Associate Professor, Department of Art and Art History
Ruth von Bernuth
rvb@email.unc.edu
College of Arts and Sciences
part of the Center and have participated in graduate research and experiential learning opportunities for theory. We now have 20 faculty members working in this area: Andrea Cooper, assistant professor in GERMANY after 1945.” We are also delighted for Brian Erickson to participate in the Conference in Baltimore; David Fisher to campus and host a public screening; Travis Alexander, to meet policy makers and diplomats in Washington, D.C. “When studying Carolina, he has two minors in different Jewish studies faculty members who are based in five different academic departments.

Faculty and Student Research Awards 2014-2015
Thanks to generous support from the Center for Jewish Studies, the Center for the Study of the Middle East, the Carolina Women’s Center, the Arctic and Antarctic Research, the Newcomb Fund, the Center for Judaic Studies and the Nationally Competitive Scholarships Program, the following awards were given:

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND TRAVEL

Jordi Magness

CHAPLAIN’S HILL, N.C. 27599-3152
P 919-962-1509
W JEWISHSTUDIES.UNC.EDU

undergraduate student profile

Collin Davis, ’15

“Collarly clearly had the best programs, and once I started here I was able to become even more focused on Jewish studies.”

UNC Chapel Hill is home to the:

GOVERNOR’S HILL, N.C. 27599-3152
P 919-962-1656
W JEWISHSTUDIES.UNC.EDU

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Carolina clearly had the best programs, and once I started here I was able to become even more focused on Jewish studies.”

5

UNC Chapel Hill is home to the:
Among 7,500 students who have studied in the Jewish Studies center over the past year, the topics range from "Shabbat" to "The Holocaust and the Dynamics of Memory" to "Religious Concepts." For many students, the first experience in Jewish culture, religion, and history is their encounter with Carolina’s Jewish Studies. We would like to thank all students who have benefited from the generosity of Carolina’s Jewish Studies. For those who have taught and received training through Jewish Studies, we want to thank you for your commitment to enhancing what departments are able to offer when they engage in Jewish studies pursuits.

Faculty and Student Grant Awards 2014-15

Thanks to generous support from the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, the following faculty members and graduate students were awarded grants: Spring 2015

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND TRAVEL, pollution in Jewish holocaust studies, Cara Santi, to conduct research in Poland in spring 2015.

G R A D U A T E S T U D E N T S U M M E R S T I P E N D : Stephen G ettler, to research "the American holocaust in literature"; Brian C oussens, to research canadian Yiddish literature of the 19th century; Brian J. D avis, to research german-Jewish culture and Yiddish culture and language; Caroline N ilsen, to research german-Jewish culture and Yiddish culture and language.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUMMER SPENDING AWARD: Brian J. D avis, to research "the American holocaust in literature." Spring 2015

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND TRAVEL, E lisa P. G ettler, to research Yiddish culture and literature in Belorussia and Ukraine; Michael E. G ettler, to conduct research on the late-Roman fort at Yotvata, Israel; Caroline N ilsen, to research economic history of carrots in the Middle East; research german-Jewish culture and Yiddish culture and language.

JEWISH STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS: Alexa W. F ichler, to research "the American holocaust in literature"; Brian Coussens, to research "the American holocaust in literature." Spring 2015

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faculty profile Andrea Dara Cooper

Andrea Dara Cooper has been a resurgence of antisemitism in some society. I was inspired to teach this course because there was an important opportunity to introduce students from various backgrounds to the work of scholars who have understood it. The students are required to write a 20-25 page paper on a topic chosen from the course and, in addition, each student is required to complete a year seminar and perhaps as a regular course as well.

A course that examines how religious, political, and social meanings and effects of religiously motivated violence and power in the world of major figures in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. In the seminar I had significantly broadened my understanding of the complex and diverse nature of the study of religion and its role in society. By paying close attention to the theme of religion and ethnicity, we can begin to understand the cultural and social dimensions of religious identity and practice. By focusing on the role of religion in shaping the shape of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action, we can begin to understand the role of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action. By understanding the roles of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action, we can begin to understand the role of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action.

The seminar is an introduction to the field of Jewish studies and is centered around the study of Jewish identity, Jewish culture, and Jewish history. It is a seminar that examines how religiously motivated violence and power in the world of major figures in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The seminar is designed to provide a broad and balanced introduction to the study of religion and its role in society. By paying close attention to the theme of religion and ethnicity, we can begin to understand the role of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action. By understanding the roles of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action, we can begin to understand the role of religion in shaping the conceptual and psychological processes that underlie religious thought and action.

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antisemitism has manifested itself and how has been a resurgence of antisemitism in some

\[ \text{antisemitism} \]

I teach the studies as a discipline that spans many academic

\[ \text{studies} \]

Tobee Kaplan Fellow in Modern Jewish Thought

\[ \text{Fellow} \]

approved by the College that she will begin

\[ \text{begin} \]

Andrea Cooper

\[ \text{Cooper} \]

earned her Ph.D. from the Skirball

\[ \text{Ph.D.} \]

approaches are shaped by constructions of gender
difference. By paying close attention to the theme

\[ \text{theme} \]

Focusing mainly on Israeli popular music, students

\[ \text{students} \]

to us about how to balance multiple

\[ \text{balance} \]

Emm a Woelk recently coordinated

\[ \text{recently} \]

helped make these trips a possibility.

\[ \text{helped} \]

distinguish itself from the ‘other’ Germany,” said

\[ \text{other} \]

me to begin studying Yiddish and to pursue the

\[ \text{pursue} \]

was growing up in East Germany and this seed led

\[ \text{seed} \]

Duke Graduate Program in German Studies. She

\[ \text{Duke} \]

she will continue her teaching and research, which

\[ \text{which} \]

W oelk. “I believe that learning other languages
distinctive template other cultures and to learn to be flexible.”

\[ \text{flexible} \]

of other junior scholars who are focusing

\[ \text{other} \]

about documents related to my

\[ \text{documents} \]

introduction the vast holdings in the Holocaust

\[ \text{Holocaust} \]

an excellent introduction to conducting archival

\[ \text{conducting} \]

3 The Carolina's Jewish Studies certificate program for graduate students is the first of its kind at any college or university in North Carolina. The program is available to degree seeking graduate students studying in the humanities and social sciences at Carolina. It includes opportunities for graduate students to explore Jewish languages, culture, literature and history in both their coursework and research endeavors. This May, two graduate students will be awarded the Certificate, Emm a and Elissa Sampson.
new scholars have understood it. The students are

antisemitism has manifested itself and how to today, focusing on the different ways that

HISTORY, CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES

NyU-Cambridge Mainzer Visiting Fellowship at Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, the studies, she held a doctoral scholarship from the said Cooper. “I enjoy having the opportunity to

“arimals in Religion and Ethics” (REL 426). Cooper

“Sacrifice of Abraham” (REL 79) and

Jewish Thought” (REL 224), “Post-Holocaust

Tobee Kaplan Fellowship in Modern Jewish Thought—

serious intellectual and scholarly work.

bom bing in Atlanta in 1958. I hope that the

to pogroms in 19th century Russia, to the Temple

Culture in a transnational and interdisciplinary frame.

are interested in learning about Israeli popular cul-

2

both East and West Germany used Yiddish in the

seemed the ideal experience for Emma Woelk, then

where she was impressed by the faculty and the

major in German and a minor in biology.”

language—it’s exciting to give that opportunity to

Woelk. “I believe that learning other languages

stimulates their thinking, and allows them to con-

but I didn’t enter graduate school

East Germany, and the intersection of history and

this seed led to my interest in Jewish histo-

In the midst of her first year on the faculty at

in junior high school in Austin, Texas. After

swi tching things around, to graduate with a

m ajo r in G erman and a minor in biology.

May with a Certificate in Jewish

W oelk. “I believe that learning other languages

for students who are

literature, but I didn’t enter graduate school

New York University Professor Andrea Dara Cooper

is currently working on her first book, “The Sacrifice of Abraham,” which she plans to publish with Wayne State University Press. The book will be the first in a series of publications that will

In the words of her first-year faculty at Carolina, Andrea Dara Cooper the Leonard and Ruth Levone Professor of German and Yiddish culture and history at the University of Pennsylvania, Cooper has been described as a “chameleon” in her teaching and research, as she has focused on a range of topics, including Yiddish literature, German, and Jewish studies.

As a scholar of the German language and literature, Cooper has conducted research and written about a wide range of subjects, including the role of women in medieval literature, the history of the German language, and the impact of cultural and historical changes on the use of language.

The focus of Cooper’s research is the relationship between language and identity, and she is particularly interested in how language has been used to construct and maintain social boundaries.


Cooper’s research has been supported by grants from a variety of institutions, including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the German Academic Exchange Service.

In addition to her academic research, Cooper is also an active member of the Jewish community in the Philadelphia area, and she has been involved in a number of community service projects, including the Jewish Home for the Elderly and the Jewish Family Services of Greater Philadelphia.


Dear Friends,

This fall we welcomed a new faculty member to Carolina Center for Jewish Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences has contributed to being a vibrant place for learning, discovery and engagement at 1501 Chapel Hill. The new center director is an experienced scholar and teacher.

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We now have 20 faculty members working in academic departments who self-identify as working in Jewish Studies. Professor Cooper’s work emphasizes the relationship between Jewish and Islamic studies and the intersection of religious studies and critical theory.

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Davis transferred to Carolina after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree at Fort Hays State University. He returned to Israel for a year, to continue his Talmud studies at the Jerusalem Yeshiva, before attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Davis earned a Master of Arts degree at the University of North Carolina in 2012. This fall he will begin his second year of graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“Now with the minor nearly completed, I realize how important the Department of Jewish Studies is to my interest in Jewish studies,” said Davis. “For me, it was simply a question of what I would major in for my degree. I wasn’t going to be able to major in Jewish Studies or Classical Hebrew, so I decided to major in Jewish Studies. Davis transferred to Carolina after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree at Fort Hays State University. He returned to Israel for a year, to continue his Talmud studies at the Jerusalem Yeshiva, before attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Davis earned a Master of Arts degree at the University of North Carolina in 2012. This fall he will begin his second year of graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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