



**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
FALL 2009 COLLOQUIUM SERIES**

*The Department of Philosophy
at Texas A&M University
presents*

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Social Practice and Jewish Philosophy

Most constructive and historical work in Jewish philosophy over the last two generations has been engaged in answering broadly representational questions. What is this Biblical or Talmudic text about? What is this thing called "revelation" about which Jews talk? For several reasons, I argue that this path is unsustainable, especially in the context of a public university. Rather, I suggest that Jewish philosophy move from a concern with semantics to a concern with pragmatics, from an obsession with claimeds to one with claimings. Not only does this get the field out of certain philosophical problems, but it also allows scholars to explain the force of certain texts from the Jewish tradition that have the status of divine teaching.

Thursday, 15 October 2009
3:45 p.m.
213 Bolton Hall