

Romm Lewkowicz
Curriculum Vitae

Anthropology of Politics and Governance
Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Anthropology The Graduate Center, the City University of New York, NY	2021
	Dissertation: <i>Documenting the Undocumented: Experimenting Europe at the Biometric Migrant Archive</i> Advisor: Gary Wilder	
M.Phil.	Anthropology The Graduate Center, the City University of New York, NY	2017
M.Sc.	Social Anthropology (First Class honors with Distinction) University College London (UCL)	2011
B.A.	European History (Summa Cum Laude) Tel Aviv University	2010

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Research Fellow Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle	2021-present
Visiting Research Fellow Trafflab - Labor Perspectives to Human Trafficking European Reserch Council and Tel Aviv University	2020-present
Lecturer Baruch College, NYC	2020-2021
Marilyn J. Gittell Fellow The Graduate Center, the City University of New York, NY Center for Urban Studies	2020-2021
Lecturer John Jay College for Criminal Justice, NYC	2019-2021
Minerva Visiting Research Fellow Universität Leipzig	2018-2019

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

“Informal Practices in Illicit Border-Regimes: The Economy of Legal and Fake Travel Documents Sustaining The EU Asylum System” <i>Migration Letters</i>	2021
“Capturing the Spirit of Bureaucratic Images: Photos, Biometrics and (Border) Passing” <i>Visual Anthropology Review</i> (in preparation)	2022
<i>Published essays</i>	
“Migration’s Paper Trail: Fragments of a Passport Ethnography” <i>Moving Things: On the Materiality of Migration</i> , Exhibition Catalogue, University of Göttingen and the Museum Friedland, Wallstein Verlag (forthcoming)	2022
“Seeking Asylum in Europe? Informality is the Path to Legality” National Center of Competence in Research – The Migration-Mobility Nexus	May 2021
“All White People Still Look the Same to Me” (with Ariel Efraim Ashbel) <i>View</i> . Vol. 28	February 2021
“Before Cisgender” <i>Queerhana: Utopia Now</i> . NGbK, Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst.	2017
“Antigone, Resistance Complexe, Une critique de l’ouvrage de Judith Butler <i>Antigone, la parenté entre vie et mort</i> ” <i>Filiatio</i> , Vol. 6 [French]	2012

AWARDS

External

Minerva Doctoral Research Award

Max Planck Society 2018-2019

International Dissertation Research Fund Fellowship (IDRF)

Social Science Research Council 2017-2019

Internal

COVID-Affected Research Agenda Grant

The PublicsLab

The Graduate Center, the City University of New York 2021

Marilyn J. Gittell Dissertation Fellowship Award

The Graduate Center, the City University of New York 2020-2021

Writing Across the Curriculum Fellowship

Brooklyn College 2019-2020

Eric Wolf Fund Award for Summer Research The Graduate Center, the City University of New York	2017
Doctoral Dissertation Student Fellowship (declined) The Committee on Globalization and Social Change The Graduate Center, the City University of New York	2017
The Graduate Center Fellowship The Graduate Center, the City University of New York	2013-2017
Nathan and Lily Silver Award for Academic Merit Tel Aviv University	2009

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Baruch College Lecturer: “Introduction to Anthropology” (ANT/SOC 101)	2020-2021
John Jay College Lecturer: “Sex and Culture” (ANT/PSY/SOC 210)	2019-2021
Hunter College Lecturer: “Sexuality: Anthropological Perspectives” (30152) Section Leader: “Introduction to Anthropology”	2015-2017 2014-2015

SELECTED PAPER PRESENTATIONS

“Migration in the Age of Biometric Identification: Europe as Case-Study” Frances Brody Lecture Series, Tel Aviv University, Israel (forthcoming)	Dec, 2021
“Porous borders, flexible skins: Bodily responses to biometric surveillance of migrants in Europe” Situated AI – Global Ethnographies of New Technologies in Policing and Justice Workshop, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany (forthcoming)	Dec, 2021
“Capturing the Spirit of Bureaucratic Images: Photos, Biometrics and (Border) Passing” American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting, Baltimore (MD) (forthcoming)	Nov, 2021
“Flight and Asylum in today’s Europe” Weltmuseum Vienna, Austria (forthcoming)	Nov, 2021
Participant. Panel: ‘ <i>Do All White People Still Look the Same to You?</i> ’ Jasna 10 - The Warsaw Political Criticism Center. Poland	March, 2021
“‘My Passport Arrived in Europe Before Me:’ The Materiality of Bodies and Papers in the Quest for Asylum in the EU” The European Association of Social Anthropology Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal	July, 2020

“Traacherous Papers: The Fickle Value of Legal Documents in the Quest for Obtaining Asylum in the EU” Law and Society Annual Meeting, Denver (CO) (cancelled due to COVID-19)	May 2020
“Breaking the Fingerprints: Biometric resistance, Finger Mutilation, and The Ethnographic Imagination” The American Ethnological Society Conference, Austin (TX) (cancelled due to COVID-19)	March 2020
““My passport arrived in Europe before me”: The Diverging Routes of Bodies and Documents” The University of Central Lancashire, Preston (UK)	February 2020
“The Moral Economy of Illicit Biometric-Paper Trade in the EU” Leibniz Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin (Germany)	May 2019
““What is a Passport and Why Can I Not Buy One?” Notes on The Economy of Fake and Authentic Travel Documents Sustaining The EU Asylum System” Governance and Processes of Bureaucratization Workshop, University of Leipzig (Germany)	January 2019
“Zionism and the ‘Postnational Turn:’ Between Immigration Denial and the Repudiation of Exile” School University of London (UK)	Sep 2018
“Israel, Refugees and the Return of the Biblical Flood” University of Wroclaw (Poland)	Sep 2017
“Towards an Anthropology of the Passport” Refugee Rights Clinic, Buchman Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University (Israel)	April 2017
“Against Aboutness: Magical Urgency, Material Agency and the Archive” Academy of Fine Arts Dresden, (Germany)	Jan 2017
“Flood of People Upon the Land: Refugees, Ecological Apocalypse and the biblical “Deluge” in Western Eschatological Anxieties” American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting, Denver (CO)	Nov 2015
“My Longing for the Muzhik- Gay Emancipation from the Standpoint of its Non-Liberal Victims” An Other Sex Conference, Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)	May 2012
“De-Askenizing Zionism: Right of Return to Europe and a Sustainable Jewish Future in the Middle East” 7th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Berlin (Germany)	May 2012

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer <i>Migration Letters</i>	2021
Manuscript Reviewer “Creative Teaching and Learning in Anthropology” and “Anthropology of Stuff” series, Routledge—Taylor and Francis	2017

MIGRANT ADVOCACY WORK

Education Coordinator Imagine: Refugee Education and Community Center, Chios (Greece)	2018
Researcher, Africa Team Asylos: Research for Asylum. Brussels (Belgium)	2012-2013
Research and Advice volunteer Detention Action, London (UK)	2012–2013
Identity Claims Coordinator, Asylum Application Assistance Project. African Refugee Development Center, Tel Aviv (Israel)	2011
Public Policy Manager Hotline for Refugees and Migrants, Tel Aviv (Israel)	2006-2010

CREATIVE WORK

Curatorial Advisor Moving Things: On the Materiality of Migration Exhibition Catalogue, Museum Friedland (Germany) (forthcoming)	2022
Dramaturgy and Concept Phenomenology of Disappearance . Video Performance and installation by Ariel Efraim Ashbel and Friends. Nationaltheater Mannheim; Premierentage, Innsbruck.	July 2020
Research and Concept Development No Apocalypse Not Now . Theater performance by Ariel Efraim Ashbel and Friends. <u>Presentations</u> : Steirischerherbst Festival, Graz; Hebbel am Uffer, Berlin; Kampnagel, Hamburg; FFT, Düsseldorf	Oct 2019
Research and Concept Development Do The Right Thing, Emergent Emergencies . Theater performance by Ariel Efraim Ashbel and Friends. 100 Years of Bauhaus Project. Hebbel am Uffer, Berlin.	Nov 2018
Research and Concept Development The Empire Strikes Back . Theater performance by Ariel Efraim Ashbel and Friends. Presentations: Hebbel am Uffer, Berlin; Kampnagel, Hamburg; Spielart Festival, Munich; Impulse Festival, Düsseldorf; Donau Festival, Krems;	June 2015
Research and Concept Development All White People Look the Same To Me , an Experiment in Fictional Anthropology. Presentations: Hebbel am Uffer, Berlin; Kampnagel, Hamburg; FFT, Duesseldorf; Gessneralle, Zurich	May 2013

PUBLIC DIALOGUE AND MEDIA CITATIONS (selection):

- Heublein, L (2020, May 19). [Theater as »Dark Ecology«](#). *PW Magazine*
- Baigger, K (2015, January 22). [Ein neuer Flirt mit den Grenzen](#). *The Neue Zürcher Zeitung* [German]
- Georgen, A (2014, January 9). [Le Mémorial de l'Holocauste de Berlin a été profané](#). *Slate* [French]
- Öztürk, A (2013, March 13). '[Anma, soğuk yenen bir yemektir.](#)' *Agos* [Turkish]
- Moylan, B (2013, February 1). [Why Are Gays Taking Grindr Photos at a Holocaust Memorial?](#). *Vice*
- Zychowicz (2010, January 12). [Izrael buduje kolejny mur wzdłuż swoich granic](#). *Rzeczpospolita* [Polish]
- Friedman, R (2009, December 21). [Oz inspectors accused of raiding Tel Aviv church](#), *Jerusalem Post*

Polack, D (2009, July 12). [Israel Bringing in Thousands of Migrant Workers Despite Arrest](#) *Haaretz*
 Polack, D(2009, July 1). [New Immigration Police Rounds Up 300 Refugees](#). *Haaretz*
 Rottscheidt, I (2009, April 7). [Chinatown in Tel Aviv](#). *Deutsche Welle*
 Eglash, R (2008, December 6). [Eritrean Refugees Want Recognition in Israel](#). *Jerusalem Post*
 Correspondentes da IPS (2008, September 1). [ISRAEL: Tráfico de Pessoas não tem Freio](#). IPS[Portugese]
 Eglah, R (2008, July 3). [NGOs battle to halt deportation of foreign workers' babies](#). *Jerusalem Post*
 Liphshiz, C (2008, January 31). [Court Interpreters Fail non-Hebrew Speakers](#). *Haaretz*
 Liven, I (2007, November 15). [Sudaneseen fliehen in den "Feindstaat" Israel](#). *Die Welt* [German]
 Saint-Paul, P (2007, October 10). [Rescapés d'un génocide, ils ont fui le Darfour](#). *LE FIGARO* [French]
 Prusher, I (2007, September 6). [Israel to grant Darfur refugees citizenship](#). *The Christian Science Monitor*
 Kershner, I (2007, August 20). [Israeli government criticized for deporting refugees](#). *The New York Times*
 Kershner, I (2007, August 20). [Israeli Ouster of Migrants Decried](#). *Chicago Tribune*
 Luvitch, V (2006, December 1). [Foreign Workers' Kids Face Deportation](#). *YNET NEWS*
 AP (2006, March 10). [Israel Changes Residency Rules](#). *Associated Press*
 Krieger, H (2005, Decmber 20). [Residency Granted to Some Foreign Workers' Kids](#). *Jerusalem Post*

LANGUAGES

Hebrew- native
 English- fluent
 Polish- conversational
 Arabic- basic