



The Michael and Elaine Serling Institute  
for Jewish Studies and Modern Israel  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

LEONARD GILMAN LECTURE ON JEWISH CULTURE

# Feeling Jewish: Nostalgia and American Jewish Religion

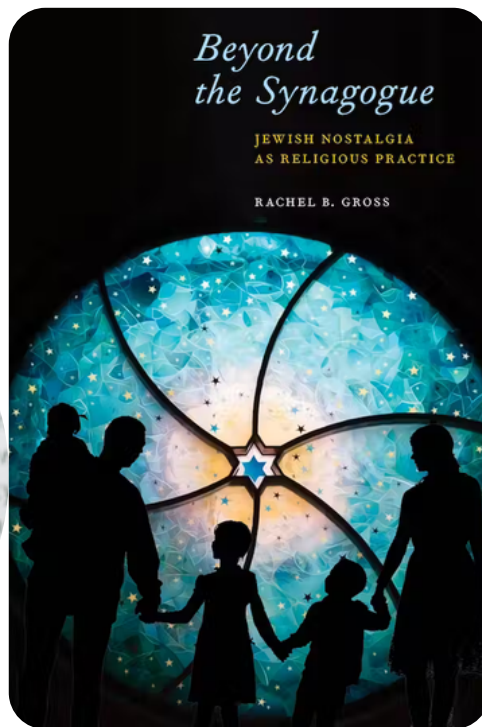
by Rachel B. Gross

Wednesday, January 24, 5:30-7:00 pm

JMC Library, 332 Case Hall (3rd floor)

American Jews tell stories about who they are and where they come from through a range of everyday objects and supposedly secular organizations. Religious studies professor Rachel B. Gross examines the ways many American Jews express longing for Eastern European heritage through artisanal delis, children's books and dolls, historic synagogues, and Jewish genealogy. These nostalgic activities can be understood as religious practices, illuminating how many American Jews are finding and making meaning today. This analysis points to the limits and possibilities of nostalgia, including challenges in embracing diversity among American Jews.

We encourage in-person attendance, however, this event will be live-streamed and recorded on our YouTube Channel



**Rachel B. Gross** is Associate Professor and John and Marcia Goldman Chair in American Jewish Studies in the Department of Jewish Studies at San Francisco State University. Her book, *Beyond the Synagogue: Jewish Nostalgia as Religious Practice*, was a 2021 National Jewish Book Award finalist in American Jewish Studies and received an Honorable Mention for the 2021 Saul Viener Book Prize, given by the American Jewish Historical Society. She is currently working on a religious biography of the twentieth-century American Jewish writer Mary Antin.

Use code GROSS30-FM for an exclusive offer: 30% discount + free shipping on *Beyond the Synagogue* from NYU Press. Scan this QR code:



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