

CURRICULUM VITAE

DAVID BRANDT LEVENSON

PERSONAL DATA

Date and Place of Birth: October 12, 1948, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Addresses: Religion Department, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520 (850-644-0212).
3566 Gardenview Way, Tallahassee, FL 32309 (850-893-5088; cell: 850-212-5099); dlevenson@fsu.edu

EDUCATION

A.B. Princeton University (Religion), 1970.

Hebrew University, Visiting Research Student in Hellenistic and Rabbinic Judaism, 1972-73.

A.M. Harvard University (Study of Religion: New Testament and Christian Origins), 1975.

Ph.D. Harvard University (Study of Religion: New Testament and Christian Origins), 1980; Dissertation: "A Source and Tradition Critical Study of the Stories of the Emperor Julian's Attempt to Rebuild the Jerusalem Temple."

NEH Summer Seminar on "The Greek Encounter with Judaism," conducted by Louis H. Feldman, Yeshiva University, 1980.

HONORS

Princeton: Robbins Scholarship (Greek Award, 2nd holder), 1968; University Scholar, 1968-70; Potts Bible Prize, 1970; Robinson Prize (Outstanding Student in Religion Dept.), 1970; Phi Beta Kappa, 1970; Summa Cum Laude, 1970.

Harvard: Zion Research Fellowship (Archaeology; Excavation of Synagogue at Khirbet Shema), 1971; General Exams passed with Distinction (Special Area: Hellenistic Judaism), 1974.

TEACHING AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

FSU: University Teaching Award, 1987; Nominated, 1996/97, 1999/2000, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2007/08.
University Distinguished Teaching Award, 1993.
Teaching Incentive Program Award, 1993/4, 1996/7.
Superior Liberal Studies Honors Teaching Award, 1996/97.
Named as one of the five favorite professors by honors students over the "past several years" (US Herald, Division of Undergraduate Studies, Fall, 1994).
Nominated for Continuing Education Teaching Award, 1994/95.
Nominated for Superior Liberal Studies Honors Teacher, 1994/95, 1995/96.
Nominated for University Advising Award, 1997/98; 1998/99; 1999/2000
Provost's 90% recognition, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006.

Other: Selected to Participate in Wabash Center Consultation on Teaching Biblical Hebrew, July 2000 and 2001

LANGUAGES (Reading)

French, German, Italian, Latin, Greek, Hebrew (Biblical, Rabbinic, Modern), Syriac, Jewish Aramaic Dialects, Arabic, Coptic.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

McCormick Theological Seminary

Adjunct Associate Professor, 1989 (Summer); 1990 (Fall)

University of Notre Dame

Visiting Associate Professor of Theology, 1989 (Winter/Spring)

Florida State University

Associate Professor of Religion, 1986-present

Associate Professor of Modern Languages (Courtesy), 2007-present

Associate Professor of Classics (Courtesy), 1986-present
Assistant Professor of Religion, 1980-86
Assistant Professor of Classics (Courtesy), 1983-86
Instructor, Department of Religion, 1976-80

Harvard University

Administrative Assistant for the Research Team for the Religion and Culture of the Aegean in Early Christian Times, 1974-75.
Teaching Fellow: "Introduction to Early Christian Literature" (Krister Stendahl), 1971-72; "The Great Age of Athens" (John Finley), 1973, 1975; "The Gospel of John" (George MacRae), 1974; "Religion and Literature in Antiquity" (Richard Pervo), 1975

COURSES TAUGHT

FSU

Undergraduate Survey Courses

Introduction to the New Testament; Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament; Jewish Tradition; Religions of the Graeco-Roman World; Jews and Judaism in the Graeco-Roman World; Jerusalem: Conflict and Controversy from Antiquity to the Present. Judaism component for Introduction to Middle East Studies.

Undergraduate Seminars

Early Jewish-Christian Relations; The Book of Exodus in History and Tradition; Gospel of Matthew; Gospel of John; Gospel of Mark; Acts of the Apostles; Jewish Messianism; Jewish and Christian Apocalypticism; "The Passion of the Christ" and the Gospel Narratives; Rabbinic Judaism in Antiquity; Mishna Kiddushin; Babylonian Talmud Berakhot; The Quest for the Historical Jesus; Paul.

Honors Courses

Introduction to the New Testament; World Religions (Judaism and Christianity Component); Freshman Seminar on Canonical and Non-Canonical Gospels.

Graduate Seminars

Gospel of Matthew; Gospel of John; Jewish-Christian Relations in Antiquity; Rabbinic Judaism in Antiquity; Issues in Contemporary New Testament Scholarship; Josephus; Gospel Passion Narratives; The Book of Jonah in History and Tradition; The Book of Exodus in History and Tradition; The Joseph Story in History and Tradition; Religions of the Graeco-Roman World; Jews and Judaism in the Graeco-Roman World; Early Judaism: Maccabean and Hasmonean Period; Jewish-Christian Relations in the Medieval World; Jewish Messianism; Jewish and Christian Apocalypticism; Mishna Kiddushin, Talmud Berakhot; Biblical Studies Pro-Seminar, New Testament Pro-Seminar.

Language Courses

Biblical Hebrew: Beginning I and II, Intermediate, and Advanced. Reading courses on Genesis, Exodus, Ruth, Daniel, Esther, Jonah, Joshua, Judges, Psalms, Prophetic Texts. Tutorials on selected texts.

Post-Biblical Ancient and Medieval Hebrew: Dead Sea Scrolls, Mishnah, Genesis Rabbah, Medieval Commentators, Apocalypse of Elijah, Liturgical Poetry.

Modern Hebrew: Beginning and Intermediate. Tutorials on Poetry and Short Stories.

Classical Greek: Beginning I and II. Reading courses on Iliad 1, Homeric Hymn to Demeter, Herodotus 2, Euripides' Cyclops and Hippolytus, Thucydides 1, Plato's Apology.

Jewish and Christian Greek Texts: Reading courses on Septuagint, Philo, Josephus, 1 and 2 Maccabees, Gospels, Acts, Galatians, Justin Martyr, John Chrysostom. Tutorials on Basil of Caesarea on Greek Literature and Origen's Contra Celsum.

Jewish Aramaic: Biblical, Targumic, and Babylonian Talmudic Aramaic.

Syriac: Beginning. Reading courses on the Peshitta and 2 Baruch.

Classical Arabic: Reading courses on Qur'an and al-Bukhari.

Coptic: Beginning.

Latin: Tutorial on Ecclesiastical Latin; Tutorial on Sallust's Cataline with grammar review.

Undergraduate DIS Topics (selected list)

Max Weber on Judaism, Jewish Festivals, Historical Jesus, Dispensationalism, History of Modern Israel, Contemporary Christian Apologetics, Hamas, History of Modern Lebanon, the Trinity, the "Left Behind" series.

Graduate DIS Topics (selected list)

Modern Jewish Theology, Gospel of John, The Birth Narratives of Jesus, Paul, Christology, The Bible as Literature, Gnostics and Gymnosophists, Constantine and Eusebius, The Late Roman Empire, Feminism and Biblical Archaeology, The Greek Novel, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Jewish Festivals, Women in Judaism, Zionism, Josephus and the Deuteronomist, Platonism, Reform Judaism

CPE COURSES

Readings in Classical Greek (1986-1995)

The Middle East Peace Process (1991/92)

SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Guest Lecturer

HOLOCAUST INSTITUTE FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

Lecturer (2000; 2001; 2002; 2004; 2005; 2007; 2008; 2009)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP ON TEACHING THE BIBLE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

Lecturer (July, 2000)

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATORS: TEACHING THE BIBLE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (June, 2001; July, 2002)

CONSULTATION ON TEACHING BIBLICAL HEBREW SPONSORED BY WABASH CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN RELIGION AND THEOLOGY, (July 2000; 2001)

McCORMICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Exegesis of the Gospel of John (MDiv, MTS)

New Testament Perspectives on Jewish-Christian Relations (MDiv, MTS)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Judaism (MDiv)

Seminar on Rabbinic Literature (PhD)

THESIS AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEES OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED DEGREES

BA Honors Theses: Elecia Kelley (Director), Jessica Carr (Director); Lawrence Green (English), Richard Rothaus (Classics), Robert Pruitt (English), Tammy Jaycox, Jamie Nessel, Stacey Domigan (Psychology); Mary Scates (English); Dave Mondt (English); Aisha Atassi (International Affairs); Hiba Abdul-Rahim (Psychology); Hadia Mubarak (International Affairs); Alex Tiefertiller (Film); Gay (Classics); Felicia Floyd (Religion); Wendy Wislon (Religion); Sherrod (Film); Steward (Classics); Hosler (Classics).

Master's Theses Heather McVoy (Director), Malcolm Donalson (Director), R. Douglas Emery (Director), Jeremy Kridel (Director), Meghan Mohrland (Political Science; Director); Shanna Taylor, Scott Blumenthal, Evelyn Mast (Classics), Paul Schneider, Clifford Smith, Richard Jaegi, Lynn Bartholome, Bart McNeil, Yasir Ibrahim; Larry Senger (International Affairs); Stephanie Skelley, Jessica Carr (1992-2001, 15 non-Thesis MA exam committees [8 as chair]).

Doctoral Dissertations

Director

Malcolm Donalson (Humanities), "Jerome's *Chronicon*: A Translation and Commentary" (1991).

Joyce Nki, "Traditional and Christian Interpretations of Suffering and Healing Among the Contemporary Meru of Kenya" (2001).

William Lyons, "Between History and Theology: The problem of herem in Modern Evangelical Scholarship" (2003).

Gary Stilwell (Humanities), "Conduct and Behavior as Determinants for the Afterlife: A Comparison of the Judgments of the Dead in Ancient Egypt and Ancient Greece" (2000).

Jessica Tinklenberg-DeVega, "'A Man Who Feels God': Constructions of Masculinity in Hellenistic Jewish Interpretations of Joseph" (2006).

Jeanne Heisler, "Gnat or Apostolic Bee: A translation and Commentary on Theodoret's Commentary on Jonah" (2006)

Sonya Cronin, "Raymond Brown on 'The Jews' in the Gospel of John" (2009)

Committees

Religion: Kevin Vaccarella, Scott Cason; Jordan Smith; Humanities: Robert Millet, Calvin Mercer, Dan White, Peter Cohen, John Guedes, Heather McVoy; Doug Evans History: Richard Bennet; Philosophy: Priscilla Sekezles, Jeremy Kirby, Greg Smith, Art History: Bea Durette, Steven Choate; Child and Family: Amanda Thackery.

BOOKS

Julian and the Jerusalem Temple: A Study in Source and Tradition Criticism (accepted for publication by E.J. Brill; revising manuscript).

Josephus, Jewish War, Book 6: Translation and Commentary (with Thomas Martin, Holy Cross). To be published as a volume in the Brill Josephus Project, general editor Steven Mason (E.J. Brill, 2000-) (initial stages).

The Hebrew Apocalypse of Elijah: Introduction, Critical Text, Translation and Commentary (with Martha Himmelfarb, Princeton University) (complete draft of critical text and translation.) A translation with an introduction and brief notes has been commissioned for the *More Old Testament Pseudepigrapha* project, edited by J. Davila and R. Bauckham, to be published by Eerdmans.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

"Akairos or Eukairos? The Nickname of the Seleucid King Demetrius III in the Transmission of the Texts of Josephus' *War* and *Antiquities*," with Thomas Martin, *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 40 (2009): 307-341.

"The Ancient and Medieval Sources for the Emperor Julian's Attempt to Rebuild the Jerusalem Temple," *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 35 (2004): 409-460.

"University Religion Departments and Teaching About the Bible in Public High Schools: A Report from Florida," *Religious Studies News, AAR Edition* 17/2 (March 2002), pp. 3, 7, 10 (Republished in SBL Forum, Fall, 2003).

"Julian, the Emperor," in *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*, ed. Everett Ferguson. Second edition. New York: Garland Press, 1997 (revision of article for first edition).

Dissertation Advisor=s Preface to Malcolm Donalson's *Jerome's Chronicon: A Translation and Commentary* (Mellen Distinguished Dissertation Series; Edwin Mellen Press, 1996).

"Julian's Attempt to Rebuild the Temple: An Inventory of Ancient and Medieval Sources," in *Of Scribes and Scrolls: Studies on the Hebrew Bible, Intertestamental Judaism, and Christian Origins*, ed. H.W. Attridge, J.J. Collins, T.H. Tobin, 261-279, New York: University Press of America, 1990.

"Different Texts or Different Texts: The Contexts of Biblical Studies," in *Hebrew Bible or Old Testament?*, ed. R. Brooks and J.J. Collins, University of Notre Dame Press, 1990.

"Julian, the Emperor," in *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*, ed. Everett Ferguson, 510-512, New York: Garland Press, 1990.

"Double Talk or Dialogue? Presbyterians Encounter Judaism," (with John Kelsay), *The Christian Century*, July 6-13, 1988, 638-640.

"Elijah, Apocalypse of (Hebrew)," *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* vol. 2 (1982), 68.

BOOK REVIEWS

(History Book Club Review) E. Pagels, Adam Eve and the Serpent (Aug., 1988). S.J.D. Cohen, From the Maccabees to the

Mishna (Oct., 1987). N.M. Sarna, Exploring Exodus (Aug., 1986). J.H. Charlesworth, The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, vol. 2 (Fall, 1985). M.W. Meyer, The Secret Teachings of Jesus (Feb. 1985). W.H.G. Frend, The Rise of Christianity (Oct. 1984). R.L. Wilken, The Christians As the Romans Saw Them (May, 1984). J.G. Gager, The Origins of Anti-semitism (Winter, 1983). J.H. Charlesworth, The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, vol. 1 (Dec. 1983).

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

"Communicative Language Learning for Biblical Hebrew," Respondent, National Association of Professors of Hebrew, Nov., 2008.

"Anti-Judaism in the Gospel of Matthew," Plenary Paper at International Symposium on the Interpretation of the Bible as a Force for Social Change, Evangelische Akademie Arnoldsheim and Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, October, 2001.

"Interactive Methods for Teaching Biblical Hebrew," National Association of Professors of Hebrew, November, 2001.

"Anti-Judaism in the Gospel of Matthew?" Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, May, 1999

"The Authenticity of Cyril of Jerusalem's Letter on the Rebuilding of the Jerusalem Temple under Julian," North American Patristic Society, May, 1988.

Response to Elizabeth Clark, "Astral Determinism and the Freedom of the Will: New Thoughts on the Connection Between Origenism and Pelagianism," and Susan Ashbrook Harvey, "Women in Syriac Hagiographical Literature," American Society of Church History, Dec. 1986.

"A Letter Attributed to Cyril of Jerusalem on the Rebuilding of the Temple: Authenticity, Sources, Provenance and Purpose," SE Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, March, 1986.

"Introducing Undergraduates to the New Testament," SE Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, March, 1985.

Organized, Chaired and Participated in Panel on "Fourth-Century Christian Writers on Jews and Judaism," American Academy of Religion, Dec., 1983.

"Jews and Egyptians in First-Century Rome," FSU Conference on "The First Century AD: Its Achievement and Legacy," May, 1981.

GRANTS

Office of Distance and Distributed Learning course development grant for Introduction to Biblical Hebrew, 2001-02.
Library Primary Source Development, 2005, 2007, 2008.

Curriculum Development, US Department of Education, administered by FSU Middle East Studies, for developing course on Jerusalem.

SERVICE

Department

Director of Undergraduate Studies, 1994-2003.

Advisor to Religion Majors and Minors, 1997-2003.

Advisor for Religion and Classics Joint Major, 1997-

Director of Graduate Studies, 1987-91.

Acting Chair, Fall 2001.

Executive Committee, 1980-82, 1983-84, 1987-88, 1990-2000, 2005-2008.

Undergraduate Policy Committee, 1980-84, 1994-2003.

Graduate Policy Committee, 1987-1994, 2002-2003.

Search Committees, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84, 1987-88, 1990-1991, 1995-1998, 1999-2003, 2004-2006, 2008.

Promotion and Tenure Committee, 1998-2003.

Advisor to Student Advisory Committee, 1980-86.

Colloquium Chair, 1980-85, 1990-1997.

Chair Selection Committee, 1988, 1996, 2005, 2008.

Planning Committee, Graduate Student Symposium on the Ancient World, 1992-1998.

Advisor, Religion Club, 1997-98.

Dodd Hall Library Committee, 2004-

Supervisor for graduate students teaching Introduction to Hebrew Bible, Introduction to New Testament, and Introduction to New Testament Greek

University

University Sabbatical Committee
University Committee on Conflict of Interest and Outside Activity
Ad Hoc Committee on Liberal Studies
University Calendar Committee
University Honors Program Committee
MLK jr Celebration Committee
Committee on Teaching and Advising Awards (Chair, 1997-98)
University Teaching Incentive Awards Committee
Arts and Sciences Teaching Incentive Awards Committee
President's Council for Excellence in College Teaching
Middle Eastern Studies Major and Minor Committee
Coordinator for Modern Hebrew for Department of Modern Languages
FSU Press Board.
University Curriculum Committee
Advisory Board, Friends of the Library
Ad Hoc Committee on Computer Courses.
Ad Hoc Committee on future Direction of FSU Office of Multicultural Affairs
Reviewer, Arts and Sciences NEH Grant Proposals
Committee on Religious Affairs
Professional Relations and Welfare Committee
Computing Information Resources Committee
Humanities Syllabus Revision Committee.
Humanities Examination Committee.
Homecoming Chief and Princess Selection Committee
Liberal Studies Advisor
Grade Appeal Committees (Philosophy)
COFRS Selection Committee
XL Program Committee on "Unofficial America."
Program Committee for Interdisciplinary Conferences on "Texts and Contexts," "Interpreting Canonical Texts," "Ideology, Politics and Literature," "Religion and Mythology in the Greco-Roman World."
Hillel Faculty Advisor and member of Advisory Board
Chair, Hillel Advisory Board
Chair, Search Committee for Hillel Director
Faculty Advisor, Jewish Student Union.
Faculty Advisor/Organizer, Greek Table
Phi Beta Kappa, Membership, Lecture, Hay Award, Officer Nomination Committees
Advisor, Epsilon Alpha Phi
Advisor, Pi Lambda Phi
Numerous Lectures to Classes, Campus Ministries, and Dorm Groups
Graduate Policy Committee subcommittee evaluating graduate programs in English (Spring 2006)
Chair, Graduate Policy Committee subcommittee evaluating MA Programs in Italian, German, and Slavic (Fall 2006)

Discipline

Society of Biblical Literature Task Force on Teaching About the Bible in Public Schools
Manuscript reviewer for FSU Press, Oxford University Press, Yale University Press, Augsburg/Fortress Press, History Book Club
Steering Committee, Hellenistic Judaism Section, Society of Biblical Literature
Tenure and Promotion Reviewer, University of Georgia, Iliff School of Theology, McCormick Theological Seminary, University of Tennessee.

Community

Scholar-in-Residence, Congregation Beth-El, Baltimore, MD, "The Gospels, Jesus, and Judaism," 2004.
Scholar-in-Residence, Temple Beth Am, Plantation, Florida, 1990.
Scholar-in-Residence, Temple Emanu-El, Birmingham, Alabama, 1990
Scholar-in-Residence, Southeastern Association of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1989.
Scholar-in-Residence, Temple Israel, Staunton, VA, 1987.

Jewish Chautauqua Society Scholar-in-Residence, Temple Beth-El, Ormond Beach, Florida, 1985.
 Jewish Cultural Series Lecturer, Charleston West Virginia, "The Gospel, the Jews, and the Death of Jesus," 2007
 13th Annual Neustadt Lecture at Oklahoma City University, "The Synoptic Accounts of the Trial Before Pilate," 1996.
 Lecturer, Oklahoma City Jewish Federation Cultural Series, "Recent Trends in Jewish-Christian Relations," 1989.
 Lecture Series for Institute of Judaism, Oklahoma B'nai Brith, "The New Testament and Jewish-Christian Relations," 1986.
 Presentation on "The Bible Controversy" at conference on "Teaching About Religion in Public Schools: Where do We Go From Here?" sponsored by Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life and Freedom Forum, Arlington, VA, May 21, 2003
 Consultant to State of Florida Department of Education for developing guidelines for Teaching Bible in the Public Schools, Spring, 2000.
 Organizer and Leader of Summer Workshops on Teaching the Bible in Florida Public High Schools, 2000-2002.
 Participant in Workshop on "Religion and Violence," Center for Strategic and International Studies and Institute for International and Strategic Studies.
 Participant in Workshop on "Apocalypticism in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam," Rand Corporation, 2005.
 Consultant to Presbyterian Church USA on the presentation of Jews and Judaism in educational materials published by the Presbyterian Church, 1991
 Tallahassee Committee on Middle East Dialogue, Founding Member.
 Lecture on "Israeli-Palestinian Peace Negotiations," Bay County Islamic Center, 2002.
 Planning Committee, Jewish-Christian-Muslim Dialogue, 1998-99.
 Harvard Divinity School Alumni Council.
 Archaeological Institute of America, Tallahassee Society, Board Member; President, 1984-88.
 Florida Clearinghouse on Criminal Justice, Volunteer, 1979-84. Unpublished paper for the Florida Clearinghouse and Southern Region of Amnesty International on "The Bible and the Death Penalty."
 Over one hundred lectures to church and synagogue groups on topics relating to the Bible, Jewish-Christian Relations, Israel and the Middle East, The Academic Study of Religion, Jewish History, Thought and Practice, The Death Penalty.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Society of Biblical Literature
 American Academy of Religion
 North American Patristics Society
 National Association of Professors of Hebrew
 Classical Association of the Midwest and South
 Association of Jewish Studies