# ABIGAIL E. GILLMAN

Associate Professor of Hebrew, German, and Comparative Literature
Department of World Languages and Literatures
Affiliated Faculty, Graduate Faculty of Religion and Jewish Studies
Boston University
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# **Employment**

Boston University, Department of World Languages and Literatures (formerly MLCL). Visiting Assistant Professor of German, 1994-1997.

Assistant Professor of German and Hebrew, 1997-2008.

Associate Professor of Hebrew, German, and Comparative Literature, 2008-. Interim Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, 2016-2017

#### **Education**

Harvard University, Ph.D., Germanic Languages and Literatures, 1994.

Dissertation Director: Dorrit Cohn
Yale University, B.A., Literature, 1986. Magna cum laude, with distinction.
Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Fall 1991.
University of California at Berkeley. Summer 1986.
Goethe Institute, Freiburg. Summer 1985.

## **Publications**

#### **Books**

A History of German Jewish Bible Translation. The University of Chicago Press. 2018.

Viennese Jewish Modernism: Freud, Hofmannsthal, Beer-Hofmann and Schnitzler. Penn State University Press, 2009.

# **Articles and Book Chapters**

"Not Like Cherries, but like Peaches: Mendelssohn and Rosenzweig translate Yehuda Halevi's 'Ode to Zion." *The German Hebrew Dialogue: Studies of Encounter and Exchange*, ed. Rachel Seelig (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2017): 19-39.

"Moses Mendelssohn's *Be'ur*: Translating Torah in the Age of Enlightenment." <u>www.TheTorah.com</u> (2017)

"Anokhi," in AJS Perspectives: The Magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies. The Translation Issue (Fall 2016): 14-16.

- "Shylock in German-Jewish Historiography." Wrestling with Shylock: Jewish Responses to The Merchant of Venice, Ed. Michael Shapiro and Edna Nahshon. Cambridge University Press, 2017. 51-73.
- "'Seit ein Gespräch wir sind und hören können von einander': Martin Buber's Message to Postwar Germany." *NEXUS. Essays in German Jewish Culture*, Vol. 2. Ed.William Collins Donahue and Martha B. Helfer. Camden House: Rochester, NY: 2014. 121-151.
- "From Myth to Memory: German Jewish Translations of Exodus 12-13." *Exodus: Echoes and Reverberations in Jewish Tradition*. Ed. Pamela Barmash and W. David Nelson. Kentucky: Lexington Books, 2015. 191-212.
- "Freud's Moses and Viennese Jewish Modernism." *Freud's Jewish World*. Ed. Arnold Richards. New York: MacFarland Press, 2010.
- "The Jewish Quest for a German Bible: the Nineteenth-Century Translations of Joseph Johlson and Leopold Zunz." *SBL Forum* 7. Special Issue on Bible Translation. Summer 2009. http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/article.aspx?articleId=829
- "Traces of Goodness: Bernard Gotfryd's 'Kurt' and 'Helmut Reiner," and "Portraits of a Holocaust Journey" (co-author), *The Call of Memory: Teaching about the Holocaust through Narrative*. Eds. Keren Goldfrad and Karen Shawn. New Jersey: Ben Yehuda Press, 2008.
- "Monument, Museum, Memoiren: Entstellungen jüdischen Gedenkens im Wien des endenden Zwanzigsten Jahrunderts." *Der untote Gott: Religion und Ästhetik in deutscher und österreichischer Literatur des 20. Jahrhunderts.* Eds. Olaf Bernwald and Gregor Thuswaldner. Vienna: Böhlau Verlag, 2007. 225-243.
- "Cultural Awakening and Historical Forgetting: The Architecture of Memory in the Jewish Museum of Vienna and in Rachel Whiteread's 'Nameless Library."

  New German Critique 93, Fall 2004: 145-173.
- "Failed Bildung and the Aesthetics of Detachment: Schnitzler's *Der Weg ins Freie.*" *Confrontations/Accommodations: German-Jewish Literary and Cultural History from Heine to Wassermann*. Ed. Mark Gelber. Tübingen: Niemeyer Verlag, 2004. 209-236.
- "Is Freud's Art of Memory Jewish?" *Judentum und Antisemitismus: Studien zur Literatur und Germanistik in Österreich*. Eds. Anne Betten and Konstanze Fliedl. Berlin: Erich Schmidt Verlag, 2003. 48-61.
- "Between Religion and Culture: Mendelssohn, Buber, Rosenzweig and the Enterprise of

Biblical Translation." *Biblical Translation in Context*. Ed. Fritz Knobloch. Baltimore: Maryland UP, 2002. 93-114.

- "In Kafka's Synagogue." *The Journal of the Kafka Society of America* 26.1-2, June-December 2002: 11-17.
- "'Ich suche ein Asyl für meine Vergangenheit': Schnitzler's Poetics of Memory." *Arthur Schnitzler: Zeitgenossenschaften / Contemporaneities*. Eds. Ian Foster and Florian Krobb. Bern: Peter Lang, 2002. 141-156.
- "Hofmannsthal's Jewish Pantomime." *Deutsche Vierteljahrsschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte* 71.3, September 1997: 437-460.

#### **Book Reviews**

- Essay: "You Need Only Change Your Direction: New Works on Kafka." *German Studies Review* 41:2 (May 2018): 373-382.
- Jewish Pasts, German Fictions: History, Memory, and Minority Culture in Germany, 1824-1955, by Jonathan Skolnik. Monatshefte 108 (September 2016) 420-423.
- Futurity: Contemporary Literature and the Quest for the Past, by Amir Eshel. German Studies Review 39:2 (May 2016) 437-9.
- Dreaming of Michelangelo. Jewish Variations on a Modern Theme, by Asher D. Biemann. Shofar. An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies. 33:2 (Winter 2015) 146-48.
- Refractions of the Third Reich in German and Austrian Literature and Film, by Chloe Paver. Modern Austrian Literature. 2010.
- "Beyond Dialogue: Recent Scholarship in German-Jewish Studies." Review Essay. *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History.* 23.2, Spring 2004: 92-108.
- Judaism in the Works of Beer-Hofmann and Feuchtwanger, by Sarah Fraiman. Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies 20.1, Fall 2001: 179-181.
- "A Bible for People Today." *Scripture and Translation*, by Martin Buber and Franz Rosenzweig. Trans. Larry Rosenwald. *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History*, May 1999: 106-112.

# **Encyclopedia Entries**

Luther Bible – Judaism. Encyclopedia of the Reception of the Bible (Online). De Gruyter. 2017.

"Yehuda Amichai" and "Not of this Time, Not of this Place" by Yehuda Amichai. Reference Guide to Holocaust Literature. 2002 ed.

# **Scholarly Papers and Presentations**

- "Ma Shemo? Translating the Name(s) of God." University of Notre Dame. April 16, 2018.
- "Back Then here was Only One Story: the German-Israeli Nexus in Recent Cinema." NEMLA, Pittsburgh, PA, April 13, 2018.
- "Ma Shemo? Translating the Name(s) of God." World Congress of Jewish Studies. Jerusalem, Israel. August 8, 2017.
- "When Kafka comes to Tel Aviv: Parabolic Style in Keret and Castel-Bloom." National Association for Professors of Hebrew, Annual Meeting. NYU, June 27, 2017.
- "Trauma and Motherhood in Israeli Cinema." Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, CA. December 19, 2016.
- "Reframing the Hebrew/Israeli Story." Roundtable Participant, Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference. Boston, MA. November 19, 2016.
- "Parabolic Style in Kafka, Keret, and Castel-Bloom." German Studies Association Conference, San Diego, CA. October 1, 2016.
- "Translating the Name(s) of God." Colloquium: "Translation, Migration, Conversion. New Directions in Jewish Bible Translation and Beyond." Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. March 16, 2015.
- "Notes Towards a (German) Jewish History of Translation." Duke University, Fourth Biannual German Jewish Studies Workshop. February 16, 2015.
- "Ewig...ewig....' The Name of God in the German Jewish Bible. Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD. December 16, 2014.
- "Not Like Cherries, but Like Peaches": Rosenzweig and Mendelssohn as Translators of Hebrew Poetry." Internationaler Franz Rosenzweig-Kongress, Frankfurt am Main, October 26-29, 2014.
- "Der einfache Sinn": Philippson and Hirsch as Translators of the Hebrew Bible." The Cultural Politics of German-Jewish Hermeneutics, 1750-1950. University of Chicago Divinity School. October 5-6, 2014.
- "'Ich suche Gott!' Kafka's Castle and the Religious Imagination," German Studies Association Conference, Kansas City, MI, September 21, 2014
- "Before the Law: Decoding Jewish Parables from the Torah to Kafka." German Studies

- Association Conference. Denver, CO. October 4, 2013. [Also presented at the Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, lunchtime faculty seminary, February 13, 2014.]
- Presenter, "Hilary Putnam's Jewish Journey." An evening devoted to the Jewish thinking of the Philosopher Hilary Putnam, Cogan University Professor Emeritus at Harvard University. Together with Diana Eck and Michael Morgan. Harvard Hillel. April 23, 2013.
- "A German Bible for Jewish Women? Bertha Pappenheim and the Tradition of German Jewish Bible Translation." Lectures in Criticism Series. Boston University. February 7, 2013.
- "A Bible for Women Today? Bertha Pappenheim and Martin Buber as Translators of the Hebrew Bible." Panel on Authenticity, Hybridity, and the Question of Translation. German Studies Association Conference. Milwaukee, WI. October 8, 2012.
- "Eine Bibel für die Frau von heute: Bertha Pappenheims *Zeenah U-Reenah* in der Geschichte der jüdischen deutschen Bibelübersetzung." XIV. Symposium für jiddische Studien in Deutschland. Universität Trier, Trier, Germany. September 6, 2011.
- "The Jewish Quest for a German Bible, 1783-1961." Starr Seminar Series, Harvard University Center for Jewish Studies and the Department of Comparative Literature. March 10, 2011.
- "Agnon's *Bridal Canopy*." Lecture-Introduction to concert performance of Jonathan Berger's (Stanford University) "The Bridal Canopy" by The Arneis Quartet. Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, Boston University. December 8, 2011.
- "Martin Buber's Dialogue with Postwar Germany." Panel on Post-Holocaust Narratives, Strategies, Negotiations. Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference. Washington D.C. December 19, 2011.
- "Martin Buber's Dialogue with Postwar Germany." University of Chicago. Symposium: The German Hebrew Conversation. April 7, 2010.
- "Towards a History of the German Jewish Bible." Dartmouth College. Day-long Jewish Studies Conference. August 8, 2010.
- "Philippson and Hirsch as Translators of the Bible." Panel on Jewish Translation Practices. Association for Jewish Studies Conference, Boston, December 21, 2010.
- "Jews, Modernism, Vienna: Rethinking What Was." The Bard Music Festival 2010: Berg and His World. August 20, 2010.
- "Freud's Moses and Viennese Modernism." Connecticut College. Invited Lecture, New London, CT. April 12, 2010.
- "In Search of the German Jewish Bible." German and Jewish Studies Workshop, Duke University. February 15-17. 2009.

- "The New Hebraism: Johlson and Zunz as Translators of the Hebrew Bible." Panel on Bible Translation." Society for Biblical Literature. Boston. November 24, 2008
- "Freud, Psychoanalysis, and the Philippson Bible," Roundtable Discussion with Mary Bergstein, Diane O'Donoghue, Bennett Simon and Andrew Stein Raftery. The Philoctetes Center, New York. November 15, 2008. http://philoctetes.org/Past\_Programs/Freud\_Psychoanalysis\_and\_the\_Philippson\_Bible
- "In Search of the German Jewish Bible." Workshop, "Between Berlin and Jerusalem: Putting the German-Hebrew Conversation into Focus." Stanford University, Palo Alto. May 1, 2008.
- "Johlson and Zunz as Translators of the Bible." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. Toronto. December 18, 2007.
- "Exodus 12-13:16 Through the Lens of the German Jewish Bible." Colloquium, "Out of Egypt: Echoes and Reverberations of Passover and Exodus in Jewish Tradition." Washington University, St. Louis. May 2007.
- "A Jewish Luther? Towards a History of German-Jewish Bible Translation." Jewish Studies Colloquium, Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry. Brandeis University. February 2007.
- "A Jewish Luther? Towards a History of German-Jewish Bible Translation." Society of Fellows, Boston University Humanities Foundation. February 2007.
- "Freud's Moses and Viennese Jewish Modernism." Conference, "Freud's Jewish World." Sponsored by the Leo Baeck Institute, the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, and the Sigmund Freud Archives. December 4, 2006. http://www.listeningtowords.com/person.php?id=1412
- "Freud's Jewish Modernism." Association for Jewish Studies. Washington D.C. December 2005.
- "Actual Dilemmas, Virtual Solutions: New Media in the Jewish Museum of Vienna." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. Washington D.C. December 2005.
- "Between Religion and Culture: Two Sites of Jewish Memory in Vienna Today." The Luce Program in Scripture and the Literary Arts, Boston University. March 29, 2005.
- Published Response. *German Literature, Jewish Critics: The Brandeis Symposium*. Eds. Stephen D. Dowden and Meike G. Werner (Rochester N.Y.: Camden House, 2002): 171-174.
- "Halakhic and Aggadic Memory in Franz Kafka's 'In unserer Synagoge." Kafka and Memory. Modern Language Association. New York. December 2002.
- "Confronting the Jewish Past in Vienna Today." Austrian Writers Confront the Past, 1945-

- 2000. University of Pennsylvania. April 2002.
- "In a Minor Key: Arthur Schnitzler's Jewish Texts, 1903-1912." Association for Jewish Studies. Boston. December 2001.
- "Freud's Art of Memory." Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (Institute for Human Sciences). Vienna. June 2001.
- "Is Freud's Art of Memory Jewish?" Österreichische Gesellschaft für Germanistik (Austrian Association of Germanists). Vienna, June 2001.
- "'Ich suche ein Asyl für meine Vergangenheit': Schnitzler's Poetics of Memory." Arthur Schnitzler Symposium. Institute of Germanic Studies, London. December 1999.
- "Mendelssohn as Translator." Modern Language Association. San Francisco. December 1998.
- "Forging German-Jewish Culture: Mendelssohn, Buber, Rosenzweig, and the Enterprise of Biblical Translation." Conference, "Biblical Translation in Context." U. of Maryland. April 1998.
- "Ein deutsches Buch': The Place of Memory in Ruth Klüger's weiter leben: Eine Jugend." Association for Jewish Studies. Boston. December 1994.
- "Nazism and the Holocaust: A Curriculum for Elementary German." Co-presenter.

  American Association for Teachers of German. Atlanta. November 1994.
- "In the Mind of the Memory-Individual: Aestheticism and Memory in Richard Beer-Hofmann's *Der Tod Georgs*." NEMLA. Pittsburgh, April 1994.

### Awards, Fellowships and Grants

- JCE, EWCJS, BUCH grants for hosting the International NAPH conference (June 2019)
- The Egon Schwarz Prize for an Outstanding Essay in the Area of German Jewish Studies. February 15, 2015.
- Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellowship, Boston University Center for the Humanities, Spring 2015.
- Religion Fellow, Boston University School of Theology and CURA. 2013-2014.
- Harry Starr Fellowship, Center for Judaic Studies, Harvard University. Spring 2011.
- The Posen Foundation for Cultural Judaism. Award of \$50,000/year for three years to

teach courses and support programming on cultural Judaism at Boston University. Co-investigator. Spring 2009.

David Baumgardt Fellowship, Leo Baeck Institute for the Study of the History and Culture of German-speaking Jewry. Spring 2008.

Fellowship, Boston University Humanities Foundation. 2006-07.

Project Grants, Boston University Humanities Foundation, in support of the Newton Lecture in Jewish Studies. 1996, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006.

Visiting Fellow, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Vienna. March-June 2001.

Franz Werfel Fellow, University of Vienna. Austrian Academic Exchange Service. Spring 2001.

Fellowship, Boston University Humanities Foundation. 1998-99.

Doctoral Dissertation Grant, National Foundation for Jewish Culture. 1992-93.

Jacob Javits Fellowship, Harvard University. 1987-91.

Research Fellow, Franz Rosenzweig Center for German-Jewish Literary and Cultural Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Fall 1991.

DAAD Fellow, German Studies Seminar. University of California, Berkeley. Summer 1986.

# **Teaching, Boston University**

## German

German Drama (LG 463)

Twentieth-Century German Literature and Culture (LG 455)

Franz Kafka and his World (LG 280)

German Jewish Literature and Thought (LG 280)

Introduction to German Literature (LG 350)

The Age of Goethe (LG 452)

Nineteenth-Century German Literature (LG 454)

History and Interpretation of German Lyric (LG 461)

Vienna 1900 (LG 470)

German Composition and Conversation I & II (LG 303, 304)

German for Reading Knowledge (LG 621)

German language (LG 111, 211-212)

#### **Hebrew and Middle Eastern Literature**

Introduction to Comparative Literature: Middle East (XL 223)

Israeli Culture Through Film (LH 283/453)

Masterpieces of Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation (LH 250)

Modern Hebrew Poetry (LH 351)

Modern Hebrew Prose (LH 350)

Hebrew Language (LH 211)

## Jewish Studies/Religion

Religion and Film (RN 203/CI 268/XL560)

Genesis: Scripture, Interpretation, Literature (LL 560/RN 524/STH 824)

Modern Jewish Writing (RN 524/XL 560)

The Modern Jew (RN 339, STH TX)

The Heretical Jew (RN 336, STH TX 812)

#### **Humanities**

The Ancient World (CC 101)

From the Enlightenment to Modernity (CC 202)

# Adjunct Teaching, Hebrew College. Newton, MA.

The Mashal/Parable Across Jewish Literature. Intensive week-long seminar. Summer 2018.

Jewish Literary Modernism. Intensive week-long seminar. Summer 2017.

Zachor: An Exploration of Jewish Memory. Intensive week-long seminar. Summer 2015.

Israeli Culture Through Film. Online course. Spring 2015.

Kafka and his World. Online course. Spring 2013.

Kafka and Agnon Approach the Day of Judgment. Mini-course, Hebrew

College Rabbinical School. August 20-24, 2012.

Modern Hebrew Literature. Online Course. Spring 2012.

Explorations in Jewish Literature. Online course. Fall 2010.

The Modern Period. The Me'ah Program of Hebrew College. Temple Or Atid,

Wayland, MA. Spring 2009.

Instructor, Understanding Hebrew Texts. Me'ah Graduate Institute, 2004-06.

## Departmental and University Service, Boston University

Interim Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, 2016-2017.

Main Organizer, "In Memory of Elie Wiesel: A Day of Learning and Celebration," September 24, 2017.

CAS Lecturer Promotion Committee, Spring 2018.

WLL Lecturer Promotion Committee, 2015-1018.

Associate Chair, MLCL. 2015-2016

Convener, Hebrew Language Program, MLCL. 1996-2017.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, MLCL, 2013-2014.

Member, CAS Academic Policy Committee, CAS, 2011-2014.

Member, Faculty Board, The Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, 1994-

Judge, Shmuel Traum Literary Translation Competition. 2003-

Member, Faculty Board, Jewish Cultural Endowment. 2005-.

Organizer, Newton Family Lecture in Jewish Studies (speaker: Savyon Liebrecht), March 24, 2014

Debater, "Hamentashen vs. Latke Debate," Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies Spring Party, April 23, 2014.

Introducer, "Waltz with Bashir," Middle Eastern Film Series, BU Society for Muslim Studies and Civilizations. Spring 2014.

Co-Associate Chair, MLCL. Spring 2013.

Chair, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Russian, MLCL. Fall 2012

Lecturer, Alumni Weekend, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. "Kafka's Parables." Nov. 23, 2012.

Faculty Chair, Humanities Curriculum Committee, CAS. 2009-2010

Lecturer, Holocaust Education Week, Hillel House. "Martin Buber's Message for Postwar Germany." April 2012.

Presenter, "Hearing the Voices of Observant Jewish Lesbians." OUTlook, the LGBTQ group in Marsh Chapel. November 29, 2011.

Member, Executive Committee, Boston University Humanities Foundation, 2008-2010

Member, Steering Committee, Program in Scripture and the Arts. 2008-2011

Convener, German Language Program, MLCL. 2007-2009.

Faculty Speaker, CAS Honors Program Reception. April 27, 2007.

Lecturer, Core Curriculum (CC 101). "God in Search of Man: An Introduction to the Hebrew Bible" Sept. 2000, 2003-2009, 2011, 2012.

Coordinator, Newton Family Lecture in Jewish Studies. '96, '97, '00, '02, '04, '06, '08, '10. Guest Lecturer, "S.Y. Agnon," RN 102: Sacred Journeys. February 2007.

Organizer, Film Screening and Lecture, Orna Ben-Dor. April 2005.

Organizer, Geddes Lecture. Judith Rosenhouse, Technion U., Haifa. November 2002.

Organizer, Geddes Lecture. Etgar Keret, October 2001.

Participant, Literary Evenings. "Genesis One," February 2001. "Man, Woman, Serpent," February 2003. Luce Program in Scripture and the Literary Arts.

Assistant Chairman, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. Fall 1998-Fall 2000. Supervisor of programs in Arabic, Chinese, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Japanese and Russian.

Introducer, Elie Wiesel, Boston University Lecture. October 2000, October 2007.

Member, Geddes Lecture Series Committee, MFLL. 1997-1999.

Faculty Lecturer, Boston University Alumni Travel Program. The Rhine River in Germany. May 1999.

Organizer, Geddes Lecture/Workshop. Vardit Ringwald, Brandeis U. February 1999.

Search Committee Member, Department of Religion/Center for Jewish Studies. Medievalist Search. Spring 1998.

Organizer, Geddes Lecture. Liliane Weissberg, U. of Pennsylvania. April 1998.

### Service to the Profession and the Community

Manuscript reviewer, Indiana University Press; Camden House; UPenn Press/ Judge, Sybil Milton Prize for the best book in Holocaust Studies, German Studies Association, 2015.

Evaulator, Tenure Case in Judaic Studies, Franklin & Marshall College, 2015.

Evaluator, Tenure Cases in German, Tufts University (2014), Washington University (2018)

Reviewer of Essays, German Studies Review, Colloquia Germanica, Journal of Comparative Literature. Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook, Journal of Modern Jewish Studies, Comparative Literature, Mosaic, PMLA, Journal of Religion.

Instructor, "Zachor: An Exploration of Jewish Memory." Six-Week adult education class, Temple Emanuel, Newton, MA. October-November, 2008.

Search Committee Member, Editor of German Quarterly, 2006.

"Open, Closed, Open: Four Lectures on Jewish Modernism." Spring Rabbinic Institute, The Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. April-June 2005.

Introducer, *The Metamorphosis*, Boston Jewish Film Festival, Museum of Fine Arts. November 2003.

Introducer, Film version of Kurt Tucholsky's *Gripsholm*. Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center. July 2002.

"Memory; Midrash; Modernism: The Work of Franz Kafka." Lecturer, Temple Emanuel, Newton, MA. April 2000.

"The Pedagogy of German Jewish Studies." Organizer and Chair of a workshop featuring six scholars of German Jewish literature from universities throughout the Northeast. AJS. Boston. December 1998.

# **Memberships in Professional Organizations**

German Studies Association Association for Jewish Studies NAPH NEMLA Society for Biblical Literature MESA

### Languages

German Hebrew French, reading knowledge Yiddish, reading knowledge