

JAMES NATI
1735 Le Roy Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94709
jnati@scu.edu

Appointments

- 2022 (Fall) **University of Michigan**
Visiting Scholar in the Middle East Studies Department
- 2019- **Santa Clara University – Jesuit School of Theology**
Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
Core Doctoral Faculty Member at the Graduate Theological Union
Affiliated Faculty Member at the Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies

Education

- 2019 **Yale University**
Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (with Distinction)
- 2017 **University of Oxford**
Recognised Student in the Faculty of Theology and Religion
Visiting Doctoral Student at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies
- 2013 **Yale Divinity School**
M.A.R. in Second Temple Judaism
- 2011 **University of Michigan – Ann Arbor**
B.A. in Ancient Civilizations & Biblical Studies (High Distinction, Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa)

Publications

Books

- 2022 *Textual Criticism and the Ontology of Literature in Early Judaism: An Analysis of the Serekh ha-Yahad* (JSJSupp 198; Leiden: Brill, 2022)
- Under Review (expected 2023) *The Serek Texts: 1QS and 4QS* (with John J. Collins; The Oxford Commentary on the Dead Sea Scrolls Series; Oxford University Press)

Edited Volumes

- 2022 “Ancient Hebrew Literature Beyond ‘The Bible’: Part Two.” *Metatron* 1.2 (2022). Edited with Seth L. Sanders.
- 2021 “Ancient Hebrew Literature Beyond ‘The Bible’: Part One.” *Metatron* 1.1 (2021). Edited with Seth L. Sanders.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2023 (forthcoming) “The Book of Jubilees and/as Commentary: A Review Essay of James C. VanderKam, *Jubilees: A Commentary on the Book of Jubilees*,” accepted for publication in *Revue de Qumran*.
- 2021 “‘As for the Doer of His Will, May They Ascend as a Fine Fragrance’: A Note on Jubilees 2:22,” *Journal of Ancient Judaism* 12 (2021): 175-184.
- 2020 “The Rolling Corpus: Materiality and Pluriformity at Qumran, with Special Consideration of the *Serekh ha-Yahad*,” *Dead Sea Discoveries* 27 (2020): 161-201.
- 2018 “New Readings in 4Q256 (4QS^b),” *Revue de Qumran* 30 (2018): 69-77.
- 2017 “New Readings in 4Q118 i (4QChronicles) and a Parallel at 4Q381 31 (4QNon-Canonical Psalms B),” *Revue de Qumran* 29 (2017): 129-38.

Articles in Edited Volumes

- 2019 “On ‘True’ Editions: Pluriformity and Authority Between Psalms and *Serekh*,” in *Scribal Practice, Text and Canon in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Essays in Memory of Peter W. Flint* (Eds. J. J. Collins & A. Geysler-Fouche; STDJ 130; Leiden: Brill, 2019), 90-107.
- 2018 “Solomon, the Septuagint, and Second Temple Studies,” in *A Genius for Mentorship: A Forum in Honor of Ben Wright on his 65th Birthday* (Eds. F. Borchardt & E. Mroczek; Edited Forum Hosted by *Ancient Jew Review* [<http://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2018/1/9/a-genius-for-mentorship-a-forum-in-honor-of-ben-wright-on-his-65th-birthday/>], 2018).
- 2016 “Unities and Boundaries Across the Jeremianic Dead Sea Scrolls. A Response to Eibert Tigchelaar” in *Jeremiah's Scriptures: Production, Reception, Interaction, Transformation* (Eds. H. Najman & K. Schmid; JSJSup 173; Leiden: Brill, 2016), 327-29.

2016 "Compositional Technique in the Temple Scroll: Creative Interpretation and Integrative Interpretation in the Passover Legislation," in *New Vistas on Early Judaism and Christianity: From Enoch to Montréal and Back* (Eds. L. DiTommaso & G. S. Oegema; JCTCRS 22; London: T&T Clark, 2016), 112-30.

2016 "The Community Rule or Rules for the Communities?: Contextualizing the Qumran *Serakhim*" in *Sibyls, Scriptures, and Scrolls: John Collins at Seventy* (Eds. J. Baden, H. Najman & E. Tigchelaar; JSJSup 175; Leiden: Brill, 2016), 916-39.

Book Reviews

In Progress "Review of Hanna Vanonen, *War Traditions from the Qumran Caves: Re-Thinking Textual Stability and Fluidity in the War Text Manuscripts*," *Dead Sea Discoveries* (forthcoming).

In Progress "Review of Michael Stone, *Armenian Apocrypha from Adam to Daniel*," *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (forthcoming).

2021 "Review of Sarianna Metso, *The Community Rule: A Critical Edition with Translation*," *Dead Sea Discoveries* 28 (2021): 262-264.

2020 "Review of Pieter B. Hartog, *Pesher and Hypomnema: A Comparison of Two Commentary Traditions from the Hellenistic-Roman Period*," *Revue de Qumran* 32 (2020): 298-300.

2020 "Review of Binyamin Y. Goldstein, Michael Segal, and George J. Brooke, eds., *Hā-ʾish Mōshe: Studies in Scriptural Interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature in Honor of Moshe J. Bernstein*," *Dead Sea Discoveries* 27 (2020): 308-310.

2019 "Book Note on John Barton, *Ethics in Ancient Israel*," published at *Ancient Jew Review* (<https://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2019/11/18/book-note-ethics-in-ancient-israel>).

2018 "Review of Emanuel Tov, Kipp Davis, and Robert Duke, eds., *Dead Sea Scrolls Fragments in the Museum Collection*," *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 42.5 (2018): 247.

2017 "Review of Kipp Davis, *The Cave 4 Apocryphon of Jeremiah and the Qumran Jeremianic Traditions: Prophetic Persona and the Construction of Community Identity*," *Dead Sea Discoveries* 24 (2017): 316-18.

2016 "Review of Mika S. Pajunen, *The Land to the Elect and Justice for All: Reading Psalms in the Dead Sea Scrolls in Light of 4Q381*," *Revue de Qumran* 28 (2016): 295-

Dictionary Entries

- 2017 “Laban (Second Temple and Hellenistic Judaism)”; “Lysias”; “Maapha”; “Macron” in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. C. Helmer, et al.; 30 vols.; Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2009-).
- 2016 "לִטְע," in *Theologisches Wörterbuch zu den Qumrantexten* (eds. H.- J. Fabry and U. Dahmen; 3 vols.; Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 2011-2016).

Popular Publications

- 2023 (forthcoming) “‘But they Maintain the Fabric of the World’ (Sir 38:34): Wisdom and the Dignity of Work in the Book of Sirach,” accepted for publication in *Explore*.

Courses Taught*Yale University*

- Summer Intensive Biblical Hebrew (2015)
 Introduction to Classical Ethiopic (2015, 2019)
 Readings in Classical Ethiopic (2016)
 Old Testament Interpretation I (Teaching Fellow 2016)
 Old Testament Interpretation II (Teaching Fellow 2017)
 Authorship, Originality, Forgery (2018)
 Biblical Textual Criticism (2019)

Santa Clara University Jesuit School of Theology

- Methods: Pentateuch & Histories (2019, 2020)
 The Book of Daniel: Court Tales & Visions (2019, 2020, 2021)
 Advanced Biblical Hebrew (Special Reading Course, 2019)
 Wisdom in Ancient Israel (2020, 2022, 2023)
 Second Temple Judaism (2020)
 Genesis Through Ancient and Modern Eyes (Special Reading Course, 2020)
 Writing, Truth, and Presence in Early Judaism (Special Reading Course, 2020)
 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew (2021)
 The Dead Sea Scrolls (2022)
 What is Scripture? (2023)

Conference Presentations

- 2023 (scheduled) "How to Read 4Q259/4Q319" (Paper to be presented at the SBL Annual Meeting; San Antonio, TX; Nov 18-21, 2023)
- 2023 (scheduled) "Truth and Writing in Daniel: Memories of Persian Media" (Paper to be presented at the EABS Annual Meeting; Siracusa; July 10-13, 2023).
- 2023 (scheduled) "Samson's Birth Story, Wonderfully: A Philological Experiment on Judges 13" (Paper to be presented in the Birmingham Biblical Studies Seminar; March 8, 2023).
- 2022 "Scripture in the Scrolls: Representation and Presentification in the Qumran Pesharim" (Paper presented at the SBL Annual Meeting; Program Unit: Deuteronomistic History; Denver, CO; Nov 19-22, 2022).
- 2022 "Understanding 4QNarrative and Poetic Composition (4Q371-373a) in Light of Jacob's Vision in Jubilees 32" (Paper presented at the Eleventh Meeting of the International Organization for Qumran Studies; Zürich, Switzerland; Aug 8-11, 2022)
- 2022 "Prophetic Authority and Scribal Anxiety in the Late Second Temple Period" (Paper presented in the Divinity in Ancient Israel Seminar at the Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting; Santa Clara, CA; July 30-Aug 2, 2022)
- 2022 "Subjectivity, Scribal Practice, and the Role of the Textual Scholar" (Roundtable seminar at the Society for Textual Scholarship Annual Conference; Chicago, IL; May 26-28, 2022)
- 2022 "What Were Biblical Books? Mapping the Ontology of Literature in Early Judaism" (Paper presented at the Society for Textual Scholarship Annual Conference; Chicago, IL; May 26-28, 2022)
- 2021 (withdrawn) "Writing Like Jacob: Transmitting Divine Knowledge in the Book of *Jubilees* and at Qumran" (Paper accepted for the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference; Chicago, IL; December 19-21, 2021)
- 2021 "Does the Book of *Jubilees* Evince a Hierarchy of Writing Materials?" (Paper presented at the SBL Annual Meeting; Program Unit: Book History & Biblical Literatures; San Antonio, TX; November 20, 2021)
- 2020 "Varieties of Writing, Truth, and Power in the Book of Daniel" (Co-authored with Laura Carlson Hasler; Paper presented at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference; December 16, 2020)

- 2020 “The Qumran Rule Texts and the Ontology of Literature in Early Judaism” (Paper presented at the SBL Virtual Annual Meeting; Program Unit: Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible; December 10, 2020)
- 2020 “Were All Texts Meant to be Transmitted?: The Three Vices Tradition in Early Judaism” (Paper presented at *Literary Creativity and Forgetting*, an online panel organized through the BRANE collective; October 8, 2020)
- 2019 “‘May the Doer of His Will Ascend as a Fine Fragrance’ (*Jub. 2:22*): God’s רצון in the Second Temple Period” (Paper presented at the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference; San Diego, CA; December 15-17, 2019)
- 2019 “What Was the *Aramaic Levi Document*?” (Paper presented at the Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar; New Haven, CT; March 31-April 1, 2019)
- 2018 “Law and Truth in the *Serekh ha-Yahad*” (Paper presented at the Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar; Princeton, NJ; April 29-30, 2018)
- 2017 “Ontologies of Biblical Literature Between Scribalism and Criticism” (Paper presented at the SBL Annual Meeting; Program Unit: Philology in Hebrew Studies; Boston, MA; November 18-21, 2017)
- 2017 “Non-Biblical Evidence for a Biblical Conundrum: Plurality and the Ontology of Literature in the *Serakhim*, *Ezra*, and *1 Esdras*” (Paper presented at *Textual Plurality Beyond the Biblical Texts*; Metz, France; October 17-19, 2017)
- 2017 “‘And He (Did Not) Let Him Know the Completion of the Era’: Prophetic Authority and Scribal Anxiety in the *Pesher Habakkuk* from Qumran” (Paper presented at *Between Heaven and Earth: Divination, Prophecy, and Oracles in the Ancient World*; New Haven, CT; April 20-21, 2017)
- 2017 “Materiality, Reading, and Revelation: The Case of the Qumran Opisthographs” (Paper presented at the Regional Seminar in Ancient Judaism; New York, NY; March 5-6, 2017)
- 2016 “The *Aramaic Levi Document* and the Limits of Philology” (Paper presented at the SBL Annual Meeting; Program Unit: Philology in Hebrew Studies; San Antonio, TX; November 19, 2016)
- 2016 “Does 4QChronicles (4Q118) Contain a Non-Canonical Psalm?” (Paper presented at the Ninth Meeting of the International Organization for Qumran Studies; Leuven, Belgium; July 17-20, 2016)

- 2016 "The Dead Sea Scrolls and Textual Criticism: New Perspectives" (Paper presented in the Lightning Round at the Ancient Judaism Regional Seminar; Philadelphia, PA; March 6-7, 2016)
- 2015 "The Aramaic *Levi Document* at Qumran" (Poster presented at *Manusciences '15 Franco-German Summer School. Manuscripts: From Fragments to Books – From Identification to Interpretation*; Frauenchiemsee, Germany; September 6-12, 2015)
- 2014 "Wisdom, Shared History, and Subcultural Formation in the *Damascus Document*" (Paper presented at *Rethinking the Boundaries of Sapiential Traditions in Ancient Judaism*; Metz, France; October, 2014)
- 2014 "Response to Eibert Tigchelaar, 'Jeremiah's Scriptures in the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Growth of a Tradition'" (Paper presented at *Jeremiah's Scriptures: Production, Reception, Interaction, Transformation*; Ascona, Switzerland; June, 2014)
- 2014 "Compositional Technique in the *Temple Scroll*: Creative Interpretation and Integrative Interpretation in the Passover Legislation" (Paper presented at the Enoch Graduate Seminar; Montreal, Quebec; May, 2014)
- 2014 "Heavenly Ascent for Philo's 'Friends of God' and the Qumran Sectarrians" (Paper presented at *Philo and His Readers*; New Haven, CT; March, 2014)

Research Languages

Hebrew

- Biblical (Excellent)
- Qumran (Excellent)
- Mishnaic (Fair)

Greek

- Koine (Good)

Aramaic

- Biblical (Excellent)
- Qumran (Excellent)
- Syriac (Good)

Ethiopic (Excellent)

German (Good)

French (Fair)

Spanish (Good)

Professional Organizations

Association for Jewish Studies

Catholic Biblical Association

Society of Biblical Literature