



CENTER FOR JUDAIC & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, *Director*

University of Connecticut, Stamford

One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901-2315

203-251-9525 • stamford.uconn.edu/cjmes

FALL 2011

From Our Director's Desk:

Our ancient sages said: "He who does not increase his knowledge decreases it" (*Pirkei Avot* 1:13). For over three decades, the Center for Judaic and Middle Eastern Studies at UConn, Stamford, has gathered around itself a learning community of accomplished professionals in all walks of life who believed in this age-old proverb, and acted upon it. Community members have flocked to our programs not because they lacked knowledge or successful careers, but because they appreciated the opportunities of engaging in literary or philosophical texts, or listening to experts and scholars share with them their specialized research and analysis. We are as proud of the high quality of our guest speakers through the years, the best and the brightest in contemporary scholarship, politics, and letters, as we are of the caliber of our adult students.



The Center has also continued to respond to the changing population and needs of UConn, Stamford's undergraduate students. We keep designing new and innovative courses, such as a course in the diaries, poetry, and narratives written by victims during the Holocaust, or in the literature of the Middle East, a course which offers a balanced look at both Israeli and Arab literatures in the context of contemporary politics and the history of the Middle East.

To celebrate over thirty years of accomplishments, the Center will host a 30th Anniversary Dinner on October 30, 2011, at which time we'll honor two distinguished members of our community who have also been students and friends of the Center, Stephne and Kerrin Behrend.

Please join us for this event as well as all the other exciting programs we are planning for Fall 2011.



ABOVE: As always, community members had a chance to meet the 2010 Louis J. Kuriansky distinguished keynote speaker, Dr. Jerry Z. Muller of the Catholic University in Washington, at the pre-Conference festive Reception / Dinner: L. to R.: Harriet Sternlicht, Mark Sternlicht, Dr. Jerry Z. Muller, Edward Backer, and Dr. Sharon White, Director, UConn Stamford.

The 30th Anniversary Dinner

Honoring

Stephne & Kerrin Behrend

*Sunday, October 30, 2011
at 5:00 p.m.*

.....
The Louis J. Kuriansky
2011

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

7:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

**Dr. Ronald Radosh
& Dr. Allis Radosh**

.....
THE FALL 2011

**LUNCH & LEARN
SERIES**

*Masterworks
of the Judaic Genius*
Thursdays 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 6, 27, Nov. 3, 10

BELOW: Professor Jerry Z. Muller's lecture on "Jews and Capitalism" was very well received by the community as well as by UConn's undergraduate students who found his presentation "illuminating" to their understanding of the complexity of Jewish history. Celebrating a successful 2010 Annual Conference: L. to R.: Dr. Joel Blatt, Dr. William Alpert, Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy, Dr. Muller, Edward Backer, Nina Lotstein, and Sary Backer.





CENTER FOR JUDAIC & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

University of Connecticut, Stamford

The 30th Anniversary Dinner

Honoring

Stephne & Kerrin Behrend

Sunday, October 30th, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Keynote Address

Dr. Arnold Dashefsky

Professor of Sociology, Founding Director of the Center for
Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life at UConn, Storrs

Please look in your mailbox for more information or call (203) 251-9525.

THE LOUIS J. KURIANSKY

FALL 2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 7:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

In the Gen Re Auditorium at UConn, Stamford

Refreshments: 7:10 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.

President Truman and the Founding of the State of Israel

Dr. Allis Radosh & Dr. Ronald Radosh

Co-authors of the award-winning

Safe Haven: Harry S. Truman and the Founding of Israel

Dr. Allis Radosh

Advocates of the Plan

7:25 p.m. - 8:10 p.m.

Dr. Ronald Radosh

Adversaries of the Plan

8:15 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Q & A

9:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy

Congratulations to our Founding Director

DR. NEHAMA ASCHKENASY

for receiving the

2011 UCONN, STAMFORD, FACULTY RECOGNITION AWARD

for her "sustained, outstanding achievements in teaching, research, and services benefiting the Stamford Campus."

Thank you, Nehama, for many years of inspired teaching and leadership benefiting, as well, the community at large.
Nina Lotstein, Chair, for the Community Advisory Board for the Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at UConn, Stamford.



CENTER FOR JUDAIC & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

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REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2011 LUNCH & LEARN

Thursday, Oct. 6, 27, Nov. 3, 10 • 12 noon—1:30 p.m.

Please make your check of **\$50 for the entire four-session series (including lunch)**
payable to: **Judaic Studies, UConn, Stamford, and mail to: Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford, One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901-2315.**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

HOME PHONE:

CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS

ENCLOSED CHECK FOR \$

I (WE) REGISTER FOR BOTH THE LUNCH & LEARN SERIES AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS

ENCLOSED CHECK FOR \$

Dietary Laws Observed

Please indicate your luncheon choice: Veggie Wrap Tuna on Rye Bagel with Cream Cheese and Lox

Registration is for the entire series only! Please register by September 28, 2011.

For information call our office at (203) 251-9525 or write to stamfordcjmes@uconn.edu.

Discounts for local educators and professionals but advance reservation is required.

The Louis Kuriansky Annual Conference is **FREE** for our Lunch and Learn students, but advance registration is required.

REGISTRATION FOR 2011 LOUIS J. KURIANSKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 15, 7:15—9:30 p.m.

Please make your check of **\$10 per person**
payable to: **Judaic Studies, UConn, Stamford, and mail to: Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford, One University Place, Stamford, CT 06901-2315.**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

HOME PHONE:

CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

I (WE) REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS

ENCLOSED CHECK FOR \$

Free admission for the UConn community, other local students, and professionals in non-profit agencies

Refreshments

Please respond by November 7, 2011.

For information call our office at 203-251-9525 or write to stamfordcjmes@uconn.edu.



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THE LOUIS J. KURIANSKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011, 7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

President Truman and the Founding of the State of Israel *Dr. Ronald & Dr. Allis Radosh*

In their book, *A Safe Haven: Harry S. Truman and the Founding of Israel*, renowned authors and Professors, Ronald and Allis Radosh, investigate President Truman's controversial decision to recognize the new State of Israel as soon as it was declared on May 14, 1948. Highly praised, *A Safe Haven* was awarded The Washington Institute's top Book Prize for a work on the Middle East, the Institute's judges noting that "Without smoothing over Truman's flaws, Ron and Allis Radosh demonstrate how this accidental president became Israel's indispensable friend and benefactor at a crucial moment.

A Safe Haven should be read not only as history, but as a practical primer in presidential calculation and courage."

In their talks, the authors will look at the powerful people and forces acting on Truman seeking to influence him as he made his decisions about the establishment of Israel. Dr. Allis Radosh will give us an overview of the situation as Truman found it and look at the impact on him of advocates of a Jewish State. Dr. Ronald Radosh will discuss

its dedicated adversaries, the State Department, Defense and CIA, and the Arab nations and the British establishment.

Dr. Allis Radosh taught at Sarah Lawrence College and the City University of New York and served as a program officer at the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Dr. Ronald Radosh is Professor Emeritus of History at City University of New York and the author or co-author of fourteen books, among them *The Rosenberg File* (1973 and 1996), *Divided They Fell: The Demise of the Democratic Party*, and *Spain Betrayed: The Soviet Union in the Spanish Civil War*.

Before writing *A Safe Haven*, the Radoshes co-authored *Red Star Over Hollywood: The Film Colony's Long Romance with the Left* (2005), which explores and dispels myths about Communism in Hollywood in the 1930s and 40s. Professor Ronald Radosh's commentaries have appeared in *The New Republic*, *National Review*, and *The Weekly Standard*, and both authors have been featured on C-SPAN.

9:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Q&A

Moderator and Conference Organizer:

Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy

Professor of Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies and Founding Director,
Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies, UConn, Stamford



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THE FALL 2011 LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Four Thursdays / 12:00 Noon — 1:30 p.m. / In the MPR on the 1st floor, at UConn, Stamford

Masterworks of the Judaic Genius

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

THE BARBARA & JOE FIELD
LECTURE

Folklorist Tradition in the Book of *Tobit*



The Rev. Dr. Blaine Edele
Pastor, Union Memorial Church, Stamford
Adjunct Professor, UConn, Stamford

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

THE NORMA & MILTON MANN
LECTURE

Michael Chabon and Contemporary Jewish Imagination



Dr. Joshua Lambert
Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
New York University

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

THE HYACINTHE HOFFMAN
LECTURE

The Art of Imagining Scripture: Rabbinic Midrash as Literary Art



Dr. David Kraemer
Professor of Talmud & Rabbinics
Jewish Theological Seminary

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

THE LINDA GALARZA SPILKA
LECTURE

War as Reality & Metaphor In Israeli Writings

(Read: David Grossman,
To the End of the Land)



Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy
*Professor of Comparative Literary
& Cultural Studies, UConn, Stamford*

Please save the dates for the following additional free lectures, in conjunction with Professor Roden's course in "Spiritual Autobiographies."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 7 P.M.

Dr. Joan Weimer
*Author of *Awestruck:
A Skeptic's Pilgrimage**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 AT 7 P.M.

Rabbi Andrea Myers
*Author of *The Choosing: A Rabbi's Journey
from Silent Nights to High Holy Days**



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 One University Place
 Stamford, CT 06901-2315

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Please open for registration forms!!
THE LOUIS J. KURIANSKY
FALL 2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
AND
THE FALL 2011 LUNCH & LEARN SERIES
 At the University of Connecticut
 in Downtown Stamford
 Washington Blvd & Broad St.
 Free Parking in the UCONN garage on Washington Blvd.

The Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at UConn, Stamford,

offers credit courses within the academic curriculum in the Humanities as well as outreach programs for the community at large in all areas of Judaic culture, literature, and history, from antiquity to modern times, Israel, Middle Eastern literature and politics, and interfaith studies.

Now celebrating its thirty-first year, the Center has created a learning community around itself which gathers for intellectual discussions of scholarly and contemporary issues. The Center's outreach programs are attended by diverse groups from the local communities.

The Center has been recognized for its innovative programs in the areas of traditional academic education and particularly outreach projects. Since its inception, the Center has enjoyed broad community recognition and has been financially supported by individuals, foundations, corporate gifts, and matching grants.

The Center is a recipient agency of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

CENTER FOR JUDAIC & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

University of Connecticut, Stamford

FALL 2011 • CREDIT COURSES

- **HIST 3705 – Modern Mid East from 1700–Present**
 Professor Joy Land\Monday & Wednesday,
 11:20 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.
- **INTD 3260 – The Bible**
 Professor Nehama Aschkenasy & the Reverend
 Dr. Blaine Edele\Tuesday, 2:35 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
- **POLS 3462 – International Relations of Mid East.**
 Professor Jeffrey Lefebvre\Tuesday, 2:35 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
- **ENGL 4600W – Spiritual Autobiographies**
 Professor Frederick Roden\Tuesday, 5:35 p.m. – 8:10 p.m.
- **CLCS 5301/ JUDS 5397 – Politics, Society, & Gender in Modern Middle Eastern Writings**
 Professor Nehama Aschkenasy (A graduate course offered at the Storrs campus and streamed live via ITV)
 Monday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.

Senior citizens may audit the credit courses by enrolling through the UConn, Stamford Registrar's office: 203-251-8555

**For more on our credit courses and the Certificate Program, please call
 the Center for Judaic & Middle Eastern Studies at 203-251-9525 / 8435**

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Director, UConn Stamford

* Honorary Member
 ** Past Chair