Ever since Christianity sought to define itself as distinctly different from Judaism, the paths of Judaism and Christianity have diverged. Yet what they retained in common was a large body of Scriptures, the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament for Christians. This conference will explore what the French scholar Gilbert Dahan has called “the encounter over Scripture,” the exploration of the shared textual heritage by Jewish and Christian scholars in the Western Middle Ages (c. 500-1500 CE), which opened the door to interactions between Christians and Jews, ranging from learned discourse to hostile confrontation.

Sunday, March 19, 2023
2:00-6:00 PM

2:00 PM    Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski (Boston College)
Welcome

Session 1
Chair: David Hunter (Boston College)

2:15 PM    Devorah Schoenfeld (Loyola University Chicago)
How Many Lovers are in the Song of Songs? The Construction of Unified Protagonists in the Commentaries of Rashi, Bede, and the Glossa Ordinaria

2:45 PM    Judith Olszowy-Schlanger (Corpus Christi College, Oxford University)
New Perspectives for the Study of Bilingual Psalters from Medieval England

3:15 PM    Robert A. Harris (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Speaking To and About the Other: Terms for Christians and Christianity Among 12th Century Rabbinic Exeges

3:45 PM    Discussion

4:15 PM    Break

Keynote Address
Chair: Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski (Boston College)

4:30 PM    Frans van Liere (Calvin University / Boston College)
Hebraeus – Judaeus: A Thousand Years of Christian Ambivalence in Two Words

5:30 PM    Reception – All are welcome.
Monday, March 20, 2023
10:00 AM-3:15 PM

9:30 AM  Coffee

Session 2
Chair: Ruth Langer (Boston College)

10:00 AM  Johannes Heil (HJS, Heidelberg)
The Other Diaspora - Roman Jews and Latin Jewish Texts (400-800)

10:30 AM  Deeana Copeland Klepper (Boston University)
Shared Scripture? Nicholas of Lyra’s “On the Differences between the Hebrew Letter and Our Translation” (1333)

11:00 AM  Görge K. Hasselhoff (Technical University Dortmund)
The Impact of the Parisian Talmud Trials on Christian Theology: Translating the Talmud, Rashi, and Maimonides

11:30 AM  Discussion

12:00 PM  Lunch

Session 3
Chair: Jonathan Decter (Brandeis University)

1:00 PM  Boyd Taylor Coolman (Boston College)
The Old Law and the Trinity: A Trinitarian Reading of the Decalogue in the “Summa Halensis”

1:30 PM  Franklin T. Harkins (Boston College)
Moses Maimonides and Albertus Magnus on Job and Divine Providence

2:00 PM  Christopher Ocker (San Francisco Theological Seminary)
Juan de Segovia: a Hierarchy of Errors, the Bible, and the Jews

2:30 PM  Discussion

3:00 PM  Frans van Liere (Calvin University / Boston College)
Closing Remarks