

# Joseph Cross

## Curriculum vitae

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## EDUCATION

- 2022      Ph.D., Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (Hebrew Bible and Egyptology)  
University of Chicago, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Dissertation: The Poetics of Plot in Egyptian and Judean Novellas  
Committee: Dennis Pardee, Robert Ritner<sup>†</sup> (co-chairs), Simeon Chavel, Brian Muhs,  
Jacqueline Jay
- 2014      M.A., Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
University of Chicago
- 2011      M.A., Theology  
University of Dallas
- 2006      B.A., Plan II Honors, Classics  
University of Texas at Austin

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book Chapters

- Forthcoming    “The Corpus of Northwest Semitic in Egyptian Script,” in Susan Hollis, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Egypt and the Hebrew Bible*
- Forthcoming    “Finding God in Nineveh: A Case Study in Judean and Egyptian Literary Imagination,”  
in Christopher Hays, John Huddleston, and Thomas Schneider, eds., *Egypt and Hebrew Prophecy* (SBL Ancient Near Eastern Monographs series)

### Book Reviews

- Forthcoming    Naomi S. S. Jacobs, *Delicious Prose: Reading the Tale of Tobit with Food and Drink*,  
2018 (*Reading Religion*)
- 2020      Claudia Suhr, *Die Ägyptische "Ich-Erzählung": Eine Narratologische Untersuchung*,  
2016 (*Review of Biblical Literature*, 3/2020).  
<https://www.bookreviews.org/bookdetail.asp?TitleId=11560>

### Other publications

- 2021      “The Teaching of Amenemope,” “Egyptian Love Poetry,” and “The Epic of Gilgamesh.”  
*Global Humanities Reader: Engaging Ancient Worlds and Perspectives* (UNC Press,  
expected October 2021)
- 2019      “Missing Pages: Two Manuscripts of the Samaritan Torah in the Oriental Institute,”

**AWARDS**

- 2017 Karen Dinal Memorial Award for teaching undergraduate writing. The College, University of Chicago

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS****University of Chicago**

- 2020-2021 Arnaldo Momigliano Dissertation Travel Grant, Division of the Humanities  
 2018-2019 Jacob Greenberg Memorial Dissertation Year Fellowship, Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies  
 2016-2021 Cross/Rantz Fellowship, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
 2011-2016 University Graduate Fellowship, Division of the Humanities  
 2012-2013 Cross/Rantz Fellowship, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

**CONFERENCE ACTIVITY****Papers**

- 2021 Group Writing as Text-Making Technique. Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities Scholars' Colloquium. (Accepted for November conference)  
 2021 *Mouvance* and the Storyteller's Art in Manuscripts of a Demotic Novella. Early Text Cultures reading group (Oxford), "Writing Orality" series (Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>)  
 2020 The Visual Possibilities of Narrative in the Demotic *Battle for the Prebend of Amun*. Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities Scholars' Colloquium. (Nov 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)  
 2020 Finding God in Nineveh: A Case Study in Judean and Egyptian Prophetic Imagination. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. (Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>)  
 2020 When Storytelling Becomes Canonical: Changing Fortunes of the Novella in Hellenistic and Roman Judea and Egypt. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. (Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>)  
 2020 Between the Cosmopolitan and the Vernacular: Private Literature in the Post-Iron Age Southeastern Mediterranean. American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting. (Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>)  
 2020 The Interface of Public and Private in Demotic Literature: A Case Study from P. Spiegelberg. American Research Center in Egypt Annual Meeting (April 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>; conference canceled)  
 2020 Genre Matters: Jonah as Novella. Southeastern Commission on the Study of Religion Annual Meeting (Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>-Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>)  
 2018 "Suit the action to the word, the word to the action": A New Reading of a Northwest Semitic Incantation in Egyptian Script (P. BM 10042, col. XII). American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting (Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>)  
 2018 Envisioning a Compiler at Work: Scribal Features of Papyrus Amherst 63. Unit:

- joint session of Aramaic Studies and Egyptology and Ancient Israel, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>)
- 2011 “The Earth from Which He Was Taken”: The Shift of Speaker in Genesis 3:22-23. Southwestern Conference on Religious Studies Annual Meeting (March 5<sup>th</sup>)

### **Panels moderated**

- 2018 Discussant, “Digital Humanities and Middle Eastern Studies” (Panel). Middle Eastern History and Theory Conference, University of Chicago (May 5<sup>th</sup>)
- 2018 Moderator, “Which Way Forward: Digital Humanities and Middle Eastern Studies” (Roundtable). Middle Eastern History and Theory Conference, University of Chicago (May 4<sup>th</sup>)

### **Conferences organized**

- 2018 Middle Eastern History and Theory Conference (co-organizer), Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago (May 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

## **INSTITUTES AND COLLOQUIA**

### **Invited participant**

- 2018 Digital Editions, Digital Corpora, and New Possibilities for the Humanities in the Academy and Beyond. 2018 NEH Institute for Advanced Technology in the Digital Humanities. Perseus Project, Tufts University (July 16<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>)
- 2018 Chicago-Yale Pentateuch Colloquium. Yale Divinity School (Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>)

## **CAMPUS TALKS**

- 2022 Writing about Nineveh in Post-Iron Age Fiction: Cultural Memory or Incipient World Literature? Hebrew Bible and Early Jewish Reception Workshop, University of Chicago (March 8<sup>th</sup>)
- 2021 Getting the Story Straight: Plot Structure and Eventfulness in Judean (and Egyptian) Novellas. Hebrew Bible and Early Jewish Reception Workshop, University of Chicago (May 25<sup>th</sup>)
- 2021 Respondent, Sunwoo Lee, “Pain in Egyptian Literary Narratives.” Affect and the Emotions Workshop, University of Chicago (April 7<sup>th</sup>)
- 2018 Text Criticism of the Hebrew Bible: A Manuscript-Based Overview. Critical Editions for Digital Analysis and Research Symposium, University of Chicago (May 4<sup>th</sup>)
- 2018 What Worked: Best Practices for Teaching Writing. University of Chicago Writing Program Professional Development Series (January 24<sup>th</sup>)
- 2017 The Fictional Moment: Late Biblical Novellas in an International Context. Hebrew Bible Workshop, University of Chicago (June 5<sup>th</sup>)
- 2015 Does Deuteronomy 8:7-10 Allude to the Egyptian *Tale of Sinuhe*? Hebrew Bible Workshop, University of Chicago (May 4<sup>th</sup>)

2013 Psalm 45: Lineation Through Manuscript Analysis. Hebrew Bible Workshop,  
University of Chicago (May 20<sup>th</sup>)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of North Carolina Asheville**

The Ancient World (Fall 2018, 2020, Spring 2019-2020, Maymester 2019)  
Latin I-II (Fall 2018-Spring 2019)  
Ancient Egyptian Magic and Medicine (Fall 2018)

### **University of Chicago**

Middle Egyptian Texts II (Fall 2015)

#### *Teaching Assistantships*

Ancient Empires: Egypt (Spring 2016)  
Intro to the Hebrew Bible (Fall 2014)  
Intermediate Hebrew I (Fall 2014)  
Intro to Middle Egyptian I-II (Fall 2013-Winter 2014)  
The Bible and Western Culture (Fall 2013)

#### *Continuing Education*

Jewish Scripts Through History (online) – Oriental Institute (August 2020)  
History through OI Objects: The Megiddo Gallery (online) – Oriental Institute (May 2020)  
The World of the Hebrew Bible (online and onsite) – Oriental Institute (2015-2018)

#### *Writing Pedagogy*

Undergraduate Writing Intern (2016-2018)  
Pedagogies of Writing (Seminar Leader) (Summer 2017)

## **RESEARCH**

### **Research projects**

2017-2018 Database editor, Critical Editions for Digital Analysis and Research (CEDAR),  
OCHRE Data Systems, University of Chicago  
2014-2018 Entry editor (Semitic words), Chicago Demotic Dictionary

### **Research assistantships**

2017 Daniel Schwartz, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
2016-2017 Steve Vinson, Indiana University at Bloomington

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023-2027                      Member, advisory board (Demotic literature) for “Comparing Ancient Chronographic Historiographies from Mesopotamia, Egypt, Judah, and Greece in the Persian and Early Hellenistic Periods,” European Association for Biblical Studies Research Group

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### University of North Carolina Asheville

2020                              Cohort member, First Year Pilot program

### University of Chicago

2017-2018                      Coordinator, Hebrew Bible Workshop (Divinity School)  
2015-2016                      Graduate Student Advisory Committee (Oriental Institute)

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

### Lectures

2021                              Literature in Ancient Egyptian Society. Oriental Institute Literature Workshop (February 13<sup>th</sup>). <https://youtu.be/Rz1VWdnIqas>

2020                              Who Are the Samaritans? Oriental Institute Sunday Seminar (August 16<sup>th</sup>)

2020                              Biblical Hebrew. Oriental Institute Language Seminar (online, May 31<sup>st</sup>)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUB2LZj7rKQ>

2020                              Novellas of the Hebrew Bible. Online speaker series, Am Yisrael Synagogue, Skokie IL (May 10<sup>th</sup>)

2020                              Judean and Egyptian Novellas of the Achaemenid and Hellenistic Periods. Oriental Institute Online Members' Lecture (online, April 8<sup>th</sup>)  
<https://youtu.be/1d9npCDAbE0>

2019                              Who Wrote—and Read—the First Novels? Ramsey Library, University of North Carolina Asheville (February 14<sup>th</sup>)

2017                              Ancient Persia: History of the Achaemenid Empire. Oriental Institute Docent Program (July 26<sup>th</sup>)

2017                              Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt. Oriental Institute Public Scholars program, Homewood Public Library, Homewood IL (June 20<sup>th</sup>)

2017                              The First Biblical Manuscripts. Oriental Institute Gallery Talk (May 5<sup>th</sup>)

2017                              Building the Pyramids. Oriental Institute Public Scholars program, Itasca Public Library, Itasca IL (February 16<sup>th</sup>)

2016                              Medicine and Magic of Ancient Egypt. Oriental Institute Public Scholars program, Acorn Public Library, Oak Forest IL (November 11<sup>th</sup>)

2016                              What Can Ancient Egypt Tell Us About the Bible? Oriental Institute Volunteer's Day (March 14<sup>th</sup>)

2016                              Ancient Israel Outside the Bible. Oriental Institute Gallery Talk (March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

## Museum education

*Oriental Institute, University of Chicago*

2016-2018	Content creator, Teacher Cohort Academy summer program, “S.T.E.A.M. in the Ancient and Medieval Near East”
2015-2018	Content specialist (Egypt and Levant), Education Department
2015-2019	Lecturer, docent program

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2016-2017	Tutor, College Writing Program, University of Chicago
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## MEDIA COVERAGE

2017	Interviewee, “Fact-Checking the Bible—In Chicago’s Oriental Institute,” forward.com (May 4 <sup>th</sup> ) <a href="http://forward.com/news/371033/fact-checking-the-biblein-chicagos-oriental-institute/">http://forward.com/news/371033/fact-checking-the-biblein-chicagos-oriental-institute/</a>
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## ANCIENT LANGUAGES

(\* passed 4 hour PhD comprehensive exam, \*\* passed 8 hour PhD comprehensive exam)

Aramaic (Old, \*Biblical, \*Imperial)

\*Coptic

Egyptian (\*Old, \*Middle, \*Late, \*\*Demotic, Ptolemaic Hieroglyphs)

Greek

\*\*Hebrew

Latin

\*Phoenician/Punic

\*Ugaritic

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Research Center in Egypt

American Schools of Oriental Research

Catholic Biblical Association

Society of Biblical Literature