Dr. Paul Franks  
(Visiting Professor of Philosophy from Yale University)

Part of the Week of Jewish Philosophy  
May 20-22, 2014;  
visit du.edu/ahss/cjs for a complete listing of events in this series.  
For more information, or to RSVP, please email cjs@du.edu

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Tuesday, May 20, 2014  6:30-8:00pm  
University of Denver Sturm Hall, Room 286

Public Lecture:  
German Idealism and Jewish Mysticism

Central themes of the German Idealism of Fichte, Schelling and Hegel are drawn from kabbalah. How did this come about and how were these themes deployed and developed? The translation of thousands of pages of kabbalistic texts in Sulzbach in the seventeenth century will be discussed, and the development of kabbalistic ideas by Jacobi, Fichte and Schelling -- concerning human rights and the capacity for evil -- will be explored.

Dr. Paul Franks is a Professor of Philosophy at Yale University.  
Dr. Franks’ areas of focus include Kant, German Idealism, Post-Kantian Analytic Philosophy, Neo-Kantianism and Phenomenology, Jewish Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Metaphysics and Epistemology, and the Philosophy of the Human Sciences.  

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Wed, May 21, 2014  
12:00-3:00pm  
University of Denver Sturm Hall, Room 286

3-hour Intensive Text Seminar:  
Jewish Philosophy and Historicism in Jewish Studies

In 1818-19, the field of academic Jewish studies was born at the University of Berlin under the sign of historicism -- a new paradigm as well as a world-view -- which led to important developments in the study of the history of Jewish philosophy but which gave rise to resistance to the ongoing practice of Jewish philosophy. What is historicism and to what problem is it responding? Can one reject historicism without rejecting history? How has Jewish philosophy been excluded and how is it still possible and valuable today? How can philosophy be Jewish without losing its universality? How can something Jewish be philosophical without losing its particularity?