” *State of Tel Aviv podcast* with Neil Rogachevsky and Dov Zigler, April 26, 2023.
 “The Political Philosophy of Israel’s Declaration of Independence,” *The Tikvah Podcast*, March 30, 2023
 “On Jerusalem and Menachem Begin,” (Discussion with Michael Doran), *Mosaic* Webinar, May 20, 2020
 “On the Roots of Israel’s Political Crisis and How to Fix It,” *The Tikvah Podcast*, January 16, 2020

Teaching

University of Florida:

The Rule of Law (survey course on the idea of constitutional government)
 Modern Jewish Thought
 Contemporary Problems: Middle East

Shalem College, Jerusalem:

“Democracy: Lessons from Greece,” (Special short course, Dec. 2023 – Jan. 2024)

Yeshiva University:

A) Undergraduate classes:

“Great Political Thinkers” (intro to political philosophy)
 “Modern Political Thought” (usually nineteenth-century political thought)
 “Political Rhetoric” (theory and practice of rhetoric)
 “Zionist Political Thought” (Zionist ideas and the debate over Zionism from the nineteenth century to the present)
 “Enlightenment and Its Critics” (c. eighteenth-century political philosophy)
 “The Politics of Revolutions” (comparing political thought in the French, American, and Russian Revolutions)
 “American Political Thought”
 “Topics: Natural Rights and the Foundations of Modern Politics” (philosophy of Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau)

B) Graduate seminars:

“Athens and Jerusalem” (comparing classic Jewish and Greek texts). A course open to upper-level undergraduates and graduate students
 “Judaism and American democracy” (pairing Jewish texts with canonical American texts). A course open to upper-level undergraduates and graduate students

Selection of recent undergraduate senior theses supervised

“Spinoza, the Bible, and Separation of Church and State,” (2026)
 “Jews, Anti-Semitism, and Postwar American Conservatism” (2023)
 “Religious Humanism and the Modern State: Jewish and Catholic Models” (2022)
 “Between the *Yeshiva* and the Knesset: The Political Career of Elazar Shach” (2022)
 “Shame Culture and Democracy: Tocqueville and Jonathan Sacks on Blame and Repentance” (2022)
 “Constitution or the Rule of Conscience? How the Psychology of Zionism Explains Israeli Law” (2021)

Seminar and conference convening

“Liberal Zionism: Past, Present, and Future,” Fall 2024 faculty seminar co-sponsored by Hamilton School for Classical and Civic Education and Jewish Studies at Tulane University. Co-chaired with Brian Horowitz

“Joseph Schechtman - Across Continents—From Europe to the US, from Revisionism to American Conservatism” Tulane University and Sizeler Family Chair at Tulane University Faculty Seminar Series (2023 – 2024). Co-Chair with Brian Horowitz (Tulane University), Moshe Naor (University of Haifa)

“Natural and Historic Right: On the American and Israeli Declarations of Independence,” Center for Jewish History, New York, December 2, 2022. Conference chaired by Neil Rogachevsky.

Convener of seminar series on Judaism and American political thought, funded by the Jack Miller Center (2021 – 2023)

University service

University of Florida:

Academic committees: Hamilton School: War, Strategy, and Statecraft Events Committee, Hamilton School Events Committee, Beren Jewish thought program

Community engagement

Frequent lecturer on Israeli politics and history at synagogues, community centers, and college programs around North America

Languages

Hebrew (fluent), French (fluent), German (intermediate), Italian (basic), Ancient Greek (intermediate/read)

Reviewer

Yale University Press, *Israel Studies Review*, *Yearbook of Transnational History*

Awards and fellowships

Grant Recipient, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa, 2025-2026

Visiting Scholar, Department of Political Science, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spring-Summer 2025

Concordia-Azrieli prize for book of the year in Israel Studies, 2023

Yeshiva University Provost's Office, Faculty Research Fund, 2023

Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Doctoral Scholarship 2012 – 2013

Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, Overseas Scholarship 2012 – 2013

Erasmus Scholarship, École Normale Supérieure, Paris 2011 – 2012

Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Doctoral Scholarship 2010 – 2013

Visiting Fellow, Abba Eban Program on Diplomacy, Department of Political Science, Tel Aviv University, Summer 2010

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), University of Leipzig, 2008

Asper Scholarship, Hebrew University, Jerusalem 2008 – 2010

Ontario Graduate Scholarship 2005 – 2006

Professional Memberships

Association for Israel Studies

American Political Science Association

Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa

Citizenship

Canada, US permanent resident