

Caryn Tamber-Rosenau

Education

- Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee* May 2015
Ph.D., Hebrew Bible
Minor in Ancient Near Eastern studies
Graduate certificate in Women's and Gender Studies
- Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University, Towson, Maryland* August 2010
(known as *Baltimore Hebrew University* prior to July 2009)
Master of Arts, Jewish Studies
Concentration: Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations
Thesis: *Evolution of a Narrative: The Story of Dinah in Genesis, Jubilees and The Testament of Levi*
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania* May 2003
Major: Communications, Minor: Women's Studies
Magna Cum Laude

Dissertation

Striking Women: Performance and Gender in the Hebrew Bible and Early Jewish Literature

Exploring the role of gender and sexuality performance in the three texts dealing with "lethal women": Judges 4-5, the Book of Judith, and Pseudo-Philo's *Biblical Antiquities* 31. Using frameworks derived from queer theory, this project argues that the woman at the center of each of the three texts is able to get in position to slay the general and save the day expressly because of her over-the-top use of the signifiers of "femininity."

Committee:

Annalisa Azzoni
Douglas A. Knight
Jack M. Sasson
Herbert R. Marbury
Ellen T. Armour
David J. Wasserstein

University Teaching Experience

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

Lecturer Introduction to Themes in the Hebrew Bible (two sections); Introduction to Judaism; Classical Judaism; Gender, Sexuality, and Desire in Ancient Jewish Literature	2015-2016 academic year
Sole instructor for Elementary Biblical Hebrew II Sole instructor for Elementary Biblical Hebrew I Had full planning and teaching responsibilities for two-semester course offered to M.Div. and M.T.S. students; guided students from learning the Hebrew alphabet through conducting independent biblical translation and exegesis	Spring 2015, 2014 Fall 2014, 2013
Sole instructor for Elementary Modern Hebrew I Guided class of undergraduate students from the Hebrew alphabet through the ability to hold conversations	Fall 2013
Teaching Assistant for Hebrew Bible Planned and led weekly discussion sections of M.Div. and M.T.S. students, graded tests and assignments, met with students	2012, 2011
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Themes in the Hebrew Bible Led weekly breakout sessions of undergraduate class, lectured, helped to plan and grade tests and assignments, met with students	Fall 2010

Other Teaching Experience

<i>West End Synagogue, Nashville Tennessee</i> Taught mini-course for high school students about biblical women	January 2015
<i>Vanderbilt Summer Academy, Nashville, Tennessee</i> Guest lecturer for course on religion and food	July 2012
<i>Temple Emanuel, Reisterstown, Maryland</i> Religious School teacher	September 2005- May 2010
<i>Temple Beth Israel, York, Pennsylvania</i> Religious School teacher	September 2003- May 2004

Publications

In press: Caryn Tamber-Rosenau, "Female Diplomats in Jewish Elephantine? A New Look at a Papyrus from the Yedaniah Archive." *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*.

--, "The 'Mothers' Who Weren't: Motherhood Imagery and Childless Women Warriors in Early Jewish Literature," in *Images of Mothers in Jewish Culture* (ed. Jane Kanarek, Marjorie Lehman, and Simon J. Bronner), Oxford: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2016.

In preparation: Caryn Tamber-Rosenau, "Un-gendering Texts: A Queer Critique of Looking for 'Male' and 'Female' Voices," in *The Handbook of Feminist Approaches to the Hebrew Bible* (ed. Susanne Scholz), Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Conference Papers

"Un-gendering Texts: A Queer Critique of Looking for 'Male' and 'Female' Voices," Women in the Biblical World section of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 2015 annual meeting

"'If We Do Not Entice Her, She Will Laugh at Us': Reading the Book of Judith's Holofernes Queerly," Hebrew Bible/Old Testament section of the Southeastern Conference for the Study of Religion, March 2015 annual meeting

"The Biblical Bathing Beauty Who Asked for It: Bathsheba, Susanna, Judith, and the Manipulation of the Male Gaze," The Bible and Second Temple Literature section of the Association for Jewish Studies, December 2014 annual meeting, December 16, 2014

"Jewish Motherhood: Cultural Images and Practices from Antiquity to Modernity," discussant in roundtable discussion, Association for Jewish Studies, December 2014 annual meeting, December 15, 2014

"Why Does the Levite Cast Out His Concubine? Reading Judges 19 as a Story of Intimate-Partner Violence," Hebrew Bible/Old Testament section of the Southeastern Conference for the Study of Religion, March 2014 annual meeting, March 8, 2014

"Female Diplomats in Jewish Elephantine? A New Look at a Papyrus from the Jedaniah Archive," Women in the Biblical World section of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 2013 annual meeting, November 26, 2013

"The Case for a Persian Date for the Prohibition of Intermarriage in Deuteronomy 7," Deuteronomistic History section of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 2012 annual meeting, November 20, 2013

“The Bare-Headed Adulteress: What a Gesture Might Tell Us about the *Sotah* Ritual (Numbers 5:18),” Hebrew Bible/Old Testament section of The Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, March 2012 annual meeting, March 5, 2012

Invited Presentations

February, 2015: Vanderbilt University Jewish Studies department, Nashville, Tennessee, speaker for *Drink. Prey. Lust. Sexual Violence & The Book of Esther: A Teach-In*

June, 2014: West End Synagogue, Nashville, Tennessee, Tikkun Leil Shavuot speaker, “Untold Tales of Sinai”

August 2013: West End Synagogue, Nashville, Tennessee, Sisterhood speaker, “How to Get a Head: Woman Warriors in Early Jewish Literature”

October 2011: West End United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, speaker about Judaism for youth group world religions unit

June, 2011: West End Synagogue, Nashville, Tennessee, Tikkun Leil Shavuot speaker, “Asherah in the Desert”

Academic Honors and Awards

Bettye R. Ford Graduate Student Service award, <i>Vanderbilt University</i>	May 2015
Second place, Vanderbilt Graduate Student Council 3-Minute Thesis competition	April 2014
Idalee Friedman Award (yearly merit scholarship), <i>Baltimore Hebrew University/Towson University</i>	2007-2010
Beatrice Breitbart Fellowship (merit scholarship), <i>Baltimore Hebrew University</i>	2008-2009
Dean’s List, <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	2001 and 2002

Languages

Reading knowledge of French, German, Modern Hebrew, Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, Koine Greek, Classical Greek, and Latin

Professional Affiliations and Service

Member, Society of Biblical Literature and Association for Jewish Studies

On-campus student liaison for Society of Biblical Literature, Vanderbilt University, 2010-2014

Hebrew Bible Bibliographer, Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, 2011-2015

Writing Experience

Reporter	2003-2010
Legal Affairs Writer at <i>The Daily Record</i> , Baltimore, Maryland	2005-2010
Reporter at <i>The York Dispatch</i> , York, Pennsylvania	2003-2005
Reporting and writing intern during college years at <i>Worth</i> , <i>The New Republic</i> , <i>Lilith</i> , <i>Forward</i>	2000-2002

Writing Awards

Won 17 awards for writing and reporting from national and regional press organizations, including 2010 2nd place in investigative/in-depth reporting, National Newspaper Association and 2nd place in series, Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association, both for “Fighting for Doc,” an investigation into the circumstances of an elderly man’s association with a group of criminals; and 2007 1st place in feature reporting, Sammy award (Dolan Media) and 1st place in feature reporting, National Newspaper Association, both for “Unexpected Impact,” about the anti-death penalty activism of a woman whose husband was murdered