

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

Abbreviations:

AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council)  
 BA (British Academy)  
 BAJA (British Association of Jewish Studies)  
 CBS (Centre for Biblical Studies)  
 CJS (Centre for Jewish Studies)  
 EAJA (European Association for Jewish Studies)  
 ERC (European Research Council)  
 JMRI (John Rylands Research Institute)  
 MES (Middle Eastern Studies)  
 PGR Postgraduate Research  
 R&T (Religions and Theology)  
 REES (Russian and East European Studies)  
 REF (Research Excellence Framework)  
 SALC (School of Arts Languages and Cultures)

**1. Introduction and background**

The major themes of the research of the Centre remain the broadly defined exploration of Jewish/non-Jewish relations. This theme embraces anti-Semitism and the Holocaust (Dreyfus, Tidd, Gelbin, Langton); Jewish-Christian relations (Langton, Smithuis); Jewish-Muslim relations (Smithuis); Jewish-Arab relations (Behar, Banko); Jewish/non-Jewish philosophy (Samely). The Centre's activities, in particular in PGR training (see Table 5), innovative Hebrew teaching and cross-institutional collaboration in the North of the British Isles, are currently being boosted by a £269,381 external grant.

The Centre continues to function as an initiator, facilitator and host for external research grants and the research of individual post-doctoral fellows, which now include two British Academy post-docs. Members of the Centre were managing research related grants to the total value of £793,878, and of £1,037,339 if the European Regional Hub of Jewish Studies grant, which contains non-research funding, is included. In addition to this there is external funding tied to 3 post-docs affiliated to the CJS, most of whose applications were supported pre-submission by CJS staff. The Centre maintains a high international profile for the research of Manchester University academics by aggregating and maximizing awareness of their activities, projects, grants and publications, as well as by its public lecture series (disseminated as podcasts), seminar series and the online journal *Melilah* edited from the Centre. It maintains an extremely effective, up-to-date and comprehensive website<sup>1</sup> complemented by a twitter presence. The Centre brings together staff who are located in different divisions of the School and different Schools of the University, and supports and collaborates closely with the John Rylands Research Institute (JMRI) in promoting the important research resources of the Library.

**2. Management and membership**

*Co-directors:* Prof. Alex Samely (MES in the reporting period, to become a member of R&T from 1 September 2016), Prof. Daniel Langton (R&T)

*Seminar Series Conveners:* Dr. Jean-Marc Dreyfus (History), with Dr Lauren Banko

*Administrators:* Mrs. Laura Mitchell; Mr Marton Ribary

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/>

*Planning committee:* Prof. Alex Samely (MES), Prof. Daniel Langton (R&T), Dr. Moshe Behar (MES), Dr. Jean-Marc Dreyfus (History), Ms. Sophie Garside (MES), Dr. Cathy Gelbin (German), Dr. Renate Smithuis (R&T, who co-edits the journal *Melilah* with Prof. Langton)

*Core CJS members within Manchester University:* Dr. Moshe Behar (MES), Dr. Jean-Marc Dreyfus (History), Dr. Dan Garner (R&T), Ms. Sophie Garside (MES), Dr. Cathy Gelbin (German), Ms. Malka Hodgson (MES), Prof. Daniel Langton (R&T), Prof. Yaron Matras (Linguistics), Dr Ewa Ochman (REES), Prof. Alex Samely (MES), Dr. Renate Smithuis (R&T), Prof. Ursula Tidd (French).

*Members who are retired or emeritus:* Prof. Philip Alexander, FBA (emeritus R&T), Prof. George Brooke (emeritus R&T), Dr. Adrian Curtis (retired from R&T), Prof. John Healey, FBA (emeritus MES), Prof. Bernard Jackson (emeritus R&T, also Liverpool Hope), Mr. Bill Williams (retired from R&T).

*Affiliated Research Fellows:* Dr. Rocco Bernasconi (Facoltà di Teologia di Lugano, previously a post-doc in MES), Dr. Susie Jacobs (Manchester Metropolitan), Rabbi Dr. Michael Hilton (London, Leo Baeck College), Dr. Adi Kuntsman (Manchester Metropolitan University), Prof. Les Lancaster (retired from Liverpool John Moores), Dr. Ion Popa (Yad Vashem, Jerusalem), Rabbi David Rue (Los Angeles Beit Din), Rabbi Dr. Reuven Silverman (retired from R&T), Dr Marcel Stoetzler (Bangor).

Note: Rabbi David Rue, chief justice of the Beit Din (rabbinical court) of Los Angeles has been made honorary research fellow and is working towards a two-volume Hebrew study of the Agunah problem, drawing upon the research carried out by Prof. Bernard Jackson's major research project at Manchester (2004-2009).

*Visiting Affiliated Academics:* Prof. Michael Miller (Central European University, Budapest), was affiliated with the Centre during his periods as Rylands Visiting Research Fellow, June-July 2016.

*Externally Funded Post-doctoral positions:*

Dr. Maria Cioatǎ (British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, R&T, also CBS): *Moses Gaster (1856-1939): Eclectic Collector* (1 Sept 2014 – 31 Dec 2017; £211,133)

Dr. Katharina Keim (British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, JRRI): British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship award *The Samaritan Correspondence of Dr Moses Gaster: Texts, Analysis, and Contexts* (Oct 2015-Oct 2018; £229,110)

Dr Stefania Silvestri (Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the JRRI, Hebraica Project)

Related: Dr. Lauren Banko (Pears Fellow 2015–18 in Palestine/Israel Studies; see 4 below)

*Staffing Changes and news:*

The following members were on research leave or will be on leave during the period indicated: Dr. Jean-Marc Dreyfus (History, September 2014–August 2015), Prof. Daniel Langton (R&T, September 2013–August 2017), Dr. Renate Smithuis (R&T, September 2015–September 2016).

Prof. George Brooke took retirement during the reporting period and is now Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis Emeritus

*Current PhD students with their topics and supervisors (13):*

Kyung Baek, The Gospel of Matthew and Rewritten Bible (Brooke)

Julianne Burnett, Was Moses a Magician? (Swanson)

Edmund Chapman, Afterlives: Benjamin, Derrida and Literature in Translation (de Groot and Spencer)

- Fabienne Cheung, *Identity in play: Michel Leiris, Georges Perec, and Marcel Bénabou* (Tidd and Brillaud)
- Dominika Cholewinska-Vater, *National loyalties in war: Polish-Jewish relations within the Anders Army* (Ochman, Dreyfus)
- Peter Choi, *The Reception of Leviticus in Second Temple Jewish Literature* (Brooke)
- Eyal Clyne, *Orientalism in Israeli Academia* (Erica Burman)
- Izabella Goldstein, *Songs of the Jewish Underworld in Pre-World War Two Warsaw* (Bithell and Fanning)
- Jan Gryta, *The Politics of Memory and Jewish Heritage: Warsaw - Krakow - Lodz after 1989* (Gelbin and Ochman)
- Richard Liantonio, *The Basis of Divine Pleasure in the Psalms* (Swanson)
- Marton Ribary, *Legal abstraction in Roman and Rabbinic law* (Samely, Parkin and Giglio)
- Tereza Ward, *Social and Religious Jewish Non-conformity: Representations of the Anglo-Jewish Experience in the Oral Testimony Archive of the Manchester Jewish Museum* (Langton)
- Lindy Williams, *Gardens in Ezekiel: A Changing Theology of Sacred Space in Response to the Challenge of the Exile* (Swanson).

Note: Several PhD students hold competitive School and/or externally funded studentships.

Doctoral students who completed 2015–16 (3):

- Victoria Biggs, *Nakba in Israel and Holocaust in Palestine: Literature, Storytelling, and the Opening Up of Taboo Histories* (Taithe and Jeffers)
- Marci Freedman, *The Itinerary of Benjamin of Tudela* (Mossman and Smithuis)
- Michelle Magin, *The Three Faces of Germany: Secondary School Holocaust Education Programs in Pre- and Post-unification Germany* (Gelbin).

### 3. Research Activities

#### *Summary and Award of European Hub for Jewish Studies*

The reporting period contained the first period of funding received into the University of a 2.5-year total of £269,381 by an external European foundation. The grant is for some of the Centre's activities in the period January 2016–August 2018. This first 8 months of delivering the promised activities were extremely successful, and are included in this report insofar as they relate to research and research training. There was a number of other grant successes which are reported in Table 4 below, including Prof. Langton's AHRC Leadership Fellowship on the topic of Jewish engagement with atheism, and Dr Dreyfus's Thank Offering Senior Fellowship.

#### *Catalogues, Research dissemination of John Rylands Holdings*

Collaboration with the John Rylands Research Institute continues to be strong, with work funded by a £120,000 Hebrew manuscript grant ongoing (Smithuis) and the 2015 British Academy post-doc success (Keim) being cases in point. As part of the programme of activities funded by an anonymous European Jewish Studies foundation, the Centre employed Dr Andy Crome for one month to develop an annotated catalogue of Jewish Studies related materials in the Methodist Collections, building upon the first draft by Dr Simon Mayers last year. Since no historical treatments of Methodism and Jews have been written, the catalogue of this archive, the largest collection of Methodist materials in the world, should facilitate future investigations into how attitudes to Jews and Judaism within the Church developed since its founding in the eighteenth century.

*Information exchange and informal mentoring of staff research applications*

Our extremely successful facilitation of research dialogue across discipline boundaries and University subject areas continues, and has significantly increased beyond the University's boundaries due to the externally funded Northern UK Jewish Studies Partnership,<sup>2</sup> which met for the first time in June 2016. At that meeting, Jewish Studies academics from eight other institutions from Dublin to St Andrews, discussed common interests and concerns in the planning of research applications, and explored mutually beneficial ways to collaborate, with the SALC Research Manager, Ms Paula Dalzell, in attendance. Throughout the year we continued to provide a meeting ground for academics to share formal information, exchange informal advice, and experiment with ideas across a number of different subjects within SALC, in particular between members in MES, R&T, History, German, REES and Social Studies. We also acted as a central information point on University research, listing 19 events hosted by other centres on our website. This complements very effectively the formal processes of grant application stimulation and review by the SALC Research Director, as our continuing grant successes demonstrate (details under 4).

*Digital Humanities*

Manchester's CJS is fast becoming a major hub for digital humanities resources for research and teaching in Jewish Studies and related subjects. Among the 2015–16 changes to this menu of resources are in particular:

- I. The pioneering production of podcasts for every CJS seminar and their publication online, using newly available technology (a "swivl" robot, an iPad camera).<sup>3</sup>
- II. *Darwin's Jews: An Online Reader*, a translated and annotated texts resource created as part of Prof. Langton's Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (2013–15).<sup>4</sup>

This continues a strong tradition of the digital presence of Manchester's Centre for Jewish Studies academic outputs. They have included the following aspects and techniques:

- I. *Dissemination of Research*: Podcasts (CJS Bogdanows, CJS Shermans, research seminars; explained elsewhere in this report); Open Access journals (CJS *Melilah*; see under 8); Online exhibitions (CJS Manchester and Zionism exhibition)<sup>5</sup>; Social media (CJS twitter and newsblog accounts), linking to open source scholarship in escholar.
- II. *New Research Approaches and Methodologies*: Cataloguing online (e.g. CJS Rylands Hebrew catalogue; CJS Yoffey papers archival catalogue); Metasites (CJS Laski online web listing); Digitising existing publications as e-texts (CJS Old Series of *Melilah*); Gathering, digitising, tagging/indexing large amounts of primary sources or MSS (Rylands Genizah); Digitizing and indexing/tagging audio (CJS Oral testimony archives at Manchester Jewish Museum); Creating new e-resources using the model of existing publications (e.g. CJS *Darwin's Jews* Online reader, see above); Creating new e-resources that are only possible as DH projects, such as multi-media digital archives and databases (e.g. CJS Samely typology project)<sup>6</sup>
- III. *Language Teaching*: Integrated use of smart board and video-conferencing technologies (GoToMeeting and swivl robot) and smartphone technologies for the dissemination of and interaction with the teaching of Hebrew beyond the classroom. (see note 6).

*National and international presence of the CJS, early career researchers and miscellaneous*

CJS staff continue their strong research publication profiles in preparation of the UK's research quality survey, the so-called Research Excellence Framework (REF) to be conducted next in 2020 (see Appendix), and CJS scholars maintain a strong academic and public profile (some details in section 7

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/n-uk-js-partnership/>

<sup>3</sup> See: <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>

<sup>4</sup> See: <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/darwins-jews-online-reader/>

<sup>5</sup> See: <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/manchester-and-zionism/>

<sup>6</sup> See: <http://literarydatabase.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/>

below), including our early career researchers. Thus one of our current MA students, Ms Miruna Belea, was awarded the top British Association for Jewish Studies postgraduate national essay prize for her MA Essay, 'The Magical Use of Religious Texts: A Cognitive Approach to Religious and Cultural Textual Elements on an Amulet from Gaster's Collection at the John Rylands Library' (supervised by Todd Klutz). And our doctoral student and part-time administrator Mr Marton Ribary was, after a national competition, appointed as the postgraduate student representative on the committee of the British Association for Jewish Studies (BAJS). Early career contributors from Manchester at the British Association for Holocaust Studies Conference 2016 included the Kagan Fellow Dr Ion Popa, and a recent MA student, Ms Caroline Kaye (UCL, London: 19-21 July 2016), and those at the British Association for Jewish Studies Conference 2016 (Birmingham) included Dr Maria Cioatã ('Medieval Hebrew Tellings of Tobit: Versions of the Book of Tobit, or New Texts?'), Dr. Simon Mayers, and Dr. Katharina Keim (as well as Profs. Philip Alexander and Daniel Langton). Our website has again attracted international attention (22,682 page views in last 12 months), as does the online journal *Melilah* (43,300 page views in the last 4 years; see below). Our channels of communication include website, newsblog, email list and Twitter. We successfully completed a first Semester of developing a pioneering a new way to teach modern Hebrew in the class room, with both face to face and virtual interaction. This constitutes one of the key activities funded by the European foundation mentioned above<sup>7</sup> and also contributes to the training of two Manchester University PG students. For an account of our postgraduate training event, see next section.

#### *Progress on planned objectives*

1. The CJS activities throughout 2015–16 were significantly enhanced and expanded following the award of a £269,381 grant for the period Jan 2016–Aug 2018 from a private European foundation (see above under 1). The grant is renewable for another two years thereafter. This award appoints Manchester's Centre for Jewish Studies as one of only three European Regional Hubs (and the sole UK Hub).
2. It led to the foundation of the Northern UK Jewish Studies Partnership,<sup>8</sup> which brings together for academic collaboration Jewish Studies academics from Leeds, Durham, Edge Hill, Liverpool Hope, Chester, Bangor, Nottingham, Trinity College Dublin, Edinburgh and St Andrews. The Manchester CJS co-directors are the co-chairs of this Partnership network.
3. The first meeting to discuss research collaboration with participants from eight of these institutions took place in Manchester on 30 June 2016, with the SALC research manager Paula Dalzell in attendance. A number of general priorities for collaboration and expansion was agreed, and further meetings will take place in January and/or July 2017.
4. As planned, the CJS hosted an event to enhance doctoral and post-doctoral training in the disciplines of Jewish Studies took place on 30 June and 1st July 2016, and we were able to provide 15 travel stipends for trainee participants from the Northern Partner institutions, the rest of the UK and two European institutions. This event took place in the Graduate School and was recognized by the North West Consortium Doctoral Training Partnership. During the Spring Semester 2016, 3 students from Southampton, Trinity College Dublin and Leeds universities participated in the mixed classroom/distance learning course unit in modern Hebrew. (For further information, see page 17 in "11 Teaching Summary".)
5. As planned, the Centre supported MA teaching in the School by advertising and awarding three MA fee bursaries for the MA programme in Religions and Theology with a Jewish Studies focus.
6. We have continued to provide informal advice to early career researchers and candidates for post-doctoral positions, by providing pilot research projects (Dr Crome, see above

<sup>7</sup> See: <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/modern-hebrew/>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/n-uk-js-partnership/>

- under “Catalogues”), and supported individuals in the submission applications for grants of all kinds, including large projects (European Research Council, Samely); see table 4 above for successful or pending applications.
7. Our dissemination of research expertise to the wider public and/or the Jewish community through our seminar series was enhanced by their dissemination as podcasts on our website. The mixed classroom/distance learning environment for modern Hebrew attracted 3 participants from the local Jewish community.
  8. Following discussions with the external funder, we have decided not to invest too much effort in enhancing the CJS Seminar series at this point to increase its frequency to once a week during term times.
  9. We have hosted as planned the second Bogdanow Holocaust Lecture Series, presented by Prof. Michael Marrus of Toronto University. Following its usual policy, the CJS has published the lectures as podcast.<sup>9</sup>
  10. The volume of papers on the theme of the 2015 British Association for Jewish Studies conference, which was hosted by Prof. Langton as President in Manchester, was published as planned: D. Langton (ed.), *Atheism, Scepticism and Challenges to Monotheism*, *Melilah* Vol. 12 (2015).<sup>10</sup>
  11. Scholarly publications by all members continued apace (see 8 and Appendix).

#### 4. Research Awards or Projects During 2015–16 include the following

TITLE AND DURATION OF AWARD	START-FINISH DATE (OR DATE OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION)	PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR AND CO-APPLICANTS	AWARDING BODY, AMOUNT
Research project ‘Corpses of Mass Violence and Genocide’	Feb 2012–Jan 16	Dreyfus, co-recipient	European Research Council, £427,148 (of €1,2m total)
Thank Offering Senior Fellowship	2016–17	Dreyfus	British Academy/Leverhulme, £45,760
AHRC Leadership Fellowship	2016–2018	Langton	AHRC, £136,000
Collaborative PhD fellowship with Manchester Jewish Museum	2014–2017	Langton, Ward	A prestigious European Jewish foundation, £42,000
Hebrew manuscripts catalogue revision and digitization; Inventories and Cataloguing; in collaboration with the JRRJ	2015-2018	Smithuis, Alexander	A prestigious European Jewish foundation, £120,000
Digital Humanities Capacity-building Fund 2014-15/Second Call: Lay audience version of existing Samely Database	2015–16	Samely	IT staff time support +12/06/15 workshop
<i>Related:</i> Post-Doc Appointment in Israel and/or Palestine Studies (see note i)	2015–18	Behar, Banko	Pears Foundation, £142,000
Research component of the above European Regional Hub grant: resource enhancement projects - pilot cataloguing/research projects using John Rylands University Library collections related to Jewish Studies	Jan 2016– Aug 2018	Langton, Samely	Prestigious European Jewish Foundation: £25,920

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/bogdanow-lectures-2016/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=768cc7677b6830144846bea8f&id=fbd29d6a06&e=b4798e1b3c>

<i>Related:</i> European Regional Hub for Jewish Studies funding: total funding £269,381 (see main text)	Jan 2016– Aug 2018	Langton, Samely	Prestigious European Jewish Foundation: £269,381 (including the sum in the preceding row)
TEI conference contribution, “Going Digital” (see below, table 5).	2015–16	Smithuis	£ 1,000, Digital Humanities Manchester
TEI conference contribution	2015-16	Smithuis	£1,000, JRRI
Hebraica Cataloguing project (see above)	2015-16	Smithuis, Alexander	£7,450, Various private donations and donors

Some figures are rounded; for PGR-related funding, see 9.1.

Note: Dr Lauren Banko holds a Pears Post-doctoral position in Israel/Palestine Studies, May 2015-2018; Behar; funder Pears Foundation, £142,000; the appointment was open as to specialization, and the appointee’s research is on the history of Palestinian Arabs, which is why it is classed as “related”.

## 5. Research events organised

See <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/past-activities/> for details

DATE	TITLE	SPEAKERS	APPROX ATTENDANCE
26 October 2015	“Holocaust Memory and Memorials”, The University of Manchester and IWM North (part of Imperial War Museums)	Convened by Jean-Marc Dreyfus; speakers Tim Cole (Bristol), Adriana Bencic (Jasenovac Memorial), Rose Holmes, (Sussex) and Anna Hajkova (Warwick)	65
30 November 2015	“Workshop: Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow of Jewish - Polish Relations”, The University of Manchester (Dr Ochman)	Yakoov Wise (Huddersfield), Joanna Michlic (Bristol), Katarzyna Zechenter (University College London), Magdalena Rubinfeld Koralewska (Beit Kraków - Jewish Progressive Community) and Jan Gryta (Manchester)	40
27-28 Jan 2016	TEI conference: “Going Digital with Humanities Research Workshop”, The University of Manchester	Convened by Stefania Silvestri (JRRI)	60
15 - 16 February 2016	Bogdanow Lectures in Holocaust Studies: ‘Lessons of the Holocaust’	3-part lecture series and master class given by Prof. Michael Marrus (Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Professor Emeritus of Holocaust Studies, University of Toronto)	125 (daily)
2015-2016	CJS Research Seminar Series: 5 seminars	18 Feb 2016 Roman Vater (Oxford) 3 March 2016 Alan Craig (Leeds) 17 March 2016 Nir Arielli (Leeds) 14 April 2016 Dominique Bourel (CNRS, Paris) 21 April 2016 Yohai Hakak (Brunel)	20–35 per event
20 April 2016	Levinas and the Disruption of Knowing, CIDRAL Theory-Intensive	Alex Samely	18
8 May 2016	Sherman Community Lecture "Jewish-Muslim Relations in the UK: History, Experience, Context"	Yulia Egorova	c.30

27-29 June 2016	"The Other Within - The Hebrew and Jewish Collections of the John Rylands Library"; conference under the auspices of the John Rylands Research Institute	Key speakers: Ben Outhwaite (Cambridge), Miriam Wagner (Cambridge), Emile Schrijver (Amsterdam), Reinhard Pummer (Ottawa). 3-day programme of papers, with collection encounters and public lecture	Conference - c. 60; Public lecture - c. 85
30 June - 1 July 16	First Postgraduate Research Training Event and Research Meeting of the Northern UK Jewish Studies Partnership, University of Manchester (A. Samely)	Yulia Egorova (Durham), George Brooke, Philip Alexander, James Renton (Edge Hill), Eva Frojmovic (Leeds), Malka Hodgson (Manchester), Dr Rafiee-Rad (Manchester), Renate Smithuis (Manchester), Moshe Behar (Manchester), Bill Tooman (St Andrews), Nathan Abrams (Bangor), Katharina Keim (Manchester) and Jan Lorenz (Poznan, Poland)	50

## 6. International links (Academic and non-academic)

In addition to the visiting academic listed under 2 and 5 above, the following visitors were hosted: Michael Marrus (Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Professor Emeritus of Holocaust Studies, University of Toronto), Bogdanow Lecturer, 15-16 February 2016.

### *International links:*

Prof. Langton: The Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at Pennsylvania University has approved the year long research programme for 2017, Nature between Science and Religion: Jewish Culture and the Natural World, designed by Daniel Langton (Manchester) and David Shyowitz (Northwestern). See <http://katz.sas.upenn.edu/fellowship-program/next-year>.

Dr Smithuis: collaborates with Dr Arthur Kiron the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, regarding a digitisation project, and with Dr Aviad Stollman at the National Library of Israel, Jerusalem, with regard to the Manchester Hebraica project (see above 4).

Dr Ochman (2015-present) Participant in the international project State Sponsored History led by Ghent University.

Dr Cioatǎ continues to work with colleagues at the New Europe College (Bucharest) and with Prof. Anissava Miltenova at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Sofia) University.

## 7. Public engagement, media coverage and potential socio-economic impact

As a Centre we have hosted and disseminated the following public engagement events: the second Bodganow Holocaust Lecture Series by Prof. Michael Marrus, 15-16 February 2016;<sup>11</sup> and the May 2016 Sherman Community Lecture by Dr. Yulia Egorova (Durham University).<sup>12</sup> CJS seminars were recorded and uploaded for public access.<sup>13</sup>

We have regular collaborations for public engagement, as well as research, purposes with the Imperial War Museum North (centred around teacher training, see table 5) and the Manchester Jewish Museum (public talks and collaborative doctoral research).

### *Radio and TV appearances:*

Moshe Behar, was interviewed in Hebrew by the feminist broadcaster Ms Keren Noybach in her on radio programme "Seder Yom" about his 2015 article 'The centennial of 'Flora Saporto': Thoughts on the possibility of a Mizrahi-Feminist alliance', 2 April 2016

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/bogdanow-lectures-2016/>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/sherman-lecture-2016/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>



George Brooke consultant and interviewee for film on the Copper Scroll for Smithsonian Films, Blink Films, London, broadcast on BBC TV Channel 4 in April 2016

Jean-Marc Dreyfus spoke to the news channel France 24 about Hitler's Mein Kampf, which re-enters the public domain in Germany from 11 January. 4 Jan 2016.

Ursula Tidd a guest on In Our Time with Melvyn Bragg on 22 October 2015 BBC radio 4.

*Newspaper articles:*

George Brooke, Interview for Göttinger Tagblatt on the 2015 Wellhausen Vorlesung, December 2015

George Brooke, Interview for the Newcastle Herald on the 2015 Morpeth Lecture, September 2015

*Public lectures and presentations:*

Sophie Garside and Siavash Rafiee Rad, 'Virtual Participants in Actual Classroom: an innovative way of teaching Hebrew in future', The Future of Hebrew learning in the UK University of Cambridge & World Zionist Organization, 15 June 2016

Bernard Jackson, 'Mediation and Immediacy in the Jewish Legal Tradition', invited conference on 'Mediation and Immediacy. The Semiotic Turn in the Study of Religion', Turin, June 2016

Renate Smithuis, 'From Virtue to Violence – Key Notions of Martyrdom in Islam', "Sacrifice and Martyrdom" lecture series, Xaverian College, 24 March 2015

Moshe Behar, 'Modernism and Traditionalism among Middle Eastern Jews before 1948', Public lecture (in Hebrew) in Cafe Sigmund, Jerusalem, 20 June 2016

Philip Alexander, 'Judaism and the Christian Mystical Tradition' at the Jewish Studies Seminar, Goethe University Frankfurt, 17 May 2016

Yulia Egorova, Sherman Community Lecture in Jewish Studies 2016 "Jewish-Muslim Relations in the UK: History, Experience, Context" 8 May 2016

Moshe Behar, 'Competing Marxisms on the Normalisation of Palestine/Israel: how relevant are pre-1974 analyses of Matzpen and the PFLP to the 21st century?' Middle Eastern Studies Seminar, University of Manchester, 26 April 2016.

Moshe Behar, 'Arab Jewish relations in Middle Eastern Jewish Thought', at the NGO of Israeli in Amsterdam "Gate 48", 7 April 2016.

Moshe Behar, 'Unambiguously "Eastern", and Ignored: Modern Middle Eastern Jewish Thought' to the Amsterdam Centre for Middle Eastern Studies on 6 April 2016.

George Brooke, 'The Use of the Old Testament in the Fourth Gospel,' South Cheshire College, Crewe, March 2016.

George Brooke, 'Violent Victory? The Dead Sea War Scroll, the Book of Revelation, and the Cross,' The Bible, War, Violence and Peace: Chester Cathedral Lectures, Chester, February 2016;

Michael Marrus, Bogdanow Lectures in Holocaust Studies 2016, 'Lessons of the Holocaust' 15 and 16 February 2016

Bernard Jackson, 'The Whodunit Underlying the Plot of the Book of Ruth', SOTS Winter Meeting, Durham, January 2016

George Brooke, 'The End of Inspiration: The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Text of the Hebrew Bible,' Xaverian College, Manchester, January 2016

Moshe Behar, 'Thoughts on Normalisation and Binationalism,' at the Minerva Centre Tel Aviv University (in Hebrew), 22 December 2015

George Brooke, Julius Wellhausen Vorlesung, University of Göttingen, Germany December 2015

Jan Lorenz, 'Newcomers, returnees and keepers: A look at the Poland's Jewish community' at Menorah Synagogue in South Manchester on 29 November 2015

- Jean-Marc Dreyfus, conference 'Femmes en deportation. Association nationale des déportées et des internées de la Résistance 70ème anniversaire', Université de Paris Ouest Nanterre la Défense, présentation : '... de criminelles expériences pseudo-médicales'. Le rôle de l'ADIR dans la négociation des réparations allemandes aux 'lapines' de Ravensbrück, 1954-1963 ('... some criminal pseudo-medical experiments'. The role of ADIR in the negotiations towards German compensations to the victims of Ravensbruck 1954-1963). 9-10 November 2015
- Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Mémorial de Caen, Cité de l'histoire pour la paix, Conférence 'Les Mémoires', lecture 'The diary of Alfred Rosenberg and the catalogue of Hermann Goering'. 7 November 2015
- Jean-Marc Dreyfus 3 November 2015, CERCIL, Orléans, 'A medicine of death. The long shadow of Nazi medical crimes in modern ethics', lecture given after the screening of the documentary 'T4, a doctor in Nazi Germany'.
- Moshe Behar, 'The One-State/Two-States Controversy in post-1917 Palestine/Israel: Nationalism, Liberalism, Marxism, Bi-Nationalism' at Istanbul Bilgi University, 5 November 2015
- Moshe Behar, 'The One-State/Two-States Controversy in post-1917 Palestine/Israel: Nationalism, Liberalism, Marxism, Bi-Nationalism' at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, 3 Nov 2015
- Ewa Ochman 'Spaces of Nationhood and Contested War Monuments in Poland', international workshop: State-Sponsored History, Ghent University, Ghent, November 2015.
- Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Quai d'Orsay, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris, lecture for 'Heritage days', "The Goering Catalogue". 19 September 2015
- George Brooke, 'The Dead Sea Scrolls for Christians Today,' The Newman Association (South Manchester Circle), Cheadle, October 2015
- George Brooke, 'Rewritten Bible: A Dialogue with George Brooke,' University of Sydney, September 2015;
- George Brooke, Morpeth Lecture, Newcastle University and Diocese of Newcastle, NSW, Australia September 2015
- Cathy Gelbin, 'Rootless Cosmopolitans: Archaeologies of Terror in German-Jewish Writing on Stalinism and the Shoah' – guest lecture, Zentrum Jüdische Studien, Humboldt Universität Berlin, July 2015

*Knowledge transfer:*

- Marcel Stoetzler wrote an opinion piece on the blog openDemocracy, 26 May 2016.
- Yohai Hakak, 'Forbidden Love and Moral Panic: Jewish-Arab Couples in Contemporary Israel', 21 April 2016.<sup>14</sup>
- Dominique Bourel, 'From Kassa to Manchester and forward: Alexander Altmann and the Mendelssohn Forschung', 14 April 2016.<sup>15</sup>
- Alan Craig, 'EU-Israel relations: Sanctions by any other name?' 3 March 2016.<sup>16</sup>
- Roman Vater, 'National alternatives to Zionism: the case of the Young Hebrews, 1939-1976', 18 Feb 2016.<sup>17</sup>
- IPP developments for online language courses.

<sup>14</sup> Recorded and uploaded to <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>

<sup>15</sup> Recorded and uploaded to <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>

<sup>16</sup> Recorded and uploaded to <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>

<sup>17</sup> Recorded and uploaded to <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars-2015-16/>

*Research papers:*

- Cathy Gelbin, 'Rootless Cosmopolitans: Archaeologies of Terror in German-Jewish Writing on Stalinism and the Shoah' – Zentrum Jüdische Studien, Humboldt Universität Berlin, July 2015
- Cathy Gelbin, 'Monsters, Gender and Race in Early German Cinema' – international conference 'Monsters, Demons and Wonders in European-Jewish History', Goethe University Frankfurt, May 2016:
- Cathy Gelbin, 'Writing in the Crossfire: German-Jewish Intellectuals in the Shadow of Stalinism and the Shoah' – guest lecture, University of Sussex, March 2016:
- Cathy Gelbin, 'Zwischen Partikularität und Universalismus: Jüdische Existenz und Kosmopolitismus in den Prosaschriften Stefan Zweigs' – international conference '„Irgendeine Macht will, dass wir noch dauern“: Stefan Zweig – ein jüdischer Schriftsteller aus Europa', Stefan Zweig Centre, Universität Salzburg, November 2015:
- Stefania Silvestri, 'Jewish Women from Venice: A Portrayal through the Study of their Ketubbot, at The Birth and Evolution of the Venetian Ghetto,' Venice 5-6 May 2016
- Stefania Silvestri, 'Le'azim, tafsir, translations, instructions: vernacular additions in Hebrew script. A glance at the manuscripts from the John Rylands University Library, at SHARP 2016,' Paris 18-22 July 2016
- Renate Smithuis, 'From Maimonides to Pico della Mirandola: Abulafia's "Confusion of the Religions" (*Secrets of the Torah* I.14)' - International Conference 'Jewish/non-Jewish Relations from Antiquity to the Present', University of Southampton, 7-9 September 2015
- Renate Smithuis with Stefania Silvestri and Nienke Valk, 'Codices, Scrolls, Amulets – Creating an Online Catalogue and Digital Platform for the Manuscripts in Hebrew Script at the John Rylands Library', "The Other Within" – the Hebrew and Jewish Collections of the John Rylands Library – 27-29 June 2016
- Renate Smithuis, 'Donning Borrowed Clothes: Judah Halevi and Shi'i Theology', 'Interactions of Muslim intellectuals and institutions with those of other faiths in the medieval Persianate world' – British Academy 7 September 2016

*Panel discussions:*

- Bernard Jackson, participant of the post-screening panel discussion on the Israeli film 'Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem', UK Jewish Film Festival, Manchester, 30 June 2016
- Philip Alexander was among a group of scholars and interfaith practitioners taking part in a seminar on the theme of 'Challenging Antisemitism and Islamophobia' organised by the International Abrahamic Forum in partnership with other groups. 3 Dec 2015
- Jean-Marc Dreyfus and the film's director David Evans. Screening of 'My Nazi Legacy' followed by a Q&A panel. 11 Nov 2015

*Additional public engagement activities*

- Stefania Silvestri published five catalogue entries (used also as exhibition captions) for the exhibition "Venice, The Jews and Europe. 1516-2016" (Venice, Doge's Palace, 19 June-13 November 2016).

## 8. Key Research Publications over the 12 month period

Additional Category: Academic Journal produced at CJS	Books	Edited Collections	Journal Articles	Chapters in Books	Reports and Other Outputs
1	2	4	11	14	0

*Edited journal: Melilah – Manchester Journal of Jewish Studies*: D. Langton (ed.), *Atheism, Scepticism and Challenges to Monotheism*, Melilah Vol. 12 (2016).

Academic, interdisciplinary, peer reviewed and open access Journal edited from the Centre.

For the journal's website, please go to: <http://www.melilahjournal.org/>

Editors: Daniel R. Langton and Renate Smithuis.

Articles in *Melilah* vol. 12:

Kenneth Seeskin, From Monotheism to Scepticism and Back Again

Joshua Moss, Satire, Monotheism and Scepticism

David Ruderman, Are Jews the Only True Monotheists? Some Critical Reflections in Jewish Thought from the Renaissance to the Present

Benjamin Williams, Doubting Abraham doubting God: The Call of Abraham in the Or ha-Sekhel

Károly Dániel Dobos, Shimi the Sceptical: Sceptical Voices in an Early Modern Jewish, Anti-Christian Polemical Drama by Matityahu Nissim Terni

Jeremy Fogel, Scepticism of Scepticism: On Mendelssohn's Philosophy of Common Sense

Michael Miller, Kaplan and Wittgenstein: Atheism, Phenomenology and the use of language

Federico Dal Bo, Textualism and Scepticism: Post-modern Philosophy and the Theology of Text

Norman Solomon, The Attenuation of God in Modern Jewish Thought

Melissa Raphael, Idoloclasm: The First Task of Second Wave Liberal Jewish Feminism

Daniel R. Langton, Joseph Krauskopf's Evolution and Judaism: One Reform Rabbi's Response to Scepticism and Materialism in Nineteenth-century North America

Avner Dinur, Secular Theology as a Challenge for Jewish Atheists  
Khayke Beruriah Wiegand, "Why the Geese Shrieked": Isaac Bashevis Singer's Work between Mysticism and Sceptics

*Books by current and recent CJS Fellows or associates:*

Jean-Marc Dreyfus, 'Pour En Finir Avec Mein Kampf. Et Combattre La Haine Sur Internet' (Editions Le Bord de l'eau, 2016)

Lauren Banko, *The Invention of Palestinian Citizenship, 1918-1947* (Edinburgh University Press & Oxford University Press, 2016).

Related: Peter Pormann, *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Hebrew Manuscripts of Corpus Christi College, Oxford* (Boydell & Brewer, 2015).

*Edited Volumes:*

George Brooke, *Goochem in Mokum—Wisdom in Amsterdam: Papers on Biblical and Related Wisdom Read at the Fifteenth Joint Meeting of the Society for Old Testament Study and the Oudtestamentisch Werkgezelschap, Amsterdam, July 2012*, Editor with P. Van Hecke and with the assistance of B. Becking and E.J.C. Tigchelaar (Oudtestamentische Studiën 68; Leiden: Brill, 2016), viii + 182 pp. (978-90-04-31476-4)

George Brooke, *On Prophets, Warriors, and Kings: Former Prophets Through the Eyes of Their Interpreters* Editor with A. Feldman (Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft 470; Berlin: de Gruyter, 2016), vi + 268 pp. (ISBN 978-3-11-037738-5)

Cathy Gelbin, co-editor of *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book. The Journal for German-Jewish History and Culture* (OUP) No 60 / 2015

*Academic Journal articles and book chapters:*

- Ursula Tidd, 'Jorge Semprún and the Practice of Survival', *Yale French Studies* (2016) 103 – 113
- Daniel Langton, 'Elijah Benamozegh and Evolutionary Theory: A Nineteenth Century Italian Kabbalist's Panentheistic Response to Darwin', *European Journal of Jewish Studies*, 10(2) (2016), 223-245
- Daniel Langton, 'Joseph Krauskopf's Evolution and Judaism: One Reform Rabbi's Response to Scepticism and Materialism in Nineteenth-century North America', *Melilah: Manchester Journal of Jewish Studies*, 12 (2015), 122-130
- Bernard Jackson, 'Law and Narrative in the Book of Ruth: A Syntagmatic Reading', Available at SSRN (December 20, 2015): <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2706017> and on Academia.edu: <https://lhu.academia.edu/BernardJackson> (Pre-Publication internet version)
- Bernard Jackson 'Mediation and Immediacy in the Jewish Legal Tradition', <https://www.academia.edu/s/171e34ccfc?source=link> and <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2800819> (Pre-Publication internet version)
- Maria Cioată, 'Moses Gaster, Friedrich Horn and the Background to the Settlement of Samarin,' *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library* 92.1 (2016): 27-51.
- Maria Cioată, 'Representations of Moses Gaster (1856–1939) in Anglophone and Romanian Scholarship,' in *New Europe College Yearbook 2012-13* (2015): 89–128.
- Cathy Gelbin, 'Nomadic Cosmopolitanism: Jewish Prototypes of the Cosmopolitan in the Writings of Stefan Zweig, Joseph Roth and Lion Feuchtwanger, 1918-1933' in *Journal for Jewish Culture and History* 16/02 (2015), 157-177.
- Moshe Behar, 'The Foundational Antinativism of Mizrahi Literature', *Journal of Levantine Studies* 5/1 (2015), 107-126.
- Jan Lorenz , 'Counting as one: Moral encounters and criteria of affinity in a Polish Jewish congregation' in *Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 5/2 (2015): 59–81.
- Philip Alexander, 'Christian Restorationism in Ireland in the early nineteenth century: the strange case of Miss Marianne Nevill', *Jewish Historical Studies* 47.1 (2015), 31–47.

*Chapters in Books:*

- Lauren Banko, 'Citizenship rights and semantics of colonial power and resistance: Haifa, Jaffa and Nablus, 1931-1933,' in *Violence and the City in the Modern Middle East* , ed. Nelida Fuccaro (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016).
- George Brooke, 'Text, Timing and Terror: Thematic Thoughts on the War Scroll in Conversation with the Writings of Martin G. Abegg, Jr.,' *The War Scroll, Violence, War and Peace in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature: Essays in Honour of Martin G. Abegg, Jr. on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday* (ed. K. Davis D.M. Peters, K.S. Baek, and P.W. Flint; STDJ 115; Leiden: Brill, 2016), 49–66.
- George Brooke, 'The Doctrine of Inspiration and the Dead Sea Scrolls,' *Biblical Inspiration and the Authority of Scripture* (ed. C.R. Bovell; Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2015), 27–31.
- George Brooke, 'Roger Tomes,' in *Roger Tomes, Interpreting the Text: Essays on the Old Testament, its Reception and its Study* (ed. W.J. Houston and A.H.W. Curtis; Hebrew Bible Monographs 71; Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2015), 1–3.
- George Brooke, 'Papyrus Fragments of Deuteronomy (P. Ryl. 458),' *Riches of the Rylands: The Special Collections of the University of Manchester Library* (ed. R. Beckett, D. Clayton, M. Frost and J. Hodgson; Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2015), 151.
- George Brooke, 'Reading, Searching and Blessing: A Functional Approach to Scriptural Interpretation in the YHD,' *The Temple in Text and Tradition: A Festschrift in Honour of Robert Hayward* (ed. R.T. McLay; LSTS 83; London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2015), 140–56.

- George Brooke, 'The Place of Wisdom in the Formation of the Movement behind Dead George Brooke, Sea Scrolls,' *Goochem in Mokum: Papers on Biblical and Related Wisdom Read at the Fifteenth Joint Meeting of the Society for Old Testament Study and the Oudtestamentisch Werkgezelschap, Amsterdam, July 2012* (ed. G.J. Brooke and P. Van Hecke, with the assistance of B. Becking and E.J.C. Tigchelaar; OTS 68; Leiden: Brill, 2016), 20-33
- George Brooke 'Zedekiah, Covenant and the Scrolls from Qumran,' *On Prophets, Warriors, and Kings: Former Prophets Through the Eyes of Their Interpreters* (ed. G.J. Brooke and A. Feldman; BZAW 470; Berlin: de Gruyter, 2016), 95–109.
- George Brooke 'Dethroning David and Enthroning Messiah: Jewish and Christian Perspectives' (with Hindy Najman), *On Prophets, Warriors, and Kings: Former Prophets Through the Eyes of Their Interpreters* (ed. G.J. Brooke and A. Feldman; BZAW 470; Berlin: de Gruyter, 2016), 111–27.
- George Brooke 'Brian as a Teacher of Righteousness,' *Jesus and Brian: Exploring the Historical Jesus and his Times via Monty Python's Life of Brian* (ed. J. Taylor; London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2015), 127–40.
- George Brooke 'The Kittim and Hints of Hybridity in the Dead Sea Scrolls,' *People under Power: Early Jewish and Christian Responses to the Roman Empire* (ed. M. Labahn and O. Lehtipuu; Early Christianity in the Roman World; Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2015), 17–32.
- Bernard Jackson, 'Philosophy of Law: Secular and Religious (With Some Reference to Jewish Family Law)' *Law in Society: Reflections on Children, Family, Culture and Philosophy*, pp 45-62 (2015)
- Bernard Jackson, 'Ruth, the Pentateuch and the Nature of Biblical Law: In Conversation with Jean Louis Ska', in *The Post-Priestly Pentateuch. New Perspectives on its Redactional Development and Theological Profiles (Ska Festschrift)*, eds. Konrad Schmid and Federico Giuntoli (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2015), 75-111.
- Philip Alexander, 'Rabbinic and patristic Bible exegesis as intertexts : towards a theory of comparative Midrash. In: *The Temple in Text and Tradition; a Festschrift in Honour of Robert Hayward*, in R. Timothy McLay (ed.), London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2015, 71-97.
- Alex Samely, 'Jewish Studies and Reading', in G. Langer and C. Cordoni (eds.), *'Let the Wise Listen and Add to Their Learning'. Festschrift for Günter Stemberger on the Occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday* (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2016), pp. 751–783.
- Alex Samely, 'Observations on the Structure and Literary Fabric of the Temple Scroll', in T. McLay (ed.), *The Temple in Text and Tradition. A Festschrift in Honour of Robert Hayward* (London: Bloomsbury T& T Clark), pp. 233–77.

## 9. Statement of planned activities for the next 12 months

Among the planned research and other activities, partly following the plan we set out when gaining the above-mentioned grant of £269,381 grant for the period Jan 2016–Aug 2018 (see above under 1), are the following:

1. The 2nd post-graduate research training event for UK doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers. Feedback questionnaires from the first event were overwhelmingly positive. Illustrative comments include: "Enjoyed pretty much everything", "Very, very useful and interesting", "Excellent idea and well executed." Most said that they rated the event as "very important" to them and all said that they would recommend it to a friend. The PDF of the (23 question) feedback forms is available upon request.
2. Research network meetings academics with the Northern Jewish Studies partners (probably in January and July).

3. A network meeting with a group of Polish and other European scholars in Jewish Studies in Manchester, July 2017.
4. Two further resource enhancement projects dealing with holdings of the John Rylands University Library.
5. To host the 3rd annual Bogdanow Holocaust Lecture Series. Speaker will be Dr Vicki Barnett, Washington Holocaust Museum, speaking on "The Church and the Holocaust", 30–31 January 2017.
6. To receive as visiting scholar Dr. Dan Levene, Reader in Jewish History and Culture at the University of Southampton, who has been awarded a JRRI visiting research fellowship at the Rylands Library to work on Ethiopic magic scrolls. He will visit in February 2016.
7. The Sherman Community Lecture, to be delivered by Prof. Abigail Green (Oxford University), on "A Century of Jewish Liberalism: 1848–1948" (venue: Manchester Jewish Museum, spring 2017).
8. Providing support for a new level 2 Hebrew language course, and for the continuation of level 1 Hebrew language (with fee bursaries for non-credit participants nominated by the Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester; open to non-credit participation from Northern UK Jewish Studies Partnership universities), pioneering a combination of class room and online interactive delivery of teaching and student activities.
9. Continued grant application activity, both external and internal funding (SALC RSF, RNF, JRRI).
10. Continued research seminar series (for the provisional programme see our website)<sup>18</sup>
11. Advertising and awarding of the 2nd tranche of 3 MA fee bursaries for MA in Religions and Theology with Jewish Studies focus.

## 10. Resources

### *Office*

During the extended construction work in the Samuel Alexander Building, the Centre's administrator Laura Mitchell works in a shared office space. The shared office is also used by retired staff and CJS fellows. The Centre has received assurance from SALC that an individual office will be allocated when the construction work is completed.

### *Library*

The Bill Williams Library is currently inaccessible. Books and other materials are kept in boxes in the University's central storage during the construction work. When the Centre is allocated with a new individual office, it shall give home to the Bill Williams Library and reopen to the public. The completed catalogue of the holdings is published on the Centre's website.

### *Website*

The website is updated on a regular basis and continues to list and archive entries on publications and events. The video recordings of the annual Bogdanow Lecture series in Holocaust Studies by Prof. Christopher Browning and the annual Sherman Lecture series by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine are also made available for the public on our website.

## 11. Teaching Summary

### *Hebrew language teaching*

The Centre is committed to maintain the availability of credit-bearing Hebrew language teaching (levels 1-3) for the significant number of Manchester University students who take our broad range of

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<sup>18</sup> <http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/research-seminars/>

Jewish Studies courses. As planned, level 1 Hebrew was offered this year (2015–16) over one semester. Student registered included 1 local undergraduate student, 2 local postgraduate students, and 6 distance learning students: 3 from the local Jewish community, sponsored by audit fee bursaries from the European Regional Hub of Jewish Studies grant; and 3 from Southampton, Trinity College Dublin and Leeds universities. These three students' audit fees were sponsored by waivers authorized by the Head of the SALC. Next year there will be a level 1 course and a level 2 course, both taught over 2 semesters. For details of the course.<sup>19</sup>

*Dissemination of the teaching of Hebrew beyond a physical classroom*

The mixed classroom/distance learning environment has been a success. As a result, Sophie Garside presented a paper at Cambridge on the pilot project, and Malka Hodgson presented at a recent CJS's Regional Hub national training event for Jewish Studies post-graduate research students (see below). This appears to have sparked some interest from other institutions in reproducing the system elsewhere. An account of the student experience from one of the local Jewish community representatives who have used it as professional development and who has now gone on to do the second-level Hebrew model has been published on the Centre's website.<sup>20</sup>

*Overview of Jewish Studies courses offered in 2015/16 (including student numbers)*

BA Level

1. Introduction to Judaism – 33 students
2. Introduction to the History of Jewish-Christian Relations – 23 students
3. Holocaust Theology – 44 students
4. Introduction to Biblical Hebrew – 4 students
5. Modern Hebrew Language Level 1 – 8 students
6. Modern Hebrew Language Level 2 – 2 students
7. Modern Hebrew Language Level 3 – 1 student
8. Israeli Media – 1 student
9. The Question of Palestine/Israel – 53 students
10. Fundamental Debates in the Study of Palestine/Israel – 33 students
11. Screening the Holocaust – 24
12. Consequences of the Holocaust on Western Societies and Jewish History – 35 students
13. Representing the Holocaust in French Film and Text – 22 students
14. Modern Literatures of the Middle East: Hebrew Pathway
15. Themes in the Formation of Arab and Jewish Nationalism – 28 students
16. History Long Essay with Jewish Studies topic – 7 students
17. 40-credit or 20-credit dissertation with a Jewish Studies theme – 6 students
18. Religion, Culture and Gender (Jewish and Christian perspectives) – 43 students

MA level:

19. Jews among Christians and Muslims – 8 students
20. Introduction and Methodology in Jewish Studies – 6 students
21. Bible & Early Judaism in Context – 2 students
22. Guided Reading course units reflecting individual Jewish Studies research interests
23. Research Essay (MALC programme) with a Jewish Studies theme
24. MA dissertation with a Jewish Studies Theme – 6 students

<sup>19</sup> [www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/modern-hebrew/](http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/modern-hebrew/)

<sup>20</sup> [www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/news-blog/2016/4/15/modern-hebrew.html](http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/news-blog/2016/4/15/modern-hebrew.html)



*Fee bursaries for MA students in Jewish Studies*

These bursaries are offered for MA students who choose Jewish Studies as their main study focus (support for 3 bursaries in academic years 2016-17 and 2017-18). Three bursaries have been allocated to deserving candidates for the academic year beginning in September 2016.

*Postgraduate research training<sup>21</sup>*

A postgraduate research training event was held on 30 June and 1 July 2016. 20 doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers from the Northern Partnership Institutions, the wider UK and continental Europe (Vienna, Poznan) met for a range of training and development sessions. The programme was designed as an alternative to the more generic training days offered by many institutions and sought to address the participants' specific interests and concerns as solicited from them in the planning process. Sessions included career advice on funding (drawing on the EAJS funders database) and postdoctoral applications, CV building, public engagement, Research Excellence Framework 2020, and the postdoctorate experience, as well as a series of sessions on 'current trends' in various fields of Jewish Studies, from studies in film and visual culture to Israel Studies, digital humanities, community outreach/museum studies, Antisemitism studies and Biblical Studies. There was also a session reporting on the Manchester pilot project to teach modern Hebrew in a mixed teaching environment for classroom-based students alongside distance-learning students, and a public showing of the film *Gett* at a prominent Manchester screen venue (HOME), followed by expert panel discussion. Emphatically positive feedback from staff and students (see section 5) has encouraged us to plan for a similar event in 2017.

Professors Daniel Langton and Alexander Samely

6 December 2016

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<sup>21</sup> [www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/n-uk-js-partnership/](http://www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/n-uk-js-partnership/)