CURRICULUM VITAE

Nathan Mastnjak

University of Notre Dame

nmastnja@nd.edu

EDUCATION

2015 Ph.D. *with honors* in Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago
Dissertation: "The Prophet Who Was before Me: Allusions to Deuteronomy in the Book of Jeremiah"
Committee: Dennis Pardee (Chair), Jeffrey Stackert, David Schloen, Ronnie Goldstein

2010 M.A. in Northwest Semitic Philology, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago
Thesis: "The Compositional Logic of Psalm 108: An Experiment in Form Criticism and Poetic Analysis"

2008 M.A.R. in Biblical Studies, Westminster Theological Seminary

2004 B.A. in Philosophy, Grove City College

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025–Present Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, University of Notre Dame

2019–2025 Professor of Sacred Scripture, Notre Dame Seminary

2018–2019 Harry Starr Fellow in Judaica, Harvard University, Center for Jewish Studies

2018 Lecturer in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Brandeis University

2015–2018 Postdoctoral Fellow, Indiana University Bloomington, Borns Jewish Studies Program

BOOKS

Under contract *The Songs of the Servant in the Book of Isaiah*. Biblical Studies from the Catholic Biblical Association. Wipf & Stock.

2023 *Before the Scrolls: A Material Approach to Israel's Prophetic Library*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2023.

2016 *Deuteronomy and the Emergence of Textual Authority in Jeremiah*. Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe 87. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2016.

JOURNAL ARTICLES (Peer-reviewed)

Forthcoming "Spirit Possession and Scribal Expansion in Ezekiel." *Vetus Testamentum*.

2026 "Promise Not Punishment: A Christian Theological Interpretation of the Priestly Law and the Golden Calf." *Harvard Theological Review* 119.2 (2026): 270–298 (with Charles Hughes-Huff).

2023 "Jeremiah's Laments as Effective Speech." *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 47 (2023): 431–54.

2020 "The Book of Isaiah and the Anthological Genre." *Hebrew Studies* 61 (2020): 49–72.

2019 "Echoes of Rachel's Weeping: Intertextuality and Trauma in Jer 31:15." *Biblical Interpretation* 27 (2019): 413–35 (with Sébastien Doane).

2018 "Prestige, Authority, and Jeremiah's Bible." *The Journal of Religion* 98 (2018): 542–58.

2018 "Jeremiah as Collection: Scrolls, Sheets, and the Problem of Textual Arrangement." *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 80 (2018): 25–44.

2017 "Hebrew *tahaš* and the West Semitic Tent Tradition." *Vetus Testamentum* 67 (2017): 204–212.

2014 "Judah's Covenant with Assyria in Isaiah 28." *Vetus Testamentum* 64 (2014): 465–83.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming "The Textualization of Jeremiah and the First Hebrew Books." *First Books in the Ancient World*. Edited by Martin Kern and Jianwei Xu. Princeton University Press.

Forthcoming "Theological Exegesis and the Problem of Harmonization." *Anima Theologiae*. Edited by Paul D. Wheatley. Catholic University of America Press.

Forthcoming "Sefer, 'scroll, book': ספר." *Philological Practices: A Comparative Historical Lexicon*. Edited by Glenn W. Most, Anne Eusterschulte, and Martin Kern.

2025 "Dei Verbum and the Ethical Critique of Sacred Scripture." *Nexus* 4 (2025). https://www.hanknexusjournal.com/copy-of-the-word-of-god-and-the-way-o

2022 "The Root GMR and a Shared Divine Epithet in Ugaritic and Classical Hebrew." Pages 377–86 in *"Like ʾIlu Are You Wise": Studies in Northwest Semitic Languages and*

Literatures in Honor of Dennis G. Pardee. Edited by H. H. Hardy II, Joseph Lam, and Eric D. Reymond. Chicago: University of Chicago Oriental Institute Press, 2022.

2021 "Theories of Prophetic Revelation in Jeremiah." Pages 252–66 in Edward Silver and Louis Stulman, eds, *The Oxford Handbook of the Book of Jeremiah*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.

2021 "Plotting History and Textual Use on a New Map of Second Temple Literature: A Response to Molly M. Zahn." *Metatron* 1 (2021).

2018 Contributor to: *CSB (Christian Standard Bible) Baker Illustrated Study Bible.* Grand Rapids: Baker (2018).

2013 Contributor to: Tremper Longman, Peter Enns, and Mark Strauss, eds. *Baker Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Grand Rapids: Baker (2013).

BOOK REVIEWS

2024 Review of John S. Bergsma and Jeffrey L. Morrow, *Murmuring against Moses: The Contentious History and Contested Future of Pentateuchal Studies*. *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 86 (2024): 589–92.

2021 Review of Kenneth Seeskin, *Thinking about the Prophets: A Philosopher Reads the Bible*. *Review of Biblical Literature* (2021).

2019 Review of David Willgren, *Formation of the 'Book' of Psalms*. *Dead Sea Discoveries* 26 (2019): 125–27.

2018 Review of Keith Bodner, *After the Invasion: A Reading of Jeremiah 40–44*. *The Journal of Religion* 98 (2018): 126–27.

2017 Review of Carolyn Sharp, ed. *Oxford Handbook of the Prophets*. *Religious Studies Review* 43 (2017): 321–22.

2017 Review of Reinhard G. Kratz, *The Prophets of Israel*. *Review of Biblical Literature* (2017).

2016 Review of G. Brooke Lester, *Daniel Evokes Isaiah: Allusive Characterization of Foreign Rule in the Hebrew-Aramaic Book of Daniel*. *Review of Biblical Literature* (2016).

2015 Review of John H. Walton, *Genesis 1 as Ancient Cosmology*. *Journal of Theological Studies* 66 (2015): 283–87 (with Dennis Pardee).

2008 Review of Robert Alter, *The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary*. *Westminster Theological Journal* 70 (2008): 382–85.

POPULAR PIECES

2024 "Prophetic Libraries and Books in Ancient Israel." *Oxford University Press Blog*. September 24, 2024. https://blog.oup.com/2024/09/prophetic-libraries-and-books-in-ancient-israel/.

2024 "Before the Scrolls: Ancient Scribal Cultures and the Formation of Sacred Scripture." *Church Life Journal*. August 6, 2024. https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/scribal-cultures-and-sacred-scripture/.

2024 "Against Harmonization in Biblical Interpretation." *Church Life Journal*. April 2, 2024. https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/against-harmonization-in-biblical-interpretation/.

2023 "The Death Penalty and the Consequences of the Literal Meaning of Genesis 9:6." *Church Life Journal*. September 12, 2023. https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-death-penalty-and-the-consequences-of-the-literal-meaning-of-genesis-9-6/.

2023 "The Parables and the Mystery of the Kingdom." *Joie de Vivre* 2 (2023).

CONFERENCE PAPERS

2026 "The Power of the Prophetic Word in Ezekiel." Midwest Regional Meeting, South Bend, IN, March 15, 2026.

2025 Review of Jacqueline Vayntrub, "Body Language: Voice, Embodiment, and Textuality in the Hebrew Bible" (Yale University Press, 2026), SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 24, 2025.

2025 "The Scrolls of the Prophets." IOSOT Conference, Berlin, August 12, 2025 (invited; attended remotely).

2025 "Theological Exegesis and the Problem of Harmonization." *Anima Theologiae*: Integrating Historical and Theological Exegesis. Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. June 13, 2025.

2025 Panel Member, Plenary Panel on Theological Interpretation of the Bible. Midwest Regional Meeting for Biblical Studies. March 15, 2025 (invited).

2024 "A Material Perspective on the Formation of the Book of Jeremiah." *First Books in the Ancient World*, International Conference, Renmin University of China, Suzhou, China, August 29, 2024.

2023 "A Material Approach to Israel's Prophetic Library." Catholic Biblical Association Meeting, Omaha, NE, July 23, 2023.

2021 "The Exile of the Prophet and the Passion of Christ: A Method C Reading of the Songs of the Suffering Servant." Interpretation of Scripture and Ecclesial Exegesis: The Search for an Integrated Theology, Rochester, NY, September 19, 2021.

2019 "Jeremiah's Laments as Effective Speech." New England/Eastern Canada SBL Meeting, Boston, MA, March 22, 2019.

2018 "Media Transformation as Interpretation in Prophetic Literature." SBL Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 19, 2018.

2018 "Theorizing Prophecy in Ancient Israel." Midwest Regional SBL Meeting, South Bend, IN, February 3, 2018.

2017 "The Problem of the Prophetic Book." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington, DC, December 17, 2017.

2017 "The Sun Also Rises: Psalm 57 as Pre-Dawn Ritual." SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 20, 2017 (with Charles Huff).

2017 Respondent to "A Discussion of Nathan Mastnjak, *Deuteronomy and the Emergence of Textual Authority in Jeremiah*." SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 20, 2017.

2016 "Prestige, Authority, and Jeremiah's Torah." Invited for *Reclaiming the Torah's Strangeness: The History of Ancient Hebrew Literature without Apologetics*, panel organized by Seth Sanders. Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, December 18, 2016.

2016 "The Order of Jeremiah and the Nature of the Sefer." SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 20, 2016.

2016 "Weeping and the Return of Lost Children in Jer 31:15 and Gen 37:35." SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 19, 2016.

2015 "Arranging Jeremiah: A New Proposal for the Variant Orders of the Book of Jeremiah." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, December 15, 2015.

2015 "Negotiating Authority: Prophetic Allusion to Deuteronomy in Jer 7:23 and Jer 17:19-27." Midwest Regional SBL Meeting, Bourbonnais, IL, February 8, 2015.

2014 "Judah's Covenant with Assyria in Isaiah 28." SBL Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 23, 2014.

2010 "Poetry and Genre in Psalm 57: A Methodological Investigation." Midwest Regional SBL Meeting, Valparaiso, IN, February 14, 2010.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

2026 Invited talk for the Graduate Working Group on Inspiration, "Redaction and Inspiration: A Conversation with Prof. Nathan Mastnjak." University of Notre Dame. February 26, 2026.

2026 Invited talk for the Maritain Theological Forum, "Cosmic Divinization in the Priestly Source of the Pentateuch." University of Notre Dame. January 26, 2026.

2025 Invited talk for the Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography, Santa Clara University Jesuit School of Theology. Spring Semester, 2025.

2024 Invited Respondent, Marburg Research Seminar, "Of Sheets, Scrolls, and Books: The Formation of the Hebrew Bible in Light of Recent Research on Materiality. December 10, 2024.

2024 Respondent, Book Launch Event: Jennie Grillo, *Daniel after Babylon: The Additions in the History of Interpretation*. June 5, 2024.

2021 "The Spirit of God in the Manuscripts of Ezekiel." Annual Tekippe Lecture, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, LA, October 27, 2021.

2020 Respondent to Molly M. Zahn, "Toward a New Map of Second Temple Literature: Revelation, Rewriting, and Genre Before the Bible." Bible and Religions of the Ancient Near East Collective Forum, August 20, 2020.

2019 "The Jeremiah Collection and the Imagined book of Jeremiah." Harry Starr Fellow Seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, February 14, 2019.

2018 Closing remarks to "Jewish Storytelling: Traditions and Transformations," Indiana University Jewish Studies Graduate Conference, Bloomington, IN, February 9, 2018.

2016 "The Hebrew Bible and Jewish Studies." Jewish Studies Graduate Colloquium, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, September 6, 2016.

2015 "Second Language Acquisition in the Ancient Language Classroom." Harvard Semitic Philology Workshop, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, December 10, 2015.

2015 "Job 1-14." *Who Wrote the Bible*, COLL-C 103, Indiana University, IN, December 1, 2015.

2015 "Literary Allusion and the Emergence of Textual Authority in the Book of Jeremiah." Borns Jewish Studies Faculty Workshop, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, October 30, 2015.

2015 "The Place of the Hebrew Bible in Jewish Studies." Jewish Studies Graduate Colloquium, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, September 9, 2015.

2014 Response to Jeffrey Stackert, *A Prophet Like Moses: Prophecy, Law, and Israelite Religion*. Council on Advanced Studies, Hebrew Bible Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, December 3, 2014.

2013 "The Transformation of Deuteronomy in Jeremiah." Council on Advanced Studies, Hebrew Bible Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, November 7, 2013.

OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2021 Co-Chair, Interpretation of Scripture and Ecclesial Exegesis: The Search for an Integrated Theology, Rochester, NY, September 18–20, 2021.

2019 Chair, Hebrew Bible Regional Seminar, Yale University, April 12, 2019.

COURSES TAUGHT

Notre Dame Seminary

Biblical Hebrew III
Introduction to the New Testament
Introduction to the Old Testament
Johannine Literature
Methodology in Biblical Studies
Pauline Epistles & Hebrews
Pentateuch
Prophets and Historical Books
Psalms and Wisdom Literature
Synoptic Gospels and Acts
The Book of Isaiah

Brandeis University

Biblical Prophecy: The Book of Jeremiah

Indiana University Bloomington

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
Prophecy in Ancient Israel
Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
Introduction to Biblical Hebrew
Aramaic Reading Group
Independent Studies:
- Readings in the Hebrew Bible
- Images of the Divine in Ancient Hebrew Poetry
- Ancient Israelite Religion

University of Chicago

Introductory Biblical Hebrew

GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEES

2024 Director: Lawrence Wumya, M.A. Thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "The Gospel of the Kingdom of God in Mark"

2023 Director: Jesse Schmidt, M.A. Thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "Jesus: Israel's Fulfillment and its King in Jn 15:1–11"

2022 Chase Michael Rodrigue, M.A. Thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "The Resurrection of the Body in 1 Corinthians 15:35–58: A Method C Exegesis"

2021 Taylor Sanford, M.A. thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "*Quadriga Thomistica*: The Four Senses of Scripture according to St. Thomas Aquinas."

2020 Br John Joseph, M.A. thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "Jeremiah, the Prophetic Sign Spoken Against: An Exegesis of Jeremiah 14:1–15:4."

2019 Mirijam Volter, M.A. thesis, Notre Dame Seminary
Thesis title: "What Good is it for a Man to Win the Whole World if he Loses his Soul? An Analysis of ψυχή in Mark 8:34-9:1, Compared to Matthew 16:24-28 and Luke 9:23-27 by Means of some Modern, Patristic and Medieval Commentaries."

2017 Jaron Kanegson, M.A. thesis, Jewish Studies Program, Indiana University Thesis title: "The Magic Bowl Spells and The Bavli: Jewish Perspectives on The Body and Fertility in Late Antiquity."

LANGUAGES

Ancient: Akkadian, Aramaic (Old, Imperial, Biblical, Targumic), Greek, Hebrew (Classical, Tannaitic), Ugaritic, Phoenician-Punic, Transjordanian Dialects

Modern: French, German, Hebrew (all: reading knowledge)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Catholic Biblical Association

Society of Biblical Literature

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Associate Editor, Library of Hebrew Bible and Old Testament Studies (T&T Clark/Bloomsbury), Beginning in Dec 2025

Associate Editor, *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, Beginning in Jan 2025

Monograph referee for *Oxford University Press*; *Society of Biblical Literature, Ancient Near Eastern Monographs Series*; *Catholic University of America Press*

Article referee for *Teaching Theology & Religion*; *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*

Tenure Review for Providence College, RI, Fall 2025

AWARDS

2018	Midwest Society of Biblical Literature Regional Scholar Award
2015	Honors awarded for Doctoral Degree
2014-2015	Chicago Center for Jewish Studies Dissertation Year Fellowship
2013-2015	Robert Brandt Cross Scholarship, University of Chicago
2010	Midwest Society of Biblical Literature Best Student Paper Award
2008-2012	Humanities Division Doctoral Fellowship, University of Chicago
2008	Thomas E. Welmers Memorial Prize in Biblical Languages and Exegesis
2008	Fred Kring Psychology and Philosophy Scholarship
2004	Edward F. Olechovsky Scholarship for Classical Study

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2025	Guest Speaker, Joint Meeting of Tulane Catholic and Tulane Hillel, New Orleans, LA, April 24, 2025.
2024	Deacon Training Workshop, Prophetic Literature, Archdiocese of Alexandria, Alexandria, Louisiana, September 14-15, 2024.
2024	Adult Catechesis speaker, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Mandeville, LA, October 6, 2024.
2024–2025	RCIA Core Team Member, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Mandeville, LA.
2024	Guest Lecture, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, May 1, 2024.
2024	Deacon Training Workshop, Pentateuch, Archdiocese of Alexandria, Alexandria, Louisiana, March 16–17, 2024.
2024	Panel Member, Classical Theism Podcast, "Expert Round Table on the Pentateuch with Dr. Mastnjak, Dr. Morrow, and Dr. Schmiedicke." February 5, 2024.

2023 Guest Speaker, NOLA Catholic Men Podcast, Ep. 02, "A Catholic Understanding of Creation." September 18, 2023.

2023 Speaker, "The Passion of St Matthew," Theology in a Bottle, Adult Formation. St Margaret Queen of Scotland Catholic Church, Hammond, LA, March 19, 2023.

2022 Speaker, "Scriptural Reflections on the Diaconate Rite," Formation Conference Series, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana, August 26, 2022.

2021 Speaker, "The Eucharist in Sacred Scripture," Eucharist Lecture Series: A Celebration of the Year of the Eucharist, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 17, 2021.

2020 Deacon Training Workshop, Synoptic Gospels and Acts, Archdiocese of Alexandria, Alexandria, Louisiana, September 18-20, 2020.

2020 Deacon Training Workshop, Introduction to the New Testament, Archdiocese of Alexandria, Alexandria, Louisiana, March 20-22, 2020.

2020 Conference Speaker, *Forming Pastoral Ministers for Time of Crisis*, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana, July 6, 2020. Session Title: "A Biblical Theology of Lament."

2019 Panel Member, Jewish History Matters Podcast, "The Materiality of Jewish Culture."