

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Yitzhak Conforti**

**The Department of Jewish History and Contemporary Jewry, Bar Ilan  
University**

**Building 410, room 31**

**972-3-5317261**

**E-mail**

[Yitzhak.Conforti@biu.ac.il](mailto:Yitzhak.Conforti@biu.ac.il)

[confory@gmail.com](mailto:confory@gmail.com)

**Personal Website**

<https://biu.academia.edu/YitzhakConforti>

**1. Education**

2003 Ph.D. Jewish History, Bar Ilan University, cum laude.

1997 M.A. Jewish History, Bar Ilan University.

1990 B.A. Jewish History and Education, Hebrew University, cum laude.

**2. Academic Appointment**

2016- 2019 Head of the institute for the study of the Land of Israel and its Yishuv,  
Bar Ilan University.

2012- Senior Lecturer, Jewish History Department, Bar Ilan University

2007-2012 Lecturer, Jewish History Department, Bar-Ilan University

2007-2008 Adjunct Lecturer, Institute for Contemporary Jewry Hebrew University

2003-2007 Adjunct Lecturer, Jewish History Department, Bar-Ilan University

**3. Grants and Awards**

2020 The Rector Prize for Scientific Innovation, Bar Ilan University.

2015 Fellow, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of  
Pennsylvania.

2014 Visiting Scholar, Taub Center for Israel Studies, New York University.

2014 Visiting Scholar, Center for Jewish History, New York.

2008 Riklis Prize, The faculty of Law and Judaic studies, Bar Ilan  
University.

2007 Hecht Prize, University of Haifa Herzl Institute.

2006 Ish Shalom Prize, Yad Izhak Ben Zvi Institute.

2005 Visiting Scholar, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford.

2003 The Mozes M. Schuf Fellowship.

2003 The President and the Dean Fellowship, Bar Ilan University (1999-2003).

2001 The Prof. Jacob Katz Fellowship, The Zalman Shazar Center for Jewish History

#### **4. Papers Presented at Academic Conferences (Selected):**

1. "Zionism and the Bible" AJS Annual Conference (Washington D.C. On line) 14 December 2020.
2. "The Zionist Consciousness and the Hebrew Bible" Sede Boquer Colloquium Ben Gurion University of the Negev, 7 January 2020.
3. "Understanding Early Zionism: A Cultural Approach" AIS Annual conference (Berkeley University, June 2018)
4. "Traditional roots in Early Zionism" EAJS conference (Krakow, July 2018)
5. "History and Utopia in the Zionist Movement", AIS Annual conference (Brandies University, June 2017)
6. "Ethno Symbolism and Jewish Nationalism" ASEN Conference (LSE University London, April 2017)
7. "East and West in Early Zionism: Between *Hibbat Zion* and Political Zionism" AIS Annual conference (Begin Institute, Jerusalem June 2016)
8. "How to Sustain Jewish Culture in the Age of Nationalism?" AIS Annual conference (Concordia University, Canada, June 1-3, 2015)
9. "*Wissenschaft* for the People: Early Zionist Scholars and Jewish Academic Studies", *Doing Wissenschaft: The Academic Study of Judaism as Practice 1818-2018*, 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies (Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, April 27-28, 2015).
10. "The Impact of *Wissenschaft des Judentums* on Jewish Nationalism and Zionism", *The Role of Scholarship in the Shaping of Jewish Identity – A Symposium on the Wissenschaft des Judentums* (Leo Back Institute, Center for Jewish History, New York March 1, 2015).

11. "The Ethnic and Cultural Origins of Zionist Historiography" Hebert D. Katz  
Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Ruth Meltzer seminar (University of  
Pennsylvania January 28, 2015).
12. "Exile or State in Jewish National Historiography" World Union of Jewish Studies  
(Jerusalem July 28 – August 1, 2013).
13. "Land and People: Territorial and Ethnic Dimensions in Zionism" *AJS* Conference  
(Chicago, December 16-18 2012)
14. "Searching for a Homeland: The Territorial Dimension in the Zionist Movement  
and the Boundaries of Jewish Nationalism", *ASEN* Conference (London School of  
Economics, March 2012).
15. "Zionist Awareness of the Jewish Past: Inventing Tradition or Renewing the  
Ethnic Past?" (London School of Economics, April 2011).
16. "Ethnic or Civic Jewish State in Herzl's and Ahad Ha'am's Vision", Nationalism  
and Ethics – The Zionist Discourse and Arab Problem, (Tel Aviv University, March  
2011).
17. "The Cultural Alternative: Charisma and Reason in the Zionist Movement", *ASEN*  
Conference (London School of Economics, April 2010).
18. "Between Nationalism and Universalism in the Zionist Vision", *AIS Conference*  
(University of Toronto, May 2010).
19. "History and Utopia: Past Awareness and Future Shaping in Zionism", *World  
Union of Jewish Studies* (Jerusalem, 2-6 August 2009)
20. "Between Civic and Ethnic: Israel in light of the Zionist Utopia" *AJS Conference*  
(Washington, 21-23 December 2008)
21. "East and West in Jewish Nationalism: Confronting Types in the Zionist  
Movement" *ASEN* Conference (London School of Economics, April 2008).
22. "The 'New Jew' in Zionist Thought: Ideology and Historiography ", *AAJS*  
Conference, Monash University, Melbourne Australia (February 17-18, 2008).
23. "Nationalism and Historical Continuity in Jewish History", *AJS Annual  
Conference* Washington DC, USA (December 18-20, 2005).
24. "Between History and Memory: Jacob Katz as a Zionist Historian", International  
Conference at Zalman Shazar Institute, *The Israeli Historical Society*, Jerusalem  
(February 1-2, 2004).

25. "Alternative Voices in Zionist Historiography", *AJS Annual Conference*, Boston Mass. USA (December 21-23, 2003).

### **5. Teaching Academic Courses (Selected)**

- 1) Jewish Nationalism
- 2) Zionist Historiography and Utopia
- 3) Topic in Historiography
- 4) Myth and Memory in the Zionist Movement
- 5) From Jewish Settlements (*Yishuv*) to Jewish State (1917-1967).
- 6) Zionism and Religion
- 7) Jewish Modern Historiography
- 8) Zionism and its Opponents
- 9) The First Aliyah and the Second Aliyah (1882-1914)
- 10) Modern Jewish history – survey course