

Adam Bremer-McCollum, Ph.D.

translator, writer, and teacher

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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, Gəʿəz, 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, Gəʿəz, 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
Intro to biblical Hebrew. Princeton Theological Seminary
Syriac readings: poetry | *Syriac readings: hagiography* | *Individual Greek tutoring*. Independently
- 2022 *Intro to biblical Hebrew*. Princeton Theological Seminary
Readings in Syriac | *Intro to Syriac* | *Jewish Babylonian Aramaic & Mandaic magic bowls*. Stanford University
Intro to Gəʿəz | *Readings in Gəʿəz* | *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, Sahidic, Lycopolitan)* | *Introduction to Comparative Semitics* | *Intro to biblical Hebrew*. University of Notre Dame
Readings in Syriac | *Intro to Gəʿəz*. Stanford University
- 2019 *Introduction to Syriac* | *Introduction to Coptic* | *Readings in Christian and Judeo-Arabic* | *Readings in Old Turkic* | *Introduction to Gəʿəz (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, Gəʿəz (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

Christian studies, Eastern Christian studies, hagiography, Manichaeism

Publications, talks, & research

Books

- 2017 Editor, *Studies in Ethiopian Languages, Literature, and History: Festschrift for Getatchew Haile*, Aethiopistische 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 Resbaina'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 Gəʿəz 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’lim luḡat 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://hmmmlorientalia.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 Wahlē’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 EMMML Project to Hagiographic Material in Gəʿəz.” EMMML @ 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/.
- 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 luḡat al-suryān*.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 2011.
- 2011 “Poetized Hagiography: The Martyrdoms of Jacob of Bēt 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/.
- 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/ybyuobm>.
- 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. Caucasica 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. 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.
2012. *Galenī 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 Ġa'far 'Aḥmad b. Muḥammad b. 'Aḥmad b. Sayyid Al-Ġāfiqī (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/hv15n1prmcollum.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. *Diosius bar Salibi. Response to the Arabs*, ed. J. Amar. *Archiv Orientalní* 76 (2008): 419-21.
2006. *Comparative Glossary of Cypriot Maronite Arabic (Arabic-English)* by Alexander Borg. *Archiv Orientalní* 74 (2006): 140-42.
2005. *The Jewish Neo-Aramaic Dialect of Sulemaniyya and Halabja* by Geoffrey Khan. *Archiv Orientalní* 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/luv6dv>.
Old Georgian: https://www.zotero.org/groups/old_georgian/items.
The Bible in Persian: 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