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Jewish Studies

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The field of Jewish studies is broad and interdisciplinary, encompassing history, religion, philosophy, literature, sociology and political science. Its chronological and geographical range is immense, stretching from the Bible to the present and including communities from the Americas to Western and Esterne Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, South and East Sala, and Africa. Given the diversity of posits ucture, it is extraordinarial difficult for students and scholars to stay informed about such a wide diversity of sources. With advances in online searching and database technologies, researchers can easily access library catalogs, bibliographic indexes, and other lists that show thousands of resources that might also be useful to them. But how can the researcher, no matter at what level, filter through the proliferation of information to identify what is reliable and directly relevant to the inquiries? What is needed now, more than ever, is expert guidance. This is what Oxford Bibliographies Jewish Studies offers through its carefully selected articles that break down subject areas into their component parts and pithy annotations that summarize the main contribution of each citation.

The complexities of the field of Jewish Studies posed significant challenges to the formation of these bibliographies. For example, should the article on Modern Jewish Artists attempt to cover all artists of Jewish origin or only those whose art contains Jewish themes? Should an article on, say, food include traditional religious works or only modern scholarly literature? How should the articles balance the need to cover a whole subject while not overwhelming the reader with too many citations? In general, the solutions to these problems were dictated by <code>Chordo Bibliographies Jewish</code> Studies' vision of its users who seek tightly focused, academically sound guidance for further reading and research.

Editor in Chief



Naomi Seidman is the Chancellor Jackman of the Arts in the Department for the Study of Religion and the Centre for Disappora and Transnational Studies at the Department of Toronto, and a 2016 Guggenheim Fellow. She has published four books, most recently Sarah Schenier and the Bais Yaakov Movement: A Revolution in the Name of Tradition Littman, 2019.

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View a lively discussion with Naomi Seidman, Editor in Chief of Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies, as she discusses her involvement with the project and the importance of Oxford Bibliographies to students and researchers worldwide.



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Revelation
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The Jewish Theological Seminary

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Law in the Rabbinic Period Azzan Yadin-Israel Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

University of Cambridge

University of Cambridge

*Rabbi Yeheil Michel Epstein and
his Arukh Hashulchan
Michael J. Broyde
Emory University
Alex Ozar
Yale University

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