

# Nicholas A. Block

Boston College  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

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<b>Boston College</b>	2016 – 2019
Visiting Assistant Professor, German Studies	
<b>Emory University</b>	2013 – 2016
Visiting Assistant Professor, German Studies Affiliated Faculty, The Tam Institute for Jewish Studies	

## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Michigan</b>	2006 – 2013
PhD, Germanic Languages and Literatures PhD Certificate, Judaic Studies Dissertation: “In the Eyes of Others: The Dialectics of German-Jewish and Yiddish Modernisms” Committee: Scott Spector, Mikhail Krutikov, Kader Konuk, Kerstin Barndt	
<b>Freie Universität Berlin</b>	2010 – 2011
Doctoral Fellow, Institute for German and Dutch Philology	
<b>New York University</b>	2010
YIVO Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish, Advanced Yiddish Section	
<b>Ohr Somayach Tanenbaum College, Jerusalem</b>	2005 – 2006
Talmudic Law Program	
<b>The College of William and Mary</b>	1999 – 2003
BA, German Studies Certificate in Secondary Education Foreign Language Instruction, School of Education	

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Essay Prize, <i>The Leo Baeck Institute Year Book</i>	2015
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, (university award), U of Michigan	2013
Best Graduate Student Paper Award, AATG- <i>The German Quarterly</i>	2012
Best Graduate Paper, Indiana/Ohio State University Folklore and Ethnomusicology Student Associations Conference	2008
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, (departmental award), U of Michigan	2007

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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Research Grant, <a href="#">Gerald Westheimer Career Development Fellowship, Leo Baeck Institute</a>	2016 - 2017
Teaching Grant, Center for Faculty Development and Excellence, Emory University	Spring 2015
Travel Grant, Emory College Language Center, Emory University	Fall 2013
Dissertation Fellowship, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan	Fall 2012
Research Grant, Department of Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	Summer 2012
Dissertation Fellowship, Simon A. Courtade Award, University of Michigan	2011 – 2012
Research Grant, Faculty-Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Workshop, U of Michigan	2011 – 2012
Research Grant, Department of Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	Summer 2011
Dissertation Fellowship, Freie Universität Berlin	2010 – 2011
Research Grant, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan	2010 – 2011
Research Grant, Department of Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	Summer 2010
Research Grant, Frankel Family Fellowship, University of Michigan	Summer 2010
Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	2009 – 2010
Research Grant, Frankel Family Fellowship, University of Michigan	Summer 2009
Research Grant, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan	Summer 2008
Research Grant, Department of Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	Summer 2008
Research Grant, Marshall Weinberg Endowed Fund, University of Michigan	Summer 2008
Research Grant, Marshall Weinberg Endowed Fund, University of Michigan	Summer 2007

## CURRENT BOOK PROJECT

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*Schlepping Culture: The Jewish Renaissance between German and Yiddish, 1880-1940*

## PUBLICATIONS

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- “Jewish Critique of German Holocaust Memorialization.” *Minority Discourses in Germany since 1990*. Edited by Ela Gezen, Jonathan Skolnik, Priscilla Layne. Oxford, NY: Berghahn Books, 2019. (forthcoming)
- “Multilingualism in and for German Studies: Report from a Seminar.” *Die Unterrichtspraxis / Teaching German*. (forthcoming)
- “The Ex Libris of the German-Jewish Artist Emma Dessau Goitein.” *Emma Dessau Goitein: A European Artist in Perugia*. Edited by Fedoro Boco, Maria Luisa Martella, and Gabrielle Steindler Moscati. Museum of the Academy of Fine Arts of Perugia. Perugia: Fabrizio fabbri editore, 2018. 43-48.
- In Italian translation: “Gli ex libris dell’artista ebrea tedesca Emma Dessau Goitein.” *Emma Dessau Goitein: Un’artista europea a Perugia*. A cura di Fedoro Boco, Maria Luisa Martella e Gabrielle Steindler Moscati. Museo dell’Accademia di Belle Arti di Perugia. Perugia: Fabrizio fabbri editore, 2018. 43-48.
- “A Berlin Republic *Convivencia?* Ethnic Tensions in the Turkish-German-Jewish Triangle.” *German Studies Review* 40, no. 2 (May 2017): 353-371. [doi:10.1353/gsr.2017.0050](https://doi.org/10.1353/gsr.2017.0050).
- “On Nathan Birnbaum’s Messianism and Translating the Jewish Other.” *The Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* 60 (2015): 61-78. [doi:10.1093/leobaeck/ybv002](https://doi.org/10.1093/leobaeck/ybv002).
- Awarded the 2015 Leo Baeck Essay Prize

“If I Forget Thee, O Jerusalem: The Jewish Exilic Mind in Else Lasker-Schüler’s *IchundIch*.” *Nexus: Essays in German Jewish Studies* 2 (2014): [103-120](#).

“Ex Libris and Exchange: Immigrant Interventions in the German-Jewish Renaissance.” *The German Quarterly* 86, no. 3 (Summer 2013): 334-353. [doi:10.1111/gequ.10186](#).

- Awarded the 2012 AATG-*The German Quarterly* Best Graduate Student Paper

## BOOK REVIEWS

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Review of *Strangers in Berlin: Modern Jewish Literature between East and West, 1919–1933* by Rachel Seelig. *German Quarterly* 90, no. 2 (Spring 2017): 239-242. [doi:10.1111/gequ.12034](#).

Review of *Kafka’s Jewish Languages: The Hidden Openness of Tradition* by David Suchoff. *German Studies Review* 37, no. 3 (October 2014): 678-680. [doi:10.1353/gsr.2014.0124](#).

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

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“The Shifting Locale of the Jewish Orient in German-Jewish Thought.” Notre Dame German Jewish Studies Workshop, Tantur Ecumenical Institute, Bethlehem, Israel. March 17-21, 2018.

“Shared Spaces: Jewish-Muslim Relations in 21st-Century German Culture.” Minorities and Minority Discourses in Germany Since 1990, Amherst, MA. March 3-5, 2017.

Multilingualism and German Studies seminar. *German Studies Association* (GSA). San Diego, CA. September 29-October 2, 2016.

“Tales of the German-Jewish Future: Fear, Destruction, and Yiddish Takeovers.” *Contested Jewish Futures*, Emory University, Tam Institute for Jewish Studies. February 2-3, 2016.

“The ‘Domain of One’s Own’ Project: Composing German for the Web.” *American Association for Teachers of German* (AATG / ACTFL). San Diego, CA. November 20-22, 2015.

“The Shifting Locale of Jewish Orients in German-Jewish Thought.” Emory German Studies Roundtable. April 14, 2015.

(invited) “German Politics and Jews.” Political Science 385: *The German Political System*, Emory University. April 2, 2015.

“The *Ostjude* and its Discontents: Alternatives for Jewish Identification.” *German and Jewish Studies Workshop* at Duke University. Durham, NC. February 15-17, 2015.

“Is Ebonics the New Yiddish? Linguistic Politics in Historical Perspective.” With Mary Zeigler, Georgia State University. German 380, Emory University. January 27, 2015.

“Yankev Glatshteyn’s *Emil and Karl* (1940): Women and Children in the Spotlight of Jewish Plight.” *Association for Jewish Studies* (AJS). Baltimore, MD. December 14-16, 2014.

(invited) Martin Heidegger and the documentary *Only a God Can Save Us* (2009). Panel discussion. Emory University, Institute of Liberal Arts. September 28, 2014.

“Negative Cosmopolitanism with Turkish Students in the German Classroom.” *German Studies Association* (GSA). Kansas City, MO. September 18-21, 2014.

“The Webcomic *Moishe Hundesohn* and the Turkish-German-Jewish Triangle.” *German Studies Association* (GSA). Denver, CO. October 3-6, 2013.

“At the Confluence of Literary Streams: The German Writings of Galician Jews.” *Transnational German Studies Workshop*. University of Warwick and Humboldt University. May 19-26, 2013.

(invited) “Growing Up Jewish in Postwar Germany.” *The Third Reich and Its Legacies*, German 499, University of Michigan. March 19, 2013.

**Conference Presentations and Lectures, cont'd.**

- “Bookplates in the German-Jewish Renaissance.” *German Studies Association (GSA)*, Panel on German-Jewish Book Culture: Text and Illumination. Milwaukee, WI. October 5-7, 2012.
- “The Shifting Locales of Jewish Orients in Abraham Zvi Idelsohn's *Hebräisch-orientalischer Melodienschatz*.” *Transnational German Studies Workshop*. Ann Arbor, MI. May 7-14, 2012.
- “German-Jewish Book Culture and the Practice of Self-Invention.” Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan. April 24, 2012.
- “Nathan Birnbaum's Yiddish Writings on German Jewry, or The Grass is Always Greener...” *Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)*. Washington, DC. December 18-20, 2011.
- (invited) “Contemporary German-Jewish Authors and The Weight of History.” *The Third Reich and Its Legacies*, German 180, University of Michigan. October 19, 2011.
- “Autoethnography in the Cult of the Eastern European Jew.” *Fourth Warsaw Conference for Young Jewish Studies Researchers*. University of Warsaw, Poland. June 14-16, 2011.
- “Representation and Counter-Representation of Jewish Difference across German-Jewish and Yiddish Literatures.” *German Studies Association (GSA)*. Oakland, CA. October 7-10, 2010.
- “Alfred Döblin's Uncanny Other.” *University of Kentucky Foreign Language Conference*, Panel on German Travel Writing. Lexington, KY. April 16-18, 2009.
- “If I forget thee, O Jerusalem: The Jewish Exilic Mind in Else Lasker-Schüler's *IchundIch*.” *German and Jewish Studies Workshop* at Duke University. Durham, NC. February 15-17, 2009.
- “Authenticating Jewish Folk Music: Behind Abraham Zvi Idelsohn's 'Hava Nagila.'” *Indiana and Ohio State Folklore & Ethnomusicology Student Associations*. Columbus, OH. May 16-17, 2008.

**CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND SPEAKER EVENTS ORGANIZED/CHAired**

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- Commentator, “Globalization and Border crossings in Contemporary Literature, Culture, and Film.” Panel at the *German Studies Association (GSA)*. San Diego, CA. September 30 - October 2, 2016.
- Conference Organizer, [\*Contested Jewish Futures: Recovering an Era of Ferment and Possibility in Jewish Life\*](#). Conference at Emory University, Tam Institute for Jewish Studies. February 2-3, 2016.
- Speaker Event Organizer, “Is Ebonics the New Yiddish? Linguistic Politics in Historical Perspective.” Mary Zeigler, Georgia State University. German 380, Emory University. January 27, 2015.
- Session Chair, “Nazi-Era Refugees Confront the American World of Difference.” Panel at the *American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS)*. Atlanta, GA. June 10-12, 2014.
- Respondent to Miriam Udel, “The Poetics of Dissolution: Joseph Roth's *Hotel Savoy*.” Emory University German Studies Roundtable. November 12, 2013.
- Session Chair, “Germany's Holocaust Past, Post-unification Migration and Redefining Germany's Post-WWII Identity.” Panel at *Migration, Memory, and Diversity in Germany Conference*. Emory University. September 22-23, 2013.
- Panel Organizer, “Seeing Jews: German Visual Culture and Jewish Identity.” Panel at the *German Studies Association (GSA)*. Denver, CO. October 3-6, 2013.
- Speaker Event Organizer, Anant Kumar, Indian Author of German Literature. Poetry reading and seminar in German 470. Emory University. August 28, 2013.
- Panel Organizer, “German-Jewish Book Culture: Text and Illumination.” Panel at the *German Studies Association (GSA)*. Milwaukee, WI. October 5-7, 2012.
- Conference Assistant, *Transnational German Studies Workshop. A Global Engagement of Doctoral Education seminar*. University of Michigan. May 7-14, 2012.
- Speaker Event, Neco Çelik, Turkish-German Filmmaker. Film screening and artist-in-residence with *Alamanya*, Turkish-German and German Minority Workshop. Univ. of Michigan. February 12-16, 2012.

**PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

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- (invited) Commentator for movie *Jakob der Lügner* (1974). Goethe-Zentrum, Atlanta. April 2016.  
 (invited) Commentator for movie *My Wife's Lover* (1931). Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. Feb. 14, 2016.  
 (invited) Commentator for movie *Anderswo* (2014). Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. Feb. 14, 2015.

**TEACHING LICENSURES AND CERTIFICATES**

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|---|------|
| Collegiate Professional License from the Commonwealth of Virginia to teach German PreK-12 | 2003 |
| University of Michigan Graduate Teacher Certificate                                       | 2012 |

**COURSES TAUGHT**

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|--|---|-------------|
| <b>Boston College</b>                                      |   | 2016 – 2019 |
| GERM 2203/FILM 2253  | Representing the Holocaust  |             |
| GERM 2250/ENGL 2251  | Literature of Migration: Diaspora, Exile, and Homecoming  |             |
| GERM 2211  | History of German Literature II: Goethe to Today  |             |
| GERM 2210  | History of German Literature I: Runes to Enlightenment  |             |
| GERM 1051  | Intermediate German II  |             |
| GERM 1050  | Intermediate German I   |             |
| GERM 1002  | Elementary German II  |             |
| GERM 1001  | Elementary German I   |             |
| <b>Emory University</b>                                    |   | 2013 – 2016 |
| GER 495  | Honors Thesis Directed Reading  |             |
| GER 470  | Race, Religion, and Citizenship in Germany  |             |
| GER 408/JS 470   | Turks, Germans, and Jews  |             |
| GER 380/JS 370   | Freud/Kafka   |             |
| GER 380  | Yiddish for German Speakers   |             |
| GER 302  | <i>Süße Pein</i> : Love & Hate in German Lit., 19th Century to the Middle Ages                      |             |
| GER 301  | <i>Süße Pein</i> : Love and Hate in 21 <sup>st</sup> - and 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century German Culture |             |
| GER 210  | German for Reading Comprehension  |             |
| GER 102  | Elementary German II  |             |
| GER 101  | Elementary German I   |             |
| <b>University of Michigan, Graduate Student Instructor</b> |   | 2006 – 2013 |
| HIST 322/GER 322   | Origins of Nazism   |             |
| HIST 387   | History of American Jews (Grader)   |             |
| GER 303  | Germany Between the Wars (Grader)   |             |
| GER 232  | German Minority Literature and Film   |             |
| GER 232  | Introduction to German Film   |             |
| GER 231  | Second-Year German I  |             |
| GER 230  | Intensive Second-Year German  |             |
| GER 102  | First-Year German II  |             |
| GER 101  | First-Year German I   |             |
| GER 100  | Intensive First-Year German   |             |

**ADVISING**

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**Honors Theses, Boston College**

John Ebersole (Honors, 2018), German Studies, main advisor

**Honors Theses, Emory University**

Jane Chang (High Honors, 2016), History, advisor

Hannah Rose Blakeley (Highest Honors, 2015), Art History, advisor

Micah Castle (High Honors, 2015), German Studies and Spanish, advisor

Abigail Weisberger (Highest Honors, 2014), German Studies and Philosophy, main advisor

**PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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Coordinator, German Language Program, Introductory Level, Boston College	2016 – 2018
Coordinator, German Studies Roundtable, Emory University	2013 – 2016
<i>Deutscher Mittagstisch</i> , Emory University	Fall 2013
Graduate Student Mentor, University of Michigan, Germanic Lang. and Lit.	2012 – 2013
Co-Founder and Co-Coordinator, <i>Alamanya</i> : Turkish-German and German Minority Studies Interdisciplinary Workshop, University of Michigan	2011 – 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Received \$6,000 grant from Rackham Graduate School to establish faculty-student workshop.</li> </ul>	
Graduate Student Faculty Liaison for Germanic Lang. and Lit., University of Michigan	2011 – 2012
Co-Organizer, <i>Kaffeestunde</i> , University of Michigan	2011 – 2012
Department Representative, Rackham Graduate School Doctoral Forum, U of Michigan	2009 – 2010
Judge, German Day at the University of Michigan	2007 – 2012
Translator, PBS Television Series <i>Finding Your Roots</i>	
Peer Reviewer, <i>The German Quarterly</i>	

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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German Studies Association (GSA)

Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)

Modern Languages Association (MLA)

American Association of Teachers of German (AATG)

**LANGUAGES**

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English, German, Yiddish, Hebrew, Aramaic