

# Stanford


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## Amir Eshel

Edward Clark Crossett Professor of Humanistic Studies and Professor of Comparative Literature

German Studies

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### BIO

Amir Eshel is Edward Clark Crossett Professor of Humanistic Studies. He is Professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature and as of 2019 Director of Comparative Literature and its graduate program. His Stanford affiliations include The Taube Center for Jewish Studies, Modern Thought & Literature, and The Europe Center at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. He is also the faculty director of Stanford's research group on The Contemporary and of the Poetic Media Lab at Stanford's Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis (CESTA). His research focuses on contemporary literature and the arts as they touch on philosophy, specifically on memory, history, political thought, and ethics.

Amir Eshel is the author of *Poetic Thinking Today* (Stanford University Press, 2019); German translation at Suhrkamp Verlag, 2020). Previous books include *Futurity: Contemporary Literature and the Quest for the Past* (The University of Chicago Press in 2013). The German version of the book, *Zukünftigkeit: Die zeitgenössische Literatur und die Vergangenheit*, appeared in 2012 with Suhrkamp Verlag. Together with Rachel Seelig, he co-edited *The German-Hebrew Dialogue: Studies of Encounter and Exchange* (2018). In 2014, he co-edited with Ulrich Baer a book of essays on Hannah Arendt, *Hannah Arendt: zwischen den Disziplinen*; and also co-edited a book of essays on Barbara Honigmann with Yfaat Weiss, *Kurz hinter der Wahrheit und dicht neben der Lüge* (2013).

Earlier scholarship includes the books *Zeit der Zäsur: Jüdische Lyriker im Angesicht der Shoah* (1999), and *Das Ungesagte Schreiben: Israelische Prosa und das Problem der Palästinensischen Flucht und Vertreibung* (2006). Amir Eshel has also published essays on Franz Kafka, Hannah Arendt, Paul Celan, Dani Karavan, Gerhard Richter, W.G. Sebald, Günter Grass, Alexander Kluge, Barbara Honigmann, Durs Grünbein, Dan Pagis, S. Yizhar, and Yoram Kaniyuk.

Amir Eshel's poetry includes a 2018 book with the artist Gerhard Richter, *Zeichnungen/#####*, a work which brings together 25 drawings by Richter from the cycle 40 Tage and Eshel's bi-lingual poetry in Hebrew and German. In 2020, Mossad Bialik brings his Hebrew poetry collection *### #### #####*, *Between Deserts*.

Amir Eshel is a recipient of fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt and the Friedrich Ebert foundations and received the Award for Distinguished Teaching from the School of Humanities and Sciences.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, German Studies
- Professor, German Studies
- Professor, Comparative Literature
- Professor, Comparative Literature

## PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Modern Thought and Literature
- Philosophy and Literature

## Research & Scholarship

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### PROJECTS

- Poetic Media Lab - CESTA, Stanford University
- The Contemporary - Stanford University

## Teaching

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### COURSES

#### 2021-22

- Hope in the Modern Age: COMPLIT 287, GERMAN 287, JEWISHST 287 (Aut)
- Masterpieces: Kafka: GERMAN 150 (Aut)
- Modern Notions of 'The Holy': COMPLIT 283A, COMPLIT 383A, GERMAN 283A, GERMAN 383A, RELIGST 283A, RELIGST 383A (Win)
- Paul Celan: The Poetic Event: GERMAN 263, GERMAN 363, JEWISHST 263 (Win)
- The Contemporary: DLCL 229 (Aut, Win, Spr)

#### 2020-21

- Graduate Studies Colloquium: COMPLIT 397 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Hannah Arendt: Facing Totalitarianism: COMPLIT 353B, GERMAN 253, GERMAN 353, JEWISHST 243A (Aut)
- Modern Notions of 'The Holy': COMPLIT 283A, COMPLIT 383A, GERMAN 283A, GERMAN 383A, RELIGST 283A, RELIGST 383A (Spr)
- The Contemporary: DLCL 229 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- World War Two: Place, Loss, History: ARTHIST 401, COMPLIT 343, GERMAN 343 (Win)

#### 2019-20

- Franz Kafka: Literature and the Modern Human Condition: GERMAN 68N (Win)
- Graduate Studies Colloquium: GERMAN 397 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Modern Notions of 'The Holy': Hölderlin, Heidegger, Celan: COMPLIT 283A, COMPLIT 383A, GERMAN 283A, GERMAN 383A, RELIGST 283A, RELIGST 383A (Win)
- Myth and Modernity: COMPLIT 222A, GERMAN 222, GERMAN 322, JEWISHST 242G, JEWISHST 342 (Spr)
- The Contemporary: DLCL 229 (Aut, Win, Spr)

#### 2018-19

- Graduate Studies Colloquium: GERMAN 397 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Hannah Arendt: Facing Totalitarianism: COMPLIT 253, GERMAN 253 (Spr)
- Myth and Modernity: COMPLIT 222A, GERMAN 222, GERMAN 322, JEWISHST 242G, JEWISHST 342 (Spr)
- The Contemporary: DLCL 229 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- World War Two: Place, Loss, History: ARTHIST 401, COMPLIT 343 (Win)

## STANFORD ADVISEES

### Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Josh Armstrong, Rafael Balling, Altair Brandon-Salmon, Meryem Deniz

**Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)**

Courtney Hodrick

**Doctoral (Program)**

Ali Hazel, Irene Kuo

**Publications**

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**PUBLICATIONS**

- **German and Hebrew: Histories of a Conversation** *PROOFTEXTS-A JOURNAL OF JEWISH LITERARY HISTORY*  
Eshel, A., Rokem, N.  
2013; 33 (1): 1-8
- **Between spontaneity and reflection: Reconsidering Jewish modernism - Introduction** *MODERNISM-MODERNITY*  
Eshel, A., Presner, T.  
2006; 13 (4): 607-614
- **Special issue on: Paul Celan - Introduction** *NEW GERMAN CRITIQUE*  
Baer, U., Eshel, A.  
2004: 5-14
- **Paul Celans' other: History, poetics, and ethics** *NEW GERMAN CRITIQUE*  
Eshel, A.  
2004: 57-77
- **Against the power of time: The poetics of suspension in W.G. Sebald's 'Austerlitz'** *NEW GERMAN CRITIQUE*  
Eshel, A.  
2003: 71-96
- **Wolfgang Hildesheimer's life as a Jew and a German (Book Review)** *GERMAN STUDIES REVIEW*  
Book Review Authored by: Eshel, A.  
2002; 25 (1): 193-194
- **Judaism and aesthetic sense** *MERKUR-DEUTSCHE ZEITSCHRIFT FUR EUROPASCHES DENKEN*  
Eshel, A.  
2002; 56 (2): 162-168
- **Diverging memories? Durs Grunbein's mnemonic topographies and the future of the German past** *GERMAN QUARTERLY*  
Eshel, A.  
2001; 74 (4): 407-416
- **The 'Crime of Writing' (Book Review)** *MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE*  
Book Review Authored by: Eshel, A.  
2000: 41-43
- **"The rest remains": Essays on Judaism (Book Review)** *GERMANIC REVIEW*  
Book Review Authored by: Eshel, A.  
1998; 73 (4): 370-374