

## **Current Book Project**

### *Jewish Craftspeople in medieval Ashkenaz*

My current project is a study of Jewish craftspeople in medieval Ashkenaz, i.e., in the Holy Roman Empire, Northern France, and England. Scholarship on the economic history of the Jews in medieval Ashkenaz focuses almost exclusively on moneylending. This Jewish occupation generated a great mass of textual sources and is, therefore, most frequently explored. An economic and social history of Jewish professional involvement in crafts, however, has yet to be written. Jewish artisans such as goldsmiths, glaziers, or woodcarvers, among numerous other professions, such as messengers, launderers, or water carriers, frequently appear in the various types of sources but are seldom accounted for by scholars. I aim to modify this paradigm of historiography by providing a new and broad discussion of Jewish professional occupation and restructuring our understanding of the medieval Ashkenazi society and economy. Such a study will help to reveal a more versatile Jewish society and its everyday activities in medieval Ashkenaz.