

# The Department of Judaic Studies

PRESENTS THE 2017-2018

## Jacob and Jennie L. Lichter Lecture Series in Judaic Studies

This year's Lichter Lecture Series, "Thinking with Jews" explores Jewish-Christian relations from a fresh vantage point. We will investigate how certain Christian groups borrow and adapt aspects of Jewish patrimony in their own cultural projects. From early Christian attendance of synagogues and observance of Jewish law to more modern Christian evangelical support of Zionism to Christian adoption of Jewish practices in sub-Saharan Africa, certain Christian cultures continue to draw on Jewish authoritative texts, institutions, and political projects to define themselves. Encounters with these different groups expand our understanding of how Judaism and Christianity are entangled and invite us to consider anew the meaning of Jewish texts and practices in wider modern cultures.

Historically, at least up until the Second World War, Jewish-Christian relations emphasized moments of conflict. In large part, the proximity of early Christians to Jews buttressed by Christian claims to traditionally "Jewish" Scriptures led to the intertwining development of Christianity and Judaism and to conflict. Less told, are moments of profound confluence and inter-mural borrowing between these two groups. This Lichter series asks what we learn by foregrounding Christian-Jewish relations as a process of borrowing and acculturation by highlighting moments when Christians thought through their own identity by using Jewish traditions.

**All lectures are free and open to the public.**  
**Refreshments will be served after the lecture.**

**Dietary laws observed. Reservations are encouraged:**  
Contact Brandi Forbes, Department of Judaic Studies at (513) 556-2297 or [forbesbi@uc.edu](mailto:forbesbi@uc.edu)

**Parking:** The Department of Judaic Studies will offer a limited number of prepaid parking tickets for senior citizens for the on-campus lectures. In order to secure a ticket, those interested should contact Brandi Forbes at (513)556-2297 or [forbesbi@uc.edu](mailto:forbesbi@uc.edu)

## About the Department of Judaic Studies

The Department of Judaic Studies offers a comprehensive education in the history, thought, and literature of the Jews from biblical times to the present.

Our interdisciplinary faculty specializes in such areas as Ancient and Modern Judaism, Biblical and Modern Literature, Archaeology, Medieval and Modern Jewish History, Jewish Literature, Holocaust Studies, Zionism, Jewish Humor, Jews in Hollywood, World Religion and Religious Studies.

Students benefit from a rich graduate and undergraduate educational experience, which may include internships and study in Israel. Judaic Studies fully incorporates the resources of UC and draws upon the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and the American Jewish Archives. Judaic Studies provides an integrated humanities education tailored to the needs and interests of each individual student. Our students complete their UC degrees well equipped for prime opportunities in a variety of professional careers and in further graduate studies.

**Become a member of the  
Friends of Judaic Studies today!**

Contact Professor Gila Safran Naveh at  
513-556-2300 or [gila.naveh@uc.edu](mailto:gila.naveh@uc.edu)

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The Lichter Lecture Series in Judaic Studies is made possible by the Jacob and Jennie L. Lichter Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati.

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## THINKING WITH JEWS:

Jewish-Christian Encounters from  
Antiquity to the Twenty-First Century







## Tudor Parfitt

President Isaac Navon  
Professor of Sephardi and  
Mizrahi Studies at Florida  
International University (FIU)

Title: **“Becoming Jewish in  
Sub-Saharan Africa”**

Date: 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Location: Mayerson JCC,  
8485 Ridge Road, Cincinnati,  
OH 45236 (South of Ronald  
Reagan Hwy)

**About the Speaker:** Tudor Parfitt is Distinguished Professor and President Isaac Navon Professor of Sephardi and Mizrahi Studies at Florida International University (FIU). He is Director of FIU Global Jewish Studies program and Academic Director of the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and corresponding fellow of the Academie Royale des Sciences d’Outre-Mer Belgium. He is Emeritus Professor of Modern Jewish Studies at SOAS where he founded the Centre of Jewish Studies. He has authored or edited 29 books and presented 7 documentaries for Channel Four, the BBC, the History Channel, PBS etc. His most recent books are *Black Zion* ed. with Edith Bruder (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2012), *Black Jews in Africa and the Americas* (Harvard University Press, 2013), and ed. with W. Miles and D. Lis *In The Shadow Of Moses: New Jewish Movements In Africa And The Diaspora* (Africa World Press, 2016) and ed. with N. Fisher *Becoming Jewish: New Jews and Emerging Jewish Communities in a Globalised World*, (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2016).

**Parking:** Free parking is available at the Mayerson JCC.



## Paula Fredriksen

Aurelio Professor of Scripture  
emerita, Boston University

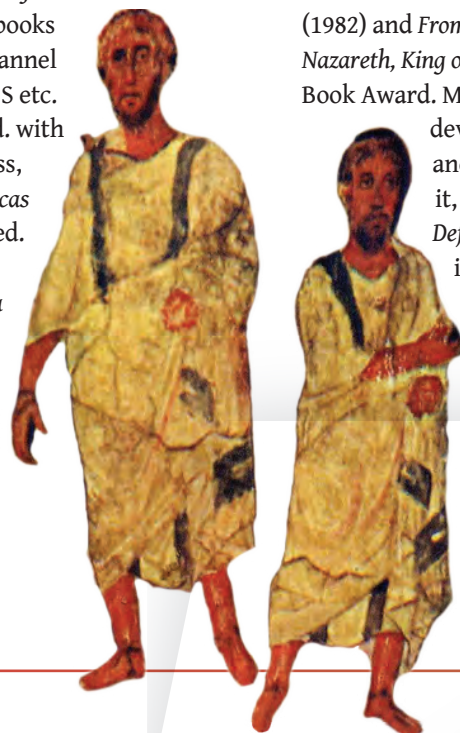
Title: **“Mediterranean  
Mixing: Jews in Pagan  
Places and Pagans (as  
well as Christians) in  
Jewish Places”**

Date: 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, October 30, 2017

Location: Taft Center,  
1 Edwards,  
UC Uptown Campus

**About the Speaker:** Paula Fredriksen, the Aurelio Professor of Scripture emerita at Boston University, since 2009 has been Distinguished Visiting Professor of Comparative Religion at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. A fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, she holds two honorary doctorates in theology and religious studies. She has published widely on the social and intellectual history of ancient Christianity, and on pagan-Jewish-Christian relations in the Roman Empire. Author of *Augustine on Romans* (1982) and *From Jesus to Christ* (1988; 2000), her *Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews*, won a 1999 National Jewish Book Award. More recently, she has explored the development of Christian anti-Judaism, and Augustine’s singular response to it, in *Augustine and the Jews: A Christian Defense of Jews and Judaism* (2010); and has investigated the shifting conceptions of God and of humanity in Sin: *The Early History of an Idea* (2012). Most recently, her study *Paul: The Pagans’ Apostle* (2017) places the early Jewish messianic message within the wider world of ancient Mediterranean culture.

**Parking:** Paid parking at Corry Garage.



## Yaakov Ariel

Professor of Religious Studies,  
University of North Carolina at  
Chapel Hill

Title: **“Christian Zionism  
in the United States”**

Date: 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Location: Taft Center,  
1 Edwards, UC Uptown  
Campus

**About the Speaker:** A graduate of the Hebrew University and the University of Chicago, Yaakov Ariel is a professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research focuses on Christian-Jewish relations, on the history of missions to the Jews, and on Christian attitudes towards the Holy Land, Zionism and Israel. Ariel has also explored Jewish and Christian New Religious Movements and the effect of the counterculture on Jewish and Christian groups. He has published dozens of articles and a number of books on these topics. His book, *Evangelizing the Chosen People: Missions to the Jews* (2000), won the Outler Prize of the American Society of Church History. His latest book, *An Unusual Relationship: Evangelical Christians and Jews*, was published by New York University Press (2013).

More information about Ariel’s publications, presentations, and other academic activities can be found at [religion.unc.edu/\\_people/full-time-faculty/ariel/](http://religion.unc.edu/_people/full-time-faculty/ariel/) and [independent.academia.edu/YaakovAriel](http://independent.academia.edu/YaakovAriel).

**Parking:** Paid parking at Corry Garage.

**ON THE COVER, LEFT:** A fresco depicting the exodus from Egypt from the 3rd c. (CE) Dura-Europos synagogue in Syria.