The study of Jewish neighborhoods in medieval towns, which were in fact neighborhoods shared by Jews and Christians, is an interdisciplinary field that explores the social, economic, cultural, and spatial dynamics between Christian and Jewish communities in Europe from the early to late medieval periods. This research sheds light on how these communities interacted, coexisted, and sometimes clashed, and provides insights into broader societal structures, religious tensions, and the nature of medieval urban life. New findings from archaeological research, along with the use of digital methods, have significantly transformed this field of study in recent decades. In the process, central questions have been discussed, such as the spatial and social dynamics of Jewish and Christian communities, as well as the economic interdependence and resilience of individual communities.

Recent scholarship on Jewish-Christian relations in medieval Europe has expanded our understanding of the complex interactions between these groups. Key areas of study focus on economic, legal, and religious intersections, often reframing the simplistic view of constant conflict and discrimination. We want to continue this discussion, focusing on the dynamic negotiation processes between the communities. Methodologically, we base our approach on current archaeological and historical research, as well as the use of modern IT tools.

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האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM וلجامعة العبرية في أورشليم القدس



Workshop

Living Together,
Living Apart:



Exploring JewishChristian Neighborhoods
in Medieval Europe

May 07-09, 2025

Freie Universität Berlin

Altensteinstr. 2, 14195 Berlin (Engler-Villa)

Conveners: Elisheva Baumgarten (HUJI) and Thomas Ertl (FUB)

Wednesday, May 7

14:00 Welcome and Introduction (Elisheva Baumgarten and Thomas Ertl)

14:30 Panel 1 (chaired by Saskia Dönitz):

Aviya Doron:

A Neighborhood of Trust? Jewish-Christian Credit Relation in 14th Century German Towns

Birgit Wiedl:

Jewish Wine from Christian Vineyards. Winegrowing and Winemaking in Late-medieval Vienna

Susanne Härtel:

An Unquestioned Presence? Jewish Cemeteries in the Medieval German Lands

16:00 Coffee Break16:30 Panel 2 (chaired by Sivan Lederhendler):

Savoy Curry and Eyal Levinson: Sex and the City: Jews, Christians and Daily Encounters in Late Medieval Ashkenaz

Kajetán Holeček:

Jews, Artisans, and the Convent: The

(Non-)Presence of Jews in the Urban Space of Medieval Eger (Cheb)

18:00 Martina Haeger will teach us the song: "Why We Sing"

Thursday, May 08

09:00 Panel 3 (chaired by Natasha Jenman):

Morgane Fortin:

Regulating Jewish Urban Presence in 14th Century Languedoc

Dean Irwin:

Real and Imagined Neighbours and Neighbourlines in the Case of Little Hugh of Lincoln (1255)

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Guided Tour through the Botanical Garten

12:30 Lunch Break

14:30 Panel 4 (chaired by Hannah Teddy

Schachter):

Allison Bocchino:

Non-Jews in the Judeiria

Shlomo Walfish:

Jews and the Queen: Sibilia of Aragon and Local Jews in Official Documents and Responsa Literature

Ron Lasri:

The Jewish Neighborhood in Toledo: A Literary Perspective

Friday, May 09

09:30 Manuscript Study at the State Library with Saskia Dönitz

12:30 Lunch



Haggadah de Pâques.
Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France.
Département des Manuscrits. Hébreu 1333

May 8: Public holiday in Berlin (this year only): Anniversary of the Liberation from National Socialism and the End of the Second World War