

Please join us for a talk with Prof. Rebecca Kobrin on:

A Credit to the Nation: European Jewish Immigrant Bankers and American Finance

What happens when we place commerce at the center of American Jewish immigration history? Between 1870 and 1930, thousands of East European Jewish immigrant bankers transformed both Jewish migration and American finance. In this talk, Prof. Rebecca Kobrin explores how these entrepreneurs financed migration, extended credit when mainstream banks would not, and left a lasting mark on New York City's economic landscape. Drawing on court cases, memoirs, and immigrant press, her work reveals the overlooked power of immigrant banking in shaping transatlantic Jewish life.

March 5, 2026
7PM
Durst Humanities
Theatre



Rebecca Kobrin is the Russell and Bettina Knapp Associate Professor of American Jewish History at Columbia University. A specialist in modern Jewish migration, her work bridges immigration history, urban studies, and American and East European Jewish history. She is the author of *Jewish Bialystok and Its Diaspora* (winner of the Jordan Schnitzer Prize) and editor of several influential volumes on Jewish economic and intellectual life. She also co-leads the award-winning Historical NYC Project, a digital humanities initiative mapping Jewish life in New York City from 1850 to 1940.



For more information and to register, please visit:

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