

Victoria K. Hoffer
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Education

Yale University, Ph.D. (Hebrew Bible)	1998
Yale University Divinity School (M. Div. Program)	1990-91
Yale University Divinity School, M.A.R. <i>cum laude</i>	1990
McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, B.A.	1964

Employment History

Lecturer: Biblical Hebrew Language, Prose and Poetry, Yale Divinity School	1998-present
Director of an independent study, Academy for Jewish Religion: Biblical Poetry and Prose	Fall 2004
Director of an independent study, Academy for Jewish Religion: Psalms in Jewish Liturgy	Spring 2001
Acting Instructor: Elementary Biblical Hebrew, Yale Divinity School	1994-95, 96-98
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Robert Wilson (Old Testament), Yale Divinity School	1993-94
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Ellen Davis (Elem. Biblical Hebrew), Yale Divinity School	1992-93
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Saul Olyan (Bible, Hebrew intensive section), Yale College	Fall, 1991
Travel Agent and Meeting Planner, Fugazy Travel and New Haven Travel Agencies	1978-84
Mother of five daughters	b. 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1984

Dissertation Topic

A Few Bad Men: Their Contribution to Understanding the Processes of Biblical Interpretation

Fellowship

Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University	1995-96
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Awards

Marvin H. Pope Prize for Biblical Hebrew, Yale University Divinity School	1991
University Scholar, McGill University	1961

Publications: Books

Biblical Hebrew: Text and Workbook, second edition. Bonnie Pedrotti Kittel, Victoria Hoffer, Rebecca Abts Wright, revised by Victoria Hoffer. Yale Press, 2005. First edition, Yale Press, 1989.

Supplement to Biblical Hebrew. Victoria Hoffer. Yale Press, 2005

Audio CD Program for Biblical Hebrew, second edition. Produced by Victoria Hoffer. Yale Press, 2005

Publications: Articles

“How She Sits Alone: The Poetic Beauty of Grief in Lamentations.” SBL collection of papers in Laments. Forthcoming.

“Illusion, Allusion, and Literary Artifice in the Frame Narrative of Job.” In James Watts, Corrine Patton, and Steven Cooke, eds., *The Whirlwind: Essays in Memory of Jane Morse*. Sheffield, 2002.

“‘And he prayed to him ...,’ Manasseh’s Repentance and its Reception in the Midrash.” *Hermeneutica* 1 (2001).

“A Jewish and Christian Reading of Jonah: How (Dis)similar?” *Sewanee Theological Review* 37 (1994). (co-authored with Rebecca Wright)

“An Exegesis of Isaiah 38:21.” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 56 (1992).

“Love in the Bible: What does Gender have to do with it?” In Regina Barreca, Brenda Gross, and Rose Quiello, eds., *The Cross Current Series: Writing and Gender*. Longman Press. (Solicited; publication date uncertain.)

Papers

“How She Sits Alone: The Poetic Beauty of Grief in Lamentations.” AAR/SBL Annual Meeting 2006.

“Techniques for Teaching Biblical Hebrew.” Best Practices in Teaching Workshop, AAR/SBL 2005.

“Vashti in the Popular Media of the Victorian Age.” Reading, Theory, and the Bible Section, AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, 2000.

“Manasseh Meets the Moderns: Contemporary Jewish Commentaries on Two Biblical Texts (2 Kings 21 and 2 Chronicles 33).” Modern Jewish Thought and Theology Section, AJS 31st Annual Conference, 1999.

“Er and Onan: Five Verses, Four Interpretations, Three Sources.” Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures Section, AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, 1999.

“Portrayals of a King: Manasseh in the Bible and Post-Biblical Jewish Sources.” AJS 30th Annual Conference, 1998.

“The Contribution of Chant and Song to the Teaching of Biblical Hebrew.” Nation Association of Professors of Hebrew Methodology Section, AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, 1997.

Panels

“Evaluating Elementary Hebrew Grammars for the Teaching of Biblical Hebrew.” National Association of Professors of Biblical Hebrew. AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, 2006.

Invited Lectures

Virginia Theological Seminary:

Old Testament Lecture: “Song of Songs, Lamentations, and Qohelet: Spheres of Longing and Logic.” April 19, 2007.

Biblical Hebrew Master Class. October 11, 2006

“The Psalms as Literature and Liturgy.” October 14, 2004.

Oberlin College:

“The Prostitute in the (Hebrew) Bible as Character and Metaphor.” Mead Swing Lecture, March 14, 2001.

“Music in the Hebrew Bible.” Workshop: March 15, 2001.

Yale University Divinity School:

“Vashti: The Fall and Rise of a Persian Princess.” February 15, 2000.

Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles:

“Abraham’s Embarrassment: Does it Depend on How you Define ‘Sister’?” January 19, 2000.

Hartford Theological Seminary:

“Psalm and Song in Jewish Tradition.” For “The Psalms and Negro Spirituals.” April, 2001.
“Psalms.” For “Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures.” Spring, 1999.
“After the Exile.” For “Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures.” Spring, 1999.
“Bathsheba.” For “Bad Girls in the Bible.” Spring, 1998.
“Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.” For “Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures.” Fall, 1998.

Sewanee Theological Seminary:

“Hebrew as an Exegetical Tool.” 1994.

“Abraham and Isaac in Jewish Tradition from the Bible to the Twentieth Century.” 1992.

Professional Activities

Participant: Wabash Center Consultation on Teaching Biblical Hebrew, 2000.

Admissions Committee, Yale University Divinity School, 1999-2000.

Reviewer of manuscripts for Yale University Press, 1999, 2001.

Community Activities

Teacher, Five Lectures, First Presbyterian Church, New Haven.

“Poetry in the Bible.” 2003.

Lecturer, Taste of Honey. Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven:

“Passover: Narrative and Song in the Haggadah.” January 2007.

“Sing to the Lord a New Song: The Interconnection of Text, Music, and Liturgy.” January 2006.

“(Extra)ordinary Women of Exodus.” January 2000.

Teacher, Beit Midrash, Temple Israel, Westport, CT:

“Vashti the Queen in Jewish Tradition.” March, 2001.

“Psalms: Sustenance for the Spirit, Succor or the Soul.” Spring, 1999.

“Biblical Hebrew: Interpretation and a Little T’fillah.” 1996-98.

Teacher, Midrasha: Adult Institute for Jewish Learning. Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven:

“Royal Couples in the Bible: Infamous, Famous, and not so Famous.” Spring, 2001.

“Domestic Dramas and Divine Encounters in Genesis: An Interpretive Journey.” Fall, 1998.

Speaker for Adult Education Series, First Congregational Church, Stamford, CT:

“Cantillation of the Biblical Text.” 1993.

Speaker for Adult Education at St. Ann’s Church, Waterford, CT:

“The Passover Seder,” 1993.

Ba’alat Qree’ah at Congregation Or Shalom, Orange CT. 1984-present.

Justice of the Peace, Connecticut.

Memberships

Association for Jewish Studies

National Association of Professors of Hebrew

Society of Biblical Literature