



# 2020

## YIDDISH CIVILIZATION LECTURE SERIES

THURSDAY  
JUL 02

### YIDDISH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND JEWISH MODERNITY

MIRIAM UDEL | *Delivered in English.*

Scholars are only beginning to consider the corpus of nearly one thousand extant books, as well as several periodicals, that constitute the Yiddish children's literature of the 20th century. However, this body of work was important in both shaping and reflecting key aspects of the modern Jewish experience. We will explore what it means to limn the contours of a canon of Yiddish kidlit and discuss the unique vantage point that studying children's literature and culture affords with respect to the rest of modern Jewish civilization.

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Udel's academic research interests include 20th-century Yiddish literature and culture, Jewish children's literature, and American-Jewish literature. She is the author of *Never Better!: The Modern Jewish Picaresque* (University of Michigan Press), winner of the 2017 National Jewish Book Award in Modern Jewish Thought and Experience. *Honey on the Page: A Treasury of Yiddish Children's Literature*, will appear with New York University Press in October, 2020.

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