

## DAVID SORKIN

### EDUCATION:

- 1983 Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley (History)
- 1977 M.A. University of California, Berkeley (Comparative Literature)
- 1975 B.A. University of Wisconsin, Madison

### DEGREES:

- M.A., Oxford University, 1990 (Special Election)

### EMPLOYMENT:

- 1992- Frances and Laurence Weinstein Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 1986-92 From Junior Research Fellow to Lecturer in Modern History and Fellow, Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies and St. Antony's College, Oxford University
- 1983-86 Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies, Brown University
- 1983 Acting Instructor, Department of History, University of California

### VISITING APPOINTMENTS:

- 2009 Visiting Professor, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa
- 1990, 2008 Directeur d'études, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

### FELLOWSHIPS:

- 2008 Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- 2005-6 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
- 2003 All Souls College, Oxford University; Visiting Fellow
- 2002-07 Kellett Mid-Career Fellowship, UW-Madison
- 1998-2003 Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison, Senior Fellow
- 1998 Max Planck Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen; Summer Fellow
- 1994-6 Vilas Associateship, UW-Madison
- 1994-5 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers
- 1992 Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison
- 1991 British Academy Research Travel Grant
- 1984 Brown University Faculty Development Fund
- 1979-83 Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Doctoral Fellowship
- 1979-80/81-2 Newman Fund for Jewish Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- 1980-81 DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) (declined)
- 1979-81 National Foundation for Jewish Culture, Doctoral Fellowship
- 1978 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (Hebrew)
- 1976-77 University of California, Berkeley Graduate Division, Grant-in Aid
- 1976-77 Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Fellowship (Alpha of California)
- 1975-76/77-8 University of California Graduate Fellowship

### PRIZES:

- 2003 National Jewish Book Award for Scholarship  
(Oxford Handbook of Jewish Studies)

2000 "Editor's Choice," Reviews in Religion and Theology  
(The Berlin Haskalah and German Religious Thought)  
1988 Present Tense/Joel H. Cavior Literary Award for History  
(The Transformation of German Jewry)  
1980 History Department Seminar Paper Prize (U. of California, Berkeley)  
1979 Goor Graduate Essay Prize in Jewish Studies (U. of California,  
Berkeley)

SOCIETIES:

1974 Phi Beta Kappa  
2004 American Academy for Jewish Research

WORK IN PROGRESS:

Moses Mendelssohn on Judaism: Selected Hebrew Works (U. of  
Wisconsin Press). Co-edited with Edward Breuer. Edward Breuer  
translator. A selection of Mendelssohn's heretofore untranslated  
Hebrew works with introductions, annotations and commentary.

The Emancipation of European Jewry, 1600-1921. (Cambridge  
University Press for the series, "New Approaches on European  
History")

FUTURE PROJECTS:

The Jews of Germany. A one volume synthesis of three centuries  
of German Jewish history (University of California Press for the  
series, "Jewish Communities in the Modern World").

PUBLICATIONS:

Books

The Transformation of German Jewry, 1780-1840 (Oxford  
University Press, New York, 1987; pbk 1990); pbk: Wayne State  
University Press, 1999, 2009) [Present Tense/Joel H. Cavior Literary  
Award for History, 1988]

Moses Mendelssohn and the Religious Enlightenment (University of  
California Press, 1996; UK: Peter Halban Publishers, 1996; pbk  
reissue, 2004: Moses Mendelssohn; French: Albin Michel (Paris,  
1996); German: Werner Eichbauer Verlag für Wissenschaftliche  
Literatur (Vienna, 1999); Italian: Edizioni Culturali Internazionali  
(Genoa, 2000) [Italian translation a finalist for Moselice Award for  
Scientific-Literary Translation]

The Berlin Haskalah and German Religious Thought (London:  
Vallentine Mitchell, 2000). Hardcover & paperback. Originally given  
as the Sherman Lectures, Dept. of Religions and Theology, Manchester  
University (1997). ["Editor's Choice," Reviews in Religion and  
Theology vol. 7 issue 3 (June, 2000)]

The Religious Enlightenment: Protestants, Jews and Catholics from London to Vienna (Princeton University Press, 2008)

Edited Books Co-editor (with Frances Malino), From East and West: Jews in a Changing Europe, 1750-1870, (Basil Blackwell, 1990) Hardcover and paperback; pbk reissue: Profiles in Diversity: Jews in a Changing Europe, 1750-1870 (Wayne State University Press, 1998)

Co-editor (with Shmuel Feiner), New Perspectives on the Haskalah. (London: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2001; pbk. 2004)

Associate Editor for the Modern period (Martin Goodman, General Editor; Jeremy Cohen, Associate Editor for the Medieval Period) Oxford Handbook of Jewish Studies (Oxford University Press, UK, 2002; pbk 2005) [National Jewish Book Award, 2003]

Co-editor (with Stanley Payne and John Tortorice), "What History Tells": George L. Mosse and the Culture of Modern Europe Hardcover & paperback (University of Wisconsin Press, 2004)

General Editor "Sources in Modern Jewish History," University of Wisconsin Press.

Commissioned documentary anthologies. Paula Hyman and Renee Malamud, Jewish Women in the Modern World; David Myers, The Making of Modern Jewish Historical Writing; Jay Harris, Rabbinic Culture in the Modern World; Michael Stanislawski, East European Jewish History; Derek Penslar, Zionism and the Yishuv, 1870-1948; David Rechter, Modern Jewish Politics and the 'Jewish Question'; Gershon Greenberg, Modern Jewish Philosophy;

"Jewish Communities of the Modern World," University of California Press. Nine commissioned volumes. Paula Hyman, The Jews of France (1998); Esther Benbassa & Aron Rodrigue, Sephardi Jewry: A History of the Judeo-Spanish Community, 14th-20th Centuries (2000), (pbk); Todd Endelman, The Jews of Britain (2002); Hasia Diner, The Jews of the United States (2004); David Sorkin, The Jews of Germany; Hillel Kieval and Michael Silber, The Jews of the Habsburg Empire; Norman Stillman, Jews of the Magreb; Ben Nathans, The Jews of Russia; Gershon Bacon, The Jews of Poland.

"Jewish Society and Culture," Blackwell Publishers (Oxford, UK and Cambridge, MA 1990-1996). Frances Malino, A Jew in the French Revolution: The Life of Zalkind Hourwitz, 1996; Esther Benbassa & Aron Rodrigue, The Jews of the Balkans: The Judeo-Spanish Community, 15th to 20th Centuries, 1995; Tony Kushner, The Holocaust and the Liberal Imagination: A Social and Cultural History, 1994; Simon Schwarzfuchs, A Concise History of the Rabbinate, 1993;

Peter Pulzer, Jews and the German State: The Political History of a Minority, 1848-1933, 1992; David Bankier, The Germans and the Final Solution: Public Opinion under Nazism, 1992 (pbk. 1996); Artur Eisenbach, The Emancipation of the Jews in Poland, 1780- 1870, 1991; Ben-Cion Pinchuk, Shtetl Jews under Soviet Rule: Eastern Poland on the Eve of the Holocaust, 1990; David Cesarani ed., The Making of Modern Anglo-Jewry, 1990.

## Articles

“‘The Kiss of Lamourette’: ‘Possibilism’ or ‘Christian Democracy’?” in Warren Breckman, Peter Gordon, D. Moses, Samuel Moyn, E. Neaman eds., The Modernist Imagination: Intellectual History and Critical Theory (Festschrift for Martin Jay) (Berghahn Press, 2009) 3-23.

“The Vienna Rite in the Nineteenth Century,” in Jost Hermand ed., Positive Dialektik: Hoffnungsvolle Momente in der deutschen Kultur. Festschrift für Klaus L. Berghahn zum 70. Geburtstag (Bern: Peter Lang, 2007) 119-26.

“History in the Service of Belief: The Biblical Exegesis of the Religious Enlightenment,” in Hans Bödeker and Martin Gierl eds., Jenseits der Diskurse: Aufklärungspraxis und Institutionenwelt in europäisch-komparativer Perspektive (Festschrift for Rudolf Vierhaus) (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2007) 133-47.

“Ha-Haskalah be-Berlin: Perspektiva Hashva’atit [The Berlin Haskalah: A Comparative Perspective],” in Israel Bartal and Shmuel Feiner eds., Ha-Haskalah li-Gevaneha [The Varieties of Haskalah] (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 2005) 3-11.

“The Jewish Question in Eighteenth-Century Germany,” in Hans-Eric Bödeker, Clorinda Donato & Peter Hanns Reill eds., Discourses of Tolerance and Intolerance in the European Enlightenment (University of Toronto Press, forthcoming) 144-152

“Geneva’s ‘Enlightened Orthodoxy’: The Middle Way of Jacob Vernet, (1698-1789),” Church History 74:2 (June, 2005) 286-305

"Between Messianism and Survival: Secularization and Sacralization in Modern Judaism," Journal of Modern Jewish Studies vol. 3 no.1 (March 2004) 73-86

"Reclaiming Theology for the Enlightenment: The Case of Siegmund Jacob Baumgarten (1706-1757)," Central European History

vol. 36 no. 4 (2003) 503-530

"William Warburton: The Middle Way of 'Heroic Moderation'," Dutch Review of Church History 82 no. 2 (July 2002) 262-300.

& "The New 'Mosaik': Jews and European Culture, 1750-1940," Dutch Jewry in a Cultural Maelstrom, 1880-1940 eds., Judith Frishman Hetty Berg (Amsterdam: Aksant, 2007) 11-29.

"Port Jews and the Three Regions of Emancipation," Jewish Culture and History 4 (Winter, 2001) 31-46; also in David Cesarani ed., Port Jews: Jewish Communities in Cosmopolitan and Maritime Trading Centres, 1550-1950 (London: Frank Cass, 2002) 31-46 (simultaneous hardcover and paperback)

"'A Wise, Enlightened and Reliable Piety': The Religious Enlightenment in Central and Western Europe, 1689-1789," Parkes Institute Pamphlet no. 1, University of Southampton (2002) 5-27

"The Émigré Synthesis: An Appraisal," Central European History 34 no. 4 (2001) 531-559

"The Early Haskalah," in Shmuel Feiner & David Sorkin eds., New Perspectives on the Haskalah (London: Littman Library, 2001) 9-26.

"The Mendelssohn Myth and Its Method," New German Critique no. 77 (Winter, 1999) 7-28

"The Port Jew: Notes Towards a Social Type," Journal of Jewish Studies Vol. L no. 1 (Spring, 1999) 87-97

"Reform Catholicism and Religious Enlightenment," Austrian History Yearbook 30 (1999) 187-219

"The Problem of Patronage and Institutionalization: Some Reflections on the Haskalah and Some Remarks on the Armenians," in Richard G. Hovannisian and David N. Myers eds., Enlightenment and Diaspora: The Armenian and Jewish Cases (Scholars Press, 1999) 131-143

"Emancipation, Haskalah and Reform: The Contribution of Amos Funkenstein," Jewish Social Studies 6 no. 1 (Winter, 1999) 98-110

"Moses Mendelssohn's Biblical Exegesis," in Michael Albrecht and Eva J. Engel eds., Moses Mendelssohn: im Spannungsfeld der Aufklärung (Frommann Verlag, 2000) 243-276

"Mendelssohn and Modernity: Was Mendelssohn the First Modern or the Last Medieval Jewish Thinker?" in Marc Raphael ed., What is Modern About Modern Jewish History (Department of Religion, College of William and Mary, 1997) 63-76

"'Historian of Fate': Fritz Stern on the History of German Jewry: An Appreciation," Fritz Stern At 70 (German Historical Institute Occasional Paper No. 19; Washington, D.C., 1997) 33-42.

"Enlightenment and Emancipation: Germany Jewry's Formative Age in Comparative Perspective," in Todd Endelman ed., Comparing Jewish Societies (Comparative Studies in Society and History Book Series) (University of Michigan Press, 1997) 89-112. German version:

"Juden und Katholiken: Deutsch-jüdische Kultur im Vergleich 1750-1850" in Shulamit Volkov ed., Deutsche Juden und die Moderne: Wieder ein 'Sonderweg'? (Oldenbourg, 1994) 9-30.

"The Internal Dialogue: Judaism and Enlightenment in Moses Mendelssohn's Thought," in Klaus Berghahn ed., The German Jewish Dialogue Reconsidered: A Symposium in Honor of George L. Mosse (Peter Lang, 1996) 25-37. (New York: Peter Lang, 1996) 25-37.

"Religious Reforms and Secular Trends in German Jewish Life: An Agenda for Research," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 40 (1995) 169-184. Italian: "Riforme religiose e tendenze secolari nella vita degli ebrei tedeschi. Un programma di ricerca," in Mario Toscano ed., Integrazione e identità. L'esperienza ebraica in Germania e Italia dall'Illuminismo al fascismo (Milan: FrancoAngeli, 1998) 133-151.

"The Case for Comparison: Moses Mendelssohn and the religious Enlightenment," Modern Judaism 14 (1994) 121-38. Abbreviated German version: "Die zwei Gesichter des Moses Mendelssohn," Menora 4 (1993) 275-289.

"The Spirit of Prussian Jewry: The Dual Legacy of Berlin." Publications of the Braun Chair for Prussian Jewish History, Bar-Ilan University, no. 2 (1993) 1-13.

"Jews, the Enlightenment and the Sources of Toleration: Some Reflections", in Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 37 (1992), 3-16. Reprinted in The Jews in European History: Seven Lectures (Hebrew Union College Press, 1994) 39-56. Abbreviated German version, "Juden und Aufklärung: Religiöse Quellen der Toleranz," in Wolfgang

Beck ed. Die Juden in der europäischen Geschichte (Beck, 1992), 50-66.

"From Context to Comparison: The German Haskalah and Reform Catholicism," Jahrbuch des Instituts für deutsche Geschichte 20 (1991), 23-58.

"Preacher, Teacher, Publicist: Joseph Wolf & the Ideology of Emancipation," in Malino & Sorkin eds., From East and West: Jews in a Changing Europe (Basil Blackwell, 1990), 107-125. Reissued in Profiles in Diversity: Jews in a Changing Europe, 1750-1870 (Wayne State University Press, 1998) 107-125.

"Emancipation and Assimilation: Two Concepts and their Application to the Study of German Jewish History," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 35 (1990), 17-33.

"Emancipation's Impact on German Jewry: A Reconsideration," in Jonathan Frankel and Steven Zipperstein eds., Assimilation and Community in European Jewry, 1815-81 (Cambridge University Press, 1992), 177-198

"The Genesis of the Ideology of Emancipation, 1806-1840," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 32 (1987), 11-40.

"The Invisible Community: Emancipation, Secular Culture and Jewish Identity in the Writings of Berthold Auerbach," in Jehuda Reinharz and Walter Schatzberg eds., The Jewish Response to German Culture (Hanover, 1985), 100-119.

"Wilhelm von Humboldt: The Theory and Practice of Self-Formation (Bildung), 1791-1810," Journal of the History of Ideas 43 (1983), 55-73.

## Reference

"Haskalah" & "Mendelssohn" in Alan Kors ed., Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment 4 vols. (Oxford University Press, 2003) 2:186-189 & 3:58-61.

"Moses Mendelssohn," in Deutsche Biographische Enzyklopädie vol. 7 (Saur Verlag, 1998) 58-59.

"1783. The Final Volume of Moses Mendelssohn's edition of the Pentateuch appears," in Yale Companion to Jewish Writing and Thought in German Culture, 1096-1996 (Yale University Press, 1997) 93-100

"Moses Mendelssohn," in Blackwell companion to Jewish Culture since the Eighteenth Century (Oxford, 1989), 510-512.

### Textbooks

"Jewish Emancipation in Central and Western Europe," in The Jewish Enigma: An Enduring People (UK: Open University & Peter Halban Publishers, 1992; US: George Braziller, 1993), 81-109.

"Into the Modern World," in Nicholas deLange ed., The Illustrated History of the Jewish People (Canada: Key Porter; USA: Harcourt Brace; UK: Aurum Press; 1997), 199-253

### Miscellaneous

"Godless Liberals: The Myth of the Secular Enlightenment," Religion Dispatches (October 13, 2008) (on-line journal) 1-4.

"Moses Mendelssohn's First Hebrew Publication: An Annotated Translation of the *Kohelet Mussar*," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 48 (2003) 3-23 trs. Edward Breuer, edited and annotated, Edward Breuer and David Sorkin

Preface ("Zum Geleit") to German translation of Selma Stern, Der Hofjude im Zeitalter des Absolutismus ed. Marina Sassenberg (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2001) iv-v

"Introduction" to reprint of Transactions of the Paris Sanhedrin (University Press of America, 1985), vii-xv.

"Beyond the Émigré Synthesis," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 45 (2000) 209-210

### Reviews

Hans I. Bach, The German Jew: A Synthesis of Judaism and Western Civilization, 1730-1930 (Oxford University Press) in Judaism 38 (Spring, 1986), 96-97.

### Conservative

Reinhard Bendix, From Berlin to Berkeley: German-Jewish Identities (Transaction Books) in Theory and Society 17, 2 (1988), 285-291.

Nicholas de Lange, Judaism (Oxford, 1986) Journal of Jewish Studies 38, 1 (1987), 135-37.

Bernard Lewis, Semites and Anti-Semites (Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1986) in Jewish Quarterly 34, 4 (1987), 38-40.

Jacob Katz ed., Towards Modernity: The European Jewish Model (Transaction Books, 1987), Polin, 3, 383-386.

Ritchie Robertson, Heine (Peter Halban, 1988), Journal of Jewish Studies 39, 2 (1988), 284-5.

Mordechai Breuer, Jüdische Orthodoxie im deutschen Kaiserreich (Athenaum, 1986), Studies in Contemporary Jewry 6 (1989), 387-389.

Jack Wertheimer, Unwelcome Strangers: East European Jews in Imperial Germany (Oxford, 1987), English Historical Review 105 (1990), 1068.

Michael Berkowitz, Zionist Culture and West European Jewry Before the First World War (Cambridge University Press, 1993), Central European History 26 (1993) 495-7.

Steven Lowenstein, The Berlin Jewish Community: Enlightenment, Family and Crisis, 1770-1830 (Oxford University Press, 1994), Central European History 29, 1 (1996) 129-33.

Edward Breuer, The Limits of Enlightenment: Jews, Germans and the Eighteenth-Century Study of Scripture (Harvard University Press, 1996), Journal of Jewish Studies 48, 1 (1997) 180-81.

Amos Elon, The Pity of it All: A History of the Jews in Germany, 1743-1933 (Metropolitan Books, 2002) in The New Leader (November/December, 2002) 25-6

Robin Judd, Contested Rituals: Circumcision, Kosher Butchering and Jewish Political Life in Germany, 1843-1933 (Cornell University Press, 2007) in The Forward (November 30, 2007) B1& 3.

#### PAPERS:

- 2009 Yves Simon Lecture, Catholic Center, U. of Chicago  
Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA
- 2008 University of Pennsylvania  
Max Planck Institut für europäische Rechtsgeschichte, Frankfurt a.M.  
Eugen Täubler Lecture, Hochschule für jüdische Studien, Heidelberg  
Hayes Robinson Lecture, Royal Holloway College, U. of London  
College of Charleston  
Hebrew University (Jerusalem)
- 2007 American Catholic Historical Association, Marquette University  
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales
- 2005 Brown University

- 2003 Joseph and Gertie Schwartz Memorial Lecture, U. of Toronto  
All Souls College, Oxford  
St. Antony's College, Oxford  
Oxford Centre for Hebrew & Jewish Studies
- 2002 International Conference on Eighteenth-Century Studies (UCLA)  
Zandtker Lecture, University of Kentucky-Lexington  
European University, Florence
- 2001 Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (Keynote)  
Hebrew University (Israel)  
Mann Lecture, Ohio State University  
Southampton University (UK) (Keynote)  
Parkes Lecture, Southampton University (UK)
- 2000 Tel Aviv University  
Bar-Ilan University  
Ben Gurion University  
Richard Popkin Lecture, Clark Library, UCLA
- 1999 Leiden University  
University of Pennsylvania
- 1998 Washington & Lee University  
Technische Universität, Berlin  
Meyerhoff Lecture, University of Pennsylvania  
University of California, Berkeley
- 1997 Stein Memorial Lecture, Emory University  
Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften, Vienna  
Sherman Lectures, Manchester University (UK)  
Reinfeld Lecture, Connecticut College  
Center for the Humanities, Cornell University  
University of Toronto
- 1996 College of William and Mary  
Princeton University  
German Historical Institute, Washington D.C.
- 1995 Clark Library, UCLA
- 1994 University of Pittsburgh  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Melton Center for Jewish Studies, Ohio State University  
Clark Library, UCLA
- 1993 World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem  
Open History Seminar, Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati  
University of California, Berkeley  
Bronstein Lecture, Indiana University
- 1991 Bar-Ilan University, Israel  
C.H. Beck Lecture, University of Munich  
Wiener Library, London
- 1990 Historisches Kolleg, Munich  
Webber Memorial Lecture, Society for Jewish Study, London  
Free University, Berlin

1989 Southampton University  
British Association for Jewish Studies, Cambridge

1988 Cambridge University  
New York University

1987 Jewish Historical Society of England  
Max Planck Institute, Göttingen  
Mount Holyoke College

1986 Leo Baeck Institute Faculty Colloquium, New York

1985 American Historical Association, New York  
Centre for European Studies, Harvard University

1983 International Conference on German Jews, Clark University  
Council on European Studies, Conference of Europeanists

1981 Association for Jewish Studies, Boston

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

2009-12 Editorial Board, Journal of Modern History

2001- Associate Editor, Journal of Modern Jewish Studies

1995-2000 Executive Board, Association for Jewish Studies

1992- Editorial Board, Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook

1990-94 Editorial Board, Jewish Thought and Philosophy

1989-1992 Executive Committee, Leo Baeck Institute, London

1988-1991 Executive Committee, British Association for Jewish Studies

**ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES:**

2003-07 Director, Institute for Research in the Humanities

1999- Chair, George L. Mosse Program, Department of History

1993-98 Director, Center for Jewish Studies