

Postdoctoral Fellows



Simeon David Ehrlich

[Stanford University](#) >> [The Hebrew University of Jerusalem](#)

Simeon Ehrlich was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship in support of his project, “The Architecture of Late Antique Ashkelon in Theory and Practice”. He studied Classics at The University of Western Ontario (BA, MA), the University of St Andrews (visiting Robert T. Jones, Jr. Scholar), and Stanford University (PhD) and has spent the past several years teaching archaeology and ancient history at Mount Allison University and Concordia University.

Since 2011, he has been a member of the Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East and Wheaton College's Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, which excavated this ancient port city from 1985-2016. His Fulbright research contributes to his volume-in-preparation, *Ashkelon: The Roman and Byzantine Periods* (Final Reports of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon), which will offer a renewed understanding of southern Israel in the period c. 63 BCE-640 CE. Home to a 6th century CE author named Julian, Ashkelon provides a unique opportunity from late antiquity, to compare the precepts of a surviving treatise on urban planning against the built environment of the city where it was written, and to ascertain whether such texts codify best practices or are more theoretical in nature.



Vicky Hioureas

[Princeton University](#) >> [University of Haifa](#)

Vicky Hioureas was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue her research project, “Don’t you see the murderers?: Representations of Violence and the Shaping of Political Consciousness in 12th-century Byzantium”, at the University of Haifa. In her project, she examines depictions of violence across genres (for example, law, chronicles, saints’ lives) in order to understand and analyze hierarchy, ethical values, and political consciousness in Byzantium in the twelfth century. Her PhD research on violence in Byzantium was conducted under the direction of Professor John Haldon at Princeton University.



Susan E. Lagle

[University of California, Davis](#) >> [University of Haifa](#)

Susan Lagle was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship for her project, "Zooarchaeological Analysis of Fauna from the Middle Paleolithic Site of Tinsmet Cave, Israel", with Dr. Reuven Yeshurun at the University of Haifa.

Her PhD research, conducted in the Department of Anthropology at University of California, Davis (advisor: Dr. Teresa E. Steele), focused on the Middle Paleolithic archaeological record of southwestern France, where she studied how Neanderthal hunting and prey processing decisions interacted with mobility and stone tool technology during glacial periods. She has conducted archaeological fieldwork and laboratory analyses in France and South Africa and will bring this expertise to Israel where she will investigate the subsistence behavior of the Middle Paleolithic occupants of Tinsmet Cave by studying the faunal (animal bone) remains from the recently discovered archaeological site. She will also compare Tinsmet Cave with other Israeli sites in the southern Levant to better understand behavioral similarities and differences between modern humans and Neanderthals who have both occupied this unique geographic region.



Joshua Porat-Dahlerbruch

[University of Pennsylvania](#) >> [Ben-Gurion University of the Negev](#)

Joshua Porat-Dahlerbruch was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project, "Nurse Practitioner Integration into the Israeli Healthcare System" at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. There, he is joining Professor Moriah Ellen's research group in the Department of Health Systems Management. His project explores barriers and facilitators to implementing the new nurse practitioner role in Israel. Josh aims to leverage this research to explore potential solutions that can help better position nurse practitioners to enhance healthcare access and quality.

Joshua is a registered nurse and received his PhD in Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research with the mentorship of Dr. Linda Aiken. Throughout his research work, Josh has focused on healthcare systems, the nursing workforce, nursing education, and patient care outcomes.



Christopher Prejean

University of California, Los Angeles >> University of Haifa

Christopher Prejean was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship for his project entitled, "The Hermeneutical Christian in Ḥanbalī Thought". He began his research on this project at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received his PhD. As a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Haifa, he will expand his research with the aim of understanding how legal works of the Ḥanbalī School of Law perpetuate and construct a characterization of Christians. In doing so, he seeks to understand how Christians serve a larger moral, philosophical, or theological purpose as legal subjects of Islamic law. His work transcends field-specific studies, making accessible the tools from the study of Christianity to the field of Islamic studies.



Zachary M. Rubin

Brown University >> The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Zachary Rubin was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project entitled, "The Intricate Foundations of Heaven: Changing Perceptions of the Gods in Sumerian Lamentation Texts" at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with Professor Uri Gabbay. This project will examine developments in divine litanies found in Mesopotamian cultic laments as they were transmitted and reedited over the course of the first and second millennia BCE. As such, it will demonstrate the ways in which changes in the Mesopotamian religion and culture were manifested through regular cultic practice.

Zachary received a BA in Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations at the Johns Hopkins University, an MA in Assyriology at the University of Toronto, and recently completed a PhD in Assyriology at Brown University. His PhD dissertation examined the cult of the scribal god Nabû in the Neo-Assyrian Period (ca. 934 - 612 BCE) within the context of Neo-Assyrian society.



Paul B. Sharp

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill >> The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Paul Sharp was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship to pursue his research project entitled, "Using artificial intelligence models of planning to understand human worry" with Professor Eran Eldar at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. This work will investigate how recent artificial intelligence insight regarding human planning can be extended to the study of distorted planning in human worry.

Before starting the Fulbright award, Paul completed two years of postdoctoral work at the Max Planck Centre for Computational Psychiatry at University College London. His work in London investigated algorithmic accounts of anxious behavior and thought, including new models of how individuals learn biased models of the world that might help explain pathological belief formation. Prior to his postdoctoral work, Paul completed his PhD in Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Senior Scholars Fellows



Arthur Caplan

Utah State University >> Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Arthur Caplan was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to teach and conduct research in environmental and resource economics at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is an applied microeconomist who specializes in applying neoclassical theory, empirical modelling (i.e., econometrics), and numerical modelling to a variety of environmental and resource-management problems, such as mitigation of local air pollution, global externalities (e.g., climate change), water pollution, and more recently development of renewable energy sources (e.g., agrivoltaics, community solar, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure). He is currently a professor of economics in the Department of Applied Economics at Utah State University. He holds a BA in Economics and Communications from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, an MA in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University, and a PhD in Economics from the University of Oregon.

Senior Scholars Fellows



Alan Castel

University of California, Los Angeles >> Bar-Ilan University

Alan Castel is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He studies learning, memory, and aging, and is interested in how people can selectively remember important information. The title of his Fulbright Senior Scholar Award is “Curiosity as a Spark to Lifelong Learning: A Cross-Cultural Comparison” and will collaborate with Professor Vered Halamish and others at Bar-Ilan University. He received his PhD in Cognitive Psychology from the University of Toronto in 2004, did a fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, and has been at UCLA since 2006. He lectures internationally to people of all ages and has received several teaching awards. His work has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Time Magazine. His recent book is entitled, *Better with Age: The Psychology of Successful Aging*



Jodi Magness

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill >> Tel Aviv University

Jodi Magness is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received her BA in Archaeology and History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and her PhD in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania. Magness is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and Past President of the Archaeological Institute of America. Her research interests focus on Palestine in the Roman, Byzantine, and early Islamic periods, and Diaspora Judaism in the Roman world. Magness has published eleven books and dozens of articles in journals and edited volumes. Since 2011, she has directed excavations at Huqoq in Israel’s Galilee, which are bringing to light a Late Roman synagogue paved with stunning mosaics. Magness was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship for her project, “Jerusalem Through the Ages”.



Lilianne R. Mujica-Parodi

Stony Brook University >> Weizmann Institute of Science

Lilianne Mujica-Parodi is Director of the Laboratory for Computational Neurodiagnostics, and a professor in Stony Brook University’s Department of Biomedical Engineering. She also holds academic appointments in the Laufer Center for Physical and Quantitative Biology, Program in Neuroscience, and Departments of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Physics. Additionally, she is a research staff scientist and lecturer in the Department of Radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School (Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging). Dr. Mujica-Parodi received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Georgetown University and Columbia University, respectively, studying Mathematical Logic and Foundations of Physics. After her PhD (Whiting Fellow), she completed an NIH Training Fellowship in Clinical Neuroscience at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. She was subsequently promoted to assistant professor there, where she performed research until being recruited by Stony Brook University. She is the recipient of the National Science Foundation’s Career Award, the White House’s Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering, and the Fulbright Senior Scholar Award for her project “From Cells to Populations: Organizing Principles Driving Resource Allocation Under Constraint”. Dr. Mujica-Parodi’s research interests focus on the extension of control systems engineering and dynamical systems, to human neuroimaging, with neurodiagnostic applications to neurological and psychiatric disorders. Dr. Mujica-Parodi will be working with Professor Nir Davidson in his lab at the Weizmann Institute of Science.



Masha Ryskin

Rhode Island School of Design >> Bezalel Academy of Art and Design

Masha Ryskin is an Associate Professor of Drawing at Rhode Island School of Design. She holds a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA from the University of Michigan. Ryskin is a Russian-American artist whose work spans across drawing, painting, and printmaking, and deals with a sense of place and displacement, identity and memory. She was awarded the Fulbright Senior Scholar Award in Jerusalem to explore these issues through drawing and mixed media. She will also teach a course on visualization and conceptual implications of space at Bezalel Academy of Art and Design. Ryskin is a recipient of a number of grants, including a previous Fulbright Fellowship to Norway, and Rhode Island Fellowship in Printmaking and Drawing. Her work has been reviewed in the New York Times and Art New England. She was recently co-organizer and participant in the “Illustrating Mathematics” Symposium at the Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics at Brown University. In addition to individual work, she maintains a robust interdisciplinary collaborative practice.



Elise Zipkin

[Michigan State University >> Tel Aviv University](#)

Elise Zipkin is an Associate Professor at Michigan State University in the Department of Integrative Biology and the Director of the Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program. She earned a BS in Mathematics from the University of Michigan, a MS in Natural Resources from Cornell University, and a PhD in Biology from the University of Maryland. Her research focuses on developing mathematical and statistical models to identify the climate and habitat variables that are responsible for ecological variations in species distributions and abundances. Professor Zipkin was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship to build statistical modeling capacity to assess and predict the effects of climate change on species in Israel. She will work with Tel Aviv University scientists to estimate and forecast the distributions of ecologically and economically important insect species using newly digitized records at the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History. She will also teach a series of statistical modeling workshops focusing on Bayesian inference for biology graduate students at Tel Aviv University.

Master's Degree Fellows



Adam T. DeSchrivier

[University of Rochester >> The Hebrew University of Jerusalem](#)

Adam DeSchrivier graduated magna cum laude from the University of Rochester with a BA (with Honors) in Religion from the College of Arts and Sciences, and a BM in Applied Music (Clarinet Performance) with distinction from the Eastman School of Music. He has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue a Master of Arts in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His research focuses on musical intersections of Islam and Judaism, as well as theory and method in the study of religion. In his undergraduate honors thesis, he combined these interests by analyzing historic field recordings from the Ben Amara synagogue in Meknes, Morocco, and focusing on how religious communities construct their identities through music. Following the completion of his Fulbright Fellowship, Adam will attend the University of Chicago Divinity School to pursue an MA in Religious Studies. While in Jerusalem, Adam plans to supplement his classroom education by exploring the music of diverse local communities.



Emma Finn

[Claremont McKenna College >> University of Haifa](#)

Emma Finn was awarded a Fulbright Master's Degree Fellowship to pursue a degree in Public Health (MPH) at the University of Haifa. She completed one year at Colorado College between 2016-2017. She received her bachelor's degree in Science Management from Claremont McKenna College, which she attended from 2018-2021. Her current research focuses on studying the intramolecular hydroamination of alkenes in an organic chemistry laboratory at the school.



Victoria Hill

[Johns Hopkins University >> Tel Aviv University](#)

Victoria Hill received her MA in Middle East Studies & International Economics from Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, in May 2021. During her studies, she led international policy delegations to Israel and the West Bank, and researched diplomacy at the Foreign Policy Institute. She also interned with the U.S. State Department's Near East Affairs Bureau and INGO, Mercy Corps, authoring Middle East policy along with recommendations for the U.S. government, UN, and implementing organizations to inform humanitarian and development planning, COVID-19 pandemic response, and vaccine rollout to vulnerable populations worldwide. Since graduating from the University of Central Florida with her BA in History and Law, Hill has worked on award-winning advocacy campaigns and humanitarian responses in various countries, including medical responses in conflict areas. Hill was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for an International Master's in Disaster Management from Tel Aviv University, focusing on public health. Hill's project involves researching resilience in global health emergencies, including exploring innovative ways to respond to future events like the COVID-19 pandemic.



Kate Yeager

[Stanford University](#) >> [The Hebrew University of Jerusalem](#)

Kate Yeager received a BA in History with Honors in International Security from Stanford University in 2021. While at Stanford, Kate was the deputy lead research assistant to former National Security Advisor Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster, and pursued opportunities for public service through an internship at the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence. A passionate linguist, Kate has achieved advanced proficiency in Arabic, Spanish, and French, and is currently studying Russian and Hebrew. She recently completed an honors thesis, which combined her interests in cyber policy and Middle Eastern politics by exploring the emergence of cyber conflict in the Middle East. Kate has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue a Master of Arts in Conflict Research, Resolution and Management at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. While at the Hebrew University, she will complete a project titled, “An Examination of the Role of Cyber Warfare in the Israel-Palestine Conflict”.

PhD Research Fellows



Kathleen Abadie

[University of Washington](#) >> [Weizmann Institute of Science](#)

Kathleen Abadie was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue her research project titled, “Revealing Immune Cell Dynamics in Solid Tumors to Advance Immunotherapy” in the lab of Professor Ido Amit at the Weizmann Institute. Kathleen has a BS in Chemical Engineering from Rice University and is currently a Bioengineering PhD student at the University of Washington. Her current research seeks to better understand how T cells, the workhorse killer cells of the immune system, transition between different functional states with distinct roles in fighting immune threats such as infection and cancer. As a Fulbright Fellow in the Amit lab, she will work to develop genomic methods to better track changing immune cell states over time as they respond to cancer. Ultimately, she hopes this research will improve our ability to engineer immune cells for cancer therapy.



[Purdue University](#) >> [Tel Aviv University](#)

Alexandra Kemp is a recipient of the Fulbright One-semester PhD Research Award for her research project titled, “Bridging Aviation and Healthcare: UAVs in Emergency Medicine” at Tel Aviv University under Dr. Joachim Meyer. Alex earned her BFA in Mass Communications and a minor in Vocal Performance at Valdosta State University in 2008, and her MS in Aeronautics with an emphasis in Space Studies at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 2019. Alex is a PhD student at Purdue University studying Aviation with an emphasis in Human Factors under Dr. Brian Dillman. Currently, Alex is researching prevention methods to mitigate loss of control inflight using energy management, for general aviation pilots.

English Teaching Assistant Fellows



Jonathan Alegria

[Fordham University](#) >> [Oranim Academic College of Education](#)

Jonathan Alegria received his BA in International Studies with a concentration in the Middle East and North Africa, and a minor in Jewish Studies from Fordham University. At Fordham, he worked as an undergraduate researcher with the Center on National Security, analyzing U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and the synergy between enhancing national security and upholding civil rights within the United States. He also designed and taught an English class during a summer internship with Yefet 83 for the Arab-Israeli community at the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality. He currently works for Englewood Health as a Patient Access Representative assisting patients in navigating the healthcare system through the COVID-19 pandemic. He was awarded the Fulbright ETA grant at Oranim Academic College in Kiryat Tiv'on, where he hopes to build confidence in English learners to use the English language in their personal and professional lives.



Raphael Angieri

Georgetown University >> Al-Qasemi Academic College of Education

Fluent in French and Mandarin Chinese, and currently making headway on his Arabic, Raphael Angieri earned a B.Sc. in International Affairs from Georgetown University in 2018, followed by an M.Sc. in International Development from Sciences Po Paris in 2021. Prior to joining Fulbright, Raphael consulted for UNICEF on educational issues as part of the MICS-EAGLE initiative, mobilizing survey data on demographics and academic achievement so as to better gear policy toward children in need. With years of experience as a language teacher in China, France, and the United States, during his ETA Fulbright fellowship, Raphael will be helping students at the Al-Qasemi Academic College of Education in Baqa al-Gharbeyya improve their English and develop their understanding of and appreciation for the literature and cultures of the English-speaking world.



Jamie Benedetto

University of California, Santa Barbara >> The Academic College at Wingate

Jamie Benedetto earned a BA in Human Development and a minor in Education from the University of California, San Diego, where she also competed as a collegiate soccer player. She then earned a Master's Degree in Education from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is an experienced classroom teacher, as well as a girls' soccer coach. During her Fulbright Fellowship, she will draw on this experience while teaching English at The Academic College at Wingate. Combining her passion for education and sport, Jamie's goal is to motivate the community to take part in cross-cultural interactions while continuing to reform her own teaching identity. She also hopes to engage in the sporting community and work toward creating more opportunities for girls and women in sport. She is very excited to learn more about Israel's diverse culture and complex combination of ancient and modern history.



Lauren Ehrmann

Indiana University >> Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design

Lauren Ehrmann received her B.A. in Art History and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures with an Arabic language concentration and a minor in Spanish from Indiana University. During her time as an undergraduate, Lauren interned for the Islamic Art Department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she conducted research and led Middle Eastern and North African roundtables. Her senior thesis, "From the Gardens of Paradise," focused on space, travel, and holiness in a North African Dala'il al-Khayrat manuscript from the Met's collection. She recently founded and curated Sanctuary, a nonprofit art exhibition dedicated to fighting food and housing insecurity in her community. Lauren has five years of experience teaching English courses for migrants and refugees in both Indiana and Florence, Italy. She has been awarded the Fulbright ETA grant at Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, where she will help artists reach their English-language goals.



Samuel Fisher

University of Georgia >> Kaye Academic College of Education

Sam Fisher graduated from the University of Georgia in December 2019 with a BA in Religion and a BA in Arabic. He also received a Spanish minor and spent time in 2017 studying Arabic and Moroccan History in Marrakesh, Morocco. Sam has a passion for learning languages and has been an English teacher and tutor since his time at the University of Georgia, including tutoring Syrian refugees in English in preparation for the TOEFL Exam.

During his Fulbright ETA grant, Sam will work with the teachers-in-training at Kaye Academic College of Education.



Mitchell Levinson

Bard College >> Hadassah Academic College Jerusalem

In 2020, Mitchell Levinson completed his BA in Historical Studies at Bard College. He received the faculty's Marc Bloch award for his undergraduate thesis, "Sympathy for the Oppressed: Imperial-Era Teachings in Early Soviet Ethnography," after spending two semesters abroad at St. Petersburg State University, where he studied the Russian language and researched the development of Soviet governance in indigenous communities of Siberia.

At Bard, Mitchell also implemented English as a Second Language programming for 53 local English language learners, tutored undergraduate international students in ESL, and worked with incarcerated students through the Bard Prison Initiative.

Since graduation, Mitchell has continued working with students through Varsity Tutors. Mitchell now feels excited to return to the classroom, help his students reach their English-language goals, and engage with Jerusalem locals.



Zainab Mousa-Makky

University of Iowa >> Academic Arab College for Education in Israel – Haifa

In 2020, Zainab Mousa-Makky received her BA in International Relations and Ethics and Public Policy from the University of Iowa. During this time, Zainab volunteered as a teaching assistant at the local community college, helping immigrants from North Africa and the Middle East learn English as a foreign language. She also worked as a mentor to high school juniors and seniors, about to enter the workforce.

During her Fulbright fellowship, Zainab will join the Academic Arab College for Education in Israel – Haifa, as an English teaching assistant.