

The UW-Madison Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies presents

# Midwives on the Margins

## Jewish Women and Civic Medicine in Early Modern Europe

Jordan Rebekah Katz

University of Massachusetts Amherst

MONDAY MAR 17	TIME 4:00PM	Memorial Union Old Madison Room (800 Langdon St)
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This talk examines the role of Jewish midwives in early modern Europe, focusing primarily on Amsterdam in the early to mid eighteenth century. Tracing the story of Roza Salomons—a Jewish midwife who commissioned a Yiddish translation of a Dutch midwifery treatise in 1709—the presentation investigates how Jewish midwives navigated between municipal medical regulations and Jewish communal standards, shaping the institutions with which they engaged in the process. Archival materials from communal logbooks, delivery registers, and municipal records demonstrate that while Jewish midwives were influenced by burgeoning civic norms, this process was selective and was often met with deep tensions.

For more information, visit  
[cjs.wisc.edu/event/cytron25](https://cjs.wisc.edu/event/cytron25)



Jordan Katz is an assistant professor in the Department of Judaic and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her book-in-progress, *Delivering Knowledge: Jewish Midwives and Hidden Healing in Early Modern Europe*, explores the history of Jewish midwives within communal, intellectual, and medical frameworks in the early modern world.

Co-sponsored by the Center for Early Modern Studies, Integrated Liberal Studies, and Health & the Humanities