

**Raphael Magarik**  
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### **Education**

University of California, Berkeley, PhD in English with Designated Emphases in Jewish Studies and Renaissance and Early Modern Studies, May 2019  
Yale College, BA in English *cum laude*, 2010

### **Employment**

Assistant Professor, English, University of Illinois Chicago, September 2019-Present

### **Selected Fellowships and Prizes**

Faculty Fellowship, UIC Institute of the Humanities (2021-22)  
Doreen Townsend Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship (2019-20, declined)  
Anne and Benjamin Goor Prize in Jewish Studies (Berkeley, 2016)  
Mellon Fellowship for Graduate Studies, University of California, Berkeley  
Second Prize, Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, Ethics Prize (2010)  
Departmental prizes for senior essay, fiction, and general composition (Yale, 2010)  
E. Francis Riggs Memorial prize for “the best knowledge of general culture” (Yale, 2007)

### **Publications**

“Milton’s Phylacteries: Textual Idolatry and the Beginnings of Critical Exegesis,” *Milton Studies* 57 (2016)  
“Free Indirect Revelation: Luther’s Moses and the Narration of Genesis,” *Reformation* 24.1 (2019)  
“Dependent Contractors: *Timon of Athens*, Collaborative Writing, and Theatrical Capitalism,” *JEMCS* 19.1 (2019)  
“Simile for the Devil: *Paradise Regained* and the Secularization of Satan,” *PMLA* (2021)  
“Milton after Auschwitz,” *Milton Studies* (forthcoming, 65.2, Fall 2023)

### **Notes**

“A Source for *Paradise Regained* 4.343-52,” *Notes and Queries* 65.2 (2018)  
“Milton’s Source for *Paradise Lost* 7.32-39,” *Notes and Queries* 67.3 (2020)  
“The Sources of *Order and Disorder* 8.369-382,” *Notes and Queries* (2022)

### **Reviews**

Kimberly Johnson, *Made Flesh: Sacrament and Poetics in Post-Reformation England*, in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, June 2014.  
Moulie Vidas, *Tradition and the Formation of the Talmud*, in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, August 2014.  
Arthur Melzer, *Philosophy Between the Lines: The Lost History of Esoteric Writing* in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, December 2014.  
Susan Marks, Hal Taussig (ed.), *Meals in Early Judaism: Social Formation at the Table*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, September 2015

Daniel Jütte, *The Age of Secrecy: Jews, Christians, and the Economy of Secrets, 1400–1800*, in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, September 2015.

Jeffrey Masten, *Queer Philologies: Sex, Language, and Affect in Shakespeare’s Time*, in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, July 2017.

Grantley McDonald, *Biblical Criticism in Early Modern Europe: Erasmus, the Johannine Comma, and Trinitarian Debate*, in *Common Knowledge*, September 2017

Anna-Maria Hartmann, *English Mythography in its European Context, 1500-1650*, in *BMCR*, August 2019

Russ Leo, *Tragedy as Philosophy in the Reformation World*, in *MAKE: Literary Magazine*, May 2020

Linda Grant, *Latin erotic elegy and the shaping of sixteenth-century English love poetry: lascivious poets*, in *BMCR*, September 2020

David M. Whitford (ed.), *Martin Luther in Context*, in *Reformation*, Fall 2020

### **Invited Talks**

“Lucy Hutchinson as Biblical Narrator,” University of Haifa English Department, January 2019

“A Failure to Communicate: Miltonic Accommodation and Narration,” University of Chicago Renaissance Workshop, November 2019

“Spenser’s Egalitarian Giant and the Politics of Biblical Parallelism,” Chicago Renaissance Seminar, November 2021

“Free Indirect Revelation: Secularism, Narratology, and Peasant Revolts in Luther’s *Lectures on Genesis*,” UIC Humanities Institute, February 2022

### **Conference Papers**

“Cavendish, Milton and Conjectura Cabbalistica: On the Gendering of English Hebraism,” Milton-Cavendish Symposium, Rutgers February 2022

“The Erasure of Beersheba: Erich Auerbach and the Documentary Hypothesis,” MLA 2021

“How Milton Became (non-)Jewish: R. J. Z. Werblowsky and Nationalist Comparatism,” ACLA Chicago 2020 (*cancelled*)—given at RSA 2021

“Did Milton Read the Zohar? or How Milton Became Jewish,” RSA 2020 (*cancelled*)

“The Supposed Paradox of Divine Poetry in Cowley’s *Davideis*,” RSA Toronto 2019

“Accommodation in Milton’s Prose Polemics,” Twelfth International Milton Symposium, Strasbourg 2019

“The Supposed Zoharic Roots of Miltonic Materialism,” Milton and Materiality, Berkeley, February 2019

“Conversions Between and Within Religions: A Case from Elizabethan England,” Religious Conversions: Then and Now, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, May 2018

“John Calvin’s Doctrine of Accommodation and the Biblical Narrator,” Renaissance Society of America, April 2018

“Law and What Exactly? Un-disciplining the Talmud,” Association for Jewish Studies, December 2017

“Who Narrated the Bible?” Renaissance Society of America, March 2017

“Milton’s Multiple Creation Narratives and the Beginnings of Biblical Criticism,” Berkeley Center for Jewish Studies Graduate Student Colloquium, March 2017

“The Disappearance of Satan in *Paradise Regained*,” The Renaissance and Early Modern Studies Designated Emphasis: Annual Conference, April 2015

“William Harvey’s Parrot and Other Hermaphrodites: Towards a Queer Empiricism,” Berkeley-Stanford Conference, April 2014

### **Journal Service**

Peer Reviewer, *Reformation*, 2021 through present

Editorial Assistant, *Representations*, 2019

### **Presentations**

“The Reformation Bible, Milton, and the Song of Songs,” Mills College, November 2014

“Teaching and the Academic Job Search,” Berkeley GSI Teaching and Resource Center, April 2019

### **Public Humanities**

Entry on *De idolatria liber* for The Languages of Berkeley: An Online Exhibition: [update.lib.berkeley.edu/2019/05/06/medieval-hebrew](http://update.lib.berkeley.edu/2019/05/06/medieval-hebrew)

“Moses in the Reformation,” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (2020)

### **Teaching**

“Bible as Literature,” General Education (UIC)

“Poetry of John Donne,” Junior Seminar (UIC)

“Religious Conversions in the Renaissance,” Senior Seminar (UIC)

“English Literature to 1668,” Introductory Lecture (UIC)

“The Literary Reformation, or, The Bible as Renaissance Literature,” Graduate Seminar, Fall 2019 (UIC)

“Investigating Fiction,” Rhetoric and Composition (Berkeley)

“The Rest is Commentary,” Rhetoric and Composition (Berkeley)

“Literature in English: Through Milton,” Teaching Assistant (Berkeley)

“Shakespeare,” Teaching Assistant (Berkeley)

### **Community Teaching**

I worked in adult Jewish education from 2013 to 2019, teaching small, text-based discussion groups in the Bay area for Kevah on themes including “Prophets and Politics,” “Law and Social Critique,” “Cities in Rabbinic Thought,” “Labor,” and “Ethics of Care.”

I have also taught summer courses in intensive Talmud at the Hadar Institute in New York City, and yearly at their Winter Learning Seminar for college students. I have given one-time classes at the Drisha Institute in New York, the Jewish Studio Project in Berkeley, and numerous synagogues. I led a four-day seminar combining text- and place-based learning at BINA, a secular yeshiva in Tel Aviv. Samples of my work include [this webinar on rent cancellation and the pandemic in Jewish law](#) (with my collaborator, Tamar Zaken), and this online class, [on Psalm 137 and a twentieth century reflection by the Black poet and scholar Sterling Brown](#).

### **Working Languages**

Hebrew (fluent)  
Latin (excellent reading)  
Italian (reading)

### **Popular Writing (selected)**

“Meir Kahane’s Long Shadow,” *Jewish Currents*, 11.24.2021

“Who Owns American Judaism?” *Jewish Currents*, 6.1.2022

“Exodus: Vayakhel,” *Jewish Currents*, 3.2.2021

“Only the Left Can Defeat Antisemitism,” *Jacobin*, 1.2.2020

“Brexit is Bad for the Jews,” *Jewish Currents*, 12.4.2019

“Review of *Village Atheists: How America’s Unbelievers Made Their Way in a Godly Nation*,” *First Things*, 1.12.17

“Normative Commitments: A Philosophical Vision for the Study of Religion,” *LARB*, 9.5.2016

“Where Does Inequality Come From?” *LARB*, 12.23.2015

“The Anti-‘Klinghoffer’ Protests Are the Best Thing That Could Happen to the Metropolitan Opera,” *The New Republic*, 10.22.2014

“Exile in Gal-Ville: How a Male Feminist Alienated His Supporters,” *The Atlantic*, 2.13.2012

Book reviews and op-eds for the *Forward*: <https://forward.com/author/raphael-magarik/>

Book reviews and op-eds for *Haaretz*: <https://www.haaretz.com/misc/writers/1.5602024>

Op-eds for *The Daily Beast*: <https://www.thedailybeast.com/author/raphael-magarik>

### **References**

Victoria Kahn (advisor), Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Katharine Bixby Hotchkis Chair in English, vkahn@berkeley.edu

David Marno, Associate Professor of English, University of California, Berkeley, marno@berkeley.edu

Joanna Picciotto, Associate Professor of English, University of California, Berkeley, jpicciotto@berkeley.edu

Robert Alter, Class of 1937 Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature, altcos@berkeley.edu