

Matthew J. Suriano

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, beginning August 2011.

Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington
Full-time appointment, 2010–2011.

Lecturer in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles, with co-appointment as visiting faculty in the Religious Studies Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. 75% appointment, 2009–2010.

Visiting Lecturer in the School of Religion, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
Fall Semester. Single course appointment, 2009.

Visiting Lecturer in the Religious Studies Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. Winter Quarter. Single course appointment, 2009.

Instructor in the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, American Jewish University, Bel Air, California, Spring Semester. Single course appointment, 2008.

Lecturer in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures & Extension campus, University of California, Los Angeles, Summer 2006, Summer 2008, Spring 2009.

Educational Background

Ph.D. Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures. University of California, Los Angeles. May, 2008.

MA. Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures. University of California, Los Angeles. May, 2004.

MA. Ancient History of Syria-Palestine. Jerusalem University College. Jerusalem, Israel. June, 2000.

BA. Department of History. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. May, 1993.

Books

A History of Death in the Hebrew Bible. Oxford University Press, *in press*.

The Politics of Dead Kings: Dynastic Ancestors in the Book of Kings and Ancient Israel. Forschungen zum Alten Testament II/48. M.S. Smith, H. Spieckermann, B. Janowski, eds. Mohr Siebeck: Tübingen, 2010. ISBN: 9783161492570

Book Chapters

“Historical Geography of the Levant,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of the Levant (ca. 8000–332 BCE)*. M. Steiner and A. Killebrew, eds. Oxford University Press: Oxford and New York, 2014.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Tetragrammaton.” Pages 751–755 in Volume 3 of the *Encyclopedia of Hebrew Language and Linguistics*. G. Khan ed. Brill: Leiden and Boston, 2013.

“The Samaria Ostraca.” Entry for *Bible Odyssey*, the online encyclopedia of the Society of Biblical Literature. 2013. <http://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/places/related-articles/samaria-ostraca>

“Underworld, Descent into the.” Pages 710–712 in vol. 5 of *The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. K. D. Sakenfeld, et al., eds. Abingdon Press: Nashville, 2009.

[The following individual entries]: “Abdon (Place); Abu Tuwein, Khirbet; Anathoth; Ananiah (Place); Areini, Tell El-, Azekah; Beer Sheba I. In the Bible,” in vol. 1 of the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. H-J. Kauck, et al., eds. De Gruyter: Berlin, 2009.

Translations for Source Books

“The Barley Ostraca (4.17).” Page 81 in Volume Four of *The Context of Scripture*, edited by K. L. Younger. Leiden: Brill, 2017.

“The Samaria Ostraca (4.18).” Pages 82– 85 in Volume Four of *The Context of Scripture*, edited by K. L. Younger. Leiden: Brill, 2017

Refereed Journal Articles

“Kingship and *Carpe Diem*, Between Gilgamesh and Qoheleth.” *Vetus Testamentum* 67 (2017): 285–306. DOI:10.1163/15685330-12341276

“Sheol, the Tomb, and the Problem of Postmortem Existence.” *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 16 (2016), Article 11 DOI:10.5508/jhs.2016.v16.a11.

“Wine Shipments to Samaria from Royal Vineyards.” *Tel Aviv* 43 (2015): 99–110. DOI:10.1080/03344355.2016.1161371

“The Historicity of the King: An Exercise in Reading Royal Inscriptions from the Ancient Levant.” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern History* 2 (2014): 1–24.
DOI:10.1515/janeh-2014-0003

“Breaking Bread with the Dead: Katumuwa’s Stele, Hosea 9:4, and the Early History of the Soul.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 134 (2014): 385–405.

“A Private Stamped Seal Handle from Tel Burna, Israel,” Co-authored with I. Shai, A. Dagan, S. Riehl, A. Orendi, and J. Uziel. *Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins* 130 (2014): 121–137.

“Ruin Hills at the Threshold of the Netherworld: The Tell in the Conceptual Landscape of the Ugaritic *Ba‘al Cycle* and Ancient Near Eastern Mythology.” *Die Welt des Orients* 42 (2012): 210–230. ISSN: 0043-2547

“A Place in the Dust: Text, Topography and a Toponymic Note on Micah 1:10–12a.” *Vetus Testamentum* 60 (2010): 433–446. DOI:10.1163/156853310X511696

“Death, Disinheritance, and Job’s Kinsman-Redeemer.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 129 (2010): 49–66.

“Dynasty Building at Ugarit: The Ritual and Political Context of KTU 1.161.” *Aula Orientalis* 27 (2009): 105–123.

“The Apology of Hazael: A Literary and Historical Analysis of the Tel Dan Inscription,” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 66 (2007): 163–176.

“A Fresh Reading for ‘Aged Wine’ in the Samaria Ostraca,” *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* 139 (2007): 27–34.

Conferences, Workshops, and Talks

Invited Talks

“Death, Burial, and Ancestral Narratives in the Book of Kings.” The 2013–2014 Archaeology Lecture Series at Wheaton College, Illinois. September 23, 2013.

“Death in the Kingdom of Judah: The social process of dying and the ritual context of the dead.” The “Matter of Israelite Religion” lecture series at the University of Chicago, Divinity School, co-sponsored by the Chicago Center for Jewish Studies. January 18, 2012.

“Ritual and the Promise to Jehu: Limited Kingship through Dynastic Succession.” Special session on royal funerary rituals in the Ancient Near East, at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, in November, 2012.

Refereed Presentations

“Syntax, Ritual, and Sacred Space: Reconsidering the Dagan Stelae from Ugarit,” to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November, 2017.

“Cross-disciplinary perspectives on unprovenanced artifacts: Reexamining the authenticity of the so-called Jehoash Inscription as a case study” to be co-presented with Kathleen Nicoll (University of Utah) at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November, 2017.

“Qoheleth, Gilgamesh, and Kingship as a Historical Ideal,” at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 21, 2015.

“Opening remarks: Methods and Approaches.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, in November 23, 2014.

“Methods and Approaches in the Historical Investigation of Ancient Israel.” The annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, San Diego, in November 21, 2014.

“Wine Shipments to Samaria from Royal Vineyards: A Socio-Historical Study of the Type III Reisner Ostraca.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, in November 23, 2013.

“A Private Stamp Seal from Tel Burna and its Parallels.” Co-presented with Itzhaq Shai, Amit Dagan, and Joe Uziel at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore, in November 21, 2013.

“Remembering Absalom’s Stele: The Reception History of 2 Samuel 18:18.” Mid-Atlantic regional meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore. March 14, 2013.

“Ruin Hills at the Threshold of the Netherworld: *CAT* 1.4 viii, 4 and the Cosmological Boundaries of the *Ba‘al Cycle*.” The American Oriental Society, Chicago, Illinois, March 14, 2011.

“An Early Alphabetic Ostrakon from the Kaplan Excavations at Jaffa.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Georgia, November 21, 2010.

“The Politics of Dead Kings: Royal Ancestors and Dynastic Succession in the Book of Kings and the Eshmunazor Sarcophagus.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 22, 2009.

“Sheol and the Tomb: Locating the Transition to the Afterlife in the Hebrew Bible.” The biennial conference of the Society for Arabian Studies: “Death, Burial and the Transition to the Afterlife in Arabia and Adjacent Regions.” British Museum, London, November 29, 2008.

“Building a Better Lineage at Ugarit: The Ritual Context of KTU 1.161.” The American Oriental Society, Chicago, Illinois, March 15, 2008.

“The Marginality of the Dead: Funerary-Rites and the Concept of the Afterlife in Ancient Israel.” The annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, San Diego, California, November 16, 2007.

“The Problem of Death in Ancient Israel: Job 19:23-27 in Light of Tomb Inscriptions and Funerary Rites.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 20, 2006.

“The Tel Dan Inscription as a Political Apology: Literary and Historical Considerations.” The annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 21, 2004.

“The Fall of the House of Eli: Inner-Biblical Discourse and 1 Samuel 2:27-36.” The Western Conference for the Study of Religion / Pacific Coast Region of the Society of Biblical Literature. Whittier, California, March 20, 2004.

“‘And He Lay with His Fathers’: A Re-interpretation of the Biblical Idiom for Death and Burial.” The American Oriental Society. San Diego California, March 15, 2004.

Refereed Panels

Panel discussant for the book *Samuel and the Shaping of Tradition* by Mark Leuchter (Oxford University Press, 2013), at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, November 25, 2013.

Panel chair for the discussion of the book *Land of Our Fathers: The Roles of Ancestor Veneration in Biblical Land Claims* by Francesca Stavrakopoulou (T&T Clark International, 2010), the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, November 22, 2011.

Non-Refereed Presentations

“Death, Burial, and Ancestral Narratives in the Book of Kings.” Invited talk for the Biblical Archaeology Forum at the Jewish Community Center in Rockville, Md. April 2, 2014.

“Breaking Bread with the Dead: the Ritual Context of Katumuwa’s Stele from Zincirli (Sam’al).” Invited paper for the faculty conference: Archaeological Initiatives at the University of Maryland, Friday, November 9, 2012.

“Phoenician Coffin Texts and the Historiography of Jehu, King of Israel.” Public lecture for the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, University of Maryland, Wednesday, October 10, 2012.

“The excavations at Tel Burna and its implications for the history of Iron Age Judah.” Invited talk for the Biblical Archaeology Forum, at the Jewish Community Center in Rockville, Md. September 12, 2012.

Non-Refereed Workshop Papers

“Dying as a Social Process in Ancient Judaism,” for the Jewish Studies Workshop at the Borns Jewish Studies Program, Indiana University. January 21, 2011

Non-Refereed Panels

“Why do we care? A *Documentary* perspective on the destruction of antiquities.” Invited talk for the fifth annual Archaeology Day event “Cultural Heritage: Why do we care?,” at the University of Maryland. Sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) and the Department of Classics, University of Maryland, October 17, 2015.

Workshops

“The Iron Age Tumuli of the Jerusalem Area: An Archaeological Anomaly Between Topography and Text,” for the Fellows’ Workshop at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem. May 1, 2007.

Colloquia

“Ezekiel’s Dry Bones and the History of Death in Judah,” at “Deathless Hopes: Reinventions of Afterlife and Eschatological Beliefs.” A Manfred Lautenschläger Colloquium, Oranim College, Kiryat Tiv’on, Israel. July 10–11, 2016.

Book Reviews

“Review of Bekkum, K. van. *From Conquest to Coexistence: Ideology and Antiquarian Intent in the Historiography of Israel's Settlement in Canaan*, Culture and History of the Ancient Near East. Leiden & Boston: Brill, 2011. In *The Near Eastern Archaeologist*. 78 (2015), 62–64.

“Review of Fleming, D.E. *The Legacy of Israel in Judah's Bible: History, Politics, and the Reinscribing of Tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012. In *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2013. online.
<http://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=8686&CodePage=4133,8686>

“Review of Bodner, K. *Jeroboam's Royal Drama*. Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. In *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2012. online.
<http://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=8447&CodePage=6924,4964,8447>

“Review of *The Social History of Achaemenid Phoenicia: Being a Phoenician, Negotiating Empires*. By Vadim S. Jigoulov. London: Equinox, 2010. Pp. x + 276.” In *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 131 (2011): 688–689.

Review of *The Tel Dan Inscription: A Critical Investigation of Recent Research on its Palaeography and Philology*. By Hallvard Hagelia. *Studia Semitica Upsaliensia*, 22. Uppsala: Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, 2006.” Pp. 249. In *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 69, 2 (2010): 251–252.

Review of *Der Tod als Herrscher in Ugarit und Israel*. By Stephanie Gulde. *Forschungen zum Alten Testament* 2. Reihe 22. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2007. *Review of Biblical Literature* 2009, online.
<http://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=6029&CodePage=6029>

Internet Publications

“Death and Afterlife” *Jewish Studies*, ed. David Biale, Oxford Online Bibliographies. Oxford University Press, <http://www.oxfordbibliographiesonline.com/>.

Field Research

Archaeological field work in Israel, the Tel Burna Excavation, director Itzhaq Shai (Ariel University, and Bar-Ilan University): Team epigrapher and field supervisor, from 2011–present.

Archaeological field work in Israel, the Ramat Rahel Archaeological Excavation, Israel. Graduate student volunteer, 2006. Directed by Oded Lipschits of Tel Aviv University and Manfred Oeming of Heidelberg University.

Conference Service

Society of Biblical Literature, beginning in 2010, steering committee member and co-chair for the program session (2010–2015): “Hebrew Bible, History, and Archaeology.

American Schools of Oriental Research, from 2014–2016, co-chair for the program session “Methods of Historiography in the Study of Ancient Israel and the Levant.” This was a special program held jointly with the Society of Biblical Literature.