

**BEATRICE J. W. LAWRENCE**  
Department of Theology and Religious Studies  
Seattle University  
lawrencb@seattleu.edu  
206-296-5318

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Hebrew Bible and Jewish Hermeneutics, Emory University, 2009

M. A. with distinction, Jewish Studies, Emory University, 1998

B. A. *magna cum laude*, Religious Studies, Carleton College, 1995

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Associate Professor, Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Seattle University, 2018-present

Assistant Professor, Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Seattle University, 2010-2018

Assistant Professor, Hebrew Bible, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (LA), 2006-2010

Adjunct Professor, "Abrahamic Religious Traditions," Emory University, 2005-2006

Adjunct Professor, "Methods in Jewish Studies," Emory University, 2002-2003

Teaching Associate, "Gender and Judaism," Emory University, Fall 2002

Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to the Old Testament," Candler School of Theology, 2001-2002

Teaching Assistant, Emory's Summer Program in Israel, Summer 1998

Teaching Assistant, "Modern Hebrew," Emory University, September 1997-June 1998

## **AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Recipient of Seattle University College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Research Fellowship, Summer 2016

Recipient of Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Research Fellowship, Summer 2015

Selected participant in Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Workshop for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty at Colleges and Universities, 2014-2015

Inducted as honorary member of Alpha Sigma Nu, 2014

Chosen by the Naef Scholars of Seattle University to give the annual "Last Lecture," April 2013

Chosen by the students of the College of Arts and Sciences at Seattle University as "Teacher of the Year," 2012

Recipient of Henry T. Luce Fellowship to study theologies of religious pluralism and comparative theology, 2012-2013

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

*Rape Culture and Religious Studies: Critical and Pedagogical Engagements*. Editor, with Meredith Minister and Rhiannon Graybill. (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2019)

*Jethro and the Jews: Jewish Biblical Interpretation and the Question of Identity* (Leiden: E.J. Brill; 2017)

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

"Cultural Theory, Popular Culture, and the Biblical Studies Classroom," contribution to Roundtable Discussion on "Cultivating an Intersectional Framework for Teaching about Rape Culture," *Journal for the Feminist Study of Religion* Vol. 33, No. 1 (Spring 2017)

"When Perpetrators Are Our Students," contribution to Forum on "Sexual Violence In and Around the Classroom," *Teaching Theology and Religion* 20:1 (2017)

"A Time to Deconstruct: Refining the Work of Jewish-Christian Engagement," *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* 9:1 (2014)

### **Book Chapters**

“Rape Culture and the Rabbinic Construction of Gender.” Pages 137-155 in Rhiannon Graybill, Meredith Minister, and Beatrice Lawrence, eds., *Rape Culture and Religious Studies: Critical and Pedagogical Engagements* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2019)

“Teaching the Bible and Popular Media as Part of Contemporary Rape Culture.” *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Approaches to the Hebrew Bible* (under contract, due out 2020)

“Gender Analysis: Gender and Method in Biblical Studies.” Pages 333-348 in Joel L. Lemon and Kent Harold Richards, eds., *Method Matters: Essays in the Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Honor of David L. Petersen* (Atlanta: SBL, 2009)

### **Reference Works**

Entries for “Ketuvim,” “Megillot,” “Purification,” “Qiddushin,” and “Sotah.” Katharine Doob Sakenfeld, ed., *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009)

“Bamidbar: Another View.” Page 808 in Tamara Cohn Eskenazi and Andrea L. Weiss, eds., *The Torah: A Women’s Commentary* (New York: URL Press, 2008)

### **Public scholarship**

Contributor, “American Values, Religious Voices,” <https://www.valuesandvoices.com/>. January 20-April 29, 2017

### **Scholarship-In-Progress**

“Gender and Access: The Replacement of *Chochmah* with *Torah* in Genesis Rabbah” (article)

*Notes from the Fire: Mental Illness and the Question of Suffering in the Bible and Beyond* (book)

### **PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Teaching and Witnessing: Rape Culture and the Hebrew Bible,” AAR/SBL meeting in Atlanta, GA, November 2015

“Transcendence Abandoned: Kenosis in Christ and Torah as a New Foundation for Progressive Jewish-Christian Interreligious Dialogue After God,” Co-Presentation with Dr. Daniel Peterson at Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL meeting Spokane, WA, May 2011

“Women, Authority, and Alternate Authority in Ancient Judaism,” AAR/SBL meeting in Atlanta, GA, November 2010

“Jethro in Tannaitic Midrashim,” AAR/SBL meeting in Philadelphia, PA, November 2005

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES: ACADEMIC**

“The Refugee Crisis: Called to Care for Our Brothers and Sisters,” ICTC Casey Commons Interfaith Dinner/Panel Discussion, February 29, 2016

Presentation at Seattle University in coordination with the Cardinal Bea Center for Judaic Studies and the Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture: “Nostra Aetate and the Dominant Catholic Approach to Engaging Judaism,” October 2013

“A Review of Erica Martin’s *The Lovely Tents of Jacob: The Vagina in Scripture*,” AAR/SBL meeting in Chicago, IL, November 2012

“Judaism and Ecological Theology,” Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL meeting in Portland, OR, May 2012

“The Theology of Leviticus,” Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL meeting in Victoria, BC, May 2010

“Does Religion Matter? Pedagogy in the Teaching of Religion,” Pacific Northwest AAR/SBL meeting in Victoria, BC, May 2010

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES: COMMUNITY**

Scholar-in-residence, Congregation Beth Israel, Bellingham, WA, February 2016  
Presented five lectures on Judaism and Gender

Public lecture series on Judaism and Gender, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, WA, Spring 2015

Scholar-in-residence, Temple Israel of Hollywood Annual Women’s Retreat in Ojai, CA, April 2011-2013

Scholar-in-residence, Temple B’nei Tzedek, Los Angeles, CA: “Prophets and Madmen,” February 2010

Visiting Scholar for PARR (Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis) Regional Conference

in Palm Springs, CA: "Witches, harlots, and idolaters in the Bible and Jewish texts," January 2007

## **SERVICE**

### **Disciplinary**

Steering Committee, Society of Biblical Literature, "Women in the Biblical World," 2014-Present

Steering Committee, Society of Biblical Literature, "Gender, Sexuality, and the Bible," 2015-present

### **Departmental**

Member, Job Search Committee for Position in Christian Ethics

Interviewed candidates for the position at AAR/SBL meeting in San Antonio, TX, November 2016; assessed candidates and provided feedback to department

Member, Job Search Committee for position in Islam

Interviewed candidates for the position at AAR/SBL meeting in San Diego, CA, November 2014; assessed candidates and provided feedback to the department

Member, Job Search Committee for position in Catholic Moral Theology

Interviewed candidates for the position at AAR/SBL meeting in Chicago, IL; assessed candidates and provided feedback to the department, 2012

Co-chair, Assessment Committee

Worked with new assessments protocols to refine departmental learning objectives, draft self-assessment summaries, create an assessment calendar, and create new feedback loops, 2010-2014

Member, Committee to create a new track in Comparative Religion

Worked with Religious Studies colleagues to create a new departmental track, including new curriculum and major requirements, course proposals, learning objectives, and goals, 2011-2013

Interfaith Panel with Mohammed Fani and Wes Howard-Brook, with public presentations at Seattle University, "Reimagining Interfaith Conversation," 2010- 2012

## **University**

Faculty Director, "Faith and the Great Ideas" Living and Learning Community, August 2016-2018

Member, Interreligious Dialogue Initiative

Work with faculty and administration from diverse religious backgrounds to encourage ongoing interreligious engagement and education at Seattle University, 2014-present

## **Community**

Instruction, Introduction to the Talmud, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, WA, 2019

Instructor, Women's Torah Study, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, WA, 2015-present

Instructor, Weekly Torah Study, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, WA 2013-present

Cantorial Soloist and Scholar-in-residence, The Jewish Community of the Palouse, Moscow, ID, September 2011-present

Instructor, "Our Neighbor's Faith: Judaism", Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Renton, WA, February 2014

Selected to be a participant in Reboot: A National Summit to Re-envision Contemporary Jewish Life, Park City, UT, 2011-2012

Instructor of Jewish Texts, Temple Beth Am, Seattle, WA, September 2011-present

## **LANGUAGES**

Hebrew (Biblical, Rabbinic, Medieval, and Modern), Aramaic, Greek (Classical, Septuagint), French, German (reading), Ugaritic

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

The Society of Biblical Literature