

JAMES LOEFFLER, Ph.D.
(rev. Aug. 2021)

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Jay Berkowitz Endowed Chair in Jewish History and Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2017-present.

Ida and Nathan Kolodiz Director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Virginia, 2020-present.

Associate Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2012-2017.

Assistant Professor of History, University of Virginia, 2006-2012.

EDUCATION

Dean's Visiting Scholar, Georgetown University Law Center, 2013-2014.

Ph.D. (History), with Distinction, Columbia University, 2006.

M.A. (History), Columbia University, 2000.

Postgraduate Studies in Jewish Religious and Political Thought, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Inter-University Jewish Studies Fellow) and the Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies (Dorot Fellow), 1996-1997.

A.B. (Social Studies), *magna cum laude*, Harvard University, 1996.

BOOKS

Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century
(Yale University Press, 2018).

American Historical Association Dorothy Rosenberg Award for Best Book in Jewish History.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer Award for Best Book in Modern Jewish History.

American Association of Publishers PROSE Award Finalist in World History.

Natan Foundation/Jewish Book Council Award Finalist for Outstanding Book on Jewish Public Affairs.

"World's Best Human Rights Books," *Hong Kong Free Press*, 2018.

Favorite Books of 2018, *European Journal of International Law Blog*.

New York Times 2018 “new and notable” book.
Ha’aretz Year in Review Top 11 Books, 2018.

The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire
(Yale University Press, 2010; paperback edition 2013).

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies 2011 USC Book Prize
in Literary and Cultural Studies.

American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) 2011 Deems
Taylor-Béla Bartók Award for Outstanding Ethnomusicology Book.

Association for Jewish Studies Jordan Schnitzer 2012 Book Award in Cultural
Studies and Media Studies, Honorable Mention.

Historia Nova Prize for the Best Book on Russian Intellectual History.

American Library Association *Choice* 2011 Outstanding Academic Title.

Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature of the Jewish Book Council, 2012 Finalist.

Foundation for Jewish Culture Sidney and Hadassah Musher 2008 Publication
Award for Outstanding First Book in Field of Jewish Studies.

Association for Jewish Studies 2009 Cahnman Publication Award for Outstanding
First Book in the Field of Jewish Studies.

The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century,
ed. with Moria Paz (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

“*A Man in the Street*”: *On the Civic Identity of Modern Jews – A Festschrift in Honor of
Michael Stanislawski*, ed. with Jonathan Karp, Howard Lupovitch, and Nancy
Sinkoff [in preparation, under contract with Wayne State University Press].

Blind Justice: Race, Religion, and Liberalism in Modern America [in preparation, under
contract with Metropolitan/Henry Holt].

The Universal Crime: Raphael Lemkin between Holocaust and Genocide [in preparation].

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Co-Editor, *AJS Review: The Journal of the Association for Jewish Studies*, 2020-present.

Editorial Board, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, 2016-present.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Posen Library of Jewish Culture & Civilization*, 2016-present.

EDITORIAL & DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

The Future of Human Rights Scholarship, Special Issue of *Law and Contemporary Problems*,
81:4 (2018), ed. with Kevin Cope and Mila Versteeg.

“*A Man in the Street*”: *On the Civic Identity of Modern Jews – A Festschrift in Honor of
Michael Stanislawski*, ed. with Jonathan Karp, Howard Lupovitch, and Nancy
Sinkoff (Wayne State University Press, forthcoming).

ARTICLES

- “The First Genocide: Antisemitism and Universalism in Raphael Lemkin’s Thought,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* [forthcoming].
- “Three Days in December: Jewish Human Rights Activism between the United Nations and the Middle East in 1948,” *Journal of Global History* [forthcoming].
- “When Hermann Cohen Cried: Zionism and the Sounds of Jewish Emotion,” *Jewish Social Studies* [under review].
- “The Religions of Human Rights,” *Harvard Theological Review* [forthcoming].
- “The Right to Banality: Interwar Zionism between Eastern Europe and Palestine,” *Nationalities Papers* [under review].
- Prisoners of Zion: American Jews, Human Rights, and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, University of Michigan David W. Belin Lectures in American Jewish Affairs 29 (Ann Arbor: Michigan Publishing, 2020).
- “The Lust Machine: Commerce, Sound and Nationhood in Jewish Eastern Europe,” *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* 32 (2020): 257-277.
- “Introduction: The Future of Human Rights Scholarship,” with Mila Versteeg, *Law and Contemporary Problems* 81:4 (2018): 1-8.
- “Becoming Cleopatra: The Forgotten Zionism of Raphael Lemkin,” *Journal of Genocide Research*, 19:3 (Aug. 2017): 340-60.
- “Modern Jewish Politics,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*. ed. Naomi Seidman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- “‘The Famous Trinity of 1917’”: Zionist Internationalism in Historical Perspective,” *Simon Dubnow Institute Yearbook* 15 (2016): 211-38.
- “Nationalism without a Nation? On the Invisibility of American Jewish Politics,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 105:3 (Summer 2015): 367-98.
- “‘A Special Kind of Antisemitism’: On Russian Nationalism and Jewish Music,” *Yuval Online: Journal of the Jewish Music Research Centre* 9 (2015); German translation in Antonina Klokova and Jascha Nemtsov, eds., *Einbahnstraße oder „die heilige Brücke“? Jüdische Musik und die europäische Musikkultur* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2016), 9-26; Russian translation in Galina Kopytova and Aleksandr Frenkel, eds., *Iz istorii evreiskoi muzyki v Rossii*, vol. 3 (St. Petersburg: Jewish Community Center of St. Petersburg/Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, 2015), 94-113.
- “Promising Harmonies: The Aural Politics of Polish-Jewish Relations in the Russian Empire,” *Jewish Social Studies*, 20:3 (Spring/Summer 2014): 1-36.
- “The Particularist Pursuit of American Universalism: The American Jewish Committee’s 1944 “Declaration on Human Rights,” *Journal of Contemporary History* 50:2 (Oct. 2014): 274-95.

- “‘In Memory of Our Murdered (Jewish) Children’: Hearing the Holocaust in Soviet Jewish Culture,” *Slavic Review* 73:3 (Fall 2014): 585-611.
- “‘The Conscience of America’: Human Rights, Jewish Politics, and American Foreign Policy at the United Nations San Francisco Conference, 1945,” *Journal of American History* 100:2 (Sep. 2013): 401-28.
- “Between Zionism and Liberalism: Oscar Janowsky and Diaspora Nationalism in America,” *Association for Jewish Studies Review* 34:2 (Nov. 2010): 1-20.
- “Do Zionists Read Music from Right to Left? Avraham Zvi Idelsohn and the Invention of Israeli Music,” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 100:3 (Summer 2010): 385-416.
- “Richard Wagner’s Jewish Music: Antisemitism and Aesthetics in Modern Jewish Culture,” *Jewish Social Studies* 15:2 (Winter 2009 [New Series]): 2-36.

SELECTED BOOK CHAPTERS AND SHORTER WORKS

- “Promise and Peril: Reflections on Jewish International Legal Biography,” in *Jewish-European Émigré Lawyers: Twentieth-Century International Humanitarian Law as Idea and Profession*, eds. Leora Bilsky and Annette Weinke (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2021), 33-48.
- “Utopias,” in *Legacy of Polish Jews*, eds. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett and Tamara Sztyma (Warsaw: Polin, 2021), 105-17.
- “On Arguments and Apologetics: A. B. Yehoshua’s Critique of American Jews,” in *The New Jewish Canon*, eds. Yehuda Kurtzer and Claire Sufrin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020), 398-403.
- “Anti-Zionism,” in *Key Concepts in the Study of Antisemitism*, eds. Sol Goldberg, Scott Ury, and Kalman Weiser (London: Palgrave, 2020), 39-51.
- “‘A Certain Type of Liberalism’: Minority Rights in Jewish Liberal Discourse, 1848-1948,” in *Jews, Liberalism, Anti-Semitism: A Global History*, eds. Abigail Green and Simon Levis Sullam (London: Palgrave, 2020), 365-86.
- “Self-ish Human Rights: On Alexandre Lefebvre’s *Human Rights and the Care of Self*,” *Journal of Human Rights Practice* 11:2 (July 2019): 438-39.
- “The ‘Natural Right of the Jewish People’: Zionism, International Law, and the Paradox of Hersch Zvi Lauterpacht,” in *The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century*, eds. James Loeffler and Moria Paz (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 23-41.
- “Introduction,” in *The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century*, eds. James Loeffler and Moria Paz, eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 1-20.

- “On Writing and Routing Rights,” Author’s Response to *Shofar* roundtable on *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century*, *Shofar* 37:1 (March 2019): 192-202.
- “The Politics of Anti-Politics,” Author’s Response to *H-Diplo Roundtable* on *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century* (Apr. 1, 2019).
- “The World of Croesus, the Nation of Tellus”: Review Essay on Samuel Moyn’s *Never Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World*, *H-Diplo Roundtable Review* 20:18 (2019): 10-17.
- “On American Jewish Internationalism,” *H-Diplo Roundtable Review*, 18:21 (2017): 6-9.
- “From Biblical Antiquarianism to Revolutionary Modernism: Jewish Art Music, 1850 1925,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Jewish Music*, ed. Joshua Walden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015), 167-186.
- “Practical International Idealism: Julius Stone and the Ambiguities of Postwar Internationalism,” *H-Diplo Roundtable Review* 132 (2015): 5-10.
- “International Law” and “Music” [German], in *Encyclopedia of Jewish History and Culture*, ed. Dan Diner, in association with the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture (Stuttgart: J. B. Metzler Verlag, 2015).
- “Three Jews, Two Opinions: Revisiting the Great Yiddish Folk Song Debate of 1901” [Russian], *The History of Jewish Music in Russia*, Volume 3, eds. G. Kopytova and A. Frenkel (St. Petersburg: Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, 2015).
- “Joel Engel and the Development of Jewish Musical Nationalism,” [Russian] *The History of Jewish Music in Russia*, Volume 2., eds. G. Kopytova and A. Frenkel (St. Petersburg: Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, 2006).

SELECTED JOURNALISM AND OTHER WRITINGS

- “How to Remember the Holocaust,” *The Atlantic*, Apr. 8, 2021.
- “The Nationalism of Human Rights,” *The New Rambler Review*, March 25, 2021.
- “The Jewish Grandchildren of Sally Hemings and Thomas Jefferson,” *UVA Thoughts from the Lawn Blog*, Nov. 9, 2020.
- “The Problem with the ‘Judeo-Christian Tradition,’” *The Atlantic*, Aug. 1, 2020.
- “The Lust Machine,” *Tablet*, July 2, 2020.
- “How the Left Can Lead the Fight Against Antisemitism on College Campuses,” *The Forward*, Dec. 12, 2019.
- “The Secret History of ‘Hava Nagila’,” *Tablet*, Sep. 19, 2019.
- “Ben-Gurion’s Unfinished Hebrew Revolution,” *Tablet*, July 30, 2019.

“Human Rights and the Academic Right,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 31, 2019.

“How We Can Fight Antisemitism with the Law,” *The Atlantic*, June 16, 2019.

“Antisemitism, Adorno and the Theory of Hate,” *Marginalia - LA Review of Books*, Mar. 1, 2019.

“Human Rights at 70,” *Washington Post*, Dec. 20, 2018.

“The Struggle for Charlottesville,” *Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 10, 2018.

“The Zionist Founders of the Human Rights Movement,” *New York Times*, May 14, 2018.

“How an American Jewish Opera Star Accidentally Launched the Soviet Jewish Movement,” *Tablet*, June 30, 2016.

“Beautiful Hatred: Wagner’s Anti-Semitism Still Matters,” *The New Republic*, July 4, 2014.

“Against Holocaust Music,” *Tablet*, July 11, 2013.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Permanent Fellow, American Academy for Jewish Research, 2020.

Buckner W. Clay Endowment Research Award, Summer 2021.

Robert A. Savitt Fellow at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Spring 2015.

Kluge Fellow, John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Fall 2014.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation New Directions Fellowship, 2013-2016.

Association for Jewish Studies Distinguished Lecturer, 2014-present.

American Council for Learned Societies/National Endowment for the Humanities/Social Science Research Council Combined Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research on Eastern Europe and Eurasia, 2009-2010.

Mead Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching, University of Virginia, 2009-2010.

Hays-Fulbright Doctoral Dissertation Fellow in Russia and Ukraine, 2003-2004.

SELECTED COURSES TAUGHT

HIME 2012 Israel/Palestine, 1948

HIST 2559 History of Human Rights

HIEU 3559 Nation & Empire in Eastern Europe

HIEU 4502 History of Human Rights
HIEU 5559 Law, Violence, and Empire in Modern Europe
HIST 5559 Race, Religion, and Rights in the Global Twentieth Century
HIST 5559 History of Human Rights
HIST 7559 The Historiography of Human Rights
HIEU 9032 Historiography of Fascism
HIEU 9032 Writing Israel/Palestine: Methods & Problems in Public-Facing Scholarship
HIEU 9032 Human Rights Historiography

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY

Kogod Senior Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, 2020-present.

Association for Jewish Studies, Board Member, 2013-present.

American Historical Association, Committee on the George Louis Beer Prize in Cultural History, 2016-2019.

Center for Jewish History, Academic Advisory Council, 2011-2016.

Natan Foundation Notable Book Awards Advisory Committee, 2019-present.

Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, Advisory Board, 2014-present.

Jewish Music Research Centre, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Research Affiliate, 1998-present.

Polin Historical Museum (Warsaw, Poland), Historical Consultant, 2015-2018.

Museum of Russian Jewish History (Moscow, Russia), Historical Consultant, 2011-2013.

The Jewish Music Forum: A Project of the American Society for Jewish Music and the Center for Jewish History (New York City). Founder and Executive Director (2004-2006).

“Hava Nagila,” documentary film, Academic Consultant, 2010-2013.

Pro Musica Hebraica Foundation, Washington, DC, Scholar-in-Residence, 2005-2015.

Dissertation Committees at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Harvard University, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Columbia University, New York University, and Ben-Gurion University.

External Reviewer, University of Pennsylvania Katz Center for Judaic Studies Fellowship Selection Committee, 2019-2020.

Academic Consultant, University of Pennsylvania Katz Center for Judaic Studies Fellowship Program Development Committee, 2019-2020.

External Reviewer, Faculty Promotion Files: Brandeis, George Washington, Hebrew University, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, the New School, Rutgers, UCLA, University of California, Berkeley.

SELECTED RECENT LECTURES AND TALKS

“Can Law Stop Antisemitism? New Answers to an Old Question,” Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, June 24-25, 2021.

The Five Myths: Jews and Human Rights,” Humanitarianism as Historical Movement and International Challenge” Lecture Series, Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum/University of Potsdam & Lepsiushaus Potsdam, July 22, 2021.

“In Whose Interest? Writing International Jewish Legal Biography,” “A Lost World? Jewish International Lawyers and New World Orders (1917-1951) Conference,” Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Leipzig University, May 25, 2021.

“The Fifth Chair,” at the conference, “The Eichmann Trial Revisited After 60 Years: International Aspects,” Yad Vashem and Tel Aviv University, Apr. 21, 2021.

“Who Owns the Memory of the Holocaust?” Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, Apr. 8, 2021.

“Blind Justice: The Jewish Fight Against Antisemitism in Postwar America,” Katzin Memorial Lecture, University of California, San Diego, March 8, 2021.

“The Left and Zionism,” Natan Foundation, Feb. 25, 2021.

“The Ambivalence of American Jews,” Muslim Leadership Initiative Network, Shalom Hartman Institute, Feb. 9, 2021.

“The Past and Future of Jewish Studies,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Dec. 4, 2020.

“Leadership Across Difference: A Jewish Studies Conversation,” Univ. of Virginia, Dec. 1, 2020.

“Against Apion: Liberal Antisemitism and Jewish Apologetics in 1920s Poland,” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Conference, Nov. 5, 2020.

“Human Rights in the Twentieth Century: A Global History,” National University of San Marcos, Lima, Peru, Oct. 8, 2020.

“Declarations of In/Dependence,” UVA Conference, “How the Law Treats Hate: Antisemitism and Antidiscrimination Reconsidered,” Sep. 10, 2020.

“Dwell: Where Do We Fit in the World?” Educator Training Seminar, Hillel International Foundation, July 13-18, 2020.

“Law’s Biblical Story,” New York University, Shanghai, May 5, 2020.

- “The Right to be Heard: Jewish Visions of Justice, 1918-2018,” Bronfman Foundation, March 28, 2020.
- “Raphael Lemkin: Beyond the Myths,” Lemkin Summit to End Genocide and Mass Atrocities, Washington, DC, Feb. 23, 2020.
- “Double Amnesia: Zionism & Human Rights in Historical Perspective,” Biderman Lecture in Judaic Studies, Princeton University, Nov. 14, 2019.
- “Blind Justice: Jews and Hate Speech in the American 1950s” and “Beyond the Law: Jews and Antisemitism in the Global 1960s” Stanley Kutler Lectures in American Jewish Studies, Univ. of Wisconsin, Oct. 2-3, 2019.
- “The Crime with No Name: Raphael Lemkin and the Creation of the Genocide Convention,” Zhejiang Gongshang University, Hangzhou, China, May 9, 2019.
- “Jews and the Invention of International Human Rights,” Julis-Rabinowitz Program on Jewish & Israeli Law, Harvard Law School, Apr. 17, 2019.
- “World Without Borders? The Political Geography of Human Rights, 1918-2018,” Keynote Lecture, “Borders, Boundaries, Walls: An International Conference,” The Center for the Humanities at Temple University, Apr. 11, 2019.
- “Rethinking the History of Zionism and Human Rights,” Luskin Center for History and Policy, UCLA, Apr. 8, 2019.
- “Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century,” Pearl and Troy Feibel Lecture on Judaism & Law, Ohio State University, Apr. 7, 2019.
- “Religion and the Future of Human Rights,” Univ. of Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 2019.
- “The Small End of the Shofar: Rethinking Human Rights History,” Conference Keynote Lecture, “International Law from the Bottom Up,” Tel Aviv University Law School, Dec. 9, 2018.
- “A Long Jewish Tradition? The Promise and Peril of Legal Biography,” Conference Keynote Lecture, “Jewish-European Émigré Lawyers and Twentieth Century International Law as Idea and Profession,” Franz Thyssen Stiftung, Cologne, Germany, Sep. 4, 2017.

SELECTED UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Conference Co-Convenor, “How the Law Treats Hate: Antisemitism and Antidiscrimination Reconsidered,” a Collaboration between UVA Jewish Studies, The Religion, Race and Democracy Lab, and the UVA Law Karsh Center, Sep. 10, 2020.
- Convenor and Host, UVA Jewish Studies Online Public Program Series, 2020-2021.
- Co-Chair, UVA Human Rights Research Network.
- Faculty Partner, Religion, Race & Democracy Lab, 2019-present.
- Member, UVA Dean’s Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 2019-present.
- Co-chair, Page-Barbour Committee, 2016-2020.
- Member, Dean’s Ad Hoc Committee for Second Century Campaign, 2016-2019.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion, History Department, 2015-2018.
Convener, University-Wide Global Law Initiative, 2015-present.
Convener, Ad Hoc History/Jewish Studies/Religious Studies Mellon Faculty Position Hiring Initiative Committee, 2010-13.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association
American Society for International Law
American Society for Legal History
Association for Jewish Studies
Association for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies
World Union of Jewish Studies

LANGUAGES

English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, French, German, and Polish.