

Dr. ELVIRA MARTÍN-CONTRERAS

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Departamental Address

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Current Positions held

Head of the Department of Jewish and Islamic Studies
Tenured scientist at the Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC)

Previous Positions held

2005-Sep 2009: *Research Fellow “Ramón y Cajal”* at the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC).
2003-2004: *Research Associate* at the Institute of Philology, CSIC.
2002-2003: *Postdoctoral Fellow* at the Institute of Philology of the CSIC.
2000-2002: *Visiting Scholar* at the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the University of Cambridge (UK).
2000 (Aug-Oct): *Visiting Scholar* at the Department of Ancient Literature, The Academy of Hebrew Language, Israel.
2000 (Mar-Jun): *Research Associate* at the Institute of Philology of the CSIC.
1996-1999: *Doctoral Fellow*, Dept. of Biblical and Ancient East Philology, CSIC.

Education

1995: BA in Semitic Philology (Hebrew and Aramaic), Complutense University of Madrid (UCM).
1997: MA in Hebrew Philology, UCM.
2000: PhD with honours in Hebrew Philology, UCM.
2003: University teaching credentials, Spanish Ministry of Education.

Research projects

- I am the principal investigator of the research project:
- “The Role of the Rabbinic Literature in the Textual Transmission of the Hebrew Bible (II)”. I+D research project programme, Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN). Ref.: **FFI2011-22888**. Starting date: 01.01.2012; ending date: 31.12.2014.
 - I’ve been the principal investigator of the following research project:
 - “Fixing, Transmitting and Preserving: Early Jewish and Rabbinic Literature in the History of the Hebrew Bible”. Complementary actions to I+D research project programme, Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN). Starting date: 01.04.2010; ending date: 01.04.2011.
 - “The Role of the Rabbinic Literature in the Textual Transmission of the Hebrew Bible (I)”. I+D research project programme, Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN). Ref.: HUM2007-60109. Starting date: 01.10.2007; ending date: 31.12.2010.
 - “Ketib: Corpus masoretico electrónico”. Special Intramural Project of CSIC. Starting date: 01.01.2010; ending date: 31.12.2010.
- I have also participated, from 1996 to 2007, in several research projects financed by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science, ranging from the edition and study of the textual

information given in the margins of the Hebrew biblical texts (Masorah) to the study and classification of the hermeneutical techniques used by the rabbis.
 1996 to 2007: project “Edition of Biblical and Parabiblical Texts (Matritense Polyglot Bible)”.
 2000: project “Application of New Technologies to the Study of Hebrew Bible Manuscripts and their Masorot”.
 2004 to 2006: project “Language and Literature of Classical Judaism: Rabbinic and Medieval”.

Research in Other Countries

2007	Institut für Judaistik , University of Vien, Austria (1 month)
2006	Centre for Jewish Studies , University of Manchester, UK (2 month)
2006	Institut für Judaistik , University of Vien, Austria (1 month)
2000-2002	Faculty of Oriental Studies , University of Cambridge, England (1 year and 9 months)
2000	The Academy of the Hebrew Language , Jerusalem, Israel, (3 months)
1998	The Academy of the Hebrew Language , Jerusalem, Israel, (7 weeks)
1995	Library of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem , Jerusalem, Israel, (1 month)

Publications

ISI Journal Articles

1. E. Martín Contreras, “The Phenomenon *qere we la' ketib* in the Main Biblical Codices: New Data”, *Vetus Testamentum* 62 (2012), 77-87.
2. E. Martín Contreras, “Text Preserving Observation in the Midrash Ruth Rabbah”, *Journal of Jewish Studies* 62:2 (2011), 311-323.
3. E. Martín Contreras, “Masoretic and Rabbinic Lights on the Word , Ruth 3:15: or ?”, *Vetus Testamentum* 59:2 (2009), 257-265. Reviewed in *International Review of Biblical Studies* 55 (2008-2009) 79; reviewed in *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 122/1 (2010) 120.
4. E. Martín Contreras, "El principio hermenéutico 'én ketîb ka'n 'el·la' en *Mekilta de Rabbi Yismael*", *Sefarad* 65 (2005) 85-102. Reviewed by Vasile Babota in *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 37/2 (2006) 293; reviewed in the *International Review of Biblical Studies* 52 (2005-2006) 296.
5. E. Martín Contreras, "The Continuity of the Tradition: Masorah with Midrashic Explanations", *Journal of Semitic Studies* 50:2 (2005), 329-339. Reviewed by G. I. Davies in *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 118/3 (2006) 433.
6. E. Martín Contreras, "Noticias masoréticas en los midrashim halálicos más antiguos y su comparación con los midrashim exegéticos", *Sefarad* 63 (2003), 119-139. Reviewed by J. Kaltner in *Old Testament Abstracts* 27 (2004); reviewed in the *International Review of Biblical Studies* 50 (2003-2004) 332.
7. E. Martín Contreras, "Comments on Textual Details: Relationships between Masorah and Midrash", *Journal of Jewish Studies* 54:1 (2003), 62-70. Reviewed by V. S. in *Old Testament Abstracts* 27 (2004); commented by Florentino García Martínez in *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 35/2 (2004), 227.
8. E. Martín Contreras, "Noticias masoréticas en el midrásh *Lamentaciones Rabbá*", *Sefarad* 62 (2002), 125-141. Reviewed by John Kaltner in *Old Testament Abstracts* 26/2 (2003); commented by Joseph Sievers in *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 34/2 (2003) 234; reviewed in the *International Review of Biblical Studies* 49 (2002-2003) 267.
9. E. Martín Contreras, “Terminología masorética en la exégesis de *Génesis Rabbah* (secciones *Bereshít y Noah*)”, *Sefarad* 59 (1999), 119-139.
10. E. Martín Contreras, “The Current State of Masoretic Studies”, *Sefarad* (in press).

Journal Articles

11. E. Martín Contreras, "Grammatik" in O. Wishchmeyer et al. (eds.), *Lexikon der Bibelhermeneutik*, (Berlín 2009) 336-337.

12. E. Martín Contreras, "Ketib und Qere" in O. Wishchmeyer et al. (eds.), *Lexikon der Bibelhermeneutik*, (Berlín 2009) 323-324.
13. E. Martín Contreras, "La angelología rabínica", *Raíces, revista judía de cultura* 72 (2007) 35- 39.
14. E. Martín Contreras, "M1's Massoretic Appendices: A New Description", *Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages* 32:1 (2006), 65-81. Reviewed in the *International Review of Biblical Studies* 52 (2005-2006) 2.
15. E. Martín Contreras, "Rethinking Hermeneutical Techniques: Suggestions from their Practice", *Henoch* 25:1 (2003), 79-92. Commented by Joseph Sievers in *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 35/2 (2004) 221.
16. E. Martín Contreras, "Lista masorética inédita con comentarios exegéticos", *Miscelánea de Estudios Árabes y Hebreos* 52 Hebrew section (2003), 61-75.
17. E. Martín Contreras, "El contexto como factor restrictivo", *Miscelánea de Estudios Árabes y Hebreos* 51 Hebrew section (2002), 21-33. Reviewed by Ehud Ben Zvi en *Old Testament Abstracts* 28/1 (2005).

Monographs

18. E. Martín Contreras-G. Seijas de los Ríos, *Masora. La transmisión de la tradición*, Navarra 2010. Reviewed by A. Rubin in *Journal of Hebrew Scripture* 10 (2010), http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/reviews_new/review504.htm; reviewed by E. de Faria Francisco in *Revista Caminhando* 16 (2011), 141-145; review by L. F. Girón in *Ilu, Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones* 16 (2011) 330-331; review by J. Gutiérrez in *Ciudad de Dios* 226 (2013) 251-253.
19. E. Martín Contreras, *Los ángeles en el Talmud y en el Midrás*, col. "En torno al Talmud", ed. Riopiedras, Barcelona 2006.
20. E. Martín Contreras, *Apéndices masoréticos. Códice M1 de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid* (Massoretic Appendices. Codex M1 from the Complutensian University Library), Textos y Estudios Cardenal Cisneros nº 72, Madrid 2004. Reviewed by Mª V. Spottorno in *Sefarad* 65:2 (2005); reviewed by G. Seijas de los Ríos in *MEAH* 54 (2005) 265-269; reviewed by G. J. Brooke in *Journal of Semitic Studies* 51:1 (2006) 237-238; reviewed by M. A. Sweeney in *Hebrew Studies* 48 (2007) 393-395.
21. E. Martín Contreras, *La interpretación de la Creación: Técnicas exegéticas en Génesis Rabbah* (The Interpretation of Creation: Exegetical Techniques in *Genesis Rabbah*). Editorial Verbo Divino, Biblioteca Midrásica, Navarra 2002. Reviewed by M. Pérez Fernández in *MEAH, Sección Hebreo* 50 (2001); reviewed by L. F. Girón Blanch in *Sefarad* 63 (2003); reviewed by L. F. Girón Blanch in *'Ilu Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones* 8 (2003); reviewed by C. G. R in *Old Testament Abstracts* 27/2 (2004); reviewed by G. Stemberger in *Henoch* 26/3 (2004) 374-377.

Books Edited

22. L. Miralles Maciá – E. Martín Contreras (eds.), *Para entender el judaísmo: Sugerencias interdisciplinares*, Universidad de Granada (2012).
23. E. Martín Contreras – L. Miralles Maciá (eds.), *The Text of the Hebrew Bible. From the Rabbis to Masoretes*, Journal of Ancient Judaism, Supplements; Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht (in press).

Book Chapters

24. E. Martín Contreras, "'en 'el.la' en la exégesis de *Génesis Rabbah*", en L. F. Girón-Blanc (coord.) *Exégesis Rabínica: Lengua y Literatura* (Madrid 2000) 147-157. Reviewed by Stephen J. Schweitzer in *Old Testament Abstracts*, vol. 24, nº3 (2001).

25. E. Martín Contreras, “El Midrás Hagádico: Interpretación y Transmisión Textual” in C. López Ruiz – S. Torallas Tovar (eds.), *Memoria de los Seminarios de Filología e Historia*, Madrid (2002) 63-67.
26. E. Martín Contreras, “Masora and Masoretic Interpretation” in Steven L. Mckenzie (ed.), *The [Oxford] Encyclopedia of Biblical Interpretation* (2 vols.; Oxford University Press: USA 2013), I: 542-550.
27. E. Martín Contreras, “Safeguarding Word’s Lord: The Work of the Masoretes” in Jens Scheiner/Damien Janos (eds.), *The Place to Go to. Contexts of Learning in Baghdad from the eighth to tenth Centuries* (in press).
28. E. Martín Contreras, “Rabbinic Ways of Preservation and Transmission of the Biblical Text in the Light of Masoretic Sources” in E. Martín Contreras – L. Miralles Maciá (eds.), *The Text of the Hebrew Bible. From the Rabbis to Masoretes*, Journal of Ancient Judaism, Supplements; Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht (in press).
29. E. Martín Contreras and L. Miralles Maciá, “Interdisciplinary Perspectives for the Study of the Text of the Hebrew Bible: Open Questions” in *id.* (eds.), *The Text of the Hebrew Bible. From the Rabbis to Masoretes*, Journal of Ancient Judaism, Supplements; Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht (in press).

Book Reviews

- Book review of **Víctor M. ARMENTEROS**, *Midras Tanhuma Génesis (edición de S. Buber)*, ed. Verbo Divino, Navarra 2009. *Sefarad* 71 (2011) 221-224.
- Book review of **Víctor M. ARMENTEROS**, *Midras Tanhuma Génesis (edición de S. Buber)*, ed. Verbo Divino, Navarra 2009. *Estudios Bíblicos* 68 (2010) 259-261.
- Book review of **A. Salvatierra y O. Ruiz Morell**, *La mujer en el Talmud. Una antología de textos rabínicos*, ed. Riopiedras, Barcelona 2005. *Sefarad* 66/2 (2006) 482.
- Book review of **Narraciones bíblicas de la creación. Edición y estudio comparativo**, ‘Ilu. Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones. Anejo VII.- Madrid 2002.’ *Ilu Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones* 9 (2004) 369-371.
- Book review of **Leyendas del Talmud y del Midrás**, Barcelona 2002. *Ilu Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones* 8 (2003) 177-178.
- Book review of **Interpretation of Scripture in the Mishnah**, Oxford 2002. *Sefarad* 63/2 (2003) 436-440.

Invited presentations to peer-reviewed and internationally established conferences

International conferences (oral presentations)

- 2013: “The Nun-like Sign in the Masora of the Cairo Codex of Prophets: Use and Function”, 25th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Munich (Germany).
- 2012: “A Survey of Masoretic Studies”, SBL 2012 Annual Meeting. Chicago (USA).
- 2011: “Estado actual de los estudios masoréticos”, International Congress EOS700. 7º Centenario de los Estudios Orientales en Salamanca y en España, Salamanca (Spain).
- 2010: “Rabbinic Ways of Preservation and Transmission of the Biblical Text in the Ligh of Masoretic Sources”, International Symposium “Fixing, Transmitting and Preserving: Early Jewish and Rabbinic Literature in the History of the Hebrew Bible”. Madrid (Spain).
- 2010: “*Qere we-La Ketiv* Notations: A Comparative Study”, 23rd Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Helsinki (Finland).
- 2010: “Transmitting the Bible: A New Approach to the Role of the Rabbinic Literature in the Textual Transmission”, 9th Congress of The European Association for Jewish Studies. Ravenna (Italy).
- 2009: “Is the Masora difficult?” “Materials which are important for the study of the Masorah?” “How to work masoretic notes” Workshop, SBL 2009 Annual Meeting. New Orleans (USA).
- 2008: “Putting Order in the Chaos: The logic of the Masora”, 21th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Boston (USA).

- 2007: "The *Ketib-Qere* Phenomenon and Other 'Masoretic' Information in the Midrash *Ruth Rabbah*", 20th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Ljubljana (Slovenia).
- 2006: "From Midrash to Masorah: History of the Transmissions of the Textual Traditions that Formed the Masorah" SBL Annual Meeting. Washington (USA).
- 2006: "From Midrash to Masorah: Comments on Textual Details in the Midrash *Leviticus Rabbah*", 8th Congress of The European Association for Jewish Studies. Moscow.
- 2006: "M1's Masoretic Appendices: A New Description" SBL International Meeting. Edinburgh (U.K.).
- 2004: "M1's Masoretic Appendices: Study of their Materials" 18th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Leiden (Netherlands).
- 2003: "Editing the Masorah of the Manuscript M1 (Madrid, Complutensian University Library)", International Meeting of *Society of Biblical Literature* Meeting. Cambridge (U.K.).
- 2003: "The Appendix IV of M1: Masorah with Midrashic Explanations", 17th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Cambridge (U.K.).
- 2002: "A New Approach to the Exegetical Rules: Their Application in *Mekhilta de Rabbi Ishmael*", VII Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies. Amsterdam (Netherlands).
- 2001: "Masora and Midras: Commentary on Textual Details", 15th Congress of the International Organization for Masoretic Studies. Basel (Switzerland).
- 1998: "Masoretic Terminology in the exegesis of *Genesis Rabbah*", 6th Congress of The European Association for Jewish Studies. Toledo (Spain).

Invited key lectures

- 2011: "Safeguarding Word's Lord: The Work of the Masoretes", Conference "Contexts of Learning in Bagdad from the 8th – 10th centuries", Gottingen, Germany.
- 2011: "Using Rabbinic and Masoretic sources in the reconstruction of the history of the Hebrew biblical text", Conference "From Theodulf to Rashi: Uncovering the Origins of European Biblical Scholarship", Heidelberg, Germany.
- 2006: "The Role of the Midrashim in the Textual Transmission of the Hebrew Bible: Building the Masorah", Center for Jewish Studies, Manchester (UK).
- 2006: "From Midrash to Masorah: Comments on Textual Details", Institut für Judaistik, Vienne, Austria.
- 2006: "Introduction to the Masorah", Universidad Pontificia Salamanca, Spain
- 2000: "Exegesis and Masorah: A New Approach", Workshop at Faculty of Oriental Studies, Cambridge (U.K.).

Conferences

- "Reflexiones sobre el texto masorético medieval", Simposium of the Asociación Española de Estudios Hebreos y Judíos (AEEHJ), Madrid, Spain, 2013.
- "Consideraciones en torno a la Masora", Simposium of the Asociación Española de Estudios Hebreos y Judíos (AEEHJ), León, Spain, 2011.
- "De cuánto miden los ángeles y otras cuestiones de lógica rabínica", conference given at 2nd meeting of the Department of Plant Molecular Genetics, CNB-CSIC, Toledo, Spain, 2010.
- "De los ángeles cantores al angel de la Muerte", conference given at the Dpt. of Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, 2008.
- "El ingenio interpretativo de los rabinos" (The interpretative talent of the rabbies), Seminar at the Center of Jewish and Christian Studies. Madrid 2005.
- "¿Qué es la Masora?" (What is the Masorah?), Seminar-Workshop at the Dpt. of Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, 2003.
- "Masora, exégesis y gramática: aportaciones recientes" (Masorah, Exegesis and Grammar: The Last Contributions), conference given at the Dpt. of Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, 2003.

- “El midrás hagádico: interpretación y transmisión textual” (Haggadic Midrash: Interpretation and Textual Transmission), Seminary of Filology and Ancient History, CSIC, Madrid, Spain, 2002.
- “Técnicas de comparación en la exégesis rabínica: El *binyan ‘ab*” (“Comparative rules in the rabbinic exegesis: the *binyan ‘ab*”), conference given at the Dpt. of Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, 1999.
- “Técnicas de comparación en la exégesis rabínica: El *heqqes* y la *gezerâ sawâ*” (“Comparative rules in the rabbinic exegesis: the *heqqes* and the *gezerâ sawâ*”), conference given at the Dpt. of Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, 1999.

Prizes and Awards

- *Positive evaluation in the Research Activity Incorporation and Intensification Incentives Program (I3)* Spanish Ministry of Education (2009).
- *Honorary Research Fellow* at the Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Manchester, UK (Oct-Dec 2006).
- *Visiting Fellow* at the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, Faculty of Humanities, Manchester University, UK (Oct-Dec 2006).
- *British Academy Visiting Fellow* (2006).
- *University teaching credentials*, Spanish Ministry of Education (2003).
- *Visiting Scholar* at Wolfson College, Cambridge, U.K. (Nov 2000 - Jun 2002).
- *Doctorate Extraordinary Award*, Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain (2000).

Teaching Experience

- Postgraduate courses on Masora at the CSIC (2005, 2007, 2009)
- One doctoral course on the methodological problems of the rabbinical hermeneutic at the Institute of Religious Sciences, Complutense University of Madrid (2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2006-2007, 2007-2008).
- One course on the models of women in the rabbinic literature in the Master of Gender Studies, Universidad Internacional Menéndez-Pelayo (UIMP) / Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) (2008-2009, 2009-2010).

Master Degree's Supervision

I have co-supervised two multidisciplinary master thesis (the first one combining the approaches of Philosophy and Philology to the rabbinical hermeneutic and the second one combining two fields of study: Greek and Hebrew Philology).

Other Research Achievement

I was elected member of the Executive Board of the Spanish Association of Hebrew and Jewish Studies (2004-2006).

I have participated in an evaluation committee for the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science (2006).

I am secretary and member of the editorial board of the series *Textos y Estudios Cardenal Cisneros*, CSIC, since 2006.

I am editorial adviser of the journal *Sefarad*, since 2010.

Grants

- “*Marina Bueno*” Visiting Fellowship, CSIC (2007).
- British Academy Visiting Fellowship* for early-career scholars (2006).
- “*Marina Bueno*” Visiting Fellowship, CSIC (2006).
- Postdoctoral Fellowship*, Spanish Ministry of Science and Education (2000-2002).
- Short stays grant*, Spanish Ministry of Science and Education: The Academy of the Hebrew Language (Israel) (Oct-Dic 1998).
- Doctoral Scholarship*, Spanish Ministry of Science and Education (1996-1999).

Any other skills and experience

Scientific Memberships: **Asociación Española de Estudios Judíos, AEEHJ** (Spanish Hebrew and Jewish Studies Society); **Asociación Bíblica Española, ABE** (Spanish Biblical Society); **International Organization for Masoretic Studies (IOMS)**; **European Association for Jewish Studies (EAJS)**; **Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)**;

I have a specialization course in Cultural Management.