

Julia Rhyder

ABRIDGED CURRICULUM VITAE

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Academic Appointments

2021– **Harvard University**, assistant professor of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
2018–2021 **University of Basel**, postdoctoral researcher and adjunct lecturer
2014–2018 **University of Lausanne**, Swiss National Science Foundation doctoral researcher

Education

2018 **PhD** (Hebrew Bible), University of Lausanne
Dissertation: The Holiness Legislation and Cult Centralization in the Persian Period
Director: Christophe Nihan
External examiners: Christian Frevel, Sarianna Metso, James W. Watts
Awards: Paul-Chapuis Secrétan prize of the University of Lausanne
2012 **Bachelor of Theology, Honors** (Biblical Studies), University of Divinity, Australia
2011 **Bachelor of Arts** (Anthropology and Critical Theory), University of Melbourne

Publications

Monographs

1. *Centralizing the Cult: The Holiness Legislation in Leviticus 17–26*. Forschungen zum Alten Testament 134. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2019.

Awards: 2021 Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise (winner)
2021 Frank Moore Cross Award (nominated)

Reviews: Yitzhaq Feder, *Vetus Testamentum*, 72, no. 2 (2022): 348–50

David M. Carr, *Review of Biblical Literature* (05/2022)

Stephen A. Long, *Review of Biblical Literature* (03/2022)

Rebekkah Welton, *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 45, no. 5 (Book List 2021)

Francesco Bianchi, *Rivista Biblica Italiana* 69, no. 2 (2021), 277–82

Chelcent Fuad, *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, 83, no. 1 (2021): 131–33

Peter Porzig, *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*, 133, no. 2 (2021): 288–89

Liane M. Feldman, *AJS Review*, 44, no. 2 (2020): 414–16

Christopher T. Begg, *Old Testament Abstracts*, 43 (2020): 885–86

Eckart Otto, *Zeitschrift für altorientalische und biblische Rechtsgeschichte* 26 (2020): 321–

Edited Works

4. With Sonja Ammann and Katharina Pyschny, editors. *Authorship and the Hebrew Bible*. Forschungen zum Alten Testament 158. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2022.
Reviews: Markus Saur, *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 135 (2023): 130–31
3. With Sonja Ammann, editors. *Transforming Memories of Collective Violence*. Special issue of *Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel*, 10, no. 1 (2021): 1–96.
2. With Christophe Nihan, editors. *Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch: A Systematic and Comparative Approach*. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2021.
Reviews: G. Geoffrey Harper, *Themelios* 42, no 2 (2022): 391–92
Joachim Schaper, *Vetus Testamentum* 72, no. 1 (2022): 168–70
1. With Christophe Nihan, editors. *La Bible hébraïque et les manuscrits de la mer Morte. Études en l'honneur de George Brooke*. Special issue of *Semitica* 62 (2020): 231–412.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

10. “The Jewish Pig Prohibition from Leviticus to the Maccabees.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 141, no 2 (2023): 221–41.
9. “Le porc et les interactions d’Antiochos IV avec les Juifs : une comparaison nouvelle des sources,” *Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie* 154 (2022): 383–49.
8. “Gates and Entrances in Ezekiel 40–48: The Social Utopia of the Temple Vision.” *Vetus Testamentum* (2022): 1–14 (pre-published online).
7. “The Tent of Meeting as Monumental Space: The Construction of the Priestly Sanctuary in Exodus 25–31, 35–40,” *Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel*, 10, no. 3 (2021): 301–13.
6. “Festivals and Violence in 1 and 2 Maccabees: Hanukkah and Nicanor’s Day,” *Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel*, 10, no 1 (2021): 76–63
5. With Sonja Ammann, “Transforming Memories of Collective Violence: Key Methods and Future Directions,” *Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel*, 10, no 1 (2021): 1–10.
4. “The Prohibition of Local Butchery in Leviticus 17:3–4: The Evidence from the Dead Sea Scrolls,” *Semitica* 62 (2020): 307–27.
3. “Sabbath and Sanctuary Cult in the Holiness Legislation: A Reassessment,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 138, no. 4 (2019): 723–42.
2. “‘The Temple which You Will Build for Me in the Land’: The Future Sanctuary in a Textual Tradition of Leviticus,” *Dead Sea Discoveries* 24, no. 2 (2017): 271–300.
1. “Holiness Language in 2 Kgs 23? A Note on a Recent Proposal,” *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 127, no. 3 (2016): 497–501.

Chapters in Collections

8. “Cultic Centralization and Deuteronomy’s Influence in the Pentateuch: The Laws of Deut 12, Exod 20:22–26, and Lev 17 Revisited.” Pages 235–60 in *Book-Seams in the Hexateuch II: The Book of Deuteronomy and Its Literary Transitions*. Edited by Christoph Berner, Harald Samuel and Stephen Germany. Forschungen zum Alten Testament. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2023.

7. "Politics and Theology in Second Maccabees: Rethinking the Epiphanies, Prayers, and Deaths of Martyrs." Pages 257–71 in *Political Theologies in the Hebrew Bible*. Edited by Mark Brett and Rachelle Gilmour. *Journal of Ancient Judaism Supplement* 35. Paderborn: Brill, 2023.
6. "Divine Authorship: Diverse Images of Yhwh as Legislative Author in the Pentateuch and Beyond." Pages 155–73 in *Authorship and the Hebrew Bible*. Edited by Sonja Ammann, Katharina Pyschny and Julia Rhyder. *Forschungen zum Alten Testament* 158. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2022.
5. "The Reception of Ritual Laws in the Early Second Temple Period: The Evidence of Ezra-Nehemiah and Chronicles." Pages 255–79 in *Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch: A Systematic and Comparative Approach*. Edited by Christophe Nihan and Julia Rhyder. University Park, PA: Penn State University Press, 2021.
4. "Unity and Hierarchy: North and South in the Priestly Traditions." Pages 109–34 in *Yahwistic Diversity and the Hebrew Bible Tracing Perspectives of Group Identity from Judah, Samaria, and the Diaspora in Biblical Traditions*. Edited by Benedikt Hensel, Dany Nocquet and Bartosz Adamczewski. *Forschungen zum Alten Testament* 2/120. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2020.
3. "Space and Memory in the Book of Leviticus," Pages 83–96 in *Scripture as Social Discourse: Social-Scientific Perspectives on Early Jewish and Christian Writings*. Edited by Todd Klutz, Casey Strine and Jessica M. Keady. London: T&T Clark, 2018.
2. "Ritual Text and Ritual Practice: Some Remarks on Extra-Sanctuary Slaughter in Leviticus," Pages 13–21 in *Rites aux Portes*. Edited by Patrick M. Michel. Bern: Peter Lang, 2018.
1. With Christophe Nihan. "Aaron's Vestments in Exodus 28 and Priestly Leadership," Pages 45–67 in *Debated Authority: Concepts of Leadership in the Pentateuch and the Former Prophets*. Edited by Katharina Pyschny and Sarah Schulz. Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft 507. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2018.

Other Publications

Book Reviews

2. Review of Liane M. Feldman, *The Story of Sacrifice: Ritual and Narrative in the Priestly Source*. *Forschungen zum Alten Testament* 141. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2020, in *Biblica* 103, no 2 (2022): 299–301.
1. Review of Suzanne Boorer, *The Vision of the Priestly Narrative: Its Genre and Hermeneutics of Time*. *Ancient Israel and Its Literature* 27. Atlanta: SBL, 2016, in *Journal of Semitic Studies* 65, no. 1 (2020): 249–52.

Encyclopedia Entries

2. "Mushi." *Encyclopaedia of the Bible and Its Reception Online*. 2018. doi 10.1515_ebr.mushi
1. "Muppim." *Encyclopaedia of the Bible and Its Reception Online*. 2018. doi 10.1515_ebr.muppim

Popular Articles

4. "Creating a Commentary." *Ancient Jew Review*. August 9, 2022. <https://www.ancientjewreview.com/read/2022/8/9/creating-a-commentary>
3. "Vergissmeinnicht. Siegesfeiern im hellenistischen Judentum." *Prospektiv* 15 (2022): 9.
2. "The Commemoration of War in Early Jewish Festivals." *Bible Odyssey*. 2021. <https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/passages/related-articles/commemoration-of-war-in-early-jewish-festivals>
1. With Christophe Nihan. "Torah (Genesis–Deuteronomy)." *Bible Odyssey*. 2020. <https://www.bibleodyssey.org/443/passages/main-articles/torah-genesis-deuteronomy>

Awards, Honors, Fellowships, and Grants

10. 2024 Beaufort Visiting Fellow, St John's College, University of Cambridge (to be taken up in Spring)
9. Conference funding from the Center for Jewish Studies, Harvard University, awarded in 2023 for the two-day symposium *Antiochus III's Edicts to Jerusalem: Between Imperial Stress and Local Agency*.
8. 2021 David Noel Freedman Award for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship 2021, awarded by the Society of Biblical Literature.
7. 2021 Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise 2021, awarded by the Forschungszentrum Internationale und Interdisziplinäre Theologie, University of Heidelberg.
6. 2018 "Paul-Chapuis Secrétan" prize, awarded by the University of Lausanne.
5. CHF 10,000 conference grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation, awarded in 2017 (jointly with Sonja Ammann and Katharina Pyschny) for the conference *What Follows la mort de l'auteur? Re-Evaluating the Concept of Authorship in Hebrew Bible Studies*.
4. Dissertation completion grant, Société Académique Vaudoise, awarded in 2016.
3. CHF 4,000 conference grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation, awarded in 2016 (jointly with Christophe Nihan) for the conference *Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch: A Systematic and Comparative Approach*.
2. 2009 Dean's Prize for "Biblical Studies," Whitley College.
1. 2008 Ruth Sampson Scholarship, Whitley College.

Presentations Delivered

Invited Lectures and Talks

11. "Between Diet and Sacrifice: The Origins of the Jewish Pig Prohibition Reconsidered." Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. April 2023.
10. Panelist: "Reimagining Biblical Studies Beyond the Hebrew Bible/Second Temple Judaism Divide." Columbia Hebrew Bible Seminar, USA. October 2022.
9. "Military Victory and Festal Celebration: Tracing the History of War Commemoration in Biblical and Early Jewish Festivals." Columbia Hebrew Bible Seminar, USA. May 2022.
8. "Yhwh the Lawgiver: The Extent and Limits of Divine Authorship in the Hebrew Bible." Old Testament Postgraduate Seminars. Stellenbosch University, South Africa. May 2022.
7. "Response to Yitzhaq Feder: Purity and Pollution in the Hebrew Bible: From Embodied Experience to Moral Metaphor." Contagion Is it All in Our Minds? Online book launch, University of Haifa, Israel. May 2022.
6. "Celebrating War: Festivals and War Commemoration in the Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Traditions." Spring Bible & Archaeology Fest. Biblical Archaeology Society. April 2022.
5. "Festal Politics in 1 and 2 Maccabees: Postcolonial Criticism and Ritual Innovation in Hellenistic Judea." New Approaches to the Ancient Mediterranean. Annual lecture series, Department of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Penn State University, USA. February 2022.
4. "Response to David Carr: Terms for Teaching about and Discussing the Formation of Non-P/JE Materials in the Pentateuch in the Twenty-First Century." Columbia Hebrew Bible Seminar, USA, November 2021.

3. "Butchery and Blood Disposal in Ancient Israel: The Case of 1 Sam 14:31–35." Hebrew Bible and Early Jewish Reception Workshop. University of Chicago, USA. October 2021.
2. "Politics and Theology in Second Maccabees: Epiphanies, Prayers, and Martyrs Revisited." St Andrews Biblical Studies Research Seminar, UK. November 2020.
1. "Forget-me-not: War Commemoration in Judean Festivals." Literary Creativity and Forgetting. BRANE panel. October 2020.

Conference Presentations

20. "Purity, Cult, and Empire: Antiochus III's Proclamation Concerning the Temple and City in Jerusalem." Antiochus III's Edicts to Jerusalem: Between Imperial Stress and Local Agency. Harvard University. April 2023.
19. "Transgressive Consumption during the Battle of Michmash (1 Sam 14:31–35)." Meals in the HB/OT and Its World. Society of Biblical Literature, November 2022.
18. "Standardization and Priestly Power in the Priestly Traditions of the Pentateuch." Joint panel on the topic of "Theocracy" with the Pentateuch and Literature and History of the Persian Period consultations. Society of Biblical Literature. November 2022.
17. "The 'Theophany' Inscription at Kuntillet 'Ajrud (KA 4.2) and Biblical Poetry: Evidence of Yhwh's Southern Origins?" Ancient Inscriptions. ASOR Annual Meeting. November 2022.
16. "The Origins of the Jewish Pig Taboo: Pig Consumption and Ethnicity from Leviticus to the Maccabees." David Noel Freedman Prize for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship Award Session. Society of Biblical Literature. November 2021.
15. "Hellenizing Hanukkah: War Commemoration in 1 and 2 Maccabees." Historical Narratives and Memorialization of Collective Violence in Antiquity. University of Basel, Switzerland. November 2020.
14. "The Tent of Meeting as Monumental Space: Power and Centrality in the Construction of the Priestly Sanctuary." New Perspectives on Monumentality and the Monumentalizing of Text in the Hebrew Bible. International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. July 2019.
13. With Christophe Nihan. "Purity Rituals and Concepts of Pollution in the Hebrew Bible in Light of Recent Research." *Reinheit im antiken Judentum und frühen Christentum/Purity in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*. Katholische Akademie, Schwerte, Germany. February 2019.
12. "North and South in the Priestly Traditions." *Samaria and Diaspora in the Persian and Hellenistic Period: Influence, Significance and Contributions to the Pentateuch and Prophets*. Institut Protestant de Théologie, Montpellier, France. December 2018.
11. "Lev 17 and Deut 12 in the Study of Centralization." *Centralization between Deuteronomy 12, Exodus 20:24–26, and Leviticus 17*. Society of Biblical Literature. November 2018.
10. "Divine Authorship in Pentateuchal Law." *What Follows la mort de l'auteur? Re-Evaluating the Concept of Authorship in Hebrew Bible Studies*. University of Basel/University of Lausanne, Switzerland. September 2018.
9. "Standardization and Centralization in the Festal Calendar of Lev 23." *Centralization and Cult*. European Association of Biblical Studies. August 2018.
8. "Sang et centralisation culturelle (Lévitique 17)." *Le sang: discours, rites et pratiques*. Collège de France, France. May 2018.

7. "The Prohibition of Local Butchery in Lev 17:3–4: Evidence from the Dead Sea Scrolls." *The Dead Sea Scrolls: A Symposium in Honor of George Brooke*. University of Lausanne, Switzerland. April 2017.
6. With Christophe Nihan. "Aaron's Vestments in Exodus 28 and Priestly Leadership." *Concepts of Leadership in the Hebrew Bible*. European Association of Biblical Studies. July 2016.
5. "The Reception of Ritual Laws in the Early Second Temple Period: The Evidence of Ezra-Nehemiah and Chronicle." *Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch*. University of Lausanne. May 2016.
4. "Gates and Entrances in Ezekiel 40–48: The Mapping of Social Space." *Heaven, Earth, and the Underworld: Spatial Conceptions in Ezekiel*. Society of Biblical Literature. November 2015.
3. "'The Temple which You Will Build for me in the Land': The Future Sanctuary in a Textual Tradition of Leviticus." Graduate Student Meeting. European Association of Biblical Studies. March 2015.
2. "Space and Ritual in Ancient Israel." *Cultes aux Portes*. University of Geneva, Switzerland. May 2014.
1. "Space and Memory in the Book of Leviticus." *The Bible and the Social Sciences*. University of Manchester, UK. April 2014.

Campus Talks at Harvard

4. "Work-in-progress presentation." Mahindra Humanities Center New Faculty Lunches, Harvard University. October 16, 2022.
3. "Authorship and the Hebrew Bible." Harvard Hebrew Bible Workshop. October 6, 2022.
2. "Divine Authorship: Diverse Images of Yhwh as Lawgiver in the Pentateuch and Beyond." Harvard Hebrew Bible Workshop. April 2022.
1. "Hellenizing Hanukkah: The Commemoration of Military Victory in the Books of the Maccabees." Faculty Works in Progress. Ancient Studies at Harvard. December 2021.

Teaching

Harvard

Instructor

Spring 2023	ANE 140: Sex, Death, and the Bible HEBREW 246/HDS 1155: Hebrew Bible Exegesis: The Book of Leviticus ANE 330: Reading and Research in Biblical Studies
Fall 2022	ANE 222 Hebrew Bible Studies: Past and Future Trajectories ANE 197/HDS 1440 Bible and Empire
Spring 2022	ANE 170/HDS 1442 Food and Identity in Ancient Israel HEBREW 258/HDS 1443 The History of God: Evidence from the Psalms NEC 91R Supervised Reading and Research
Fall 2022	ANE 197/HDS 1440 Bible and Empire HEBREW 198 Sacred Space and Sacred Time in Ancient Israel

Instructor of Record

Spring 2023	CLAS-HEB AB: Elementary Classical Hebrew II CLAS-HEB 120B: Intermediate Classical Hebrew II CLAS-HEB 130BR: Rapid Reading Classical Hebrew II
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Fall 2022 SEMPHIL 152: Introduction to Ugaritic
CLAS-HEB AA: Elementary Classical Hebrew I
CLAS-HEB 120A: Intermediate Classical Hebrew I
CLAS-HEB 130AR: Rapid Reading Classical Hebrew I

Special Examinations

Fall 2023 Jessica Patey, “Issues in Hebrew Bible Scholarship”
Jessica Patey, “Textiles and Cult in the Southern Levant through the 1st Millennium BCE”
Byron Russell, “Issues in Hebrew Bible Scholarship”
Fall 2022 Joe Currie, “Issues in Hebrew Bible Scholarship”

Language Examinations

Spring 2022 Harvard NELC Language of Modern Scholarship (French)
Fall 2021 Harvard NELC Language of Modern Scholarship (German)

University of Basel

Spring 2020 Festivals in the Hebrew Bible and in Ancient Israel
Fall 2019 Hellenistic Judaism
Fall 2018 Bible and Empire

University of Geneva and University of Lausanne

Spring 2018 La représentation de Yhwh dans les Psaumes

Whitley College

Instructor

2011 Biblical Foundations

Teaching Assistant

2011 Justice in the Prophets
2011 Introducing the Hebrew Bible
2010 Biblical Hebrew

Student Advisees

Graduate Student – Advisor

David Hannan, NELC, 2022–
Andrew Hile, NELC, 2022–
Jessica Patey, CSR, 2021–

Dissertations – Committee Member

Terry Isles, “The Compositional Poetics of the Nations Corpora in the Latter Prophets.” NELC, 2021–

Allison Hurst. “The Role of Egypt: Tracing the Development of Pentateuchal Traditions in Jeremiah and Ezekiel.” CSR, 2021–

Jonathan Mason-Wolfe. “Fracture, Expectation, Fall? The Reuse of the Joseph Story in Samuel–Kings.” CSR, 2021–

Matthew Percuoco. “The Appendix to 2 Samuel.” NELC, 2020–2021

Senior Theses – Advisor

Caleb King, “What Sounding Alike Sounded Like: Understanding Sound Similarity as Seen Through Close Consonance in Biblical Hebrew Poetics,” 2022–2023

Awards: 2023 Harry and Cecile Starr Prize in Jewish Studies

2023 Thomas T. Hoopes Prize

2023 Captain Jonathan Fay Prize

Host Supervision

2022–2023 Rotem Avneri Meir, Graduate Student at the University of Helsinki, Visiting Scholar at Harvard NELC

Jonathan Böhm, Graduate Student at the Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies, Exchange Student at Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Institutional Service at Harvard

Committee Work

2023– Committee Member, Folklore and Mythology Committee

2022–2023 Search Committee Member, NELC, tenure-track faculty in Assyriology

Faculty Advisor, Hebrew Bible Workshop, GSAS Research Workshops at NELC

Committee Member, Standing CSR

Committee Member, CSR Doctoral Subcommittee

Spring 2022 Committee Member, Arts & Humanities Subcommittee for the Hoopes Prize

Expert Reviewer, Women’s Studies in Religion Fellowship applications

2022– Committee Member, Australian Studies at Harvard

2021– Executive Committee Member, Center for Jewish Studies

2021–2022 Committee Member, NELC Graduate Admissions

Committee Member, NELC Undergraduate Education Review

2021–2022 Search Committee Member, Harvard Divinity School, tenure-track faculty in Hebrew Bible

Search Committee Member, NELC, preceptor in Classical Hebrew

Fall 2021 Committee Member, NELC Graduate Fellowships

Conferences and Workshops Organized

Spring 2023 With Rotem Meir, *Antiochus III’s Edict(s) to Jerusalem: Between Imperial Stress and Local Agency*, Center for Jewish Studies, Harvard University

- Fall 2022 Co-convener (with Christophe Nihan), Harvard University-University of Münster 2-day Graduate Student Workshop, “Text and Ritual in the Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Judaism,” Harvard University.
- Summer 2022 Co-convener (with D. Andrew Teeter), Hebrew Bible Day-Seminar, “Methods and Goals in the Historical-Critical Evaluation of Literary Features: The Covenant Code,” Harvard University.

Other Professional Service

Leadership in Academic Societies

- 2022– Co-chair, Pentateuch Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting
- 2021– Steering Committee Member, Biblical Law Section, Society of Biblical Literature
- 2020–2022 Steering Committee Member, Pentateuch Section, Society of Biblical Literature
- 2017–2019 Steering Committee Member, The History of Biblical Scholarship in the Late Modern Period Section, International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature

Editorial Boards

- 2020– Advisory Board Member, *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*

Conferences Organized

- 2020 With Sonja Ammann, Helge Bezold, and Stephen Germany, *Historical Narratives and Memorialization of Collective Violence in Antiquity*, University of Basel (online).
- 2018 With Sonja Ammann and Katharina Pyschny, *What Follows la mort de l’auteur? Re-Evaluating the Concept of Authorship in Hebrew Bible Studies*, University of Basel/University of Lausanne.
- 2016 With Christophe Nihan, *Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch*, University of Lausanne.

Advisory Roles

- 2021– External advisor, “Transforming Memories of Collective Violence in the Hebrew Bible.” Research project 181219, Swiss National Science Foundation (project lead: Sonja Ammann).

Peer Review

Journal of Hebrew Scriptures, Oxford University Press, *Vetus Testamentum*

Dissertation Examination

- Fall 2022 External examiner, “Honoring the Holy Name: A Socio-Rhetorical Approach to the Holiness Legislation (Lev 17–26),” Andrew Heyd, University of Pretoria.