The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) and the Institute for Jewish Philosophy and Religion cordially invite you to the workshop

‘On Parchment, with Wooden Boards’: Hebrew and Non-Hebrew Terms Applied to Jewish Books in Historical Perspective

Monday, 26 July, 02:00 pm–05:30 pm CEST  
Tuesday, 27 July, 02:00 pm–05:00 pm CEST

Zoom-Meeting

The title or the incipit of a book have always been a common means to refer to its textual content, leaving aside its material appearance. Yet, historical sources, like contracts, letters, and book lists of Jewish libraries, to mention just a few, reveal a great variety of terms related to the material and visual aspects of the books, such as volumes, quires, scripts, bindings, etc. In this workshop, we would like to focus on the Hebrew and non-Hebrew terms used to describe Jewish manuscripts and printed books during the medieval and early modern periods. The inquiry into the terminology and the language of book descriptions will help us to better understand the actual artefacts to which the terms refer and will shed light on the ways in which Jewish books were perceived and treated as material objects.

The main goal of the workshop is to provide a platform for scholars to exchange ideas and problems related to the historical terminology of Jewish books, which hitherto has been not systematically investigated.
Programme

Monday, 26 July, 02:00 pm–05:30 pm

02:00 – 02:10  Giuseppe Veltri (Hamburg) / Ilona Steimann (Hamburg): Welcome
02:10 – 02:45  Malachi Beit-Arié (Jerusalem): Medieval Book Terminology: Codex, Quire, Binding, Palaeography
02:45 – 02:55  Break
02:55 – 03:30  Judith Olszowy-Schlanger (Paris and Oxford): Terms for Hebrew Script in the Books List from the Cairo Geniza
03:30 – 04:05  Ronny Vollandt (Munich): Terminology Pertaining to Book Production and Trade as Found in the Book Lists of the Cairo Genizah
04:05 – 04:20  Break
04:20 – 04:55  Miriam Lange (Hamburg): Binding Matters: On Book Bindings in Medieval Ashkenaz and Italy
04:55 – 05:30  Dalia-Ruth Halperin (Holon): A Box of Sweets

Tuesday, 27 July, 02:00 pm–05:00 pm

02:00 – 02:35  Adam Shear (Pittsburgh): What’s in a Name (for an Item in a Booklist) in Late Medieval and Early Modern (Jewish) Italy?
02:35 – 03:10  Emma Abate (Paris): Loans of Hebrew Books in Early Modern Rome
03:10 – 03:20  Break
03:55 – 04:30  Haim Gottschalk (Washington): The Vocabulary of Print Found in Hebrew Incunabula
04:30 - 04:40  Break
04:40 - 05:00  Giuseppe Veltri (Hamburg) / Michael Kohs (Hamburg): Concluding Remarks