



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Relations**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Literary Scholar to Examine Relationship between Polish Underground and the Jews in World War II**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Dr. Kerry Wallach, Assistant Professor of German Studies at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania, will discuss “Jewishness on Display: Gender and Jewish Visibility in Weimar Germany” on Thursday, April 21 at 4 p.m. in the Robert A. Scott Student Center at Ramapo College of New Jersey. The Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will sponsor this event.

Dr. Wallach will argue that there was a pronounced desire for visibility among Jews in Weimar Germany, and that gender played a central role in decisions about displaying Jewishness. Instead of “passing” as non-Jews or overtly displaying Jewishness at all times, many Jews inhabited a state of ambiguity in public, but adopted signifiers of Jewishness such as badges or hairstyles that became perceptibly Jewish to certain observers. Dr. Wallach will show that articles in the Jewish press, memoirs, films, literature and other cultural texts depict such conspicuous displays of Jewishness or the absence thereof.

Kerry Wallach’s work has been supported by fellowships and grants from the Leo Baeck Institutes in New York, London and Jerusalem; the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C.; and the German Academic Exchange Service. The holder of a Ph. D. in Germanic Literatures from the University of Pennsylvania, her doctoral dissertation was awarded the Women in German Dissertation Prize. She is also a co-editor of the new book series “German Jewish Cultures,” a joint endeavor of Indiana University Press and the Leo Baeck Institute London.

Recent publications include articles on Weimar film, journalism, Jewish beauty queens, fashion, department stores and Jews in popular culture.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo

College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers eight graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.