

CV/Samuel L. Boyd

Educational Background

2014 (May)	University of Chicago	Ph.D., Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East; Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC) and the Divinity School
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Dissertation Title: "Contact and Context: Studies in Language Contact and Literary Strata in the Hebrew Bible"

Committee Members:

Dennis Pardee (NELC), chair; Jeffrey Stackert (Divinity School), co-chair;
Rebecca Hasselbach (NELC); Lenore Grenoble (Department of Linguistics and Slavic Literature)

2008	University of Chicago	M.A., Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East (NELC and the Divinity School)
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Thesis: "Egypt in Ezekiel's and Jeremiah's Oracles against the Nations: A Rhetorical Comparison"

2006	Westminster Theological Seminary	M.Div., Biblical Studies
2001	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	B.A.. double major in American History and Economics

Academic Employment History

University of Colorado Boulder (Boulder, CO)

Fall 2015- Assistant Professor, Religious Studies and Jewish Studies, specializing in the Bible and the Ancient Near East in Religious Studies

Research

Publications

Books

Monographs

1. Book under contract with Harvard Semitic Monographs. Complete manuscript drafted and submitted to the editor.
2. Book proposal submitted to Oxford University Press.

Edited Volumes

Co-editor, with Andrew James Cowell and Michael Klymkowski, for the *Handbook for the Study of Origins* (initiated through the Center for the Study of Origins at the University of Colorado Boulder, where I am on the executive committee); status: proposal submitted to Routledge Press.

Academic Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. In Review Article submitted to *Harvard Theological Review*.
2. In Review Article submitted to *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*.
3. In Review Article submitted to *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions*.
4. In Press “Intertextuality, Liturgy, and Prophetic Collections: A Study of the Relationship between Hab 3 and Pss 29, 77, and 18,” *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*.
5. In Press “Ritual Shade: The Translation of Kirta’s *hmt*,” *Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages*.
6. In Press “Applied Ritual: The Application of Blood and Oil on Bodies in the Pentateuchal Sources,” *Biblical Interpretation*.
7. In Press “The Use of the Relative and Near Demonstrative Pronouns in the Introduction of Phoenician, Old Aramaic, and Sam’alian Dedication Inscriptions,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.
8. In Press “Deuteronomy’s Prodigal Son: Deut 21:18-21 and the Agenda of the D Source,” *Biblical Interpretation*.
9. 2019 “Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: The Problem of “Abrahamic Religions” and the Possibilities of Comparison,” *Religion Compass*.
10. 2019 “Two Instances of Language Contact in Isa. 45:14,” *Journal of Semitic Studies* 64: 401-18.
11. 2019 “Sargon’s Dūr-Šarrukīn Cylinder Inscription and Language Ideology: A Reconsideration and Connection to Gen 11:1-9,” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 78: 87-111.
12. 2019 “Sennacherib’s Successor: Titus and Anti-Roman Rhetoric in TgJon

to Isa. 10:32," *Aramaic Studies* 17: 67-86.

13. 2018 "The Flood and the Problem of Being an Omnivore," *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 43: 163-78.

14. 2018 "Exodus 21:35 and the Composition and Date of the Covenant Code," *Die Welt des Orients* 48: 9-23.

15. 2018 "What Were the Qualifications for Being a Leader in Ancient Israel? Revelation, Authority, and Philological Issues in Deut 1:13 and 1:15," *Vetus Testamentum* 68: 173-96.

16. 2009 "Two New Inscriptions from Zincirli and its Environs," co-authored with Humphrey Hardy and Benjamin Thomas, *Bulletin for the American Society of Oriental Research*: 73-80.

Academic Articles in Peer-Reviewed Edited Volumes

1. In Press "A Brief Linguistic and Religious History of the Title 'King of Kings,'" in *'Like 'Ilū Are You Wise': Studies in Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures in Honor of Dennis G. Pardee*, eds. Humphrey Hardy, Joseph Lam, and Eric Reymond (Chicago: Oriental Institute Press).

2. 2019 "Place as Real and Imagined in Exile: Jerusalem at the Center of Ezekiel," in *Next Year in Jerusalem: Exile and Return in Jewish History*, ed. Leonard J. Greenspoon, Studies in Jewish Civilization (West Lafayette, IN: Perdue University Press), 1-27.

3. 2015 "Hebrew Adverbialization, Aramaic Language Contact, and *mpny šr* in Exodus 19:18," in *Semitic Languages in Contact*, co-authored with Humphrey Hardy, Papers from the 2013 Proceedings of the North American Conference on Afro-Asiatic Linguistics at Yale University, ed. Aaron M. Butts (Boston: Brill), pp. 33-51.

Invited Book Reviews

1. Under contract The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Study of the Humanities, edited by Pieter B. Hartog, Alison Schofield, and Samuel I. Thomas, in *Revue de Qumran*.

2. In Press Shifting Images of the Hasmoneans: Second Temple Legends and Their Reception in Josephus and Rabbinic Literature, by Vered Noam, in *Revue de Qumran*.

3. 2019 How Old Is the Hebrew Bible? A Linguistic, Textual, and Historical Study, by Ronald Hendel and Jan Joosten, in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 81: 709-11.

4. 2019 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew: A Student's Guide to Phonology and Morphology, by Eric D. Reymond, in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 81: 324.

5. 2018 Ancient Prophecy: Near Eastern, Biblical, and Greek Perspectives, by Martti Nissinen, in AAR *Reading Religion* (<http://readingreligion.org/books/ancient-prophecy>)

6. 2016 Text, Time, and Temple: Literary, Historical and Ritual Studies in Leviticus, eds., Francis Landy, Leigh M. Trevaskis, and Bryan Bibb (by invitation from the Society of Biblical Literature), in *Review of Biblical Literature*

7. 2016 Envisioning Islam: Syriac Christians and the Early Muslim World, by Michael Penn, in *Mediaevistik*

Peer-Reviewed Online Publications

1. 2012 "Leviticus," co-author with Jeffrey Stackert, Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies, New York: Oxford University Press.
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195393361/obo-9780195393361-0039.xml?rskey=I7lU2U&result=61&q=>

2. 2011 "Priestly/Holiness Codes," co-author with Jeffrey Stackert, Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies, New York: Oxford University Press.
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195393361/obo-9780195393361-0182.xml?rskey=QDsals&result=101&q=>

Invited Articles in Edited Volumes

2010 "Jonah and Janus: The Two Faces of Jonah in Biblical Interpretation" in *Ears to Hear and Eyes to See: Essays in Memory of J. Alan Groves*, edited by Peter Enns (Phillipsburg: P&R Publishing), 139-151.

Public Scholarship on Topics of Primary Academic Research

2012 "A Legacy Buried, But Not Gone: The Importance of the Ancient Near East for Modern Religious and Political Life," Sightings, a publication of the Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion.
http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/sightings/archive_2012/1129.shtml

Reference Articles

2009 “Arbatta,” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, ed. Hans-Josef Klauck, et al, (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter).

2009 “Salim,” “Thassi,” “Zer,” and “Zerah” in *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, ed. Katharine Doob Sakenfield, et al (Nashville: Abingdon Press).

Grants, Awards, and Honors

Fall 2019 Center for Humanities and the Arts Special Event Grant, funding the Lester Lecture with Professor Elaine Pagels of Princeton University, October 24, 2019
Award: \$2850

Spring 2018 Center for Humanities and the Arts Fellowship
Awarded fall 2017 for a teaching leave during the spring 2018 semester

Fall 2017 Jewish Studies Faculty Grant
Grant awarded to fund student field trips to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to see the exhibit on the Dead Sea Scrolls
Award: \$1000

Fall 2017 Research and Innovation Office
Faculty Conference Award, funding a conference pertaining to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science
Award: \$3000

Fall 2017 Center for Western Civilization, Thought, and Policy
Grant for a funding a conference pertaining to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science
Award: \$3000

Fall 2017-Spring 2018 Faculty Fellow, Research and Innovation Office
University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2015 Regional Scholar Award, Society of Biblical Literature (awarded on a national competition to two emerging biblical scholars)

Fall 2013-Spring 2014 University of Chicago, Chicago Center for Jewish Studies
Dissertation Year Fellowship

Fall 2012-Spring 2013 University of Chicago, Martin Marty Junior Dissertation Fellowship 2012-2013 (Divinity School)

Summer 2010 Ryerson Travel Grant, Summer 2010 (Classical Archaeology)

2007-2014 University of Chicago, Cross/Rantz Scholar 2007-2014 (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations)

Academic Presentations (Papers accepted on a competitive basis)

March 2020 Regional Society of Biblical Literature conference, “The Tower of Babel: The Rise of a Nationalistic Narrative”

November 2019 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Intertextuality and Liturgy: A Study of the Relationship between Hab 3 and Pss 29, 77, and 18,” in the session on Israelite Prophetic Literature

November 2019 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “The Meaning of *hmt* in KTU 1.14 ii 12 and 1.14 iii 55: Contextual and Comparative Considerations,” in the session on Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy

November 2018 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Pattern (PAT) Loans and Hebrew in Isa 40-66,” in the session in linguistics and Biblical Hebrew

November 2018 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “A Firmament of the Earth: The Logic of Gen 1:20 and a Visual Representation in the Baal Stele,” in the session on Genesis

March 2018 Regional Society of Biblical Literature conference, “Ritual and the Role of Sources in the Sinai Narratives”

November 2017 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Revisiting Royal Rhetoric and Fractured Politics in Sargon II’s Dûr-Sharrukîn Cylinder Inscription and Gen 11,” in the session on Genesis

November 2017 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Is there a Remnant of Israel in the Book of Amos? Amos 3:12 as a Test-Case and a Connection to Hos 5:14,” in the session on Israelite Prophetic Literature

October 2017 Thirtieth Annual Symposium on Jewish Civilization. Conference theme: “Next Year in Jerusalem: Exile and Return in Jewish History.” Paper title: Place as Real and Imagined in Exile: Jerusalem at the Center of Ezekiel”

November 2016 Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Israel in Egypt, Egypt in Israel: Ezekiel’s Use of Egypt as a Message to Israel,” in the session on

	the development of the book of Ezekiel (did not attend due to birth of my daughter)
March 2016	Panelist and presenter for a session at the regional Society of Biblical Literature conference on the “Current State of the Study of the Pentateuch” (paper title: “Source Criticism according to the Bible”)
November 2015	Society of Biblical Literature annual conference, “Abraham and the Rhetoric against Titus in an Expansion of Tg. Isa. 10:32” in the Aramaic section
March 2015	Regional Society of Biblical Literature conference, “The Flood and the Problem of Being an Omnivore”

Invited Talks

October 2013	Chicago Society for Biblical Research, “Language Contact and the Formation of the Hebrew Bible”
May 2013	Department of Linguistics Language Variation and Change Workshop, University of Chicago, “Contact Linguistics and Data From Bygone Eras: A Case Study in the Ancient Near East and the Hebrew Bible”
April 2013	Harvard University, Graduate Student Philology Workshop, “Language Contact and the Comparative Method: Bringing Theory and Data Together”

Community Talks

St. John’s Episcopal: “How to Read the Gospel of John,” March 2019

Panel Series, in conjunction with the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Talks presented at: St. John’s Episcopal Church, Boulder, CO; Boulder Jewish Community Center; Temple Emanuel, Denver, CO; Boulder Islamic Center. June, 2018

Bonai Shalom Synagogue, “The Exodus in Critical and Rabbinical Thought,” January, 2018

Embodied Judaism: Symposium on the Shekinah, talk concerning the biblical and ancient Near Eastern backgrounds of the *shekinah* in Jewish thought. November 2017

Conference on World Affairs, Moderator for Professor Elaine Pagels’ talk “Apocalypse: How the Book of Revelation Haunts Contemporary Politics.” April 13, 2017

Carbondale Arts Center, Carbondale, Colorado
Talk scheduled April 21-22, 2017 on magic in Judaism

Meet-and-greet local high school students to promote the study of religion, Jewish history, and the ancient Near East

Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado, Denver, Colorado
Talk in March, 2017 on language, writing, and Jewish identity

Miramontes Arts and Science Program, October 4, 2016
Student-nominated speaker as a part of a colloquium series to promote the humanities among underrepresented populations at the University of Colorado Boulder

United Nations Association, Boulder, May 3, 2016
Paper presentation on the topic of extremism in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, co-organized through the Islamic Center of Boulder

CU Boulder Lutheran/Episcopalian Campus Ministry Group, April 12, 2016
Informal talk promoting the critical study of the Bible to undergraduate students

Boulder Jewish Community Center, April 14, 2016
“Magic in Jewish Texts and Tradition”

United Nations Association, Boulder, February 29, 2016
Panel moderator for a discussion regarding Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, co-organized through the Islamic Center of Boulder

Teaching and Advising

Courses Taught

University of Colorado Boulder

1000-level

HIST/JWST 1818 Introduction to Jewish History, Bible to 1492 (Spring 2016)

RLST/JWST 1900 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (Fall 2016, Fall 2019)

2000-level

RLST/JWST 2600 Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (Spring 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2019)

RLST/JWST 2600 ONLINE: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (Summers 2016-2019)

3000-level

RLST 3000 Christian Traditions (Fall 2015, Fall 2017)

RLST/JWST 3150 Jerusalem: The Holy City (Spring 2020)

RLST/JWST 3820 Magic in Judaism and Christianity (Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

4000/5000-level

RLST/JWST 4260 Seminar: Advanced Topics for the Study of the Hebrew Bible (Spring 2016)

RLST/JWST 4/5820 Seminar: Magic and Religion in Judaism and Christianity (Fall 2018)

Independent Studies

Guided independent studies for Paden Unruh and Nicholas Johnson, MA studies in Religious Studies (Spring 2018)

Guided an independent study for Jeffrey Baron, an MA student in Religious Studies (Fall 2017)

Guided an independent study for Ahmet Cem Durak, an MA student in Religious Studies (Spring 2016)

Advising

Religious Studies

Primary advisor for two current MA students (Paden Unruh and Hannah Griffin)

Committee Member for MA Theses in RLST: Jeffrey Baron and Michael Connolly

History

Honors Committee Member for Amelia Kate Chouinard (graduated *summa cum laude*)

Jewish Studies

Senior Capstone Project for Gavin Coulson: “A Parashah on Exodus 21:1-10” (committee member)

Honors Committee Member for Natania Bloch-Smith (in process)

Philosophy

Honors Committee Member for Toby Eugene Bollig (graduated *summa cum laude*)

Honors Committee Member for Elliott Spears (graduated *magna cum laude*), “A Defense of Divine Command Theory”

Service

Department of Near Eastern Language and Civilizations, University of Chicago

Spring 2017-pres. Second, external reader for comprehensive exams in Classical Ethiopic/Ge'ez (in support of Professor Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee, first reader)

Department of Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2016-2018 Executive Committee

Spring 2016-2017 Regional Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religion Conference Planning Committee

Spring 2016 Graduate Funding Committee

Fall 2015-pres. Library Liaison

Spring 2019-pres. Organizer for annual Lester Lecture, Elaine Pagels (scheduled for October 24, 2019)

Program in Jewish Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2018-pres. Director for Undergraduate Studies

Fall 2018-pres. Executive Committee

Fall 2015-2018 Graduate Studies Committee

Program for Mediterranean Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2015-pres. Board Member

Center for the Study of Origins, University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2016-pres. Executive Committee and Core Faculty Member

Fall 2017-2018 Organizing Committee for symposium on the 536 CE event and the role of climate change in human history

Fall 2019-pres. Lead organizer for year-long conference on the origins of writing

Harvard Semitic Studies/Harvard Semitic Monographs/Brill

Fall 2019-pres. Manuscript reviewer for monographs

Aramaic Studies

Spring 2018-pres. Article reviewer for the journal

Community Service

2017-2018 Advisory Committee for the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Co-organizer for conference, "Inscribing the Sacred" held between Denver University, University of Colorado Boulder, and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Media Appearances

Newsweek, "Biblical King Balak was 'Very Likely' a Historical Figure, Ancient Stone Tablet Reveals"

<https://www.newsweek.com/bible-king-mesha-stele-moabite-stone-moab-jordan-history-archaeology-1411453>

Newsweek, "Who Was Apollonius? Controversial 'Bible Conspiracies' Documentary Claims Jesus Was Really Greek Philosopher"

<https://www.newsweek.com/jesus-conspiracy-theory-greek-philosopher-bible-conspiracies-1330418>

Daily Camera Coverage of RIO TED talks, featuring my presentation:

http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci_32214491/cu-boulder-research-and-innovation-get-airing-at

TED-style talk, CU Boulder, October 17, 2018: Bible and Politics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB2eKgmhrog>

CU Science Buffs Podcast: Buffs Talk Science, Spring 2018

Podcast on the science of preserving ancient texts, the science of forgeries, and science in the ancient world

<https://buffstalkscience.com/2018/06/06/episode-4-whats-your-opinion-on-free-will/>

The Coloradan, Spring 2018

Podcast on the Dead Sea Scrolls

<https://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2018/05/01/podcast-dead-sea-scrolls>

Dash of Drash: Podcast Musings

Episode 52: Exodus- Narrative and Law

<https://soundcloud.com/user-685353444/episode-52-exodus-narrative-and-law-with-special-guest-professor-sam-boyd>

The Coloradan, Fall 2017

“Better than Babel”

Full Article on my Biblical and Linguistic Research

<https://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2017/09/01/better-babel>

The Coloradan, Fall 2016

Campus News Briefs

<http://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2016/09/01/campus-news-briefs-fall-2016>

Colorado Arts and Science Magazine, April 2016

“CU-Boulder prof employs 23 ancient Near East languages in a quest for biblical understanding”

<http://www.colorado.edu/asmagazine/2016/04/27/biblical-scholar-explores-power-babel>

Boulder Weekly, 2016

“Report shows increase of anti-Semitism in CO”

<http://www.boulderweekly.com/news/report-shows-increase-of-anti-semitism-in-co/>

Vice News, December 2015

“Would Jesus Celebrate Christmas?”

Scholarly perspective interviewed for and quoted in the online article

<http://www.vice.com/read/would-jesus-celebrate-christmas>

“CU Science Update 36- The Gluten-Free Trend”

Academic consultant and talking head regarding the history of grains in the ancient Near East and the Hebrew Bibles

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkdqDWUjs2g>