

Levi Cooper

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Email: levicoops@gmail.com**Academic Studies**

- 2015-6** **Postdoctoral Fellowship**, The Israeli Inter-University Academic Partnership in Russian and East European Studies (IUAP), research on *The Jewish Codification Turn in Russia*
- 2014-5** **Postdoctoral Fellowship**, Tel-Aviv University, Faculty of Law, research on *Hasidic Lore and Jewish Law*, supervisor: Professor Arye Edrei
- 2013-5** **Research Fellow**, I-CORE (Israel Centers of Research Excellence) – *Da'at Hamakom*. Center for the Study of Cultures of Place in the Modern Jewish World, supervisor: Professor Zvi Zohar
- 2013** **Summer School for Young Legal Historians**, Hebrew University, Law and History Forum; Tel Aviv University, The David Berg Institute for Law and History, supervisors: Dr Adam Hofri and Professor Assaf Likhovski
- 2012-4** **Postdoctoral Fellowship**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, research on *The Legal Writings of Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady*, supervisor: Professor Amihai Radzyner
- 2006-11** **Ph.D.**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, dissertation title: *The Admor of Munkács Rabbi Chaim Elazar Shapira: The Hasidic Posek – Image and Approach*, supervisor: Dr Yitzhak Brand
- 1998-2001** **LL.M.**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, direct Masters programme, dissertation title: *Liability According to the Laws of Heaven*, supervisor: Professor Shimshon Ettinger
- Additional studies: Yiddish, Institute for Higher Torah Learning
- 1995-8** **LL.B. cum laude**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law
- Additional studies: economics, Yiddish, Institute for Higher Torah Learning
- 1991-5** **Rabbinical Studies**, Yeshivat Sha'alvim

Academic Teaching Experience

- 2012-present** **Adjunct Professor**, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law
- 2015-present** **Adjunct Professor**, Bar-Ilan University, Department of Jewish History
- 1998-present** **Lecturer**, Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, www.pardes.org.il
- Director of Fellows Programme for returning students, 2001-2006
- Director of Programme for Advanced Students, 2002-2006
- Courses taught include: Talmud, Jurisprudence of Jewish Law, Writings of Maimonides, Responsa Literature, Bible, Aggada, Hasidism

Grants, Awards, and Fellowships

- 2015 **Israel's 3rd Junior Law Faculty Workshop**, selected for article entitled "Jewish Law, Hasidic Lore, and Hollywood Legend: The Cantor, the Mystic, and the Jurist"
- 2013 **AJS Women's Caucus Travel Grant**, for paper entitled "Do-it-Yourself *Miqva'ot*: Creative Solutions to Legal Delinquency," presented at the 45th conference of the Association of Jewish Studies
- 2013 **HBI Rosalie Katchen Award**, for paper entitled "Do-it-Yourself *Miqva'ot*: Creative Solutions to Legal Delinquency," presented at the 45th conference of the Association of Jewish Studies
- 2013-15 **Match Yehuda Regional Council**, higher education scholarship
- 2007-10 **Bar-Ilan University President's Doctoral Fellowship for Excellence**
- 2009-10 **The Mozes S. Schupf Fellowship Program** for doctoral students involved in social action in the spirit of the legacy of Rabbi J.B. Soloveitchik
- 2009-10 **Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture**, New York, for doctoral studies
- 2009 **Targum Shlishi Award for Doctoral Dissertation in Judaic Studies**, Targum Shlishi, a Raquel and Aryeh Rubin Foundation
- 2009 **Ghetto Fighter's House Museum, Zarhi Foundation for Shoah Research and Polish Jewish Heritage**, Certificate of recognition for paper entitled *The Sandomierz Painting of a Blood Libel: Exploring the Halakhic Limits of the Educational Experience*
- 2008 **Jerusalem municipality, "And now write for yourselves" competition**, prize for paper entitled *In the Twilight Zone: Counting the Omer Early*
- 2005 **The Foundation for Torah prizes in memory of Rabbi Menachem Ben-Zion Zaks and his wife Chana**, for volunteer work in furthering Jewish life in Zur Hadassa

Research Groups

- 2015 **Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law, *Jewish Law Study Group***, coordinator
- 2013-4 **I-CORE (Israel Centers of Research Excellence) – *Da'at Hamakom: Center for the Study of Cultures of Place in the Modern Jewish World*** and **Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law**, co-director together with Prof. Zvi Zohar and Prof. Amihai Radzyner: *Jewish Legal Writing Regarding Local Non-Jewish Reality – Government and Legal Institutions*
- 2013-4 **Ashkenaz Research Forum, Hebrew University**, headed by Dr. Elisheva Baumgarten, Dr. Yehuda Galinsky, Dr. Claudia Rosenzweig, and Dr. Ephraim Shoham
- 2012-3 **Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law**, headed by Prof. Elimelech Westreich and Prof. Amihai Radzyner: *Jewish Law Jurists – Biography, Approach, Influence*
- 2011-2 **The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute**, headed by Prof. Suzanne Last Stone, Cardozo Law School and Prof. Aryeh Edrei, Faculty of Law, Tel-Aviv University: *Legal Theory and Judaic Studies*
- 2010-1 **Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law**, headed by Prof. Zvi Zohar: *Judicial Rulings with a Stated Purpose*
- 2009-12 **The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute**, headed by Prof. Menachem Friedman and Prof. Yosef Salmon: *Ultra-Orthodoxy*
- 2009-10 **Beit Morasha, The Ernest and Marta Schwarcz Institute for Ethics, Judaism and State**, headed by Dr. Moshe Helinger: *Obedience to Law*
- 2006-9 **Beit Morasha, The Center for Advanced Judaic Studies and Leadership**, research fellow

Professional Certification

- 2002 **Rabbinic ordination to perform weddings**, ordained by Chief Rabbi of Ramat-Gan Rabbi Yaakov Ariel, Chief Rabbi of Shoham Rabbi David Stav and head of Yeshivat Hesder Safed Rabbi Benayahu Bruner
- 2000 **Israel Bar Association**
- 1998 **Rabbinic ordination**, ordained by Rabbi Zalman Nehemia Goldberg, Rabbinical High Court of Israel

Papers presented

- 2015 Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, “Responses of Jewish Law to Developments in Modern non-Jewish Law” International Research Workshop/Conference. *European Codification Impacts Jewish Legal Writing*
- 2015 Israeli Conference for the Study of Contemporary Religion and Spirituality (ICSCRS), 7th annual conference, Tel Aviv University. *Hasidic Tales on American Soil: The Legend of Yossele Rosenblatt*
- 2015 Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law, “Unexpected Sources of Law” symposium. *Forum Conveniens: Legal Questions in the Burmese Jewish Community*
- 2015 Galatasaray Üniversitesi, Istanbul, Turkey. *Adventures of a Portrait: Would You Recognise the Face of Maimonides?*
- 2015 XXIst Annual Forum of Young Legal Historians, Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law, 5th Annual Berg Conference, “Law in Transition.” *The Codification Turn: Napoleon and Jewish Legal Writing*
- 2015 University of Haifa, Jewish Music Symposium. *Sacred Liturgy outside Sacred Space: Cantorship outside the Synagogue*
- 2014 Israeli History and Law Association, 10th Annual Conference, “Jurisdiction and Judging in the Historical Context.” *Rabbi Levi Yitshak of Berdichev: A Judge in the Hasidic Milieu*
- 2014 I-CORE (Israel Centers of Research Excellence) – *Da‘at Hamakom*: Center for the Study of Cultures of Place in the Modern Jewish World, Fellows Conference. *Cantorship Outside the Synagogue: Hungary, Galicia, America*
- 2014 Tel Aviv University, Faculty of Law, 5th Annual Berg Conference, “The Arts in Legal History.” *The Mystic, the Jurist, and the Cantor*
- 2014 The Jewish Law Association, University of Antwerp, Belgium, 18th Biennial Conference, *Hasidic Tales and Jewish Law: Parallel Paths to Performance*
- 2014 Historical Society of Israel, 37th Annual Conference, “Travellers and Journeys: Presentations, Experiences, and Meanings,” Bar-Ilan University. *The Journey and the Travelogue of the Hasidic Master of Mukačëvo*
- 2014 The Department of Jewish History, Bar-Ilan University, 3rd Annual International Conference, “Chief Rabbis: Between Religious and Political Leadership.” *An Anti-Zionist Perspective on the Chief Rabbinate: Rabbi Hayim Elazar of Munkatch on Rav Kook*
- 2013 Association of Jewish Studies, 45th Annual Conference, Boston. *Do-it-yourself Miqva’ot: Creative Solutions to Legal Delinquency*
- 2013 Harvard University, Faculty of Law and The Center for Jewish Studies. *Slavita v Kopust: The Right to Print the Talmud*
- 2013 I-CORE *Da‘at Hamakom* and Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, research group on “Jewish Legal Writing Regarding Local Non-Jewish Reality – Government and Legal Institutions.” *Tikkun Olam as a Defining Value of Liberal American Jewry*

- 2013 **Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, conference on “The Personal Element in Judicial Decisions.”** *Gebrochts in the Writings of Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady*
- 2013 **Israeli History and Law Association, 9th Annual Conference, “History, Rights, and Law.”** *Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady and the Dispute over the Right to Print the Talmud*
- 2013 **16th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.** *Pluralistic Ultra-Orthodoxy: Defending Non-Normative Practices of Hasidic Masters*
- 2013 **Hebrew University, Law and History Forum; Tel Aviv University, The David Berg Institute for Law and History. Summer School for Young Legal Historians.** *Why Did Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady Not Publish his Code of Law?*
- 2013 **The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, conference on “Ultra-Orthodoxy: Between Modernity and Post-Modernity.”** *Commitment and Creativity: Custom in the writing of Rabbi Hayim Elazar Shapira of Munkács*
- 2012 **Andrássy University, Budapest, conference on “Jewish Life in the 19th and 20th Century Austrian-Hungarian Border Region.”** *The Munkács Rabbinate: Between Galician Hasidism and Hungarian Orthodoxy*
- 2012 **Israeli History and Law Association, 8th Annual Conference, “The Art of Legal History: Archival Investigation, Interviews and Other Sources.”** *Hasidic Tales: Not Law, Not History, But Legal History*
- 2012 **The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, conference on “Legal Theory and Judaic Studies.”** *Murder in Three Acts: A Case Study in the Evolving Relationship between Hasidic Lore and Jewish Law*
- 2012 **University College London, conference on “Jewish Spirituality in Eastern Europe – A Textual Perspective,”** London. *Truth in Hasidic Tales that cannot be true*
- 2011 **The Foundation for Jewish Studies, Distinguished Scholars Series, Washington DC.** *Mystics as Legal Scholars; Legal Scholars as Mystics*
- 2011 **Hebrew University, conference on “Methodology in the Study of Post-Talmudic Legal Literature.”** *What is Hasidic Law? – The Hasidic Dance in Jewish Law*
- 2011 **Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, research group on “Judicial Rulings with a Stated Purpose.”** *Solving the Mystery of the Publication of the Responsa of the Dzików Hasidic Masters*
- 2010 **The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, research group on “The Ultra-Orthodox.”** *The Ardent Defence of Custom in the Writings of Rabbi Hayim Elazar Shapira of Munkács*
- 2009 **The Mozes S. Schupf Fellowship Program, Bar-Ilan University, Faculty of Law, symposium on “The Jurist as Leader.”** *The Hasidic Master as Halakhic Decisor*
- 2009 **Israeli History and Law Association, 5th Annual Conference.** *Custom in the Writings of the Admor of Munkács*
- 2009 **15th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem.** *The Hasidic Mystical Experience as a Consideration in Judicial Rulings*

Previous Work Experience - Law

- 2000 **Judge Ben-Zion Greenberger**, law clerk
- 1999 **Frimer Gellman & Co., Advocates**, law clerk
- 1997 **Research assistant to Prof. Arnold Enker**, Faculty of Law, Bar-Ilan University

Previous Work Experience - Education

- 1999-2006 **Midreshet Lindenbaum, Ohr Torah Stone**, www.midreshet-lindenbaum.org.il, lecturer, subjects: Talmud, Maimonides, Jewish Law
- 1996-2006 **Heritage Education Seminars in Eastern Europe**, www.heritageseminars.org, historian
- 1998, 2003-5 **Camp Moshava, Pennsylvania**, director of educational programme

Volunteer and Community Work

- 2009-present **Lavi Primary School**, founder and spiritual guide for state elementary school that serves Zur Hadassa, Mavo Beitar, Bar Giyora, Nes Harim, Mata
- 2008-present **National Library of Israel, Readers' Association**: Acquisitions committee (2008-2010), Central committee (2010), Audit committee (2013-present)
- 2005-present **Educational advisor to the Jewish Community of Istanbul, Turkey**
- 2002-present **Tzohar – A Window Between Worlds**, www.tzohar.org.il, performing weddings for non-religious and traditional couples
- 2001-present **Rabbi, Kehillat HaTzur VeHaTzohar, Zur Hadassa**, founder and synagogue rabbi, education, counselling, life-cycle events
- 1996-9 **Bar-Ilan English Speaking Theatre**, member of founding troupe, actor
- 1995-6 **Jewish Agency, informal education in the Diaspora**, member of team sent to Australia (1995), head of team sent to South Africa (1996)

Army Service

- Golani brigade**, rank Corporal (release May 1995)
- Reserve duty**, commander in combat unit, rank Sergeant Major (current)
- Brigade Commander's award for excellence** (2013)

Languages

English (mother tongue), Hebrew (level: mother tongue), Yiddish