

Jacob Beckert

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EDUCATION

2020-present	Doctoral Candidate History GPA: 4.0 <i>University of Washington, Seattle</i> <i>Committee: Liora Halperin (advisor), Noam Pianko, Margaret O'Mara</i>
2017-2020	Dual Masters Student Jewish Studies and History GPA: 3.973 <i>Indiana University, Bloomington, IN</i> <i>Advisor: Noam Zadoff 2017-June 2019 Sarah Imhoff June 2019-2020</i>
2010-2014	BA Triple Major History, Jewish Studies, Hebrew Middle East Studies Minor GPA:3.93 <i>University of Wisconsin Madison</i>
Languages:	Fluent in English and Hebrew Proficient in Yiddish and reading proficiency German, Spanish

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer Reviewed Publications

2025	"What Is Zionism?" In <i>Judaism in Five Minutes</i> , edited by Sarah Imhoff. Sheffield, South Yorkshire: Equinox Publishing.
2024	"Capitalism and the Jewish Problem: Mission Capitalism in the Inter-War Era." <i>AJS Review</i> . (Forthcoming, Accepted 12/9/2024).
2024	"A Looking Glass for Early American Zionism: The Maccabaeon (1901–1920)." <i>Studies in American Jewish Literature</i> (1981) 43, no. 2 (2024).

Public Facing Scholarship (not chronological)

2025	The Atlantic "The Disappearance of Non-Sexual Nudity from Americans' Everyday Lives" (historical feature essay, under contract, forthcoming late 2025)
2025	TIME "Trump's Tariffs May Risk U.S. Access to This Critical Mineral": April 15, 2025
2022	The Washington Post: Made by History "Biden's Promises to Palestinians Probably Won't Help Foster Peace": July 24, 2022.
2025	The History Teacher Beckert review of <i>The Threshold of Dissent: A History of American Jewish Critics of Zionism</i> , by Marjorie N. Feld, <i>The History Teacher</i> 58, no. 4 (August 2025)
2023	NPR KUOW Week in Review "Words in Review: Seattle police leave. Is it an 'exodus'?" Interview, February 27, 2023.

2025	Stroum Center Online Article “Nearly one hundred years ago a group of American Jews hatched a plan to end the kibbutz. Today it looks like their plan might have worked.”
2023	“American Jews & Israel: The History of the Palestine Economic Corporation Shows How ‘Support’ Can Take Many Forms.”
2022	Israel History 101 <i>Presented a series of lectures introducing Israeli history to a UW Seattle MBA cohort traveling to Israel.</i>
Digital Humanities	
2025-2026	Technology & Jewish History Working Group <i>Member of the CJH Scholars Working Group on Technology and Jewish History.</i>
2024	Consulting on AI in academia <i>Served as a consultant for Open AI (makers of ChatGPT) and for Google Gemini on the use of AI in the humanities.</i>
2024	Digital Humanities Colloquium on AI <i>Conceived of, planned, and presented a college-wide colloquium on the use and pitfalls of AI in academia.</i>
2024	Coding for Historians <i>Conceived of and planed a workshop for UW History students on using computer coding in their work, focusing on OCR.</i>
2023	Demystifying the Archive <i>Planned and conducted a workshop for students in multiple UW graduate programs teaching digital methods for archival research.</i>

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

2025-present	Department of History Ad Hoc Committee on AI <i>Graduate student representative on departmental committee.</i>
2022-Present	Jewish Studies Colloquium Organizer University of Washington <i>Initiated and currently oversee an interdepartmental colloquium for the Jewish Studies program, fostering collaboration across disciplines. Coordinate participation and logistics with visiting faculty and other contributors.</i>
2021-2023	Diversity Committee, Student Representative University of Washington <i>Organized diversity training sessions, facilitated university-wide events promoting diversity, and developed a system to track engagement within the department.</i>
2021-2023	Executive Board, Graduate Liaison Committee University of Washington <i>Advocated for the needs of graduate students to department leadership. Attended all department faculty meetings as a graduate representative. Successfully advocated to university leadership for the creation of a history graduate student lounge.</i>
2017-2018	Treasurer Jewish Studies Graduate Student Association Indiana University <i>One of five officers on the JSGSA, assisted in planning and budgeting for all events. Planned 2018 annual Jewish Studies graduate conference.</i>

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

	Graduate
	University of Washington, Seattle
2025-2026	University of Washington Seattle Presidential Fellowship <i>Highly competitive one-quarter award, granted through a university-wide competition among nominees from 41 academic departments.</i>
2025-2026	Stroum Center Writing Fellowship <i>Competitive yearlong writing fellowship from the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies (accepted for two quarters)</i>
2025-2026	Fordham-NYPL Fellowships <i>Month-long in-residence fellowship at Fordham University and the New York Public Library archive. Residency includes public presentations of research.</i>
2025-2026	AJS Dissertation Completion Award Finalist <i>Finalist, Association for Jewish Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship</i>
	Society of Scholars fellowship <i>Prestigious yearlong writing fellowship awarded to 3 graduate candidates and 12 faculty across disciplines at UW Seattle in order to facilitate cross departmental collaboration.</i>
2023-2024	Fulbright/Hays PhD Research fellowship <i>Awarded for doctoral research in Israel.</i>
2023	Israel Studies Fellowship <i>Grant for archival research at the Central Zionist Archives.</i>
2023	Charles Bergquist Labor Research Grant <i>Research Grant Awarded for Research on Labor in an International Context</i>
2023	AAJR Research Fellowship <i>Summer Research Fellowship from the American Academy for Jewish Research</i>
2023	Temple Feinstein Center Fellowship <i>Research Fellowship awarded by the Temple Feinstein Center</i>
2022	Stroum Center Jewish Studies fellowship
2022	Israel Studies Fellowship <i>Grant for archival research at the NYPL rare books archive</i>
2022	UW Jewish Studies Opportunity Grant <i>Grant for Archival research at American Jewish Archives</i>
2021	Israel Studies Fellowship
2021	UW Jewish Studies Opportunity Grant <i>Grant for Archival research at NYPL rare books archives</i>
2020-2021	Graduate Top-Scholar Tuition Award <i>Year-long highly competitive fellowship to top graduate recruits</i>
2020-2021	UW Provost Recruitment Fellowship <i>Research fellowship from the Provost office for highly competitive graduate recruits</i>
	Indiana University Bloomington
2020	Bicentennial Jewish Studies Fellowship <i>Grant in aid of research</i>
2020	AJHS Travel Grant <i>Grant from Association for Jewish Studies to cover cost of presenting at their conference</i>
2020	Gurion Family Fund Conference Funding <i>Awarded to cover costs of presenting at the Association for Jewish Studies Conference</i>
2019-2020	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship for 2019-2020 Academic Year <i>Competitive fellowship funded by the US Government</i> <i>Awarded for the study of Yiddish</i>

2019 (Summer)	Jewish Studies grant-in-aid of research <i>Received competitive funding for archival research</i>
2019	Gurion Family Fund Conference Funding <i>Awarded to cover costs of presenting at Middle East History and Theory Conference</i>
2018 (Summer)	Jewish Studies grant-in-aid of research <i>Received competitive funding for research towards my master's thesis</i>
2017-2018	Born Jewish Studies Fellowship <i>Full year academic fellowship awarded to one incoming MA student</i>
	Undergraduate University of Wisconsin, Madison
2014	Lipton Essay Award (UW Madison) <i>Winner of annual essay competition</i>
2014	Ida and Isaac Lipton Major Scholarship <i>Scholarship for Best Senior in Jewish Studies</i>
2013	Grant from UW Madison Business Center for International Business and Research
2013	Lipton Essay Award <i>Winner of annual essay competition</i>
2012	Lauren and Frances Weinstein Scholarship
2012	Marjorie and Harry Tobias Jewish Studies Scholarship
2012	Joseph Elder Scholarship
2012	Haifa Presidential Merit Scholarship

INVITED TALKS, PRESENTATIONS and WORKSHOPS

2025	Fordham University: Jewish Studies Program (forthcoming) <i>Invited talk: "American Capital and the Making of the State of Israel"</i>
2025	Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference (forthcoming) <i>Paper presentation "Long Island in Asia: New York Capital and the Americanization of the Yishuv"</i>
2025	Capitalism for Historians Summer Camp <i>Participated in the thirteen day intensive workshop on methods of historical analysis of capitalism</i>
2025	AAJR Graduate Writing Seminar <i>Presented my chapter "Planning Progress, Engineering Inequality: Investment and Development at the Dead Sea and Haifa Bay"</i>
2021	Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference <i>Organized the panel "Israel and Jewish Americans: building Homeland in a Transnational Context" and presented my paper "Profit in the Holy Land, Louis Marshall and the upbuilding of Palestine" (note: due to COVID-19 the actual panel I presented on was not the same as the panel I organized).</i>
2019	Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference <i>Presented my paper "At the Crossroads: Ahad Ha'am and Post-1967 American Judaism."</i>
2019	Middle Eastern History and Theory Conference University of Chicago <i>Presented my research on Birthright Israel.</i>
2019	Jewish Studies Graduate Conference Indiana University <i>Presented my paper "Bedouin Tents and Camel Rides: Orientalism and Gendered Paradigms on Birthright Israel."</i>

2018 **Jewish Studies Graduate Conference | Indiana University**
Presented my paper “There and Back Again: Conception of Homeland and Diaspora among American Jews Returning from Israel”

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022, Summer 2024, **Web Student Assistant | Department of History University of Washington**
 2025 *In charge of regular maintenance and updates on the history department website. Wrote and edited content for history website and newsletter.*

2022 **Student Assistant | Central Circulation Suzzallo and Allen Library**
Assisted with all functions of library central circulation, including book checkout and return, resource requests, and major projects.

2021-present **Teaching Assistant | University of Washington**
Led multiple discussion sections, held regular office hours Graded and provided feedback on assignments, delivering both in-person and virtual instruction.

2020 **Research Assistant | University of Washington**
Assisted Professor Liora Halperin in researching her book “The Oldest Guard”

2019-2020 **Assistant Jewish Studies Librarian | Indiana University**
*In charge of purchasing of all Hebrew and Yiddish books for the IU library.
 In charge of designing purchasing plan for all future Hebrew texts.*

2019-2020 **Research Assistant | Indiana University**
Assisting professor Sarah Imhoff with research for her upcoming book “A Queer Crippled Zionism” Read Hebrew documents in order to aid in incorporating their use in the book. Edited and provided suggestions on manuscript.

2018-2020 **Associate Instructor | Indiana University**
Led multiple discussion sections, held regular office hours, corrected and provided feedback on all assignments, guest lectured to class

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015- 2017 **Senior Student Life Associate | Metro Chicago Hillel**
*Community organizer at seven Chicago universities, working with over 750 students
 Served as a liaison between students and university administration*

2013- 2018 **Chalutzim Hebrew Immersion program | Olin-Sang-Ruby-Union-Institute**

- **Director** (2015, 2018) *Developed a Hebrew immersion curriculum for 70–90 high school participants. Managed a staff of over 20 adults entirely in Hebrew.*
- **Counselor educator** (Summer 2013, 2014) *Taught Hebrew in both formal and informal settings to high school students.*

2015- 2016 **History Teacher | Alexander Muss High School in Israel**
Taught AP European and AP World History to high school students studying abroad in Israel