

CURRICULUM VITAE

Shawna Dolansky

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Instructor II, Program in Religion, College of the Humanities
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Education

B.A. (Honours), History, May 1995, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada

M.A., Judaic Studies, December 1999, University of California, San Diego

Ph.D., History (specialization: Biblical Israel in the ancient Near East) 2002, University of California, San Diego

Dissertation: "Now You See It, Now You Don't: Biblical Perspectives on the Relationship Between Magic and Religion"

- An historical and cross-disciplinary study of magic and ritual practices in Israel and the ancient Near East, using theories and methods of anthropology, archaeology, philology, and literary criticism.

Academic Employment

1994-1995: Research Assistant to Professor Gerald Tulchinsky, History Department, Queen's University.

1995-1999: Teaching Assistant, History Department, University of California, San Diego.

2000-2006:

Lecturer, History Department, Program in Judaic Studies, University of California, San Diego.

Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, San Diego State University.

Lecturer, Department of Literature, Program for the Study of Religion, University of California, San Diego.

Lecturer, "The Making of the Modern World" Writing Program, Eleanor Roosevelt College, UC San Diego.

Lecturer, "Humanities" Writing Program, Revelle College, University of California, San Diego.

2006-2011: Assistant Professor, Program in Jewish Studies, Northeastern University, Boston MA

[returned to Ottawa, Canada for family reasons in 2010, unable to sustain commute to Boston and resigned 2011]

2010-2017: Visiting Adjunct Professor, School of Religion, Queen's University, Canada.

2011-2017: Contract Instructor, College of the Humanities, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.

2017-2018: Instructor II, College of the Humanities, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.

Professional Honours

Professional Achievement Award for teaching, research, service, and public scholarship, Carleton University, May 2018.

Provost's Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, Carleton University, May 2013.

Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award, Eleanor Roosevelt College, University of California, San Diego, 2006.

University of California Faculty Fellowship Award, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, University of California, San Diego, September 2002 - June 2004.

Regional Scholar Award, Society for Biblical Literature, Pacific Coast Region, March 2002.

Wexler Family Fellowship, Program in Judaic Studies, University of California, San Diego, July 2001.

Dissertation Fellowship, Department of History, University of California, San Diego, July 2000-June 2001.

Summer Teaching Fellowship, Senior Vice Chancellor, UC San Diego, July - August 2000.

Travel Awards, Department of History, University of California, San Diego, September 1999, 2000, 2001.

Travel Grant, Women's Caucus, Association for Jewish Studies, October 1999.

Dita Gumpel Fellowship, Program in Judaic Studies, University of California, San Diego, September 1996.

Current Research Interests

History: Hebrew Bible in the Ancient Near East

- ancient Near Eastern and biblical mythology and historiography
- Syro-Canaanite religious history in text and archaeology
- iconographic analysis and the archaeology of religion
- history of monotheism

Gender and Feminist Scholarship of the Bible and Western religions

- gender and historiography
- ancient sexualities and constructions of gender

Judaism

- historical transitions from biblical religion to early Judaism
- history of biblical interpretation

Publications

Books

Now You See It, Now You Don't: Biblical Perspectives on the Relationship Between Religion and Magic, Pryor Pettengill Press, Eisenbrauns, 2008.

The Bible Now (with Richard Elliot Friedman), Oxford University Press, June 2011.

Books Edited

Sacred History, Sacred Literature: Essays on Ancient Israel, The Bible, and Religion in Honor of R. E. Friedman on his 60th Birthday, Eisenbrauns, 2008.

Chapters in Edited Books

“After-life: The Biblical Silence” (with Richard Friedman) in *Judaism in Late Antiquity, Part 4: Death, Life-After-Death, Resurrection and the World-to-Come in the Judaisms of Antiquity*, eds. A. J. Avery-Peck and J. Neusner, Brill, Leiden, 2000; pp. 35-59.

“Omitting the Omissions: The Case for Haplography in the Hebrew Bible” (with David Noel Freedman) in *Imagining Biblical Worlds: Studies in Spatial, Social, and Historical Constructs in Honour of James W. Flanagan*, eds. David M. Gunn and Paula McNutt, Bloomsbury, 2002; pp. 99-116.

“A Goddess in the Garden?” in *Milk and Honey: Essays on Ancient Israel and the Bible in Appreciation of the Judaic Studies Program at the University of California, San Diego*, eds. S. Malena and D. Miano, Eisenbrauns, 2006; pp. 3-21.

“Pentateuch,” (with Richard Friedman) in *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, F. Skolnik and M. Berenbaum, eds., Thomson Gale Press, 2007; pp. 730-751.

“Parshat Vayishlah” (with Risa Levitt Kohn) in *The Women's Torah Commentary*, T. C. Eskenazi and A. L. Weiss, eds., Union of Reform Judaism Press, 2008; pp. 183-201.

“Parshat Korah” in *The Women's Torah Commentary*, T. C. Eskenazi and A. L. Weiss, eds., Union of Reform Judaism Press, 2008; pp. 893-908.

“Syria-Canaan” in *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Mediterranean Religions*, ed. Barbette E. Spaeth, Cambridge, 2013; pp. 55-75.

“Re-Figuring Fertility Figurines From Biblical Judah: Fetishistic Functions of the Feminine Form,” *Between Israelite Religion and Old Testament Theology: Essays on Archaeology, History, and Hermeneutics*, Robert Miller ed., Peeter's Press, 2016.

“Rejecting ‘Patriarchy’: Reflections on Feminism, Biblical Scholarship, and Social Perspective” in *As It Is Written: Writing and Scribalism in Social Perspective*. Ed. Mark Leuchter. Hebrew Bible in Social Perspective. London: Bloomsbury, in press (2018).

Articles in refereed journals

“Deuteronomy 34: The Death of Moses, Not of Source Criticism,” *Journal of Biblical Literature*, 133, no. 3 (2014): 669-676.

“What is Gendered Historiography and How Do You Do It?” (with Sarah Shectman) in *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*, in press (2018).

Other scholarly publications

“The ‘Smoking Guns’ are Illusory,” [side-bar translation of Hebrew inscription] in *Biblical Archaeology Review* March/April 2004; pp. 50-51.

“The Multiple Truths of Myths,” *Biblical Archaeology Review*, Jan-Feb 2016, pp. 18 & 60.

Editorial Responsibilities

2016-2017: editorial board member for Bible Odyssey, the official public website of the Society of Biblical Literature

2018-2020: General Editor in charge of Hebrew Bible content, BibleOdyssey.org

Papers Presented

Refereed

“Asherah and Transformative Mythology in the Hebrew Bible,” Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, December 1999.

“The Disappearance of the Goddess,” Society for Biblical Literature, Nashville, November 2000.

“Now You See It, Now You Don’t: Finding and Defining Magic in the Hebrew Bible,” Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, November 2001.

“The Goddess in the Garden: Transformative Mythology in the Pentateuch,” Society of Biblical Literature, Pacific Coast Region, Claremont, March 2002. *Awarded Regional Scholarship*.

“Now You See It, Now You Don’t: Drawing a Line Between ‘Magic’ and ‘Ritual’ in the Torah,” Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 2003.

“Ritual Turf Wars: Understanding the Biblical Ban on Magic and Divination,” Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, November 2005.

“The Judean Pillar Figurines: Interpreting Iconography,” Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November 2008.

“Text and Context: Considerations on the Iconography of Goddesses in Ancient Israel,” Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2007.

“Re-Figuring ‘Fertility’ Figurines: Fetishistic Functions of the Feminine Form,” American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting, November 2009, New Orleans, LA as part of a panel on “Voodoo Dolls of the Ancient Near East.”

“Rejecting Patriarchy: On Clarifying the Objectives of Feminist Biblical Scholarship,” Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2014.

“What is Gendered Historiography and How Do You Do It?” Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, Nov. 2016.

“The Essence of Conception: Philology & The Physics of Fertility in Ancient Israel,” Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, Nov. 2018 (accepted).

Invited Professional Presentations

“A Goddess in the Garden? The Fall of Eve and the Rise of Monotheism,” Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles, February 2004.

“The Fall of Eve,” Cornell University, Department of Near Eastern Studies, February 2005.

“The Fall of Eve,” Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, January 2006.

“A Goddess in the Garden?” DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, January 2006.

“The Fall of Eve,” Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin, January 2006.

“Finding Goddesses and Matriarchies in the Archaeological Record,” public lecture sponsored by the program in Jewish Studies, Northeastern University, March 2007.

“Female Figurines from Biblical Israel: Issues in Interpreting Iconography,” for Institute of History, Archaeology, and Education, Manhattan, NY, October 2008.

Teaching Workshop

“The Bible Now,” a one-hour teaching session (jointly with co-author Richard E. Friedman), for the Central Conference of American Rabbis, online at their website: ccarnet.org. November 1, 2011.

Community lectures by invitation are too numerous to list here, ranging between three and eight per year from 2003 to the present: please see shawnadolansky.com for a complete list of lecture topics.

Service to the Profession

New England & Eastern Canada Region of the Society of Biblical Literature; Regional Coordinator, 2008-2014

- Responsible for planning an annual conference of 100-150 scholars and graduate students; chairing regional committee; managing regional budget; liaison with national SBL Council.

Society of Biblical Literature, panel co-chair and organizer, 2016.

Society of Biblical Literature, Hebrew Bible content editor for BibleOdyssey.org, 2017-2020.

Consultancies and Contract Research

Anchor Bible Commentary Series and Anchor Bible Reference Library, Doubleday; Editorial Assistant 1998-2001.

History Channel, “The Bible Rules” series consultant and on-camera commentator, 2014.

TheTorah.com, consultant and contributor 2014-2017.

- Publications on thetorah.com:
 - “The Immortal Myth of Adam and Eve”
 - “The Debasement of Dinah”
 - “Azazel and Homosexuality in Leviticus 16”
 - “The Import of *Lex Talionis* in the Story of the Blasphemer”

- “Why Can Women’s Vows Be Vetoed?”
- “*Birkat Kohanim* – The Magic of a Blessing”

Oxford University Press, manuscript and proposal reviewer, 2015.

Routledge Press, manuscript and proposal reviewer, 2015.

BibleOdyssey.org, consultant and contributor 2015-2016

- Publications on bibleodyssey.org
 - “A Goddess in the Garden: The Fall of Eve”
 - “Gilgamesh and The Bible”

BiblicalArchaeology.org, consultant and contributor 2016-2017

- Publications on biblicalarchaeology.org:
 - “How the Serpent Became Satan”
 - “Understanding Israel’s Ten Commandments”

Society of Biblical Literature, Educational Resources and Review Committee, Lesson Plans for Teaching the Bible in Public High School Curricula; consultant and contributor 2016-2017.

Adath Shalom Congregation, Ottawa, Canada; Scholar-in-Residence 2016-2018.

Administrative Responsibilities

Assistant Director, Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, 2012-2014.

- Fundraised, planned, and led a field course to Israel for 19 undergraduate and M.A. students
- Coordinated with Israeli Embassy to host an Israeli musician and family under a Schusterman Foundation grant in Ottawa for 4 months; arranged 2-3 weekly performances in local venues during his stay
- Fundraised, planned, and coordinated a large public conference on Holocaust remembrance; included parliamentary panel, presentations by international figures in Holocaust remembrance and policy
- Organized annual graduate student conferences in Jewish Studies
- Pioneered, edited, and gathered material for a quarterly e-newsletter
- Managed annual budget, hiring and supervising student workers, fundraising and outreach events