

# JOANNA ZOFIA SPYRA

(she/her/hers)

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## EDUCATION

2019 – present	PhD candidate, Department of Archaeology, History, Cultural Studies and Religion, University of Bergen, Norway
2016 – 2018	M.A., Jewish Professional Leadership and Near Eastern and Judaic Studies (Hornstein program), Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA
2010 – 2015	B.A./M.A., International Economic Relations, Cracow University of Economics, Cracow, Poland
2010 – 2015	B.A./M.A., Jewish history, Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland
2015	Visiting student, Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Columbia University, NYC, USA
2014	Exchange student, International Relations and Affairs, Roosevelt University, Chicago, USA
2011 – 2012	Exchange student, International Business, University Pablo de Olavide, Seville, Spain
2006 – 2010	Bilingual Spanish – Polish High School, Katowice, Poland

## GENERAL RESEARCH AREAS

Argentine Jewish history; Polish Jewish history; migration studies; gender studies; history of prostitution; transnationalism; history of philanthropy; history of medicine; Holocaust education

## CONFERENCE PAPERS - PUBLIC TALKS

2022	<i>“The Aftermath of Pokłosie: Holocaust Education and the Pogrom in Jedwabne.”</i> Artistic Representation, Memory, and Narrating Holocaust - Remembering Lost Music. Jewish Cultural Heritage in Scandinavia, Center for Grieg Research, Bergen
2022	<i>“Medical Identities of Jewish Immigrants in Argentina.”</i> Medical Identities in Global History, University of Oxford
2021	<i>“La salud en la construcción de la nación. Locura como Resistencia: Los inmigrantes judíos en Argentina.”</i> XXXIX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (online)
2021	<i>“Eliminating Threats to the State of Argentina: Jewish Degeneration in Time of Crisis.”</i> World in Crisis: Reflections and Responses from Antiquity to the Present, British Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference (online)

- 2021 *"Ethics and Truth in Archival Research: The Case Study of Jewish Women in Argentina."* (poster) #DHJewish - Jewish Studies in the Digital Age, University of Luxemburg (online)
- 2019 *"Unruly Bodies and Imaginary Enemies: Mental Health of Jewish Immigrant Women in Argentina in the Interwar Period."* Association for Jewish Studies 51st Annual Conference, San Diego
- 2019 *"Engendering Activism: The Multiple Impacts of Latin American Jews - Madness as Resistance: Jewish Immigrant Women in Argentina in the 1930s."* Project on Latin American Jewish & Gender Studies (LAJGS), Hadassah Brandeis Institute, Waltham
- 2019 *"Ezras Noshim and Unruly Bodies: Disciplining Sexual Behavior of Jewish Immigrant Women in Argentina in 1936."* Latin American Jewish Studies Association 6th Regional Research Conference, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2015 *"The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy."* Jewish Culture Festival, Cracow
- 2014 *"Israelis in Berlin."* Jewish Culture Festival, Cracow
- 2013 *"Modern trends in the development of Jewish Studies in Spain."* The Fifth Warsaw Conference for Young Jewish Studies Researchers

#### **FELLOWSHIPS – GRANTS – AWARDS**

- 2022 Meltzer Research Fund 2022 (43 000 NOK)
- 2021 Arqus – European University Alliance travel grant (PhD week in Graz, Austria)
- 2020 Meltzer Research Fund 2020 (42 000 NOK)
- 2019 Association for Jewish Studies Women's Caucus Award
- 2019 Rosalie Katchen Award (Hadassah Brandeis Institute) for presenting at the Association for Jewish Studies 51st Annual Conference in San Diego, California, 2019
- 2019 Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe Scholarship (Yiddish Summer Program at Tel Aviv University)
- 2018 Hadassah – Brandeis Student Award for Outstanding Research on Jews and Gender 2018 (Master's thesis 2018)
- 2017 The Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) - Jane's Travel Grant 2017 (*"Feminist Perspectives on the Body: The Case of Zwi Migdal in Argentina"*)
- 2017 iCenter Fellowship for Master's Concentration in Israel Education 2017/2018
- 2017 Brandeis University NEJS Graduate Student and Faculty Research Grant 2017/2018
- 2016 Brandeis University NEJS Graduate Student and Faculty Research Grant 2016/2017
- 2016 The Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry – Graduate Research Award 2016/2017 (*"A History of Disability: The Deaf-Mute Jewish Population in Poland in the Interwar Period"*)

## Joanna Zofia Spyra

- 2016 Charles R. Bronfman Scholarship in Jewish Professional Leadership and Eugene Ribakoff Fellowship 2016-2018 (full tuition fellowship – Brandeis University)
- 2014 Erasmus + scholarship (Polish Tourism Organization, Berlin, Germany)
- 2012 Erasmus scholarship (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville, Spain - 2012/2013)
- 2011 The Shalom Foundation scholarship (Summer Seminar in Yiddish Language, Warsaw, Poland)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Book reviews:

- 2022 *Polacos in Argentina. Polish Jews, Interwar Migration, and the Emergence of Transatlantic Jewish Culture* by Mariusz Kalczewiak. Ingeveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies. (January 2022)
- 2021 *Stepchildren of the Shtetl: The Destitute, Disabled, and Mad of Jewish Eastern Europe, 1800-1939* by Natan M. Meir. Journal of Jewish Identities, Volume 14, Number 2, July 2021, 254-256.
- 2020 *Impure Migration: Jews and Sex Work in Golden Age Argentina* by Mir Yarfitz. American Jewish History 104, no. 2 (2020): 480-482.

### LANGUAGES

Polish (native); English, Spanish (fluent); Norwegian - bokmål (intermediate/advanced); Hebrew, Yiddish (intermediate - research); Portuguese, German (basic)

### LANGUAGE TRAINING

- 2022 Norwegian Language and Culture for Foreign Language Students, level 3, University of Bergen, Norway
- 2019 The Naomi Prawer Kadar International Yiddish Summer Program, Tel Aviv University, Israel
- 2018 Intensive Hebrew Summer Program, University of Haifa, Israel
- 2017 YIVO Uriel Weinreich Summer Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture, New York, USA
- 2015 GRE/TOEFL
- 2013 Intensive Hebrew Summer Program, Tel Aviv University, Israel
- 2012 Intensive Hebrew Summer Program, University of Haifa, Israel
- 2012 London Chamber of Commerce and Industry – LCCI English for Business 3
- 2011 9<sup>th</sup> Warsaw International Summer Seminar in Yiddish Language and Culture
- 2010 Spanish bacalaureate certificate

### TEACHING

- HIS115: Jewish migrations: Sex, Gender, and Identity (1880 – 1939)  
Course designer, Instructor (Spring 2020 and Spring 2021)

- RELV360: Jews and Antisemitism in Modern Europe, 1789-1945 (Master's level online course)  
Course co-designer (developed a module on antisemitism in Poland), Instructor (Spring 2022)
- BA thesis supervision (Jewish history)
- Grading: EUR103 (Europe after 1945: Transformations in European Economies and Societies); SAS13 (Norwegian Culture and History - Scandinavian Area Studies)

#### **LEADERSHIP - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE**

- 2020 – 2022 Co-leader, Research Group for Transnational History and Cultural Encounters, 1850 – present, University of Bergen
- 2019 – 2022 Board member, IMER - International Migration and Ethnic Relations Junior Scholar Network
- 2020 – 2021 Chair (spring/fall 2021); Secretary (fall 2020), STIP-HF (interest committee for all the PhD candidates at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Bergen)
- 2022 Arqus Academic Debate panelist: “*Where is my (business) mind? How young researchers succeed outside academia*” (online)
- 2021 Arqus PhD Week for Careers Outside Academia, University of Graz (University of Bergen representative)

#### **PHD COURSES – WORKSHOPS – GROUPS**

- 2021 *Dissertation writing workshop*, Norwegian Research School in History, University of Tromsø
- 2021 *History in Society – The Case of Migration*, Norwegian Research School in History, University of Agder (online)
- 2021 *Professional Skills Workshop: Writing for the Public*, University of Agder (online)
- 2021 Association for Jewish Studies Summer Writing Group
- 2020 *How to situate your thesis in the historiography*, Norwegian Research School in History, University of Bergen (online)
- 2020 *Multi-Voice History: Perspectives from Indigenous and Minority History*, Norwegian Research School in History, University of Tromsø (online)
- 2020 *Remembering Contested and Repressed*, Norwegian Research School in History, University of Tromsø (online)
- 2020 Association for Jewish Studies Summer Writing Group
- 2020 *Theory of Science and Ethics*, University of Bergen
- 2019 *Literature reviews and publishing for PhD candidates*, University of Bergen
- 2019 *The social theories of Bourdieu, Foucault and Honneth - exploring interconnections and divergencies*, University of Oslo/Centre for Gender Research

**EMPLOYMENT**

08.2018 – 02.2019	<i>Polish and Spanish Language Specialist, Yiddish Book Center, Amherst, USA</i>
01.2017 – 05.2018	<i>Research Assistant, Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Waltham, USA</i>
05.2017 – 06.2017	<i>Intern, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York City, USA</i>
12.2015 – 07.2016	<i>Executive Search Research Associate, Copers International Search, Warsaw, Poland</i>
05.2015 – 11.2015	<i>Development Associate, Jewish Community Center, Cracow, Poland</i>
02. 2014 – 06.2014	<i>Marketing Intern, Polish Tourist Organization, Berlin, Germany</i>
08.2013	<i>Intern, Embassy of the Republic of Poland, Tel Aviv, Israel</i>
03.2013	<i>Marketing Intern, Pentair International, Lausanne, Switzerland</i>
11.2011 – 06.2012	<i>Spanish Teacher, Jewish Community Center, Cracow, Poland</i>