

**Jessica Goldberg**  
Department of History  
University of California, Los Angeles  
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#### UNIVERSITY POSITIONS

**Associate Professor**, Department of History, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 2013-

**Assistant Professor**, History Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 2006-2013

**Postdoctoral Fellow**, Stanford Humanities Fellows Program, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 2005-2006

#### EDUCATION

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

**Ph.D** in Medieval History with Distinction *October 2005*

Dissertation: "Geographies of Trade and Traders in the Mediterranean in the Eleventh Century: A Study Based on Documents from the Cairo Geniza" Committee: Adam Kosto, Caroline Bynum, Mark Cohen, Richard Bulliet, William Harris

**M.Phil.** in Medieval History *September 2001*

Major Field: History of Medieval Europe, 850-1600

- o Legal, Political and Institutional History *Adam Kosto*
- o Religious and Cultural History *Caroline Bynum*
- o Economic and Social History *Martha Howell*

Minor Field: History of Medieval Islam, 850-1500, with a focus on Egypt and Syria *Richard Bulliet*

**M.A.** in Medieval History *August 1998*

Master's Thesis: "The Legal Persona of the Child in Gratian's *Decretum*" Director: *Robert Somerville*

**Bank Street College of Education**, New York, NY

**M.S.** in Education *September 1997*

Early Adolescent Education. Additional coursework in math education at NYU, Columbia Teachers College, and Fordham University.

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA

**B.A.** in Social Studies *May 1991*

Honor's Thesis: "The Revolution turned Inward: Peasants and Guerrillas in Zimbabwe's Liberation War." Director: *Theda Skocpol*

Additional course work

**Center for Arabic Study Abroad**, American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt *1999-2000*

CASA I Program. One-year intensive program in advanced Arabic, Arabic literature, and medieval paleography and diplomatics

#### AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2012 Charles V. Ryskamp Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies. *2012-2015*

Theme Member, School of Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ 2012-2013. Theme: "Economy and Politics"

Summer Research Grant, Penn Trustee's Council for Women, *Summer 2011*

Visitor, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, *Autumn 2010*

Mellon Foundation Member, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, 2009-2010

Charles Ludwig Distinguished Teaching Award, 2009, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania

University Research Fund Grant, 2008-2009. University of Pennsylvania. Awarded one-year in-service grant for project entitled "Waterlogged flax, Syrian soap, and spicy cinnamon: Geographies of trade and traders in the medieval Mediterranean"

Adjunct Fellow, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Theme: "Jews, Commerce, and Culture." 2008-2009

Fellow, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, 2006-2007. Theme for year: "Jews, Christians, and Muslims under Caliphs and Sultans"

Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford Humanities Fellows Program, Stanford University, 2005-2007 (*resigned 2006, residential*)

Fellow, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University 2004-2005

Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship, Columbia University 2002-2005

Columbia History Department Summer Fellowship, Jewish Theological Seminary *Summer, 2002*

President's Fellowship, Columbia University, 1999-2002

Center for Arabic Study Abroad Fellowship, American University in Cairo, 1999-2000

J.D. Fellowship, Columbia University, 1998-1999

FLAS Fellowship, Middlebury College, *Summer, 1998*

Richard Hofstadter Fellowship, Columbia University, 1997-1998

Member Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard University, *May 1991*

## PUBLICATIONS (AND CURRENT RESEARCH)

**Published** (items marked with \* are in refereed journals or books)

*Trade and Institutions in the Medieval Mediterranean: The Geniza Merchants and their Business World* (Cambridge Studies in Economic History, Cambridge University Press, August 2012). xxi, 426 pages.

"Choosing and Enforcing Business relationships in the Eleventh-century Mediterranean: re-examining the 'Maghribi traders'," *Past & Present*, 215 no. 2 (August 2012): 3-40 (38 pages)\*

"The Use and Abuse of the Geniza Mercantile Letter," *Journal of Medieval History* 38 no. 2 (2012): 127-154. (28 pages)\*

"On reading Goitein's *A Mediterranean Society*: a view from economic history," *Mediterranean Historical Review* 26 no. 2 (2011): 171-186. (16 pages)\*

"Back-biting and Self-promotion: the Work of Merchants of the Cairo Geniza" in *History in the Comic Mode: Medieval Communities and Matter of the Person* Fulton and Holsinger, eds. Columbia University Press, 2007, 117-127. (11 pages)\*

“The Legal Persona of the Child in Gratian’s *Decretum*,” *Bulletin of Medieval Canon Law* 24 (2000): 10-53. (44 pages)\*

#### *Works in Progress*

“Economic Activities,” in *Cambridge History of Judaism, Volume 5: Jews in the Medieval Islamic World*, Chazan and Rustow, eds. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming (commissioned and submitted to editors 2011, 12,000 words).

“Friendship and hierarchy: rhetorical stances in Geniza letters,” in *M.R. Cohen Festschrift* (untitled), eds. Simonsohn, Franklin, Rustow and Margariti. Commissioned for Leiden: Brill, forthcoming (6000 words).

“Re-considering risk and the ‘Maghribī traders’: Agency relations, contract enforcement, and changing business organization in the eleventh and twelfth centuries,” in preparation (to be submitted to *Economic History Review*, 15,000 words)\*

“Geniza Mercantile Letters: Diplomatic and Rhetorical Aspects,” in preparation (to be submitted to *Der Islam*, 16,000 words)\*

*Horizons and Hazards in the twelfth century: Practical and Imagined Worlds of Geniza and Genoese merchants*. Second book project in progress (proposal available upon request).

“Changing space: mapping the language and plans of twelfth-century merchants in Genoese cartularies,” in preparation.

Co-editor with Eve Krakowski, Special volume of *Jewish History*, “Documentary Geniza research in the twenty-first century.” Commissioned for 2014.

“Uncertain terrain: the evidence of the Cairo Geniza for instability and changing geographies of trade in the eleventh-century Mediterranean.” In *La formation de l’espace économique de la Méditerranée médiévale (Xe-XVe s.): sources et méthodes* Commissioned for 2014 in conjunction with International Seminar of University of Paris I Sorbonne/Centre national de la recherche scientifique.

#### *Digital Humanities*

“The Digital Documentary Geniza.” Multi-institutional project to integrate images and transcriptions of documents from the ‘historical’ Geniza, develop guides and typologies to catalogue and describe unique kinds of material, develop publicly accessible and editable databases for personal names, place names, word lists, interpersonal networks, etc. Head of working group which includes Mark Cohen (Princeton), Marina Rustow (Johns Hopkins), Miriam Frenkel (Hebrew University), and Phillip Ackerman-Lieberman (Vanderbilt) to develop multi-year, multi-institutional grant. Project incubation grant from Penn Digital Humanities Forum (\$5000). Grant submission planned for 2014.

#### UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA. 2006-

##### *Courses offered:*

History 1: Europe in a Wider World, 200-1500 (Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008)

History 31: The World of the Middle Ages (Spring 2011, Fall 2011)

History 111 (Honors Freshman Seminar): Holy Wars: Medieval and Modern (Fall 2008, Fall 2011)

History 211, 201 (Honors Research Seminar, Majors Research Seminar): Crusades and the idea of Crusading (Spring 2007, Spring 2011)

History 211 (Honors Seminar): Medieval Lives (Spring 2009)

History 316: The Mediterranean World, 1000-1300 (Spring 2009)

History 339: Making Money Before 1500: Mediterranean Trade (Spring 2008)

History 398, 400: History Honors Seminar (Spring 2012, Fall 2012)

History 520: The Mediterranean in History (Spring 2012)

History 720: Lay Christianity, 900-1600 (Spring 2008), co-taught with Prof. E. Ann Matter, Religious Studies Department

Arabic 732: Readings in Judeo-Arabic, seminar organized with fellows at CAJS, co-taught with Prof. Joseph Lowry, NELC Department (Spring 2007)

*Graduate reading/orals fields:* Pre-Modern Mediterranean History, Late Antique and Medieval Economic History, The Merchant in History (pre-modern comparative—Mediterranean, Indian Ocean, Atlantic World)

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA. 2005-2006

*Courses offered:*

The Medieval Mediterranean: Commerce and Power Undergraduate-graduate colloquium, *Fall Quarter 2005*

Europe: Late Antiquity to 1500 Undergraduate survey lecture, *Spring Quarter 2006*

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

Teaching Assistant      “History of Islamic Society” *Professor Richard Bulliet Fall 1998*  
   “Medieval Intellectual Life” *Professor Joel Kaye Spring 1999*  
   “Medieval People” *Professor Caroline Bynum Fall 2001*

Teacher and                      “Teacher Assistant Training Course” Graduate Teaching Committee 2000-2002  
Coordinator

#### OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Tutor, New York, NY and Cairo, Egypt 1994-2005. Mathematics (secondary and undergraduate curriculum) and language (ESL, Italian, Latin) tutoring, adolescent and adult

Math Teacher, Stuyvesant High School, New York, NY 1995-1997

Assistant Teacher, Bank Street School for Children, New York, NY 1994

Professional Development Lab Assistant, Classroom Teacher, P.S. 40, New York, NY 1993-1994

#### PRESENTATIONS AND PARTICIPATIONS

“Partner Selection: Genoese and Geniza Merchants’ compared,” Conference: In-Between: Trade and Legal Pluralism in the Era of the *Geniza*. David Berg Foundation Institute for Law and History, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, Israel. *May 2013* (invited)

“Mining medieval sources: Cairo Geniza documents as texts and as objects.” Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY. *February 2013* (invited)

“Parsing evidence for enforcement regimes in Geniza documents.” Panel: Contract Enforcement in Roman and Medieval Law. Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History. St. Louis, MO. *November 2012*

“Changing space: comparing shifting language of movement and risk among Geniza and Genoese merchants in the twelfth century,” Research Seminar: Remapping Geographic Imaginaries: Pathways of Circulation and New Cognitive Regions, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Cambridge, MA. *May 2012* (invited)

“Negotiating identity in the Mediterranean Islamic business world: The Cairo Geniza merchants as locals and

foreigners,” Cultural Encounters in Near Eastern History: An Interdisciplinary Conference. Center for Canon and Identity Formation, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. *May 2012* (invited)

“The language of trust, risk and calculation in the documents of Medieval Mediterranean merchants,” Delaware Valley Medieval Association Meeting, Villanova, PA. *April 2012* (invited)

“Agency relations, contract enforcement, and changing business organization in the eleventh and twelfth centuries—the case of the ‘Maghribī traders,’” Annenberg Seminar in History, History Department, University of Pennsylvania. *April 2012*

“The Local and the Foreigner: Identity among the Merchants of the Cairo Geniza,” Panel: The Limits of Identity I: Trade and Community Membership in the Mediterranean.” Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Washington, DC. *March 2012*.

“Risk and the ‘Maghribī traders’: Agency relations, contract enforcement and business organization in the medieval Mediterranean,” Free to Fail and Coerced to Prosper, Fifth Meeting of CalTech Early Modern Group, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA. *March 2012* (invited)

“Re-considering risk and the ‘Maghribī traders’: Agency relations, contract enforcement, and the economy of the eleventh-century Islamic Mediterranean,” Economic History Workshop, Yale University, New Haven, CT. *February 2012* (invited)

“Trust, privilege, and free-trade zones: the law, the state, and economic networks in the Mediterranean as reflected in the Cairo Geniza documents.” Panel (co-organizer): Communities, Networks, and the Cairo Geniza. Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, IL. *Jan 2012*

“Cairo Geniza Research: Problems and Prospects,” American Research Center in Egypt, Pennsylvania Chapter, Penn Museum, Philadelphia, PA. *November 2011* (invited)

“The ‘Maghribī traders’: reflections on origins, affinities, and identities among Geniza merchants,” Jews and Empire, The 2011 Lavy Colloquium of the Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Program in Jewish Studies at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. *October 31-November 1, 2011* (invited)

“Reading Other People’s Mail: What Can We Discover about Islamic and Jewish Culture from Eleventh-Century Mercantile Letters Discarded in the Cairo Geniza?” George Washington University History Department Research Colloquium, Washington, DC. *October 2011* (invited)

“Uncertain terrain: the evidence of the Cairo Geniza for instability and changing geographies of trade in the eleventh-century Mediterranean.” Two-year Research Seminar: La formation de l’espace économique de la Méditerranée médiévale (Xe-XVe s.): sources et methods. Co-sponsors: International Seminar of University of Paris I Sorbonne/Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris, France. *June 2011* (invited)

“The strange case of Andalus in the ‘historical’ documents of the Cairo Geniza.” Two-year seminar: Quelle longue durée pour l’histoire sépharade ? Productions culturelles et espace vécu. L’École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, France. *June 2011* (invited)

“Cairo Geniza documents and the Study of Economic History: A Survey of the Field.” History Department, University of Girona, Girona, Spain. *June 2011* (invited)

“Making Reputation Work: Re-examining law, labor and enforcement among Geniza businessmen.” Beliefs, Markets and Empires: Understanding Mechanisms of Integration in Early Societies, NYU Abu Dhabi Institute Workshop, Abu Dhabi, UAE. *March 2011* (invited)

“Making reputation work: a new look at the ‘Maghribi merchants’ coalition and the role of reputation.” Before

and Beyond Europe: Economic Change in Historical Perspective, Economic History Program Conference, Yale University. *February 2011* (invited)

““A Law Merchant? Contracts and Contract Enforcement in the Medieval Mediterranean.” Panel: Jurisdiction: A Moving Target in Medieval and Early Modern Europe and the Mediterranean. Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History, Philadelphia, PA. *November 2010*

“The rhetoric of incoherence: form and function in Geniza commercial correspondence.” Rutgers Medieval Studies Program, New Brunswick, NJ. *November 2010* (invited)

“A Mediterranean Society and Mediterranean Trade,” in plenary panel, “Research on the Geniza in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Conference: Negotiating Trade: Commercial Institutions & Cross-Cultural Exchange in the Medieval & Early Modern World. Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Binghamton University (SUNY), Binghamton, NY. *September 2010* (invited)

“Goitein, Free Trade Zones, and the Writing of Economic History.” Panel: A Mediterranean Society and the Cairo Geniza in Retrospective: Goitein and his Work. Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, Yale University. *March 2010*.

“Business, businessmen and work in the medieval Mediterranean: reconsidering the ‘Maghribī traders’.” Social Norms Workshop. Co-sponsors: School of Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study and Sociology and Economics Departments, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. *December 2008* (invited)

“Religious and Economic Identity in the Islamic Marketplace.” Religious Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania. *April 2008*

“Peering Backward: The Cairo Geniza and the Mediterranean.” Dark Ages Enlightened: A Workshop, Center for the Ancient Mediterranean, University of Pennsylvania. *February 2008*

“Principals and Agents Reconsidered.” Economic History Forum, University of Pennsylvania. *December 2007*

“Trade and Identity.” Thirteenth Annual Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania. *May 2007*

“The epistolary culture of Geniza merchants: some thoughts about merchants as letter writers and readers.” Meltzer Seminar, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania. *April 2007*

“Whose Mediterranean? The Merchants of Cairo and the Coming of the Romans.” Delaware Valley Medieval Association, Princeton, NJ. *December 2006* (invited)

“The Local and the Foreigner: The Power and the Limits of Cosmopolitanism in the Eleventh-Century Mediterranean.” 9th annual International Congress of the Mediterranean Studies Association, Università di Genova, Genoa, Italy *May 2006*

“Back-biting and self-promotion: the work of merchants of the Cairo Geniza.” Berkeley Program in Medieval Studies, Berkeley, CA *April 2006* (invited)

“Geographies of Trade in the Medieval Mediterranean.” Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities Seminar, Stanford University, Stanford, CA *October 2005*

“Centers and Peripheries: Cairo, Jerusalem, and Trade in the Eleventh-Century Levant.” International Medieval Conference, Leeds, England *July 2005*

*Speaker*, Methodology Roundtable, Columbia University Medieval Guild Annual Conference ““*What is better than gold?*: Economies and Values in the Middle Ages.” New York, NY *October 22, 2010*

*Chair*, Panel on “Mystical and Magical Documents.” Society for the Study of Judeo-Arabic Bi-Annual Conference, Cordoba, Spain, *July 2007*

*Member*, “Workshop on Business and Personal Letters in the ancient and medieval Near East.” University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, *April 2007*

*Speaker*, Roundtable on the future of Mediterranean Studies, Annual Meeting of the Consortium for Medieval Studies, Columbia University. *April 2005*

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### **University of Pennsylvania, 2006-**

#### **Committees**

##### *History Department*

Executive Committee (2007-2008, 2011-2012)

Undergraduate Committee (2007-2009)

Public Space Committee (2007-2009)

Undergraduate Prize Committee (2006-2007)

Website re-design Committee (2011-2012)

##### *University*

Learning and Technology Committee (2007-)

FLAS prize committee (2008)

Library Committee on Digital Humanities (2009-)

Seltzer Family Digital Media Awards Prize committee (2011-)

#### **Programs and Graduate Group Memberships**

Medieval/Early Modern European History

Ancient History

Jewish Studies

Middle East Studies

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

#### **Advising and Mentorship**

##### *Graduate*

Member of Orals and Dissertation Committees in History Department, South Asia Studies, and Near East Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania (2009-), History Department, Columbia University (2009-)

##### *Undergraduate*

Pre-major adviser, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (2007-)

Major Adviser, History Department, University of Pennsylvania (2007-)

#### **Seminars**

##### *On-going*

##### *Penn*

Meltzer Seminar at the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

Economic History Forum

Material Texts Seminar

Classics Colloquium

Art and Archeology of the Ancient Mediterranean Luncheon Talks

Medieval Studies Lectures

Art History Colloquium

##### *Multi-institutional*

Ancient and Medieval Legal Traditions (co-organized by Princeton, Yale and Penn)

Early Modern Economic History Group, (organized by California Institute of Technology)  
Economic History Seminar (organized by Yale University)

*Special*

“Economics and Politics.” Theme seminar, School of Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton 2012-2013

School of Social Sciences Seminar, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton 2012-2013

Social Norms Workshop, Sociology and Economics Departments, Princeton University 2008-2010

School of Historical Studies Seminar, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton 2009-2010

“Medieval Seminar,” School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton 2009-2010

“Empires Seminar,” School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton 2009-2010

Comparative Legal History, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, 2006-2007. Convener and chair.

Graduate and Faculty Seminar, Sources in Judeo-Arabic, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. *Spring 2007*.

Co-convener and co-chair.

**Stanford University, 2005-2006**

Post-doctoral Humanities Seminar. Stanford Humanities Fellows Program, Stanford University, 2005-2006

**Columbia University, History Department, New York, NY**

Doctoral Seminar. Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University. 2004-2005

Medieval Search Committee 2003-2004

Graduate Education Committee (elected student representative) 2002-2003

Graduate Teaching Committee, Member, 1998-2004, Chair, 2000-2001

Editor, Graduate portion of Departmental Review, 1997-98

MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association

Medieval Academy of America

Economic History Association

Economic History Society

American Oriental Society

Middle East Medievalists

Association for Jewish Studies

Renaissance Society of America

American Society for Legal History

LANGUAGES

Latin: reading and translation competence in Classical and Medieval.

Arabic: reading, writing, paleography and translation competence in Classical, speaking competence in Egyptian colloquial.

Judeo-Arabic: reading, paleography and translation competence.

Italian: reading, speaking and translation competence.

French: reading, speaking and translation competence.

Spanish: reading and translation competence, basic speaking ability.

Catalan: reading and translation competence, some speaking ability.

German: translation competence.

Hebrew: translation competence.

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