

Henry Goldschmidt

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Education

- 2000 Ph.D., Anthropology, The University of California at Santa Cruz
- 1995 M.A., Anthropology, The University of California at Santa Cruz
- 1991 B.A. (high honors), Anthropology, Wesleyan University, Middletown CT

Books Published

- 2006 *Race and Religion among the Chosen Peoples of Crown Heights*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.
- 2004 *Race, Nation, and Religion in the Americas* (co-edited w/ Elizabeth McAlister). New York: Oxford University Press.

Essays Published

- 2009 “Religion, Reductionism, and the Godly Soul: Lubavitch Hasidic Jewishness and the Limits of Classificatory Thought.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, vol. 77, no. 3, pp. 547-572.
- 2006 “The Voices of Jacob on the Streets of Brooklyn: Black and Jewish Israelites in and Around Crown Heights.” *American Ethnologist*, vol. 33, no. 3, pp. 378-396.
- 2004 “Introduction: Race, Nation and Religion.” Singly-authored introduction to *Race, Nation, and Religion in the Americas* (eds. Henry Goldschmidt and Elizabeth McAlister). pp. 3-31. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2004 “Food Fights: Contesting ‘Cultural Diversity’ in Crown Heights.” In *Local Actions: Cultural Activism, Power, and Public Life in America* (eds. Melissa Checker and Maggie Fishman). pp. 159-183. New York: Columbia University Press.
- 2002 “Suits and Souls: Trying to Tell a Jew When You See One in Crown Heights.” In *Jews of Brooklyn* (eds. Ilana Abramovitch and Sean Galvin). pp. 214-223. Hanover: Brandeis University Press and the University Press of New England.
- 2000 “‘Crown Heights is the Center of the World’: Reterritorializing a Jewish Diaspora.” *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies*, vol. 9, no. 1, pp. 83-106.

Shorter Pieces Published and Forthcoming

- 2010 “Black Hebrew Israelites.” Forthcoming in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (ed. Hans-Josef Klauck, et al). Berlin: Walter de Gruyter.
- 2008 “Crown Heights, Brooklyn.” In *The Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Society* (ed. Richard Schaefer), vol. 1, pp. 350-352. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- 2007 Contributor to “The Jewish Children's Museum: A Virtual Roundtable on Material Religion.” In *Material Religion: The Journal of Objects, Art, and Belief*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 405-426.
- 2004 “More Things in Heaven and Earth: Idealism and Materialism in Russell McCutcheon’s *The Discipline of Religion*.” Review essay in the *Bulletin of the Council of Societies for the Study of Religion*, vol. 33, no. 3-4, pp. 81-83.
- 2003 “Jews and Others in Brooklyn and its Diaspora: Constructing an Unlikely Homeland in a Diasporic World.” In *Diaspora: Movement, Memory, Politics and Identity*, Clarke Center Contemporary Issues Series, no. 14, pp. 43-52.

Work in Progress

Education and Collective Identity Formation: Learning “Religion” and “Culture” in New York City’s Public Schools

In my next long-term ethnographic research project, I will explore how the students of a New York public high school learn to understand religious and cultural diversity. Above all, I plan to examine how students learn the meanings of foundational concepts like “religion” and “culture,” as well as how—and indeed whether—they apply these concepts to their own social lives. I plan to work with students from a broad range of backgrounds, but I am particularly interested in the ways that immigrant students may be reimagining their communities and traditions through an engagement with American understandings of religious and cultural identity. I am currently laying the groundwork for this project, and I hope to begin my fieldwork during the 2010 - 2011 school year.

Teaching Experience

- 2004 - Assistant Professor of Religion and Society, Wesleyan University
- 2002 - 03 Luce Distinguished Visiting Scholar of Diaspora Studies, Dickinson College
- 2001 - 02 Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Rutgers University
- 2001 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, Queens College (CUNY)
- 1997 - 00 Adjunct Lecturer, Adult Degree Studies Division, New York University
- 1997 - 99 Adjunct Lecturer, Anthropology, York College (CUNY)
- 1996 - 97 Adjunct Lecturer, Anthropology, Empire State College (SUNY)
- 1994 - 96 Teaching Assistant, University of California at Santa Cruz

Courses Taught

Religious Studies / Jewish Studies:

The Anthropology of Religion
Religious Worlds of New York
Myth, Memory, and History
Chosen Peoples, Chosen Nation
The Making of American Jewish Identities
Introduction to the Study of Religion
Majors Colloquium in Religious Studies
Religion, Power, and Social Change

Other Anthropology / Social Theory:

Ethnography and Globalization
The Politics of "Culture"
Diasporic America: Rethinking Diversity in a Transnational Society
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Critical Thinking
Violence, Conflict, and Identity
Faculty seminar in diaspora studies
(Dickinson College)
Various graduate independent studies
(Rutgers University)

Selected Conference Papers and Presentations

- 2009 "The End/s of 'Religion' in Analyses of US Diversity: Humanizing Others while Depoliticizing Difference?" Accepted for presentation at the annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, December 2009.
- 2008 "City of Myth: Brooklyn Nostalgia and the Enchantment of History." Presentation to Faculty seminar on Religion in New York City, Columbia University, New York, NY, April 2008.
- 2007 "Race, Religion, and Chosenness: Varieties of Israelite Descent in Crown Heights." Invited lecture to *Jews and Race* conference, Jewish Studies Program, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, December 2007.
- 2007 Discussant, "Author Meets Critics" panel on *Race and Religion among the Chosen Peoples of Crown Heights*. Annual conference of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York, NY, August 2007.
- 2006 "Race, Religion, and Chosenness: Categories and Singularities in the Epistemology of the Social Sciences." Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 2006.
- 2005 "A Brief History of American Jewishness, from John Winthrop to George W. Bush." *At Home in Academia?* conference, Center for Jewish History, New York, NY, May 2005.
- 2003 "Claiming Jewish History, a Quartet: Lubavitch Hasidim, Black Hebrew Israelites, Jewish Studies, Anthropology." Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL, November 2003.

Selected Conference Papers and Presentations, continued

- 2003 “National Boundaries, Transnational Communities, and the Future of Migration to the United States.” Invited lecture to the Young Ambassadors program for students from the Middle East, co-sponsored by Dickinson College and the U.S. Department of State, New York, NY, June 2003.
- 2002 “Jews in Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Diaspora: Decentering the ‘Homeland,’ Recentring Jewish Geographies.” Annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, MA, December 2002.
- 2002 “Jews and Others in Brooklyn and its Diaspora: Constructing an Unlikely Homeland in a Diasporic World.” International conference on *Diaspora: Movement, Memory, Politics and Identity*, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, November 2002.
- 2002 “Food Fights: Contesting ‘Cultural Diversity’ in Crown Heights.” Anthropology Department colloquium series, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, March 2002.
- 2001 “Lubavitch Hasidim, Black Hebrew Israelites, and the Historiography of Jewishness.” Annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Washington, DC, December 2001.
- 2001 “Race and Religion, a Riot and a Pogrom: Conflicting Narratives of Black-Jewish Difference in Crown Heights.” Annual conference of the American Sociological Association, Anaheim, CA, August 2001.
- 2000 “Food Fights: Contesting ‘Cultural Diversity’ in Crown Heights.” Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 2000.
- 2000 “‘A Man Born By My Foot’: Tracing the Hegemony of ‘Race’ in Crown Heights.” Annual conferences of the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the American Sociological Association. Washington, DC, August 2000.
- 1998 “‘A Man Born By My Foot’: Shades of ‘Race’ in Crown Heights.” Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, December 1998.
- 1997 “The Voice of Yaakov on the Streets of Brooklyn: Memory, Narrative, and Identity in the Jewish Communities of Crown Heights and Bed-Stuy.” Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 1997.
- 1997 “Blacks and Jews in Crown Heights: What Does the Bible Have To Do With It?” Lecture to the Minority Access to Research Careers program, York College, CUNY, April, 1997.

Honors and Awards

- 1996 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of California at Santa Cruz
- 1991 Frank Hamilton Cushing Prize for outstanding undergraduate thesis, Wesleyan U.
- 1991 Elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society of Wesleyan University

Fellowships and Grants

- 2005 - 06 Fellowship, Young Scholars in American Religion Program, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Indiana and Purdue Universities
- 2000 - 01 Research Fellowship, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion at Yale University, Program on American Religion, Race and Ethnicity
- 2000 - 02 Publication Assistance, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion at Yale University
- 1999 - 00 Dissertation Writing Fellowship, National Foundation for Jewish Culture
- 1999 Graduate Scholarship, Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society of Northern California
- 1998 Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Lucius N. Littauer Foundation
- 1997 - 98 Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, International Migration Program
- 1993 - 96 Regents Fellowships, University of California at Santa Cruz

Scholarly Activities and Service

- 2009 Panel Organizer, *The End/s of "Religion" in Anthropological Research*. Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association
- 2007 - Seminar participant, faculty seminar on religion in New York City, Columbia University
- 2003 - Seminar participant, Center for Religion and Media, New York University
- 2003 Chairperson, Faculty seminar and curricular study-group on Diaspora Studies, Dickinson College
- 2002 Planning committee, *Diaspora: Movement, Memory, Identity and Politics*. International conference held at Dickinson College
- 2002 Panel co-organizer, *Jewish Diasporas in a Diasporic World*. Annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2001 Panel co-organizer, *The New Jewish Anthropology*. Annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2000 Panel co-organizer, *Race and Religion: Shifting Approaches to Shifting Categories*. Jointly sponsored by the annual conferences of the American Sociological Association and Association for the Sociology of Religion
- 1998 - Occasional peer reviewer, *Cultural Anthropology*, *American Ethnologist*, *Diaspora*
- 1998 Panel co-organizer, *Bodies and Spirits: Race, Religion and Identity Formation in the Americas*. Annual conference of the American Anthropological Association
- 1997 - 99 Seminar participant, faculty seminar on American religion, Columbia University
- 1994 Conference co-organizer, *Revisioning Culture*. Graduate student conference held at The University of California at Santa Cruz

Other Activities and Employment

- 1998 - Program consultant and volunteer mediator, The Crown Heights Community Mediation Center, Brooklyn NY
- 1996 - 98 Coordinating Committee, Regional Adjunct Faculty Organizing Project, New York
- 1993 - 95 Anthropology Board Steward, Association of Student Employees, University of California at Santa Cruz
- 1991 - 93 Administrator, The Shefa Fund (a progressive Jewish foundation), Philadelphia PA

Professional Associations

American Academy of Religion
American Anthropological Association
Society for the Anthropology of Religion
American Ethnological Society
Society for Cultural Anthropology
Association for Jewish Studies
Association for the Sociology of Religion