



“Purity, Pollution, Purification and Defilement in the Premodern Mediterranean”

28-29 June 2022

PROGRAM

Tuesday, 28 June

Room 206, the Hecht Arts Center, University of Haifa

10:00-10:30 Coffee and registration

10:30-10:45 Opening remarks

- **Efraim Lev** (Dean of Humanities, University of Haifa)
- **Naama Cohen-Hanegbi** (History, Tel Aviv University)
- **Moshe Blidstein** (General History, University of Haifa)
- **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)
- **Fred Astren** (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State)
- The Participants

10:45-12:00 Workshop paper #1

“Sacred Spaces and the Purification of the Soul: Ritual Ablutions in the Mediterranean”

Federica Broilo (Department of Communication Sciences, Humanities and International Studies, University of Urbino)

Respondent: **Fred Astren** (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State)

Moderator: **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)

12:15-13:30 Workshop paper #2

“Blood Purity and the Biology of Difference in Late-Medieval Spain”

Ana M. Gómez-Bravo (Spanish and Portuguese, University of Washington)

Respondent: **Yossi Yisraeli** (Jewish History: Bar-Ilan University)

Moderator: **Fred Astren** (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State)

13:30-15:00 Lunch

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15:00-16:15 Workshop paper #3

“Ritual Purity as Jewish Self-Definition in the Diaspora”

Friederike Schöpf (Jewish Studies, Frankfurt am Main)

Respondent: **Conrad Leyser** (History: University of Oxford)

Moderator: **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)

16:15-16:30 Coffee break



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16:30-17:45 Keynote presentation

“Ritual Purity and Satanic Defilement: Basic Notions from the Bible to the Qur’an”

Holger Zellentin (Religious Studies and Jewish Studies, University of Tübingen)

Moderator: **Moshe Blidstein** (History, University of Haifa)

Balcony, 0 floor, the Hecht Arts Center, University of Haifa

18:00-19:00 Reception

19:00/19:15 Back to the hotel



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אוניברסיטת חיפה
University of Haifa
جامعة حيفا



אוניברסיטת תל אביב
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY
תל אביב
המכון ללימודים בינלאומיים ולימודי אזוריים
The Morris E. Curren Institute for European Studies
The S. Daniel Abraham Center for International and Regional Studies

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Room 206, the Hecht Arts Center, University of Haifa

09:45-10:15 Coffee and light snacks

10:15-11:30 Keynote presentation

“Jewish corpse impurity and the “work of the dead” in medieval Egypt”

Eve Krakowski (Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University)

Moderator: **Neta B. Bodner** (Literature, Language and the Arts, Open University of Israel)

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-13:00 Round table 1

“How do interreligious interactions shape or alter discourses of purity and pollution?”

Moderator: **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)

- **Neta B. Bodner** (Literature, Language and the Arts, Open University of Israel)
- **Nathan Ron** (History, University of Haifa)
- **Rebecca Wartell** (Jewish Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)
- **David Williams** (Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Saint Katherine)
- **Nina Glibetic** (Liturgical Studies, Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame)
- **Yaniv Fox** (History, Bar Ilan University)

13:00-14:30 Lunch in main dining hall, University of Haifa

Room 206, the Hecht Arts Center, University of Haifa

14:30-15:45 Round table 2

“In what ways do ideas about purity and filth correspond with notions of well-being, physical health or spiritual health?”

Moderator: **Heather Badamo** (History of Art and Architecture, University of California Santa Barbara)

- **Sam Cohen** (History, Sonoma State University)
- **Sara McDougall** (History, City University of New York)
- **Feray Coskun** (Humanities and Social Sciences, Ozyegin University)
- **Sarah Whitear** (Theology, KU Leuven)
- **Rami Tannous** (Associate Scholar - The Haifa Center for Mediterranean History)
- **Yizhak Feder** (Biblical Studies, University of Haifa)

15:45-16:00 Coffee break



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16:00-17:15 Round table 3

“Purity and practice: how do discourses of purity intersect with economic and social realities?”

Moderator: **Naama Cohen-Hanegbi** (History, Tel Aviv University)

- **Mark Hoover** (Protestant Theology, University of Tübingen)
- **Matan Orian** (Tel Aviv University)
- **Felipe E. Rojas** (English and Modern Languages, West Liberty University)
- **Michelle Hamilton** (Spanish and Portuguese: University of Minnesota)
- **Arsany Paul** (Liturgical Studies: University of Notre Dame)
- **Núria Silleras-Fernández** (Spanish and Portuguese, University of Colorado Boulder)
- **Hila Brokman** (Comparative Literature, Tel Aviv University)

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17:15-17:30 Concluding remarks

- **Naama Cohen-Hanegbi** (History, Tel Aviv University)
- **Moshe Blidstein** (History, University of Haifa)
- **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)
- **Fred Astren** (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State)
- The Participants

17:30 Bus to restaurant

18:00 Dinner at Rola restaurant, Haifa Port

20:00 Bus to hotel