

Joel M. Hoffman

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EDUCATION

- '91–'96 PHD IN THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS. University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
'89–'90 VISITING MS STUDENT in Computer Science. Technion—Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel.
'86–'89 BA IN LINGUISTICS, *Summa Cum Laude*. Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

HONORS, AWARDS & POSITIONS

- BRANDEIS UNIV. *PHI BETA Kappa*.
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
BRANDEIS FELLOW.
CAJE '08 CONFERENCE CHAIR. Responsible for \$1 million budget, and for planning, creating, and implementing five-day conference for 1,500 people.
CAJE '07 CHAIR, Hebrew and Prayer Tracks.

BOOKS & ARTICLES

- CURRENT "THE GLAMOUR OF THE GRAMMAR" Biweekly feature column on Hebrew in the *Jerusalem Post*.
FORTHCOMING "AND GOD SAID: HOW TRANSLATIONS CONCEAL THE BIBLE'S ORIGINAL MEANING" Thomas Dunne Books / St. Martin's Press. Accessible introduction to Bible translation and widespread mistakes in commonly available English translations.
'08 "MY PEOPLE'S PASSOVER HAGGADAH" Jewish Lights Publishing, Vermont. Commentator and chief translator for two-volume series containing the complete text of the Passover Haggadah.
'97–'07 "MY PEOPLE'S PRAYERBOOK" Jewish Lights Publishing, Vermont. Commentator and chief translator for award-winning ten-volume series containing the complete weekday and Shabbat Jewish liturgy.
AUGUST '04 "IN THE BEGINNING: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE HEBREW LANGUAGE" New York University Press. Advanced book integrating linguistics and history to describe the development and stages of Hebrew over the past 3,000 years. First paperback edition released in Spring '06.

RECENT EMPLOYMENT

- DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION Director of Education at Temple Israel of Northern Westchester, Croton on Hudson, NY. Oversee all aspects of the 400-student religious school, including long-range planning, curriculum design, budget, and teacher training; preach from the *bimah* and lead Torah study a few times a month.
RESIDENT SCHOLAR Resident Scholar at Temple Shaaray Tefila in Bedford Corners, NY. Integrate teaching at all levels of the synagogue, including grade school, pre-bar/bat mitzvah, middle school, high school, and adult education. Topics include cantillation, ethics, Torah study, history, philosophy, prayer, and biblical interpretation.
ADJUNCT FACULTY Adjunct faculty at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion, New York, NY. Teach required courses in Hebrew and liturgy to education students.

SAMPLE TEACHER TRAINING

TORONTO, CANADA	One-day training session on teaching Hebrew, offered to Hebrew-speaking day-school teachers.
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO	Keynote address (in Hebrew) at international conference on teaching Hebrew, organized by the Jewish Agency.
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL	Two-day consulting and training program to bolster current Hebrew program and to help plan and implement middle-school program.
WASHINGTON, DC	Evening planning session on the nature of teaching Hebrew in supplemental schools.

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University-Level Teaching

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF COMAHUE, GENERAL ROCA, ARGENTINA	SUMMER '04	Invited guest lecturer. Design and teach graduate-level introduction to linguistics attended by students from around the country; teach special section on Hebrew phonology and morphology. Teach advanced seminars on general translation theory and on translating metaphors from a dead language.
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE — JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION	'00–'09	Design and teach education class on Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew, including methods for teaching Hebrew to children.
	'00–'09	Design and teach education class on liturgy, including methods for teaching prayers to children.
	'00–'09	Design and teach advanced class on translating Hebrew into English, including theoretical background to translation and actual translation of both poetry and prose.
	'96–'09	Design and teach advanced class on the history of Hebrew, covering archaic Biblical Hebrew up to modern Israeli Hebrew.
	'02–'03 '96–'98	Teach introductory class in Jewish liturgy. Hebrew Studies Program Coordinator for masters programs. Responsibilities include designing and implementing program in Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew in addition to teaching.
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY	FALL '98	Design and teach advanced seminar: Hebrew and Translation Issues. Includes theoretical and practical aspects of translating Hebrew into English.
	'86–'89	Teach evening classes in introductory American Sign Language.
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK	FALL '94	Design and coordinate graduate seminar in cross-linguistic issues. Teach Hebrew section of seminar.
	'94–'95	Plan and teach undergraduate class on introductory linguistics.
	'91–'92	Plan and teach first-year undergraduate writing class.
TECHNION: ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	'90	Teach (in Hebrew) one section of graduate seminar in natural language processing.

Other Teaching

HIGHER EDUCATION	'00–'01, HUC-JIR (NY) ALUMNI CLASS: Guest scholar invited for one year to teach about translation and advanced aspects of the Trope system.
CONFERENCES FOR ADULTS	SUMMER '06 AND '07, CAJE: Invited lecturer, teaching classes including “This is Your Brain on Hebrew,” “How to Fix Hebrew Schools,” and advanced classes on the Dead Sea Scrolls, <i>Birkat Hamazon</i> , and literary interpretation. WINTER '02 AND '04, LIMMUD, NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND: Invited lecturer, teaching classes on history of Hebrew, liturgy, Jewish continuity, and translation.

	JUNE '02, UAHC KALLAH in Ringe, NH. Design and teach text course in “How to Read Jewish texts,” covering the many ways Jews have read and continue to read Jewish texts.
HIGH SCHOOL	'06-'07, TEMPLE SHARAY TEFILA, BEDFORD CORNERS, NY: Design and teach program for 8th-10th graders on Jewish text, ethics, and philosophy: “So I’m a Jewish American teenager. Now what?” '01-'05, STEPHEN WISE FREE SYNAGOGUE, NY: Oversee after-school program for high school students, and teach 11th/12th grade class: “Topics in Judaism.” '99-'00, TEMPLE SHIR TIKVAH, MA. “The Jewish American Experience.” Taught to 8th/9th graders. '98-'99, PROZDOR PROGRAM AT HEBREW COLLEGE, MA: Teach modern Hebrew to advanced Hebrew students and work toward redesigning curriculum for entire Hebrew program. '97-'98, WOODLANDS COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE, NY: Design and teach weekly class on Jewish text and thought.
GRADE SCHOOL	'06-'08, TEMPLE SHARAY TEFILA, NY: Teach Hebrew and Jewish History to 6th graders. Design and lead weekly services for grades 4-6. '00-'05, STEPHEN WISE FREE SYNAGOGUE, NY: Teach Hebrew and Jewish History to 5th and 6th graders. Design and lead weekly services for grades 3-6. '99-'00, TEMPLE BETH EL, MA: Teach Bible and Prayer to 6th graders. '96-'98, STEPHEN WISE FREE SYNAGOGUE: Design and teach advanced spoken-Hebrew program for 7th grade class. Teach 3rd graders elementary Hebrew reading. Teach 6th graders elementary Hebrew reading.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

'04-'06	HEBREW EDITOR for CCAR, responsible for overseeing Hebrew in <i>Mishkan Tefilah</i> .
'91-CURRENT	MULTILINGUAL TYPESETTER and Hebrew consultant for numerous organizations. Typeset work in English, Hebrew, Russian, and Arabic.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

LANGUAGES	ENGLISH (NATIVE), Modern Hebrew (fluent), Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew, French, American Sign Language. Familiar with German, Spanish, Israeli Sign Language, Russian, Greek, Arabic, and Latin.
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS	PIANO, guitar.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC LECTURES

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF COMAHUE, NEUQUEN, ARGENTINA: the history of Hebrew and the revival of ancient Hebrew to form modern Hebrew.
 TEMPLE BETH EL, CHAPPAQUA, NY: Invited guest scholar for Slichot and Yom Kippur afternoon: the history and spiritual importance of Slichot and the role of the Akedah on Yom Kippur.
 TEMPLE KOL AMI, MI: How to create a prayer book and how to adapt traditional prayers. Designed to begin congregation-wide prayer-book project.
 TEMPLE BETH EMETH, NY: Scholar in residence: the history of Hebrew and translation theory.
 JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, TUCSON, AZ: Scholar in residence: the Dead Sea Scrolls, Torah interpretation, and redesigning Hebrew/Sunday schools.
 HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CA: Scholar in residence: Jewish history and continuity.
 WESTCHESTER REFORM TEMPLE, NY: Lecture to begin congregation-wide Hebrew study program, designed to foster interest and excitement in learning Hebrew.

SAMPLE ACADEMIC WORK

“TOWARD TWO TYPES OF MORPHOLOGY.” Talk presented in Buenos Aires at the international “Morphosyntax Colloquium.”

“THE ORIGINS OF THE TETRAGRAMMATON.” Faculty Seminar presentation at HUC-JIR, NY.

“THE HISTORY OF HEBREW.” Talk presented at Leo Baeck Rabbinic Seminary in London, England.

“ON ADVERB PLACEMENT and Adjunction Sites.” Invited talk at Tromsø University, Tromsø, Norway: Cross-linguistic adverb placement, with examples from Russian, English, Hebrew and French. (Proceedings published '01.)

“THE BEHAVIOR OF STRONG AND WEAK Verbs in Modern and Tiberian Hebrew.” Talk presented at the 7th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester, England. Description of novel approach to some key differences between Tiberian and Modern Hebrew.

“IDENTIFYING, UNDERSTANDING AND TRANSLATING the Metaphors of a Dead Language.” Invited talk at the Catholic University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium: Retrieving and understanding the connotations of words and phrases in a dead language.

“TWO TYPES OF PARATACTIC Word-Order Variation.” Szeged, Hungary. Talk presented to the first international conference on Eastern-European languages (CLITE I), focusing on the broad word-order variation in many Slavic languages.

“BILITERAL ROOTS in Tiberian and Modern Hebrew.” Talk presented to the Israeli Association of Theoretical Linguistics (IATL) at Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv, Israel. (Proceedings published '98.)