Boston College and the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning are pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Oppenheimer to the 2014-2015 Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations. Dr. Oppenheimer’s career has been devoted to the study of Jews, Christians, and their interaction in the United States. He received his Ph.D. in religious studies from Yale University and currently works as a professor and a journalist.

Today, Dr. Oppenheimer teaches in the Yale English department and at the Yale Divinity School. He has taught at Wesleyan University, New York University, and Wellesley College. He also writes the biweekly “Beliefs” column for The New York Times as well as about religion for The New York Times Magazine, The Nation, and The Christian Century, among other publications. He has written several books including Knocking on Heaven’s Door: American Religion in the Age of Counterculture (Yale University Press) and Thirteen and a Day: The Bar and Bat Mitzvah Across America (Macmillan). Dr. Oppenheimer’s teaching and writing bridge the divide between scholarship and writing for popular audiences.

During Dr. Oppenheimer’s tenure as the Corcoran Chair, he will complete his research into differing Judeo-Christian interpretations of family law, specifically with regard to marriage and divorce. In addition to his research and writing, he will organize a conference “Jews, Catholics, and Protestants Confront Divorce,” teach a seminar titled “Writing about Religion,” and offer public lectures.