



News from the Norman E. Alexander Jewish Studies Library at Columbia University Libraries

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*Featured in
Imagining the
World: Unexplored
Global Collections
at Columbia:*

- [Manuscript copy of Spinoza's Opera Posthuma](#)
- [A Jewish elegy for Maria Theresa of Austria](#)
- [A scroll of Rabbi Yom Tov Lipman Heller's Meqilat 'Evah](#)
- [A Spanish "dialogue," or debate, between a Jew, a Muslim, a Catholic, and a Protestant](#)
- [A Hebrew manuscript describing the discovery of North America \(1557\)](#)
- [Joseph Hakkohen's history of the Jewish people \(1553\)](#)
- [A pamphlet celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Yiddish Vilner Troupe in Lodz, 1931](#)

News

We greatly enjoyed the annual [Norman E. Alexander Lecture in Jewish Studies](#) with David Ruderman. A complete video of the lecture is now available [online](#).

Six items from the Jewish Studies collections are currently featured as part of an exhibit featuring Global materials in Columbia's Special Collections called *Imagining the World: Unexplored Global Collections at Columbia*. Special thanks to the Berg Foundation for helping us conserve the "discovery of America" manuscript so it could be exhibited (see sidebar for complete list of items).

We have recently received, on deposit, three important early medieval manuscripts, originally from the famed Valmadonna Collection. The 11th-12th century Pentateuch from Aragon, Franco-German Pentateuch from the 12th-13th century, and 15th century Provençal Tractate *Pesahim* will be housed in our rare collections until the fall. We are excited to be able to showcase them in the upcoming Fall course on Medieval Jewish Cultures!



Special Projects

Work is progressing nicely on the digitization of the Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry. Nearly all of the interviews have been digitized, and we have begun work on an interface for the public-facing site.

Two digital labs were integrated into courses in the Spring semester, with the help of Alex Gil, the Libraries' Digital Scholarship Coordinator. The first, part of Jeremy Dauber's Yiddish Literature course, worked with the Sholem Aleichem Foundation to create timelines and maps on the official [Sholem Aleichem website](#). The second featured work from students in Agi Legutko's Yiddish New York class on a preliminary website to map [Yiddish New York](#). Work is still ongoing for the Yiddish New York project. The students did a fabulous job on both projects!

We're on Facebook! Like the [Norman E. Alexander Library](#) page for up-to-the minute notifications of new and highlighted resources and other news.