



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Paleography and Provenance in Printed Hebraica

THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY 2025 SUMMER SEMINAR

The Fisher Library, in cooperation with the *Footprints: Jewish Books through Time and Place* project, invites applicants to participate in a two-day workshop in Toronto devoted to the study of early modern Hebrew paleography, especially as it appears in the margins of early printed books.

This intensive workshop in Toronto (**Monday morning June 9 through Tuesday afternoon June 10, 2025**) will train students as well as early career scholars of early modern Jewish history in paleography and the analysis of manuscript annotations in printed books. During this seminar, participants will engage in an intensive study of early modern Ashkenazic and Mizrahi Hebrew hands. They will also be introduced to the *Footprints: Jewish Books through Time and Place* project and taught how to contribute to this international collaboration on the history of Jewish books. (For more information on the *Footprints* project, see <https://footprints.columbia.edu/>)

Instructors:

- Ashkenazic paleography— **Edward Fram** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
- Mizrahi paleography— **Noam Sienna** (University of Toronto)
- Provenance and early printed books— **Marjorie Lehman** (Jewish Theological Seminary); **Michelle Margolis** (Columbia University); **Adam Shear** (University of Pittsburgh); **Joshua Teplitsky** (University of Pennsylvania)
- Hebraica in the Toronto collections— **Nadav Sharon** (University of Toronto)

The Fisher Library summer seminar aims to provide opportunities for continuing education

in Canada. We welcome all applicants with preference given to librarians working with collections in Jewish history, and scholars and students whose work and/or research will benefit from attending the seminar.

Admitted participants should commit to full attendance for the program's duration, from Monday morning at 8 am until Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 pm. Participants must also be willing to become (if they are not already) participants in the *Footprints* project.

An optional dinner for early arrivals will be offered on Sunday at 6 pm and there will also be an optional additional working and practice session on Wednesday morning June 11 from 9–12.

Costs

Registration costs will be covered for accepted applicants, and include the registration fee, course materials, and kosher meals during the workshop.

Participants are responsible for their own travel and lodging. A limited amount of funding is available to defray the cost of travel and accommodation. Participants seeking subsidies should send an itemized budget for travel and lodging, including listing other funds available and applied for.

Applicants are asked to submit an application form and a Curriculum Vitae of no more than three pages by **Monday, 24 February 2025**.

For further information and to download the application form, please visit: **fisher.library.utoronto.ca/fisher-events/summer-seminars** or contact Nadav Sharon at **nadav.sharon@utoronto.ca**



Support for this workshop and Footprints' paleography training series has been provided by the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the University of Toronto, the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, and the Hidden Stories Project of the University of Toronto; Columbia University Libraries; the Center for Jewish Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center; Fordham's Center for Jewish Studies; The Jewish Theological Seminary; Northwestern University, Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies; the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Pennsylvania; and the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh; the Program in Jewish Studies at Princeton University; the Department of Jewish Studies at Rutgers University; Washington University, Department of Jewish, Islamic, and Middle Eastern Studies; Yale Program in Jewish Studies and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons, persons of colour, women, Indigenous, Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Image: Title page of *Sefer Zayit ra'anan* (Venice: Bragadina, 5503 [1742 or 1743]) with multiple owners' inscriptions and stamps.



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