

# Adam Bremer-McCollum, Ph.D.

translator, writer, and teacher

email: [acmccollum101@gmail.com](mailto:acmccollum101@gmail.com)

websites: <https://hcommons.org/members/adambremermccollum/>

<https://independent.academia.edu/AdamCarterBremerMcCollum>

## Previous experience

2022-pres Manuscript cataloger. Special collections, Firestone Library, Princeton University.

2022-pres Hebrew instructor. Princeton Theological Seminary.

2021-pres Freelance teacher and language consultant (language teaching, translating, proofreading, and manuscript cataloging) in Syriac, گەزىز, Old Georgian, Coptic, Arabic, and Persian.

2017-pres Language teacher and translator, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University. Contracted tutoring and translating work in Syriac, Jewish Babylonian Aramaic, Mandaic, گەزىز, Arabic, and Greek.

2017-2021 Visiting Associate Professional Specialist (Languages of Late Antiquity), Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame. Courses listed below.

2015-2017 Wissenschaftlicher Projektmitarbeiter in the project *9 SALT — Reassessing Ninth Century Philosophy: A Synchronic Approach to the Logical Traditions* (ERC CoG 648298), Institut für Byzantinistik und Neogräzistik, University of Vienna. Chief responsibility for texts in Syriac, Armenian, and Georgian.

2010-2015 Lead Cataloger, Eastern Christian Manuscripts, Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University. Responsibility for manuscripts in Syriac, Arabic, and other languages, and overseeing the work of other catalogers.

2009-2010 Cataloger & editorial assistant, Gorgias Press, Piscataway, New Jersey

2007-2008 Latin instructor, Westminster School at Oak Mountain, Birmingham, Alabama

2003-2007 Tutor (Biblical & Rabbinic Hebrew, Aramaic, Arabic), Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2003-2006 Text entry & research, Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon Project, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

## Education

2009 PhD in Hebraic & Cognate Studies, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2006 MPhil in Hebraic & Cognate Studies, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2004 MA in Bible & Cognate Studies, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2001 BA in Biblical Studies, Union University, Jackson, Tennessee

## Past and current courses

2023 *Readings in Syriac* | *Readings in Greek* | *Jewish Babylonian Aramaic grammar and texts*. Stanford University

2022 *Intro to biblical Hebrew*. Princeton Theological Seminary  
*Syriac readings: poetry* | *Syriac readings: hagiography* | *Individual Greek tutoring*. Independently  
*Intro to biblical Hebrew*. Princeton Theological Seminary  
*Readings in Syriac* | *Intro to Syriac* | *Jewish Babylonian Aramaic & Mandaic magic bowls*. Stanford University  
*Intro to Gə'əz* | *Readings in Gə'əz* | *Syriac readings: poetry* | *Syriac readings: hagiography* | *Individual Syriac tutoring*. Independently

2021 *Pre-modern Arabic readings* | *Intro to biblical Hebrew*. University of Notre Dame  
*Readings in Syriac* | *Intro to Jewish Babylonian Aramaic*. Stanford University  
*Syriac reading: Isaac of Antioch* | *Syriac reading: Martyrdom of Pethion* | *Individual Syriac tutoring*. Independently

2020 *Intro to pre-modern Arabic* | *Readings in Syriac* | *Readings in Coptic (Bohairic, Sabidic, Lycopolitan)* | *Introduction to Comparative Semitics* | *Intro to biblical Hebrew*. University of Notre Dame  
*Readings in Syriac* | *Intro to Gə'əz*. Stanford University

2019 *Introduction to Syriac* | *Introduction to Coptic* | *Readings in Christian and Judeo-Arabic* | *Readings in Old Turkic* | *Introduction to Gə'əz (Ethiopic)* | *Readings in Armenian (hagiography)* | *Survey of Syriac Literature in Translation*. University of Notre Dame  
*Readings in Syriac* | *Intro to Syriac*. Stanford University

2018 *Readings in Coptic Dialects* | *Readings in Syriac* | *Sources and Contexts for Christianity in Central Asia up to the Thirteenth Century* | *Readings in Syriac (hagiography)* | *Introduction to Old Armenian* | *Survey of Jewish Aramaic Dialects*. University of Notre Dame  
*Readings in Syriac*. Stanford University

2017 *Introduction to Coptic* | *Introduction to Syriac* | *Readings in Syriac*. University of Notre Dame

2016 *Dumbarton Oaks/Hill Museum & Manuscript Library Summer Syriac Course, Manuscripts section*. Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota

2014 *Syriac Reading II*. School of Theology, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota

2013 *Beginning Syriac Reading*. School of Theology, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota

2008-2010 *Intensive Biblical Hebrew*. Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama

2007 *Intensive Latin*. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2006 *Aramaic Dialects*. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

2004-2005 *Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew*. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

## Research and teaching interests

*Languages and literatures*: all kinds of Aramaic languages, Arabic (incl. pre-modern, Judeo-Arabic, Garšūnī, dialects), Hebrew (Biblical and Rabbinic), Old Armenian, Old Georgian, Gə'əz (old Ethiopic), Coptic, Greek (classical and Byzantine), Latin, pre-modern Iranian languages (incl. Judeo-Persian), Old Turkic/Uyghur

*Broader categories*: Comparative Semitic linguistics, ANE studies, Central Asian studies, Early

Publications, talks, & research

Books

2017 Editor, *Studies in Ethiopian Languages, Literature, and History: Festschrift for Getatchew Haile*, Äthiopistische Forschungen 83 (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz). ISBN 978-3-447-10848-5.

2014 *Jacob of Sarug's Homilies on Jesus' Temptation*, The Metrical Homilies of Mar Jacob of Sarug / Texts from Christian Late Antiquity 38 (Piscataway: Gorgias Press). ISBN 978-1-4632-0285-9.

2013 *The Story of Mar Pinhas*, Persian Martyr Acts in Syriac: Text and Translation 2 (Piscataway: Gorgias Press). ISBN 978-1-4632-0217-0.

2009 *A Greek and Syriac Index to Sergius of Reshaina's Version of the De Mundo* (Piscataway: Gorgias Press). ISBN 978-1-60724-583-4.

2009 *Jacob of Sarug's Homily on Simon Peter, when our Lord said, 'Get behind me, Satan'*, The Metrical Homilies of Mar Jacob of Sarug / Texts from Christian Late Antiquity 26 (Piscataway: Gorgias Press). ISBN 978-1-60724-214-7.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

2022 numerous translations (solo & collaborative) in Michael Philip Penn, Scott Fitzgerald Johnson, Christine Shepardson, Charles M. Stang, eds., *Invitation to Syriac Christianity: An Anthology*. University of California Press.

2021 "Poetized Hagiography: The Martyrdoms of Jacob the Persian & Tahmizgard in Syriac Story & Song." In Flavia Ruani and Sergey Minov, eds., *Syriac Hagiography: Texts and Beyond*. Brill. Pages 223-256.

2020 "Adoration of the Magi." In Tony Burke, ed., *New Testament Apocrypha: More Noncanonical Scriptures*, vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans. Pages 3-12.

2019 "Two languages, two scripts, three combinations: A (personal?) prayer-book in Syriac and Old Uyghur from Turfan (U 338)." *Ancient Jew Review* May 14, 2019. <https://tinyurl.com/yxsrr7cx>.

2018 "Notes and Colophons of Scribes and Readers in Georgian Biblical Manuscripts from Saint Catherine's Monastery (Sinai)". In Liv Ingeborg Lied and Marilena Maniaci, eds. *Bible as Notepad: Tracing Annotations and Annotation Practices in Late Antique and Medieval Biblical Manuscripts*. Manuscripta Biblica 3. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter. Pages 111-124.

2017 "A New Ge'ez Text on Adam and the Judgement of the Angels (Gundä Gunde 177)." In Adam Carter McCollum, ed. *Studies in Ethiopian Languages, Literature, and History: Festschrift for Getatchew Haile*. Äthiopistische Forschungen 83. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. Pages 431-446. <https://tinyurl.com/ybsxpbq2>.

2015 "A Newly Identified Old Georgian Witness to the Greek Homily CPG 4622 at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library". *Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies Bulletin* 1 (2015): 85-93. <https://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/en/comst/pdf/bulletin1/pp085-93.pdf>.

2015 "On Judeo-Persian Language and Literature | Part Two: Texts and Bibliography." *Ancient Jew Review* August 26, 2015. <http://tinyurl.com/hnj5hk6>.

2015 "On Judeo-Persian Language and Literature | Part One: State of the Field." *Ancient Jew Review* August 19, 2015. <http://tinyurl.com/ha4a2ww>.

2015 "Greek Literature in the Christian East: Translations into Syriac, Georgian, and Armenian". *Intellectual History of the Islamicate World* 3 (2015): 15-65. <https://tinyurl.com/y9kht76f>.

2015 "The Rejoicing Sailor and the Rotting Hand: Two Formulas in Syriac and Arabic Colophons, with Related Phenomena in Some Other Languages." *Hugoye* 18 (2015): 67-93. <http://tinyurl.com/jpqq3ua>.

2015 "An Update on the Eastern Christian Manuscripts Project At the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (with a Focus on Syriac Manuscripts)." In Françoise Briquel Chatonnet and Muriel Debié, eds. *Manuscripta Syriaca: Des sources de première main*. Cahiers d'études syriaques 4. Paris: Geuthner. Pages 65-72. <https://tinyurl.com/y82tat3m>.

2014 "The Application of Thought to Language Learning: An Experiment in the Study of Old Georgian." In Basil Lourié et al., eds. *Memorial Volume for Shalva Nutsubidze*. Leiden: Brill. Pages 344-373. <https://tinyurl.com/ycd3jkjh>.

2014 "Garšūnī as it Is: Some Observations from Reading East and West Syriac Manuscripts." *Hugoye* 17 (2014): 215-235. <http://www.bethmardutho.org/index.php/hugoye/volume-index/606.html>.

2013 "Prolegomena to a New Edition of Eliya of Nisibis' *Kitāb al-turjuman fi ta'līm luğat al-suryān*." *Journal of Semitic Studies* 58 (2013): 297-322. <https://tinyurl.com/orwgeau>.

2012 "Remarks on Recent Cataloging Efforts among Syriac Manuscripts Preserved at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library." *Hugoye* 15 (2012): 345-365. <http://www.bethmardutho.org/index.php/hugoye/current-issue/530.html>.

2012 "A Report on the Workshop 'Manuscripts from Eastern Christian Traditions' at the SBL Annual Meeting in San Francisco, Nov 2011." *Hugoye* 15 (2012): 207-209. <http://www.bethmardutho.org/images/hugoye/volume15/hv15n1crmanuscripts.pdf>.

2012 "A Syriac Fragment from *The Cause of All Causes* on the Pillars of Hercules." *ISAW Papers* 5. <http://dlib.nyu.edu/awdl/isaw-isaw-papers/5/>.

2011 "Sergius of Reshaina as Translator: The Case of the *De Mundo*." In Josef Lössl and John W. Watt, eds. *Interpreting the Bible and Aristotle in Late Antiquity: The Alexandrian Commentary Tradition between Rome and Baghdad*. Ashgate. Pages 165-178. <https://tinyurl.com/y954fpcy>.

2010 "An Arabic Scholion to Gen 9:18-21 (Noah's Drunkenness) attributed to Philoxenos of Mabbug." *Hugoye* 13 (2010): 125-148. <http://tinyurl.com/dx5t9f2>.

2010 "The Martyrdom of Theonilla in Syriac." *Analecta Bollandiana* 128 (2010): 312-328.

2010 "What Does Syriac *masparta* Mean?" *Le Muséon* 123 (2010): 193-202.

2009 "A Puzzling Verb in the Syriac Version of Gregory of Nyssa's *De Anima et Resurrectione*." *Aramaic Studies* 7 (2009): 19-26.

2006 "Recent Studies on the Jewish Northeastern Neo-Aramaic Dialects." *Jewish Quarterly Review* 96 (2006): 569-577.

## BLOG

2011-2015 (former blog): <http://hmmlorientalia.wordpress.com/>. Around 300 posts of varying lengths on manuscripts, language learning (esp. Georgian), and philology generally.

## PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

2021 “Locating and sharing difference: a functional intro to ‘critical’ editions for Christian scriptures in Greek (and a few other texts & languages).” Stanford University, Ptarmigan Workshop Series (virtual). December 2021.

2018 “Two languages, two scripts, and three combinations thereof: A personal prayer-book in Syriac and Old Uyghur from Turfan (U 338).” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Denver. November 2018.

2017 “Texts beyond ‘the’ Text: Notes and Colophons from Manuscripts in Syriac, Coptic, Georgian, and other Languages.” CJA Colloquium, University of Notre Dame. November 2017.

2017 “The Old Uyghur Magi Text: Edition, Translation, and Study of an Old Turkic Christian Text.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Boston. November 2017.

2017 “Studying Creation East of Byzantium: A Survey of Hexaemeron Literature.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Boston. November 2017.

2017 “Language Contact in Central Asia.” East of Byzantium III, Harvard University. September 2017.

2016 “Vat. sir. 158 as a Collection of Logical Texts in Syriac: A Survey and some Preliminary Questions.” International Congress of Byzantine Studies; Belgrade. August 2016.

2016 “Philosophical Terminology in the Prologue of Sargis bar Wahle’s Metrical Life of Rabban Hormizd the Persian.” Syriac Christianity in China and Central Asia; University of Salzburg. June 2016.

2015 “*Mašḥā-rā dōstār-am*: A Survey of Syriac-New Persian Textual Contacts.” North American Syriac Symposium; Catholic University of America. June 2015.

2014 “A Typology of Syriac Colophons, with Examples from Manuscripts in Mardin and Jerusalem.” Hugoye Symposium III: Colophons in the Syriac Tradition; Rutgers, New Brunswick, New Jersey. May 2014.

2013 “I have written this holy book with my grossly sinful hand’: An Orientation to Georgian Manuscripts through Hagiographic Literature.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Baltimore. November 2013.

2013 “A Mass of Texts: The Witness of the EMML Project to Hagiographic Material in Gə’zə.” EMML @ 40: The Life and Legacy of the Ethiopian Manuscript Microfilm Library, at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library. July 2013.

2012 “Biology and Veterinary Medicine in Ninth-Century Baghdad: Job of Edessa’s *Treatise on Rabies*.” Symposium Syriacum, Malta. July 2012.

2012 (with Columba Stewart and Najeeb Michael) “Manuscript Digitization and Cataloguing Work in the Middle East and India.” Symposium Syriacum, Malta. July 2012.

2012 “He loves drinking old wine from the jug’: Some Remarks on Alcoholic Beverages in Syriac Literature Based on Secular and Religious Texts.” Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota. January 2012. Draft available at [http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/hmml\\_lectures/2/](http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/hmml_lectures/2/).

2011 “Towards a Typology of Translation Technique from Greek to Christian Palestinian Aramaic (CPA).” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 2011.

2011 “Prolegomena to a New Edition of Eliya of Nisibis’ *Kitāb al-turjuman fi ta’līm luğat al-suryān*.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 2011.

2011 “Poetized Hagiography: The Martyrdoms of Jacob of Bēṭ Lapaṭ & Tahmazgard in Story &

Song." North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University. March 2011.

2011 "Remarks on Recent Cataloging Efforts among Syriac Manuscripts Preserved at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library." North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University. March 2011.

2011 "Philosophy, Science, and Belles-lettres in Syriac and Christian Arabic Literature: A Gentle Introduction and Survey." Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota. April 7, 2011. Draft available at [http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/hmml\\_lectures/4/](http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/hmml_lectures/4/).

2011 "*Loquebantur variis linguis*: On Studying the Languages of the Christian East." Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. March 2011.

2010 "Jesus the Humble Victor: Jacob of Sarug on Jesus' Combat with Satan." Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. November 2010.

2009 "Sergius of Reshaina as Translator: The Case of the *De Mundo*." Paper read at the conference *Translation and Christianisation: Origins of the Latin and Syriac Commentary Tradition*. Cardiff University. September 2009.

2009 "Genesis in Patristic Exegesis." Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. July 2009.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

2018 *Altuigurische Texte der Kirche des Ostens aus Zentralasien*, by Peter Zieme. *Sehepunkte*. <http://www.sehepunkte.de/2018/07/30067.html>.

2018 *Armenian Apocrypha Relating to Angels and Biblical Heroes*, by Michael E. Stone. *Review of Biblical Literature*. <https://tinyurl.com/ybyuoobm>.

2016 *The Bible in Arabic: The Scriptures of the "People of the Book" in the Language of Islam*, by Sidney H. Griffith. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 136 (2016): 452-455.

2016 *The Ancient Martyrdom Accounts of Peter and Paul*, by David L. Eastman. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2016.04.10. <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2016/2016-04-10.html>.

2015 *The Sasanian World through Georgian Eyes. Caucasia and the Iranian Commonwealth in Late Antique Georgian Literature*, by Stephen H. Rapp Jr. *Sehepunkte* 15.9 (2015). <http://www.sehepunkte.de/2015/09/26361.html>.

2013 *Armenian Apocrypha Relating to Abraham*, by Michael E. Stone. *Review of Biblical Literature*. [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/8694\\_9565.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/8694_9565.pdf). Dec. 17, 2013.

2013 *The Sentences of Sextus*, by Walter T. Wilson. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2013.08.45. <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2013/2013-08-45.html>.

2013 *Aristotle, Poetics*, by L. Tarán and D. Gutas. *Sehepunkte* 13, no. 5. <http://www.sehepunkte.de/2013/05/21832.html>.

2013 *The Semitic Languages*, edited by Stefan Weninger. *Handbooks of Linguistics and Communication Science* 36. *Linguist List* Jan. 8, 2013. <http://linguistlist.org/pubs/reviews/get-review.cfm?SubID=6517120>.

2012 *Studien zu den koranischen Hapaxlegomena unikaler Wurzeln*, by Orhan Elmaz. *Jenaer Beiträge zum Vorderen Orient* 8. *eLanguage Book Notices* Dec. 21, 2012. <http://elanguage.net/blogs/booknotices/?p=2411>.

2012 *Hellenica*, vol. 1, *Epic*, by M.L. West. *Sehepunkte* 12, no. 12. <http://www.sehepunkte.de/2012/12/21831.html>.

2012 *A Grammar of Qumran Aramaic*, by Takamitsu Muraoka. *Review of Biblical Literature* Oct. 4,

2012. [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/8451\\_9255.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/8451_9255.pdf).

2012 *Galeni de differentiis febrium libri duo arabice conversi*, ed. Claudio De Stefani. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2012.09.60. <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2012/2012-09-60.html>.

2012 *Linguistics*, ed. by Anne E. Baker and Kees Hengeveld. Introducing linguistics 5. *eLanguage Book Notices* May 23, 2012. <http://elanguage.net/blogs/booknotices/?p=2130>.

2012 *Kitāb al-'adwiya al-mufrada di 'Abū Ḥaḍīr Ḥaḍīd b. Muḥammad b. Ḥaḍīd b. Sayyid Al-Ḥāfiqī* (Xii sec.). *Edizione del capitolo 'Alif con indici e apparato critico in nota* by Eleonora di Vincenzo. *The Medieval Review* 12.01.13. <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/2022/14101/12.01.13.html?sequence=1>.

2012 *Semitic Studies in Victorian Britain: A portrait of William Wright and his world through his letters* by Bernhard Maier. *Hugoye* 15 (2012): 186-190. <http://www.bethmardutho.org/images/hugoye/volume15/hv15n1prmccollum.pdf>.

2011 *Theophrastus, On First Principles (known as his Metaphysics)* by Dimitri Gutas. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2011.11.31. <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2011/2011-11-31.html>.

2009 *Aristotelian Meteorology in Syriac* by Hidemi Takahashi. *Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes* 99 (2009): 419-21.

2008 *Diοysius bar Salibi. Response to the Arabs*, ed. J. Amar. *Archiv Orientální* 76 (2008): 419-21.

2006 *Comparative Glossary of Cypriot Maronite Arabic (Arabic-English)* by Alexander Borg. *Archiv Orientální* 74 (2006): 140-42.

2005 *The Jewish Neo-Aramaic Dialect of Sulemaniyya and Halabja* by Geoffrey Khan. *Archiv Orientální* 73 (2005): 510-13.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2022 "Reading Two Arabic Travel Books: A Guide for Beginner Students of Arabic." *Library of Arabic Literature* blog. Dec. 16, 2022. <https://www.libraryofarabicliterature.org/2022/reading-two-arabic-travel-books/>.

2012 "Colophons: Where Scribes Speak." *Illuminations* (Spring 2012): 4-6.

#### ONLINE BIBLIOGRAPHIES

*Hagiographia orientalis*: <http://tinyurl.com/luvml6dv>.

*Old Georgian*: [https://www.zotero.org/groups/old\\_georgian/items](https://www.zotero.org/groups/old_georgian/items).

*The Bible in Persian*: [https://www.zotero.org/groups/bible\\_in\\_persian/items](https://www.zotero.org/groups/bible_in_persian/items).

#### Academic awards

2009 Gorgias Press Book Grant

2003 Bnai Zion Award of Excellence in Hebrew, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion