

DR. ISAAH (YESHAYAHU) GRUBER

YESHAYA@KOL-HAKATUV.CO.IL

EDUCATION

- 2006 Ph.D. in Russian History, Georgetown University (Washington, DC)
• Thesis: “The Russian Orthodox Church in the Time of Troubles, 1598-1613”
• Supervisor: Dr. David Goldfrank
• Research and Teaching Fields: Russian History and Culture; European Intellectual History; Literature and Semiotics; Asian Civilizations
- 1999 M.A. (Honours) in History, McGill University (Montréal)
• Thesis: “The Muscovite Embassy of 1599 to Emperor Rudolf II of Habsburg”
• Supervisor: Philip Longworth
- 1997 & 1999 The Russian School of Norwich University (Vermont)
• Intensive summer programs in Russian Language and Literature (M.A. level)
- 1997 B.A. (Joint Honours) in History and Political Science, McGill Univ.
• Specializations: Eastern Europe; International Relations

CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2013-present Research Associate, Dept. of Russian and East European Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
• Participation in projects including: “Jews and Slavs in the Middle Ages” (ERC-funded; supervised by Dr. Alexander Kulik); “Judeo-Christian Encounters and the Last Lingua Sacra of Europe” (GIF-funded; Dr. Alexander Kulik); “Mobility, Empire, and Cross-Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia” (ERC-funded; Dr. Michal Biran)
- 2016-present Professor of Jewish History, Israel Study Center & Israel Bible Center
• Online courses: Second Temple Period; Jewish History and Culture; Jewish-Christian Interaction
- 2017-present Co-founder and Academic Director, Kol Hakatuv Ltd.
• Responsible for providing and supervising translation, editing, research, and teaching projects for clients including universities, museums, publishers, etc.

LANGUAGES

- Native** English
- Advanced** Russian, Hebrew, Spanish, French
- Reading** Old Church Slavonic
Ancient Greek (including Classical, Koine, Jewish)
- Ancillary** Dictionary-assisted reading of Latin, German, and other Slavic and Romance languages

CURRENT RESEARCH

Freedom in the Face of Death: Brodsky and Frankl on the Outlook that Gives Meaning to Human Existence

Whither Russian Religious Thought? Extracting Theology from History in the Twenty-First Century

Reevaluating the Spectrum of Jewish-Christian Interaction in Early Eastern Europe [under contract for Brill's *Studia Judaeoslavica* series]

PUBLICATIONS

Book *Orthodox Russia in Crisis: Church and Nation in the Time of Troubles* (DeKalb, Illinois: Northern Illinois University Press, 2012)
• HONORABLE MENTION, Distinguished Scholarship Award of the Early Slavic Studies Association [for all publications 2010-2012 on pre-19th-cent. topics]

Articles/ Chapters “The Relevance of Ancient Jewish-Greek Language Today, Including in Poland,” in *Beyond Language*, ed. Piotr Chruszczewski (University of Wrocław; in preparation)

“The ‘Messianic’ Idea of *Herrschaft* in the Time of Troubles,” forthcoming in *Autokratische Herrschaft im Moskauer Reich in der Zeit der Wirren / Autocratic Power in Moscovy in the Time of Troubles*, ed. Dittmar Dahlmann and Diana Ordubadi (projected 2019)

“Jewish History in Patriarchal Muscovy: Toward an Understanding of Old and New Jerusalem,” in *The Moscow Patriarchate (1589-1721): Power, Belief, Image, and Legitimacy*, ed. Kevin M. Kain and Wolfram von Scheliha (forthcoming Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2019)

“‘The Journeys of My Soul in This Land of Canaan’ by Yitshak ben Sirota,” in *Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe, 900-1400*, ed. Donald Ostrowski and Christian Raffensperger (NY: Routledge, 2017)

“Lexical Daring: Muscovite Russian Experimentation with Greek Language as a Reflection of Underlying Civilizational Rivalry,” in *Σλάβοι και ελληνικός κόσμος [Slavs and the Greek World]*, ed. O. Alexandropoulou and P. Sophoulis (Athens: Pelekanos, 2015): 131-147

“From Bethlehem to Beloozero: Biblical Languages and National Religious Boundaries in Muscovy,” *Russian History* 41.1 (2014): 8-22

“Who Counts as ‘People’ (*narod*)? A Reconsideration of *Vox populi* in the First Russian Time of Troubles (*Smutnoe vremia*),” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 48.1 (2014): 1-11

“Russians, Jews, and Hebrew: The Makings of Ambivalence,” *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies* 25 (2011): 119-152

“מושגים עבריים בתרבות הרוסית של נסיכות מוסקבה” [“Hebrew Concepts in the Russian Culture of Muscovy”], *זמנים [Zmanim]* 116 (2011): 46-51

“Black Monks and White Gold: The Solovetskii Monastery’s Prosperous Salt Trade during the Time of Troubles,” *Russian History* 37.3 (2010): 238-249

[See also below for CONFERENCE PAPERS published in proceedings.]

Reference “Ivan Peresvetov,” “The Tale of Sultan Mehmed [II],” and “Greater Petition,” in *Christian-Muslim Relations: A Bibliographical History*, Vol. 7: *Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and South America (1500-1600)*, ed. David Thomas, John Chesworth, et al. (Leiden: Brill, 2015): 278-307

“Russia, Hebrew in,” *Encyclopedia of Hebrew Language and Linguistics*, ed. Geoffrey Khan et al. (Leiden: Brill, 2013): 3.434-441

Reviews Co-author with Charles Halperin, “[Review of] Joel Raba, *The Gift and Its Wages: The Land of Israel and the Jewish People in the Spiritual Life of Medieval Russia* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2014)” (in preparation)

“[Review of] Boeck, Brian J., Russell E. Martin, and Daniel Rowland, eds., *Dubitando: Studies in History and Culture in Honor of Donald Ostrowski* (Bloomington: Slavica, 2012),” *The Russian Review* 72.3 (2013): 505-509

Edited vols. Alexander Kulik, *Jews in Old Rus’: A Documentary History*, ed. Isaiah Gruber (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, forthcoming)
• General editor and translator of comprehensive collection of primary sources in Old Slavic, Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic, Latin, and Arabic

Vladimir Khazan, *Eretz-Israel and Russian Émigrés in Europe: Contacts, Connections, Communications, Interactions (1919-1939)*, ed. and portions trans. Yeshaya Gruber with Yulia Mestechkin, 10 vols. projected (Jerusalem: Hebrew University, in process)

Honorary editor (History), *Beyond Language* (book series), ed. Piotr Chruszczewski (published by University of Wrocław / Polish Academy of Sciences / Æ Academic)

Alexander Kantsedikas, *El Lissitzky: The Jewish Period*, ed. Yeshayahu Gruber (London: Unicorn, 2017)

• Linguistic and scholarly editing with additional research and translation

Russia Beyond the Traditional Boundaries: Essays in Honor of David M. Goldfrank, ed. Michael G. Smith, Isaiah Gruber, and Sandra Pujals, published as special double edition of *Russian History* 41.1-2 (2014)

• Head scholarly editor, Part 1: *Languages of Power and the Sacred in the Russian Lands*

[And other publications as part of the work of Kol Hakatuv Ltd.]

Translated books Lola Kantor-Kazovsky, *Reinventing Jewish Art after the Holocaust: Michail Grobman across the East-West Divide*, trans. Isaiah Gruber (Boston: Brill, in preparation; projected 2019)

David Markish, *From Pale to Pale: A Story of Jewish Life in the USSR*, trans. Yeshaya Gruber with Yulia Mestechkin (in preparation)

Savelii Dudakov, *The History of a Myth: The “Protocols of the Elders of Zion” in the Russian Literary Setting*, trans./adapted Yeshaya Gruber (in preparation)

Album of the Museum of Jewish History in Russia, 2 vols., trans. Yeshayahu Gruber (Moscow: Museum of Jewish History, 2015)

Between Two Worlds: Personal Memory and Immortal Souls in Jewish Culture, trans. Yeshayahu Gruber (exh. cat.; Moscow: Museum of Jewish History, 2015)

[And other publications as part of the work of Kol Hakatuv Ltd.]

AWARDS

- 2017 ASEES Convention Opportunity Travel Grant (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies)
- 2013 Honorable Mention, Distinguished Scholarship Award of the Early Slavic Studies Association
- 2011-2012 IKY Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (Ministry of Education of the Hellenic Republic)
- 2011 Sir Zelman Cowen Postdoctoral Research Exchange Fellowship (Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund at the University of Sydney)
- 2010-2011 Short-Term Research Grant (Leonid Nevzlin Center for Russian and East European Jewry at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 2008-2010 Golda Meir Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (Golda Meir – Lady Davis Fellowship Trust at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 2003-2004 Davis Teaching Fellowship (Dept. of History at Georgetown University)
- 2001-2002 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (U.S. Department of Education)
- 2001-2002 IREX Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Fellowship (International Research and Exchanges Board)
- 2001 Distinction, Ph.D. Comprehensive Examinations (Dept. of History at Georgetown University)
- 1999-2006 Doctoral Studies Fellowship (Dept. of History at Georgetown Univ.)
- 1999 Foreign Languages and Area Studies Fellowship (U.S. Department of Education)
- 1999 Commendation for Special Merit (Phi Alpha Theta)
 - Award letter states: “Your paper so impressed the judges that they created a special prize category for you.”
- 1999 Daisy A. Latimer Memorial Prize (Dept. of History at McGill Univ.)
- 1999 M.A. Honours in History (McGill University)
- 1998-1999 Delta Upsilon Alumni Scholarship (Honours Society at McGill Univ.)
- 1997-1998 Graduate Fellowship (Dept. of History at McGill University)
- 1997 First Class Joint Honours, History and Political Science (McGill Univ.)
- 1994 James McGill Award (Founder’s Scholarship) for Academic Excellence (McGill University)
- 1993-1999 Dean’s List (Honour Roll at McGill University)
- 1993-1997 Friends of McGill Bursary
- 1993-1996 Walter and Carole Young Foundation Scholarship

TEACHING FIELDS

- Russia/
Ukraine** Russian History, Culture, Literature, and Language (all periods and levels)
Religious Thought; Great Crises (special topics)
Odessa: Charm City on the Black Sea (study abroad)
- Europe** East European History and Culture (all periods)
Classical and European History (surveys and special topics)
Icelandic Literature and History (independent study)
- Jewish** Russian-Jewish Experience (all periods)
Jewish History and Culture (surveys)
Second Temple Period and Early Christianity
- Asia** Pacific World; Japan; Religion/Philosophy (surveys and special topics)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- June 2018 “Ancient Jewish-Greek Linguistic Blending and its Relevance for Polish-Israeli Cultural Contacts Today”
• Languages in Contact/Cultures in Contact 2018: Small, Moribund and Endangered Languages, Cultures and Literatures (Wrocław)
- Nov. 2017 “Conventions and Transgressions: Concepts of Work in the Monastic Tradition”
• Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (Chicago)
- Sep. 2017 “How to Elect a Messiah, Muscovite Style”
• International interdisciplinary workshop “*Samoderzhcy i edinoderzhaviye: The Creation of the Demand for the Centralist Autocratic Herrschaft of the Russian Tsars in the 'Time of Troubles' with Special Regard to the Procedures of Elections and Appointments by Boris Godunov and Michail Romanov,*” Institut für Geschichtswissenschaft, University of Bonn
- Apr. 2016 “The Journeys of My Soul in the Land of Canaan, by Yitshak ben Sirota”
• Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
- May 2014 “The Judeo-Christian Spectrum in Rus’ to ca. 1500”
• Jews and Christians in the Middle Ages, MF Norwegian School of Theology (Oslo)
- Dec. 2013 “Did Early Modern Russia Expel its Jews, and Why?”
• Early Slavists Seminar, Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University
- Sep. 2013 “The Moscow Patriarchate and the Jews”
• International Symposium on the Moscow Patriarchate (1589-1721), Centre for Area Studies, Leipzig University
- Dec. 2012 “Hebrew-Greek-Russian Glossaries: What They Tell Us About Knowledge and Thought in Medieval and Early Modern Muscovy”
• Symposium on the Greek and Slavic Worlds, University of Athens

- Oct. 2012 “К значению ‘гласа народа’ (лат. *vox populi*) в Смутное время начала XVII в.: Сравнительный взгляд” [“On the Meaning of ‘the Voice of the People’ (Latin *vox populi*) in the Time of Troubles of the Early 17th Century: A Comparative View”]
 • International Scholarly Conference for the 400th Anniversary of the Time of Troubles (*Smuta*) in Russia, St. Petersburg State University
 • **Published** in English in proceedings: “On the Meaning of *Vox populi* (глас народа) in the Russian Time of Troubles: A Comparative Perspective,” in *Смутное время в России: Конфликт и диалог культур* [*The Time of Troubles in Russia: Conflict and Cultural Dialogue*], ed. Aleksandr Filjushkin (St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg State University, 2012): 53-56
- Sep. 2012 “Messianic Under/Overtone: On the Usage of *Помазанник* and *Христос* in the Russian ‘Time of Troubles’”
 • Biblical Concepts in Slavic Tradition: Linguistic, Textual and Cultural-Historical Aspects, Israel Academy of Sciences and Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Varna)
- Apr. 2012 “איום מהמערב: חשיבותה ההיסטורית והעכשווית של ‘תקופת המהומות’ ברוסיה” [“Threat from the West: The Historical and Contemporary Significance of the ‘Time of Troubles’ in Russia”]
 • Faculty Seminar in General History, University of Haifa
- Mar. 2011 “Turning Russia Upside-Down: How an Autocratic, Patriarchal Society Became Dependent on Popular and Female ‘Voices of Legitimacy’ During the Time of Troubles”
 • History Faculty Seminar Series, University of Sydney
- Feb. 2011 “Interpretation of Hebrew in the ‘New Israel’: New Research on the Pre-history of Russian Jewry”
 • Annual Conference of the Australian Association of Jewish Studies (Canberra)
- Nov. 2010 “Iov’s Political Ideology Revisited: A New Interpretation of Russia’s First Patriarch”
 • Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (Los Angeles)
- May 2010 “Russia as ‘Israel’: An Historical Approach to a Religious, Linguistic, and Political Problem”
 • Interdisciplinary Workshop in Russian Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Nov. 2009 “Hebrew, Greek, or Russian? The Layering of Meaning in Muscovite Russian Culture”
 • Qolot Khadashim Conference, Cummings Center for Russian and East European Studies, Tel Aviv University
- Mar. 2009 “Hebrew, Greek, and Russian Civilizations: The View from Moscow”
 • Lecture Series of the Dept. of Russian and Slavic Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Nov. 2008 “Black Monks and White Gold: Unexpected Prosperity in the Time of Troubles”
 • Panel organizer: “New Research on the Solovetskii Monastery in the 16th-17th Centuries”
 • Annual Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (Philadelphia)
- Dec. 2007 “The ‘Greek Faith’ in the Russian Time of Troubles”
 • International Conference on History, Athens Institute for Education and Research (Athens)

- **Published** in proceedings: “A New *Sumphônia*: The ‘Greek Faith’ in the Russian Time of Troubles,” in *From the Remote to the Recent Past*, ed. Kenneth Hendrickson and Nicholas Pappas (Athens: ATINER, 2008): 143-154
- Mar. 2007 “*Vox populi, vox Dei*: An Unexpected Orthodox Justification for Rule in the Russian Time of Troubles”
 - Panel organizer: “Rhetoric and Power in Muscovy”
 - Annual Convention of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (Montgomery, Alab.)
- Apr. 2004 “New Ruler, New Faith? A Study of Russian Religion during the Time of Troubles (1598-1613)”
 - Annual Convention of the American Catholic Historical Association (Miami)
- Mar. 2003 “*Nishchim rozoshlosia*: Economic Aspects of Church Life during the Time of Troubles”
 - Annual Convention of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (Savannah)
- Nov. 2000 “Political Clerics in Muscovy and the West: A Comparative Study of William of Ockham and Iosif Volotsky”
 - Panel organizer: “The Mind of Muscovy in the Medieval Mirror”
 - Annual Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (Denver)
- Mar. 2000 “The Work of the Godless: Issues in Soviet Anti-religious Campaigning of the 1920s”
 - History in the Making VI, Concordia University (Montréal)
 - **Published** in proceedings: “Issues in Soviet Anti-religious Campaigning: A Case Study of the Smolensk Region during the 1920s,” *History in the Making* 6, ed. Reine Perrault (Montréal: Concordia University, 2000): 152-174
- Nov. 1999 “Neither Fiction nor History: Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*”
 - Annual Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (St. Louis)
- June 1999 “Misquotation of the Bible in Ilarion’s *Slovo o zakone i o blagodati*”
 - Annual Convention of the Canadian Association of Slavists (Sherbrooke)
- Apr. 1999 “Logical Illusion: A Critique of Hayden White’s Argumentation in ‘The Value of Narrativity in the Representation of Reality’”
 - Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference (Baltimore)

MEMBERSHIPS (PAST OR PRESENT)

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies /
 American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies
 American Historical Association
 Early Slavic Studies Association
 Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture
 Canadian Association of Slavists
 Southern Conference on Slavic Studies
 Association for Jewish Studies
 Australian Association of Jewish Studies
 American Catholic Historical Association

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 2011-2012 IKY Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dept. of Slavic Studies and Dept. of Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2011 Sir Zelman Cowen Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dept. of History and Dept. of Hebrew, Biblical, and Jewish Studies, University of Sydney
- 2010-2011 Visiting Research Fellow, Leonid Nevzlin Research Center for Russian and East European Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 2008-2010 Golda Meir (Lady Davis) Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dept. of Russian and East European Studies, The Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem
- 2005-2008 Assistant Professor [non-tenure-track] / Visiting Assistant Professor / Lecturer, Dept. of History, Goucher College (Baltimore)
- 2004-2005 Research Assistant, United States Institute of Peace (Washington, DC)
• Research and translation for: Melvyn Leffler, *For the Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War* (NY: Hill & Wang, 2007)
- 2003-2004 Davis Teaching Fellow, Dept. of History, Georgetown University
- 1999-2003 Teaching Assistant, Dept. of History, Georgetown University
- 1998-1999 Teaching Assistant, Dept. of History, McGill University

Additional references furnished upon request.