

# SHAINA TRAPEDO

604 Northumberland Road, Teaneck, New Jersey, 07666  
646-735-1243 • shaina.trapedo@yu.edu

---

## EDUCATION

---

University of California, Irvine, Ph.D., English, September 2013  
University of California, Irvine, M.A., English, December 2007  
Barnard College, Columbia University, B.A., English and Economics, *summa cum laude*, May 2004

---

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

---

Early Modern literature and culture, religious studies and hermeneutics, performance studies, gender studies, and cultural rhetoric and theory.

---

## TEACHING

---

*Yeshiva University, NY, NY* • Fall 2020 to present, Resident Scholar, The Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought

The Wisdom of Solomon: Love, Learning, Leadership  
Tehilim and the Human Condition  
Shakespeare and the Bible  
Psalms and Sonnets, co-taught  
Shakespeare and the Talmud, co-taught

*Yeshiva University, NY, NY* • Fall 2019 to present, Lecturer

The Jew in the Western Literary Imagination  
English 1010: Essentials of Writing  
English 1100: Composition and Rhetoric

*Manhattan High School for Girls, NY, NY* • Winter 2015 to June 2022, Director of Humanities

AP English Literature and Language  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Rhetoric & Composition  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Public Speaking  
Debate Elective  
9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> English and Language Arts

*Touro College, NY, NY* • Winter 2017 to Summer 2018, Adjunct Faculty

HML 102: Medieval Literature  
HML 201: Renaissance Literature

*Seneca @ York, Toronto, ON* • Fall 2014 to Fall 2015, Full-time Faculty

SES275: Introduction to World Drama  
EAC486: Shakespeare and Film  
EAC 149: Developmental Writing  
EAC 150: College English  
BTC440: Business and Technical Writing

*Seneca @ York, Toronto, ON* • Fall 2013 to Summer 2014, Part-time Faculty

EAC 150: College English  
BTC 440: Business and Technical Writing

*Trident University International, Cypress, CA* • May 2013 to Aug 2014; Aug 2015 to present, Adjunct Faculty

ENG 101: English Composition I (online offering)

ENG 102: English Composition II (online offering)

*University of California, Irvine, CA* • Fall 2007 to Summer 2013, Teaching Assistant

Writing 39B: Critical Reading and Rhetoric

Summer Bridge Program: Writing Workshop

E28B: Tragic and Comic Visions

E28A: Poetic Imaginations

E103 Shakespeare: From Comedy to Romance (taught by Professor Julia Lupton)

5A World Religions (taught by Professor Jack Miles)

*University of California, Irvine, CA* • Fall 2010 – Spring 2012, Teaching Associate

Humanities Core Course

*Irvine Valley College, CA* • Fall 2008 to Summer 2011, Adjunct Faculty

Writing 1: College Writing

---

## CURRENT BOOK PROJECT

---

*From Scripture to Script: The Hebrew Bible on the Early English Stage* examines how England's cultural obsession with wisdom-seeking and biblical character study as a mode of moral instruction plays out in the drama of the period, when edification and entertainment were expected of both stage and pulpit. Recognizing that the patrons of London's public theaters also occupied parish pews, I show how Christian playwrights adopt and adapt scriptural narratives, tropes, and paradigms from received Hebraic texts, and how audiences attended to those allusions. Due to the concise and compact nature of scripture, when writers craft plays based on the biblical narratives, they make interpretive decisions about how to develop the plot, protagonists, and dialogue in relation to their source material. By drawing the works of Renaissance playwrights like Peele, Shakespeare, and Fletcher into dialogue with religious discourse of the period, I explore drama as a mode of exegesis and exegesis as a dramatic activity; I argue that works indebted to biblical narratives reveal a cultural anxiety about the authority ascribed to scripture and the potentially devastating consequences of hermeneutic malpractice.

---

## PUBLICATIONS

---

"The Sin of Singularity and the Divine Origins of Human Rights Advocacy," *University of Pittsburg Law Review*, Vol. 83 (2022).

"Wherefore Art Thou, Moses?" *The Lehrhaus*. April 2020.

"Shylock in the Lion's Den: Enacting Exegesis in *The Merchant of Venice*" in *The Bible on the Shakespearean Stage: Cultures of Interpretation in Reformation England*, eds. Thomas Fulton and Kristen Poole (Cambridge UP, 2018).

"Holding the (Magic) Mirror up to Nature: Fairy Tale Culture and the Disney Corporation," co-authored with Lynda Haas in *The Routledge Companion to Media and Fairy-Tale Cultures*, eds. Pauline Greenhill, Jill Terry Rudy, and Naomi Hamer (Routledge, 2018).

Review of "*Israel Served the Lord*": *The Book of Joshua as Paradoxical Portrait of Faithful Israel*" by Rachel

M. Billings. *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, Volume 45, 2014.

"Delaval, Elizabeth." *The Encyclopedia of English Renaissance Literature*. Ed. Alan Stewart, Rebecca Lemon, and Garrett Sullivan. Chichester, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2012.

"Middleton, Elizabeth." *The Encyclopedia of English Renaissance Literature*. Ed. Alan Stewart, Rebecca Lemon, and Garrett Sullivan. Chichester, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2012.

---

## CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

---

"Shakespeare and the Talmud." London School of Jewish Studies, June 2022

Scholar in Residence, East Hills Synagogue, Englewood, New Jersey, Shavout, June 2022.

"Shakespeare's Penitential Psalms." New Swan Shakespeare Center and UC Irvine, May 2022

"Putting Solomonic Wisdom on Trial in *Richard II*." Shakespeare Association of America, Jacksonville, Florida, April 2022, as part of "Shakespeare and Wisdom Literature," co-chaired by Sean Keilen, UCSD, and Julia Lupton, UC Irvine.

"The Divine Origins of Human Rights Advocacy." Respondent paper at The University of Pittsburgh School of Law's conference on "Sovereignty, Humanity, and Law" co-sponsored by the Center for International Legal Education (CILE) and The Law and Humanities Institute (LHI), April 2021.

"Dante: Poet or Philosopher?" presented to Rabbi Dov Lerner's Dante's Moral Philosophy class at the Straus Center, March 2021.

"Esther Ever After: A Life and Legacy in Full Color." Sara Lamm Dratch Memorial Lecture presented to the Jewish Center of Teaneck, February 2021.

"Miriam, Aharon, Moshe and the Bonds of Birth Order." Presented at FFH Events, New York, April 2019.

"Rhetoric and the Art of Honoring Your Parents." Presented at FFH Events, New York, April 2019.

"Arden Everywhere: Romance, Reform, and Refugees in *As You Like It*." Presented at the Global Shakespeare Symposium, University of California, Irvine, January 2018.

"David as Subject and Sovereign in George Peele's *The Love of David and Fair Bethsabe*." Presented at the Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, April 2017, as part of the panel "Early Modern Christian Readings of the Hebrew Bible" with chair Noam Flinker, University of Haifa.

"Gossip Hurl: Language as the Substance of Renown in Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*." Presented at the Shakespearean Theatre Conference: Language in Text and Performance, University of Waterloo-Stratford Campus, June 2015.

"Teaching with Technology: Best Practices." Presented at the Developmental Writing Instructor's

Symposium (hosted by McGraw Hill), Hamilton, Toronto, March 2014.

“Shylock in the Lion’s Den: Performative Exegesis in *Merchant of Venice*.” Presented at the Renaissance Society of America Conference, San Diego, April 2013, as part of the panel “Reading Shakespeare and the Bible II: *The Merchant of Venice*” with chair James Simpson, organizer Thomas Fulton, and panelists Hannibal Hamlin and James Kearney.

“From Scripture to Script: Toward an Introduction.” Presented at the Graduate Student Dissertation Colloquium, University of California, Irvine, April 2013.

“Performative Exegesis in *Merchant of Venice*.” Presented at the Inaugural Religion {} Literature Conference, University of California, Irvine, May 2012.

“Celebrity, Notoriety and Public Opinion in Shakespeare’s *Henry VIII*.” Presented at the Group for the Study of Early Cultures Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference, University of California, Irvine, April 2012.

“The Esther Chronicles: Shakespeare’s Biblical Heroines in *Henry VIII*.” Presented at the Graduate Student Dissertation Colloquium, University of California, Irvine, February 2012.

“Debt and Gratuity in *The Merchant of Venice*.” Presented at the “Merchant of Venice: An Open Invitation?” conference sponsored by UCI’s Program in Jewish Studies, University of California, Irvine, February 2011.

“Knights and Orphans in Spenser’s Biopolitical Epic.” Presented at the MLA Convention, Los Angeles, January 2011.

“Fictional and Figurative Orphans in Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene*.” Presented at the UCI Group for Renaissance and Early Modern Studies, November 2008 and the Northern California Renaissance Conference, UC Berkeley, September 2008.

---

#### AWARDS AND HONORS

---

Educator of Distinction Award, Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, 2017

School of Humanities Graduate Fellowship, Winter 2012 – Spring 2013, University of California, Irvine

Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, Fall 2012, University of California, Irvine

UC Irvine Humanities Collective grant in support of the Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference for the Group for the Study of Early Cultures at UCI that I chaired in April 2012. Conference: “Commons: Shared Resources and Collective Activity in Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies”

International Center for Writing and Translation (ICWT) 2010-11 Graduate Student Summer International Travel Research Grant for “The Literary Structures of Ancient Jewish Literature” AHRC Workshop at the University of Manchester, July 2011

Summer Language Study grant supported by ICWT and the Humanities Office of Graduate Study, 2011

Barnard Alumnae Association Fellowship for Graduate Study for research at The Huntington Library, 2010

UC Irvine Humanities Graduate Student Research and Travel Grant, Fall 2009

Regent's Fellowship from the School of Humanities, University of California, Irvine, 2006-2007

Alena Welz Hirschorn Prize for senior economics major with interest in English literature, Barnard College, Columbia University, 2004

Barnard College Dean's List for all semesters attended

---

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

---

Vice President, Law and Humanities Institute, May 2022 to present

"Living Our Values: A Campus-Wide Conversation." Summit Delegate, Yeshiva University, May 2022

Faculty Development Program (consisting of three semester-long courses: Foundations of Teaching and Learning, Teaching Enhanced Learning, and Inclusive Teaching and Scholarly Practice), Seneca College, September 2014 - July 2015

New Faculty Orientation, Seneca College, co-organizer and facilitator, August 2014

Hiring committee member, Seneca College, 2014 - 2015

Review for Cengage Learning of *MindTap Anthology* (an online reader for thematic, genre, disciplinary, or modal approaches to composition), February 2015

Chair and organizer for the Early Modern Cultures Graduate Student Conference on "Commons: Shared Resources and Collective Activity in Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies," April 20-21, 2012

CLCWEGSA (Comparative Literature, Creative Writing, and English Graduate Student Association), English Department Graduate Representative, 2010 - 2012

Textbook review for Bedford/St. Martin's of Kathryn Evans' *Problems and Possibilities: Reading and Writing Genres in Context*, January 2011

Graduate representative to UCI Endowed Chair of Rhetoric and Communication search committee, 2011

E28 Pedagogical Training Workshop, co-organizer and facilitator, August 2009

---

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

---

Shakespeare Association of America

The Renaissance Society of America  
Modern Language Association  
NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English)

---

#### REFERENCES

---

Meir Soloveichik, Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought, Director  
Yeshiva University  
(917) 940-2970, msolo@yu.edu

Julia Reinhard Lupton, Distinguished Professor, English  
University of California, Irvine  
(949) 824-2916, jrlupton@uci.edu

Mrs. Estee Friedman-Stefansky, General Studies Principal  
Manhattan High School for Girls, New York, New York  
(212) 737-6800, friedmane@manhattan-hs.org

Andrew Schmitz, Chair of the School English and Liberal Studies  
Conestoga, Ontario, Canada  
(519) 748-5220 ext. 2319, aschmitz@conestoga.on.ca