

## NINA CAPUTO

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### Education

December 1999	<b>Ph.D.</b> , History, University of California, Berkeley
October 1996-June 1998	<b>Visiting Researcher</b> The Remarque Institute, New York University
1992	<b>Master of Arts</b> , Jewish History, University of California, Los Angeles
1991-1992	<b>Visiting Research Fellow</b> , Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel
1989	<b>Bachelor of Arts</b> , History, University of California, Los Angeles,
1987-1988	<b>Junior Year Abroad</b> , Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

### Professional Experience

#### *Full Time*

August 2009- present	<b>Associate Professor</b> , Department of History, University of Florida
August 2003- July 2009	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Department of History, University of Florida
August 1999-May 2003	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Department of History, Florida International University

#### *Visiting*

September 2002-May 2003	<b>Visiting Assistant Professor</b> , Department of History and Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan
September 2001-June 2002	<b>Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities</b> , University of Pennsylvania, Penn Humanities Forum, Assigned to the History Department as visiting faculty
August 1998-May 1999	<b>Visiting Assistant Professor</b> , Department of History, Florida International University

### Publications

#### *- Books, sole authored*

*Debating Truth: The Barcelona Disputation of 1263, a Graphic History* (under contract with Oxford University Press)

*Nahmanides in Medieval Catalonia: Community, History, and Messianism*, (Notre Dame University Press, 2007)

#### *- Books and journal volumes, edited*

*Postmedieval: A Journal on Medieval Cultural Studies* special issue on "The Middle Ages and the Holocaust," co-edited with Hannah Johnson (University of Pittsburgh), vol. 5, no. 3 (September 2014)

*Faithful Narratives: Historians, Religion, and the Challenge of Objectivity* co-edited with Andrea Sterk, (Cornell University Press, 2014)

#### *- Articles and chapters*

"Sons of God, Daughters of Man, and the Formation of Human Society in Nahmanides' Exegesis" in *Exegesis and Religious Difference: Essays on Commentary, Conflict, and Community in the Medieval Mediterranean* ed. Ryan Szpiech *Bordering Religions: Concepts, Conflicts, and Conversations* (forthcoming 2015, Fordham University Press), 8500 words

"Holocaust and the Middle Ages: Medieval Anti-Judaism and the Crucible of Modern Thought" co-authored with Hannah Johnson, for a special issue on "The Middle Ages and the Holocaust" in *Postmedieval: A Journal on Medieval Cultural Studies*, vol. 5, no. 3 (forthcoming, September 2014) 3500 words

"The Challenge of Religion in History" co-authored with Andrea Sterk in *Faithful Narratives: Historians, Religion, and the Challenge of Objectivity* edited by Andrea Sterk and Nina Caputo (Cornell University Press, 2014).

"Regional History, Jewish Memory: The Purim of Narbonne" *Jewish History* vol. 22, no. 1-2 (June, 2008): 97-114.

"Prophecy and Redemption: Messianic Expectation in Nahmanides' *Sefer ha-Ge'ulah*" in *Time and Eternity in the Middle Ages* ed. Gerson Moreno-Riaño and Axel Müller (Turnhout [Belgium]: Brepols, 2003).

"To Kill the Thorns in the Vineyard: A Medieval Rabbi's Argument for Diversity within Unity" in *Orthodoxie, christianisme, histoire* ed. Susanna Elm, Éric Rebillard, Anotella Romano (Rome: L'École française de Rome, 2000).

"'In The Beginning...': Typology, History, and the Unfolding Meaning of Creation in Nahmanides' Exegesis." *Jewish Social Studies*, vol. 6, no. 1 (Fall, 1999), 52-84.

#### - Reference works

"Jewish-Christian Polemics," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, ed. David Biale (New York: Oxford University Press, September 2013), 12,500 words.

"Moses Nahmanides" in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish History, Religion, and Culture*, ed. Judith Baskin (Cambridge University Press, 2011), pp. 453-454.

#### - Translations

"Moses Nahmanides, Account of the Disputation" (from Hebrew) in *Medieval Iberia*, ed. Olivia Remi Constable (University of Pennsylvania, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition: 2011), 332-338

#### - Works in Progress

*On the Word of a Jew: Religion, Reliability, and the Dynamics of Trust*, an anthology of essays co-edited with Mitchell Hart, proposal under review at Columbia University Press.

"Moses Nahmanides," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, ed. David Biale (New York: Oxford University Press, commissioned by David Biale and under contract for publication in 2015).

"Angels, Demons, or Men? Nahmanides Polemical Exegesis of *Benei ha-Elohim* (Genesis 6:1-4)" in *The Bible in the Iberian World - A Religious Melting Pot* edited by Ricardo Muñoz Solla and Ana T. Valdez (under review with Brill), 10,000 words.

*A Jew on the Margin: Petrus Alfonsi and the Figure of the Convert in the Middle Ages* (a book-length study of the rhetoric, style, and legacy of Petrus Alfonsi's *Dialogi contra iudaeos*)

#### - Book Reviews

*Conversion and Narrative: Reading and Religious Authority in Medieval Polemic*. By Ryan Szpiech. The Middle Ages Series. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013) in *AJS Review*, vol. 37 no. 2 (forthcoming Fall 2013)

*Between Christian and Jew: Conversion and Inquisition in the Crown of Aragon, 1250-1391*. Paola Tartakoff. The Middle Ages Series. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012) in *American Historical Review*, vol. 118 no. 4 (October 2013): 1239-1240.

*A Jewish Voice from Ottoman Salonica: The Ladino Memoir of Sa'adi Basalel a'Levi* Edited by Aron Rodrigue and Sarah Stein, trans. Isaac Jerusalem. Stanford Studies in Jewish History and Culture (Stanford University Press, 2012) in *Marginalia Review of Books* (22 May, 2013): <http://themarginaliareview.com/archives/2556>

*Crafting Jewishness in Medieval England: Legally Absent, Virtually Present*. By Miriamne Ara Krummel. The New Middle Ages. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) in *Church History* vol. 81, no. 4 (2012): 963-969.

*The Eve of Spain: Myths of Origins in the History of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Conflict* by Patricia Grieve (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) in *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* vol. 89, no. 1 (2012): 128-129.

*Mozarabs in Medieval and Early Modern Spain: Identities and Influences* by Richard Hitchcock (Ashgate Press, 2008) in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* vol. 40, no. 2 (2011): 809-811.

*Jewish Martyrs in the Pagan and Christian Worlds* by Shmuel Shepkaru (Cambridge University Press, 2006) in [The Medieval Review](#) 08.10.21 (2008)

*The Jew in the Medieval Book: English Antisemitisms, 1350-1500* by Anthony Bale. Cambridge Studies in Medieval Literature, No. 60. (Cambridge University Press, 2006), in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, vol. 39, no 1 (2008): 103-104.

*Between Worlds: Dybbuks, Exorcists, and Early Modern Judaism* by J.H. Chajes. Jewish Culture and Contexts. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003), in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, vol. 38. No. 1 (2007): 108-109.

*The Contemplative Soul: Hebrew Poetry and Philosophical Theory in Medieval Spain* by Adena Tanenbaum, Études sur le judaïsme médiéval. (Brill, 2002) in [The Medieval Review](#) 04.11.15 (2004)

*Fashioning Jewish Identity in Medieval Western Christendom* by Robert Chazan, (Cambridge University Press, 2004) in [The Medieval Review](#) 04.11.12 (2004)

### **Fellowships, Scholarships, and Grants**

- 2013-14 **Dorset Fellow**, Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, and the Oriental Institute (Associate Faculty) Oxford University
- 2013 **Franklin Research Grant**, American Philosophical Society
- 2012 **Faculty Enhancement Opportunity Grant**, University of Florida
- 2010 **Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Grant**, University of Florida
- 2008 **Gladys Kriehle Delmas Foundation Humanities Grant**, with Andrea Sterk
- 2008 **Project Grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion**, with Andrea Sterk, for a series of workshops entitled *Faithful Narratives: The Challenge of Religion in History*
- 2007 **Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Grant**, University of Florida
- 2004 **Humanities Scholarship Advancement Grant**, University of Florida
- 2001-2002 **Mellon Foundation Fellowship**, Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- 2001-2002 **Adjunct Fellow**, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- Fall 2000, Spring 2000, Spring 1999 **Faculty Development Grant-in-Aid**  
College of Arts and Sciences, Florida International University
- 1997-1998 **Dean's Dissertation Fellowship**, University of California, Berkeley
- 1993-1997 **Koret Foundation Fellowship**, Koret Foundation for Jewish Culture
- 1997 **Medieval Studies Research Grant**, Committee for Medieval Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- 1996 **Humanities Graduate Research Grant**, Graduate Division, University of California, Berkeley
- 1995 **Heller Foundation Research Grant**, University of California, Berkeley
- 1995 **Medieval Studies Research Grant**, Committee for Medieval Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- 1992-1993 **Jerome S. Friedburg Fellowship**, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- 1991-1992 **Inter-university Fellowship**, Friends of Hebrew University, Jerusalem
- 1990-1992 **Provost Fellowship**, University of California, Los Angeles

### **Selected Invited Lectures and Symposia**

- "The Voice of a Jew? Petrus Alfonsi's *Dialogi contra judaeos* and the Question of True Conversion" Oxford Centre Seminar in Advanced Jewish Studies, Oriental Institute, Oxford University, 27 November, 2013
- "Framing Identity: Petrus Alfonsi's Self-Introduction in the *Dialogi contra judaeos*" Institute of Historical Research/ Jewish History Seminar at the University of London, 19 November, 2013
- "Sons of Gods, Mothers of Demons: Nahmanides on the Nefilim" *Late Medieval Exegesis: An Interfaith Discourse* ("INTELEG: The Intellectual and Material Legacies of Late-Medieval Sephardic Judaism," a four-year team project funded by the European Research Council), University of Michigan, October 2011
- "Reviewing the Cases for *Convivencia*: The Politics of Representing Medieval Iberian Jewry" *Orientalism and Fundamentalism in Jewish and Islamic Critique: A Conference Honoring Sadik al-Azm* (Funded by the Ford Foundation), Dartmouth College, January 2006
- "The Pen is Sharper than the Sword: Polemics as Holy War in Medieval Judaism," at *The Rhetorics of Holy War*, the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture, University of California, Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union, February 2005
- "Boundaries of Faith: The Figure of the Apostate in the Barcelona Disputation," Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida, February 2003
- "Between Local Recovery and Jewish Memory: Notes on a Thirteenth-Century Brush with Catastrophe" Plenary Address, *Recovery: Pre-Modern Responses to Catastrophe and Convulsion*, Binghamton University, November 2002

"Historical Time and Redemptive Time: Temporal Exegesis in Nahmanides Disputation Account," Invited Speaker, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, April 2002

"Expectation of the Messiah in 13<sup>th</sup> Century Aragon" Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania, March 2002

"Conversion and Inversion: Representations of Jewishness in the Barcelona Disputation Account" Invited Speaker, Annenberg Seminar, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, February 2002

"Contested Authorities: Representation of Community in the Barcelona Disputation Narrative," Invited Speaker, The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University, January 2002

"Testing the Boundaries of Local Jewish Culture: Conflict and Contact in the Barcelona Disputation (1263)," Invited Speaker, Leeds University, Centre for Cultural Analysis, Theory and History and Centre for Medieval Studies, April 2001.

### **Selected Conference Papers**

"Jewish Arguments and Arguments about Jews in Petrus Alfonsi's *Dialogi contra judaeos*" *American Historical Association/American Society for Church Studies* New Orleans, January, 2013

"Sons of God: Creation and the Formation of Nation in Nahmanides' Exegesis" *European Association of Biblical Studies*, Thessaloniki, Greece, July 2011

"A Jew in the Margin: The Conversion Story in Medieval Culture" *Seventeenth Biennial New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, March 2010

"Reconquista, Conversion, and the Question of Tolerance: Petrus Alfonsi's *Dialogi contra iudaeos*" *American Society for Church History*, Montreal, April 2009

"What a Difference a Day Makes: Is the Vernacular in Nahmanides' Disputation Account Evidence for a Shared Catalan Aesthetic?" *Medieval Academy, 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting*, Boston, March 2006

"Auspicious Beginnings: The Mythical Origins of Narbonne Jewry According to Medieval Hebrew Historical Narratives" *Fifteenth Biennial New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, March 2006

"In Common Parlance: Jewish-Christian Debate and the Formation of Catalonian Culture," *Fourteenth Biennial New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies* The New College Florida, March 2004

"Telling the Present, Recalling the Future: Messianic Expectation in the Barcelona Disputation Account", *Perceptions of the Past Visions of the Future*, 2003 Annual Conference, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, February 2003

"Jewish Identity, Jewish Leadership: Nahmanides' Self-Representation in the Barcelona Disputation Account" *Changing Identities, 1000-1600*, University of Kent at Canterbury, UK, February 2001

"Prophecy and Redemption: Messianic Expectation in Nahmanides' *Sefer ha-Ge'ulah*" *International Medieval Congress*, Leeds, UK, July 2000

### **Panels Chaired**

"The Middle Ages and the Holocaust," A colloquium at the University of Pittsburgh co-organizer, co-chair, and respondent, April 2012

"Faithful Narratives: A Round Table on the Challenge of Religion in History," co-organizer and co-chair *American Historical Association/American Society for Church Studies*, Boston, January 2011

### **Service to the Profession**

June 2014 *Religion and Transformation in Contemporary European Society*, University of Vienna, Editorial Board, member

October 2013- March 2014 **Oxford Seminar in Advanced Jewish Studies: "On the Word of a Jew: Oaths, Testimonies, and the Nature of Trust"** co-convenor with Mitchell Hart (University of Florida) at the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Judaic Studies

April 2013- *Marginalia Review of Books* Subject Editor for Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History,  
2009- *Postmedieval: A Journal of Medieval Cultural Studies*, Editorial Board, member

2003-2005 **Program Committee for the 2005 Conference, Medieval Academy of America**, member

1995-1996 **Associate Curator**, Sanford L. Ziff Jewish Museum of Florida

Spring 1995 **Editorial Assistant**, *Jewish Social Studies: History, Culture, and Society*

**Refereed Articles for:**

*Journal of Theological Studies, Philosophy and Rhetoric, Postmedieval, Rhetorica, Speculum*

**Referred Book Manuscripts for:**

SUNY University Press, Cambridge University Press, Aronson Press

**Service to the University of Florida**

***University and College***

- 2014- **Faculty Council**, member, CLAS, University of Florida
- 2012- **Graduate School Doctoral Research Travel Awards Review Committee**, member, University of Florida
- 2011-2013 **Academic Policy Council**, member, University of Florida
- 2009-2011 **Faculty Senate**, member, University of Florida
- 2008 **Humanities Fellowship Selection Committee**, member, CLAS, University of Florida
- 2007-2008 **Nominating Committee**, member 2007-08, chair 2008-09, CLAS, University of Florida

***Department of History***

- 2014- **Associate Chair**, Department of History
- 2012-2013 **Pozzetta Colloquium**, organizer, Department of History
- 2010-2012 **Graduate Coordinator**, Department of History
- 2010-2012 **Graduate Committee**, Chair, Department of History
- 2010-2012 **Executive Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2011-2012 **Curriculum Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2010-12 **Personnel and Policy Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2008-2010 **Associate Graduate Coordinator**, Department of History
- 2007-2010 **Graduate Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2006-07 **Personnel and Policy Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2006, Spring **Modern Middle East Search Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2005, Fall **Japanese History Search Committee**, member, Department of History
- 2003-2004 **American Religious History Search Committee**, member, Department of Religion

***Center for Jewish Studies***

- 2010-2013 **Bruce I. Greenberg Lecture Series**, organizer, Center for Jewish Studies
- 2009-2010 **Posen Faculty Seminar**, convener, Center for Jewish Studies
- 2008-2010 **Jewish Studies Advisory Council**, member,
- 2007-2009 **Posen Faculty Seminar**, co-convener with Galili Shahar, Center for Jewish Studies
- 2005, Fall **Alexander Grass Postdoctoral Fellowship Search Committee**, chair, Center for Jewish Studies