

Daniel Davies PhD

Address: 26 Antwerp St. Netanya, 4222125

Tel: +972 (0) 53 4892766 Email: daniel.davies@cantab.net

EDUCATION

1 Oct 2001– 6 Apr 2005: Faculty of Divinity, **University of Cambridge**

Ph.D. The Unity of Metaphysical Vision in the Guide for the Perplexed: A Study in Maimonides' Methods of Presentation. Supervisor: Dr Tony Street (University of Cambridge). Examiners: Prof. David Burrell (University of Notre Dame), Prof. Peter Adamson (Ludwig Maximilians Universität München).

1 Oct 2000 – 9 Oct 2001: Faculty of Divinity, **University of Cambridge**

M.Phil. Philosophical Theology.

1997–2000: **University of Birmingham B.A.** (Hons) Theology: First Class.

1995–1997: Yeshivat ha-Kibbutz ha-Dati

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

July 2022 to September 2022: Research Associate, Bar Ilan University.

May 2015 to November 2021: Research Associate, Universität Hamburg.

September 2012–July 2013: Lecturer, Leo Baeck College. See teaching experience.

January 2009–June 2010: Sessional Lecturer, Canterbury Christ Church University. See teaching experience.

October 2008–October 2013: Research Associate, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit, Cambridge University Library.

Responsibilities: Describing and cataloguing manuscripts in Aramaic, Hebrew, and Judeo-Arabic.

October 2007–September 2008: Spalding Visiting Fellow, Clare Hall College, Cambridge.

September 2006–September 2007: Research Associate, Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit, Cambridge University Library.

January 2006–July 2006: Library Assistant, Cambridge University Library.

Responsibilities: Cataloguing Arabic and Hebrew books and dealing with enquiries concerning Arabic and Hebrew manuscripts.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Averroes and Jewish Philosophy. Edited with Racheli Haliva and Yoav Meyrav.
Leiden: Brill, forthcoming.

Maimonides. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2024.

Interpreting Maimonides. Edited with Charles H. Manekin. New York:
Cambridge University Press, 2019.

Method and Metaphysics in Maimonides' Guide for the Perplexed. New York:
Oxford University Press, 2011.

Awarded an Honorable Mention by the **Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards**
sponsored by the Association of Jewish Studies.

Reviewed online at *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*:

<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/method-and-metaphysics-in-maimonides-guide-for-the-perplexed/>

Book Chapters & Articles

“Ṭodros Ṭodrosi on the *Topics*: Remarks of a Supercommentator,” under
review.

“On the Hebrew Translations of Averroes’ *Epistle on Divine Knowledge*,” in
Engel and Mantovani (eds.), *Translating Averroes into Hebrew*. Leiden:
Brill, 2024.

“Harmonizing the Sages: Abravanel Reading Maimonides Through Avicenna
and Averroes,” in Ahmed and Zarapour (eds.), *Logic, Soul, and World:
Studies in Honor of Tony Street*. Leiden: Brill, 2024.

“The God Who Can and Cannot be Said,” in de Lange, Romain, and
Narinskaya (eds.), *Elonei Mamre (The Oaks of Mamre)*. Lanham,
Maryland: Lexington Books, 2023.

“Ṭodros Ṭodrosi’s Super-Commentary on Averroes’ *Middle Commentary* on
Aristotle’s *Topica*,” *Mahadurot: Modular Hebrew Digitally Rendered Texts* 4
(2022).

URL = <http://mahadurot.com/Todros/MCTopica/Content/Todros/London%20BL%2027559.htm>

“Al- Fārābī’s Commentary on the Eighth Book of Aristotle’s *Topics* in Ṭodros
Ṭodrosi’s *Philosophical Anthology*,” with Alexander Lamprakis, *Oxford
Studies in Medieval Philosophy* 10 (2022): 24–88.

- “Delineating Dialectic: The Perfect Philosopher in al-Fārābī’s Commentary on Topics VIII 1,” with Alexander Lamprakis, *Studia graeco-arabica* 11 (2021): 13–26.
- “The Scope of Metaphysics,” with Charles H. Manekin, in Frank and Segal (eds.) *Cambridge Critical Guide to Maimonides’ Guide of the Perplexed*. Cambridge University Press, 2021.
- “Ibn Tibbon’s Secrets: Samuel Ibn Tibbon’s use of ‘Secrets of Torah’ and ‘Secrets of Faith,’” in Leicht and Veltri (eds.), *Studies in the Formation of Medieval Hebrew Philosophical Terminology* Leiden: Brill, 2019: 36–48.
- “Divine Knowledge and Providence in *The Guide of the Perplexed*,” in Manekin and Davies (eds.), *Interpreting Maimonides*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2019: 152–170.
- “Reason, Will, and Purpose: What’s at Stake for Maimonides and his Followers?,” in Anderson and Bockmuehl (eds.), *Creation ex Nihilo*. South Bend: Notre Dame University Press, 2017: 213–231.
- “Silence, Skepticism, and Vulgar Theology: on Stern’s Maimonides,” *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy* (2015): 169–188.
- “Outside the Incarnation: an approach to Christian doctrine in interfaith encounters,” *Modern Theology* 30 (2014): 132–139.
- “Creation and the Context of Theology and Science in Maimonides and Crescas,” in *Creation and the God of Abraham*, edited by David Burrell et al. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Conference Proceedings

- “Conceiving Creation: Response to Spiering and Seeskin,” *Natural Theology in Medieval Judaism: Proceedings of the Society of Medieval Logic and Metaphysics* 12 (2015): 45–54.
- “Between Philosophers and Theologians: Maimonides’ Response to Avicenna’s Infinite World,” *Proceedings of the 7th Annual CISMOR conference of Jewish Studies*, 2014: 84–103.
- “Maimonidean Margins,” *Normative Judaism? Jews, Judaism and Jewish Identity: the Proceedings of the British Association for Jewish Studies 2008*, edited by Daniel Langton and Philip Alexander. Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2012: 15–27.

Translations

With Peter Singer, *Galen: Psychological Works*, Cambridge University Press, 2014. My contribution is a translation of an Arabic Galenic treatise and of further quotations from Arabic and Hebrew sources, with annotation and glossary.

“Some Quotations from Galen’s *De Indolentia*,” *Galen’s De Indolentia: Essays on a Newly Discovered Letter* edited by Claire Rothschild and Trevor Thompson. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2014: 57–61.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Monotheism in Medieval Judaism.” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* vol. 19, Berlin: De Gruyter, 2019.

“Ezekiel in Medieval Judaism.” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* vol. 8, Berlin: De Gruyter, 2014.

Entries on “Maimonides” & “Sa’adia Gaon.” *Biographical Dictionary of Islamic Culture and Civilization*, edited by Mustafa Shah. London: I. B. Tauris, forthcoming.

Teaching Publication

“Theories of Soul in Medieval Jewish Thought” for *Jewish—non-Jewish Relations. Between Exclusion and Embrace: an online teaching resource*.
http://www.jnjr.div.ed.ac.uk/Primary%20Sources/medieval/davies_soul.html

Review Essay

Averroes’ Physics, by Ruth Glasner. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
Journal of Qur’ānic Studies 14, 2012: 159–166.

Reviews

Maimonides and the Shaping of the Jewish Canon, by James A. Diamond.
 Cambridge University Press, 2014. *AJS Review* 41 (2017), 249–252.

The Matter and Form of Maimonides’ Guide, by Josef Stern. Harvard University Press, 2013. *H-Judaic, H-Net Reviews*, July 2014.

Maimonides, by Tamar Rudavsky. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, November 2011.

Samuel Ibn Tibbon’s Commentary on Ecclesiastes, by James T. Robinson. Berlin:

- Mohr Siebeck, 2007. *Journal of Jewish Studies* 61 (2010): 165–166.
- Al-Kindī*, by Peter Adamson. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, May 2009.
- Kabbalah: A Very Short Introduction*, by Joseph Dan. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. *Journal of Jewish Studies* 59 (2008): 354.
- Liturgy in the Life of the Synagogue: Studies in the History of Jewish Prayer*, by Ruth Langer and Steven Fine eds. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2005.
- Journal of Jewish Studies* 59 (2008): 150–152.

Internet Publications

- “Maimonides’ Philosophical Writings.” *myjewishlearning.com*. March 2021.
- “The Secret of the Ma‘aseh Merkavah According to Maimonides.”
TheTorah.com: A Historical and Contextual Approach. May 2015.
- “The Revolutionary at the Heart of Traditional Judaism.” *Marginalia Review of Books*. February 2015.
- “Recovering the Kuzari, Mosseri III.258.1.” *Fragment of the Month*. August 2010. <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/Taylor-Schechter/fotm/august-2010/index.html>
- “T-S Misc.7.140: an early copy of the *Guide*.” *Fragment of the Month*. September 2009. <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/Taylor-Schechter/fotm/september-2009/>
- “Moses ben Solomon of Salerno, T-S AS 143.242.” *Fragment of the Month*. August 2007. <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/Taylor-Schechter/fotm/august-2007/>

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022: **Bar Ilan University**

Lecturing a postgraduate course **Medieval Jewish Philosophy: Maimonides**

2017–2019: **Universität Hamburg**

Lecturing an undergraduate course **Jewish Philosophical Theology** and a postgraduate **Reading Group in Medieval Jewish Philosophy**.

April 2013: **Pavol Jozef Šafárik University**

Visiting lecturer at the Department of the History of Philosophy.

2012–2013: **Leo Baeck College**

Lecturing and examining for third year course: **Worlds of Medieval Judaism.**

2009–2010: **Theology and Religious Studies: Canterbury Christ Church University**

Lecturing and examining for:

Sacred Texts and Contexts in the Study of Religions. First year undergraduate course.

Islam in the Modern World. Second year undergraduate course.

Defining Judaism. Second year undergraduate course.

Reading Sacred Texts. Second year undergraduate course.

Judaism After the Holocaust. Third year undergraduate course.

Faculty of Divinity: University of Cambridge

2008–2010: Lecturing for **The Doctrine of God: God and Creation in Three Traditions.** Third year undergraduate course. Lectures on God and Creation in Jewish Theology.

2007– 2013: Classes for **World Religions in Comparative Perspective.** First year undergraduate course. Classes on Modern Israeli Literature and Perceptions of the Body in Jewish Culture.

2006: Lecturing for **World Religions in Comparative Perspective.** First year undergraduate course. Introductory Lectures on Judaism.

2005–2013: I taught small groups of one or more students at all undergraduate levels in the following subjects: Islam, Judaism, Philosophy of Religion, Ethics, Metaphysics. Setting and marking essays with weekly meetings.

The Woolf Institute of Abrahamic Faiths, Cambridge

2008: Lecturing on **Judaism and Jewish Perceptions of the “Other”.** Certificate course for the Centre for the Study of Muslim-Jewish Relations directed at part time students.

2007 & 2008: Lecturing on **Interfaith and Medieval Theology.** Masters of Studies postgraduate course for the Centre for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations.

INVITED PUBLIC ADDRESSES & CONFERENCE PAPERS

- April 2022: “*Ha-Maqom Barukh Hu Yarenu Meqomo’*: Ṭodros Ṭodrosi’s Notes on the *Topoi*.” Dialectic in the Middle Ages: Between Debate and the Foundation of Science, Bar Ilan University.
- March 2022: “*Rūḥ* and *Ruaḥ* in Medieval Jewish Philosophy.” Medieval Arabic and Latin Conceptions of Spirit: Between Philosophy, Theology, and Medicine, LMU Munich.
- June 2019: “Case Studies in Ṭodrosi’s Quotations from al-Fārābī’s Commentary on Aristotle’s *Topics*.” Aristotelian Logic in Medieval Cultures, IAS Jerusalem.
- February 2019: “Hebrew Terminology in the Epistle Dedicatory.” Translating Ibn Rushd Into Hebrew, Hamburg.
- July 2018: “Ethical Negative Theology and Medieval Ontology.” European Association of Jewish Studies, Krakow.
- August 2017: “Retranslating the Treatise on Logic.” World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.
- December 2016: “Isaac Abravanel and the Spinozistic Maimonides.” Association of Jewish Studies, San Diego.
- April 2016: “Ibn Tibbon’s Secrets.” Themes, Terminology, and Translation Procedure in 12th century Jewish Philosophy, Hamburg.
- July 2015: “Creation in Medieval Judaism.” The Doctrine of Creation, University of Notre Dame.
- December 2014: “Does the Universe Have a Purpose? Abravanel’s Solution to a Maimonidean Problem.” on the panel Purpose at the Cosmic and Human Levels: Maimonides on Creation, Mitzvot, and *Middot*. Association of Jewish Studies, Baltimore.
- December 2013: “Problems with Providence in Maimonides’ Guide”. Association of Jewish Studies, Boston.
- November 2013: Respondent for the panel “Maimonides’ Natural Theology” sponsored by the Society for Medieval Logic and Metaphysics. American Catholic Philosophical Association, Indianapolis.
- October 2013: “Some images in Isaac Abravanel’s arguments for creation”. Metaphor in Medieval Neoplatonism. Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice.
- June 2013: “The Past Eternity of Time: A Maimonidean Response to

Avicenna”. Jewish Cultural Creativity in Medieval Times and its Relations With Christian and Islam Traditions of Thought. Doshisha University, Kyoto.

March 2013: “Philosophic and Exegetic Secrets in Maimonides’ *Guide for the Perplexed*”. Mater Dei Institute, Dublin.

—————: “Why is Everyone a Maimonidean?” Jewish Historical Society of Edinburgh.

February 2013: “Secrets or Mystery: The Purpose of Reading the *Guide*”. Maimonides: Faith Doubts and Secrets. University of Florida.

November 2012: “Why Maimonides? A constant Paradigm for Muslim-Jewish Relations.” Woolf Institute of Abrahamic Faiths.

June 2012: “Can a Bedbug Move the World? Some medieval arguments for the void.” British Association of Jewish Studies, UCL.

October 2010: “Maimonides and the Study of Islamic Philosophy.” Centre of Islamic Studies Seminar Series, SOAS.

April 2009: “Is there an Implicit Trinity in Medieval Jewish and Islamic Philosophy? An Historical Thought Experiment.” Society for the Study of Theology, Amsterdam.

March 2009: “Can the Trinity be part of inter-faith discussion: Maimonides and Aquinas as test case.” Theology and Religious Studies Departmental Seminar Series, Nottingham.

July 2008: “Philosophy on the Margins of Judaism.” British Association for Jewish Studies, Manchester.

March 2007: “Two Medieval Philosophers on the Nature of God’s Existence.” The Jewish Historical Society of England (Manchester).

October 2006: “Maimonides’ *Guide* as Companion.” Ethics on the Edges of Tradition Symposium marking the opening of the Duke Islamic Studies Centre, Durham, North Carolina.

February 2006: “Maimonides’ Metaphysical Esotericism: the Interplay Between Philosophy and Scripture in the *Guide for the Perplexed*.” Seminar in Hebrew, Jewish and Early Christian Studies, Cambridge.

OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

I have acted as a peer reviewer for *Brill*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Continuum*, *Journal of the European Association for Jewish Studies*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Melilah*, *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, *Review of Metaphysics*, and also for the European Research Council.

AWARDS

2001–2004: Arts and Humanities Research Board Doctoral award. Prestigious grant covering all fees and £11000 living costs per year.

2000–2001: Arts and Humanities Research Board Master's award. Prestigious grant covering all fees and £11000 living costs per year.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

2016: "Arabic as a Language of Jewish Philosophy." Talk in the "Jewish Languages" public lecture series at the University of Hamburg.

2013: collaboration with the radio company Nightjar (<http://nightjar.co.uk>) for a program on the Cambridge Genizah Collections. The program will be one of five episodes for the Radio 3 series *The Essay*, and broadcast in May 2013. I wrote and presented one episode on characters in the Genizah.

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/Taylor-Schechter/audioandvideo.html>

October 2012; October 2011: organization of major events for children.

"Demons, scorpions and nightmares" (2012, for children aged 5-11).

"Angels, demons and scorpions" (2011, for children aged 7-11).

Cambridge University's Festival of Ideas.

2010 – 2013: public lectures and presentation of the Genizah Collections to visiting audiences from a variety of social and educational backgrounds.