

Christine (Tina) Shepardson

Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, Department of Religious Studies
Associated Faculty, Department of History
Related Faculty, Department of Classics
Core Faculty: Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program
Affiliated Faculty: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Interdisciplinary Program
Affiliated Faculty: Medieval and Renaissance Studies Interdisciplinary Program
Affiliated Faculty: Judaic Studies Interdisciplinary Program
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Positions

Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UT-Knoxville, 2015-present
Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences, UTK, 2022-27
Head, Department of Religious Studies, UT-Knoxville, 2018-23
Lindsay Young Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, UT-Knoxville, 2015-2022
Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UT-Knoxville, 2009-2015
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UT-Knoxville, August 2003-2009

Education

2003: Ph.D. in Early Christianity, Duke University, Graduate Program in Religion
1998: Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies, Duke University
1996: M.T.S., *summa cum laude*, Boston University School of Theology
1994: B.A., Swarthmore College, Majors: Religion, English

Reading Languages

Syriac, Greek, Hebrew (biblical and rabbinic), Aramaic, Latin, Coptic, French, German

Books: Monographs and Edited Volumes

A Memory of Violence: The Radicalization of Religious Difference in the Middle East (431-750 CE) (Oakland: University of California Press, in press for 2025).

Michael Penn, Scott Johnson, Christine Shepardson, Charles Stang, eds., *Invitation to Syriac Christianity: An Anthology* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2022).

Award (Jan. 2024): Best Historical Materials published in 2022 and 2023, awarded by the Reference and User Services Association, an affiliate of the American Library Association

Geoffrey Dunn and Christine Shepardson, eds. *Dealing with Difference: Christian Patterns of Response to Religious Rivalry in Late Antiquity and Beyond*, Studies and Texts in Antiquity and Christianity (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2021).

Controlling Contested Places: Late Antique Antioch and the Spatial Politics of Religious Controversy, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2014); paperback, 2019.

Anti-Judaism and Christian Orthodoxy: Ephrem's Hymns in Fourth-Century Syria. Patristic Monograph Series (Washington, D.C., Catholic University of America, 2008).

Articles and Book Chapters: Published and Forthcoming

“Anti-Jewish and Antisemitic Violence and the New Testament,” in *The Bible and Violence*, ed.

- Johanna Stiebert, Chris Greenough, Mmapula Kebaneilwe, and Tinyiko Maluleke (London: Bloomsbury, forthcoming).
- “Christian Martyrs in a Christian Empire: Chalcedon and the Politics of Appropriation,” in *Appropriation: A New Approach to Religion in Antiquity*, ed. Jitse Dijkstra and Andreas Bendlin (New York: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).
- “Speaking of Jews: Late Antique Antioch’s Shifting Anti-Jewish Rhetoric,” in *Antioch on the Orontes: History, Society, Ecology, and Visual Culture*, ed. Andrea De Giorgi, 330-342 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2024).
- “Embodied Readers: Teaching the New Testament in Rural Protestant America,” in *Activism, Bible, and Research-Based Teaching: Practical Approaches for the Global Biblical Studies Classroom*, ed. Johanna Stiebert, 254-274 (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2024), edited and updated reprint of 2020 *JIBS* article.
- “Christianity Emerges in the Era of Late Antiquity,” in *Entangling Web: The Fractious Story of Christianity in Europe*, ed. Alec Ryrie and Mark Lamport, 1-16 (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2024).
- “Bishops in Flight: Interpreting Exile in Late Antiquity,” [Ancient Jew Review](#), February 13, 2024.
- “Palestinian Christians and Muslims have lived together in the region for centuries – and several were killed recently when sheltering in the historic Church of Saint Porphyrius,” [The Conversation](#), Oct 30, 2023.
- Christine Shepardson and Paula Fredriksen, “Jews and Christians in Pagan Antiquity from the First through the Third Centuries,” in *The Cambridge History of Ancient Christianity*, ed. Bruce Longenecker and David Wilhite, 199-227 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2023).
- “Teach Your Children Well: Martyrs, Monks and Mothers in Severus of Antioch.” *The Third Lung: New Trajectories in Syriac Studies (in Honour of Sebastian P. Brock on his 80th birthday)*, ed. Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony, Miriam Hjälm, and Robert Kitchen, 67-85 (Leiden: Brill, 2023).
- “Turkey’s historic city of Antakya, known in Roman and medieval times as Antioch, has been flattened by powerful earthquakes in the past – and rebuilt itself,” [The Conversation](#), Feb 16, 2023.
- Geoffrey Dunn and Christine Shepardson, “Introduction,” in *Dealing with Difference: Christian Patterns of Response to Religious Rivalry in Late Antiquity and Beyond*, Studies and Texts in Antiquity and Christianity, ed. Geoffrey Dunn and Christine Shepardson, 1-18 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2021).
- “Remembering the Saints: John of Ephesus’s *Lives* and the Polarization of the Chalcedonian Conflict,” in *Dealing with Difference: Christian Patterns of Response to Religious Rivalry in Late Antiquity and Beyond*, Studies and Texts in Antiquity and Christianity, ed. Geoffrey Dunn and Christine Shepardson, 185-200 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2021).
- “Anxious Vigilance: Heresy and Ritual Pollution in John of Tella and Severus of Antioch,” *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 24.1 (2021): 3-34.
- “Suffering Saints: Shaping Narratives of Violence after Chalcedon,” in *Religious Violence in the Ancient World: From Classical Athens to Late Antiquity*, ed. Jitse Dijkstra and Christian Raschle, 345-66 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020).
- “Embodied Readers: Teaching about the Earliest Christians in Rural Protestant America,” *Journal for Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies*, special issue, ed. Johanna Stiebert, 2.1 (2020): 208-223.
- “Engaging Politics in the New Testament Classroom: Excavating a Syllabus,” *The Wabash*

- Center Journal On Teaching* 1.3 (2020): 91-96.
- “Martyrs of Exile: John of Ephesus and Religious Persecution in Late Antiquity.” In *Heirs of Roman Persecution: Studies on a Christian and para-Christian Discourse in Late Antiquity*, ed. Éric Fournier and Wendy Mayer, 277-95 (Routledge, 2019).
- “Bodies on Display: Deploying the Saints in Religious Competitions of Late Antique Antioch.” In *Antioch II: The Many Faces of Antioch, Intellectual Exchange and Religious Diversity, CE 350-450*, ed. Silke-Petra Bergjan and Susanna Elm, 235-53 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2018).
- “Give it Up for God: Wealth, Suffering, and the Rhetoric of Religious Persecution in John of Ephesus’ *Church History*.” In *Reconceiving Religious Conflict: New Views from the Formative Centuries of Christianity*, ed. Chris de Wet and Wendy Mayer, 86-109 (London: Routledge, 2018).
- “Posthumous Orthodoxy,” in *Melania: Early Christianity in the Life of One Family*, ed. C.M. Chin and Caroline Schroeder, 186-201 (Berkeley: University of California, 2016).
- “Between Polemic and Propaganda: Evoking the Jews of Fourth-Century Antioch,” *Journal of the Jesus Movement in its Jewish Setting* 2 (2015): 147-82.
- “Meaningful Meetings: Constructing Linguistic Difference in and around Late Antique Antioch,” in *Syriac Encounters: Papers from the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University, 26-29 June 2011*, *Eastern Christian Studies* 20, ed. M. Doerfler, E. Fiano, and K. Smith, 79-90 (Leuven: Peeters, 2015).
- A. Dessel, C. Shepardson, and R. Bolen, “Can conservative Christian religious expression and LGB sexual orientation affirmation coexist in social work?” in *Conservative Christian Beliefs and Sexual Orientation In Social Work: Privilege, Oppression, and the Pursuit of Human Rights*, ed. A. Dessel and R. Bolen, 171-194 (New York: Council on Social Work Education Press, 2014). [Revision of *JSWE* article.]
- “Apollo’s Charred Remains: Making Meaning in Fourth-Century Syria.” *Studia Patristica*, 38 (2013): 297-302.
- “Aphrahat,” *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, vol. 2 (Blackwell, 2012), 19-20.
- A. Dessel, R. Bolen, and C. Shepardson, “Hopes for intergroup dialogue: Affirmation and allies,” *Journal of Social Work Education* 48.2 (2012): 361-7.
- “Interpreting the Ninevites’ Repentance: Jewish and Christian Exegetes in Late Antique Mesopotamia,” *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies*, 14.2 (2011): 61-89.
- A. Dessel, R. Bolen, and C. Shepardson, “Can religious freedom of expression and sexual orientation affirmation coexist in social work? A critique of Hodge’s theoretical, theological and conceptual frameworks,” *Journal of Social Work Education* 47.2 (2011): 213-234.
- “Burying Babylas: Meletius and the Christianization of Antioch.” *Studia Patristica*, 37 (2010): 347-52.
- “Rewriting Julian’s Legacy: John Chrysostom’s *On Babylas* and Libanius’s *Oration 24*,” *Journal of Late Antiquity* 2.1 (2009): 99-115.
- “Syria, Syriac, Syrian: Negotiating East and West in Late Antiquity,” in *The Blackwell Companion to Late Antiquity*, 455-66 (Blackwell, 2009).
- “Paschal Politics: Deploying the Temple’s Destruction against Fourth-Century Judaizers,” *Vigiliae Christianae* 62.3 (2008): 233-260.
- “Defining the Boundaries of Orthodoxy: Eunomius in the Anti-Jewish Polemic of his Cappadocian Opponents,” *Church History* 76.4 (December 2007): 699-723.
- “Controlling Contested Places: John Chrysostom’s *Adversus Iudaeos* Homilies and the Spatial Politics of Religious Controversy,” *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, 15.4 (December

- 2007): 483-516.
- “Create-A-Jesus: Scholarship and the Search for the Historical Jesus,” in *Teaching the Bible: Practical Strategies for Classroom Instruction*, 277-278 (Society of Biblical Literature, 2005).
- “Source Criticism and Eye-Witness Accounts,” in *Teaching the Bible: Practical Strategies for Classroom Instruction*, 30-31 (Society of Biblical Literature, 2005).
- “‘Exchanging Reed for Reed’: Mapping Contemporary Heretics onto Biblical Jews in Ephrem’s *Hymns on Faith*,” *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 5.1 (2002): 15-33.
- “Anti-Jewish Rhetoric and Intra-Christian Conflict in the Sermons of Ephrem Syrus.” *Studia Patristica*. 35 (2001): 502-507.
- Paula Fredriksen and Tina Shepardson, “Embodiment and Redemption: The Human Condition in Ancient Christianity,” in *The Human Condition: A Theory and Case-Study of the Comparison of Religious Ideas*, ed. Robert C. Neville, 133-155 (Albany, NY: SUNY, 2001).
- “Stones and Stories: Reconstructing the Christianization of the Golan.” *Biblisches Forum* Summer 1999 (<http://purl.org/bibfor/archiv/99-1.shepardson.htm>). Reprinted in *Biblisches Forum: Texte und Steine*, eds. Andreas Leinhäupl-Wilke, Stefan Lücking, and Jesaja Michael Wiegard, 98-116 (Münster: Biblisches Forum, 2000).
- “Christian Division in Ancient Edessa: Ephrem the Syrian’s *Carmina Nisibena* XXVII-XXVIII.” *Journal of the Assyrian Academic Society* 12.1 (1999): 29-41.
- “St. Michael the Archangel: An Ancient Coptic Homily.” *Coptic Church Review* 19.3 (1998): 66-74.

Book Reviews

- J. Edward Walters, ed. *Eastern Christianity: A Reader*. Reviewed in *Review of Biblical Literature* (July 2022). <https://www.sblcentral.org/home/bookDetails/1000690>
- Hahn, Johannes and Volker Menze, eds. *The Wandering Holy Man: The Life of Barsauma, Christian Asceticism, and Religious Conflict in Late Antique Palestine*. Reviewed in *Review of Biblical Literature* (September 2021). <https://www.sblcentral.org/home/bookDetails/13958>
- Smith, Mark S. *The Idea of Nicaea in the Early Church Councils, AD 431-451*. Oxford Early Christian Studies. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 46.4 (2020): 557.
- Gregerman, Adam. *Building on the Ruins of the Temple: Apologetics and Polemics in Early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism*. Reviewed in *Antisemitism Studies*, 2.2 (2018).
- Andrade, Nathanael J. *Syrian Identity in the Greco-Roman World*. Greek Culture in the Roman World. Reviewed in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2015.01.22.
- Cribiore, Raffaella. *Libanius the Sophist: Rhetoric, Reality, and Religion in the Fourth Century*. Cornell Studies in Classical Philology. Reviewed in *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 22.3 (2014): 473-4.
- Cameron, Averil and Robert Hoyland, eds., *Doctrine and Debate in the East Christian World, 300-1500*. Worlds of Eastern Christianity 12. Reviewed in *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies* 89.1 (2014): 171-2.
- Walters, James, ed. *Ephrem the Syrian. Hymns on the Unleavened Bread*. Reviewed in *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 16.2 (2013): 382-4.
- Sivertsev, Alexei M. *Judaism and Imperial Ideology in Late Antiquity*. Reviewed in *Journal of Late Antiquity* 5.2 (2013): 427-29.
- Barnes, Timothy D. *Early Christian Hagiography and Roman History*. Reviewed in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 75.1 (2013): 136-8.

- Schor, Adam M. *Theodoret's People: Social Networks and Religious Conflict in Late Roman Syria*. Reviewed in *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 15.2 (2012): 408-10.
- Dunning, Benjamin. *Aliens and Sojourners: Self as Other in Early Christianity*. Reviewed in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 80.4 (2011): 880-2.
- Harvey, Susan Ashbrook and David Hunter, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Early Christian Studies*. Reviewed in *Theological Studies* 70.4 (2009): 933-5.
- Bowes, Kim. *Private Worship, Public Values, and Religious Change in Late Antiquity*. Reviewed in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, 78.4 (2009): 877-80.
- Sandwell, Isabella. *Religious Identity in Late Antiquity: Greeks, Jews, and Christians in Antioch*. Reviewed in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, 77.3 (2008): 706-8.
- Maxwell, Jaclyn. *Christianization and Communication in Late Antiquity: John Chrysostom and his Congregation in Antioch*. Reviewed in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, 76.4 (2007): 823-4.
- Harvey, Susan Ashbrook *Scenting Salvation: Ancient Christianity and the Olfactory Imagination*. Reviewed in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 76.2 (2007): 403-5.
- Walker, Joel. *The Legend of Mar Qardagh: Narrative and Christian Heroism in Late Antique Iraq*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 32.2 (2007): 78-9.
- Boustan, Ra'anana and Annette Yoshiko Reed, eds. *Heavenly Realms and Earthly Realities in Late Antique Religions*. Reviewed in *Ancient History Bulletin* 21 (2007).
- Klein, Wassilios, ed. *Syrische Kirchenväter*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review*, 32.2 (2006): 126.
- Krueger, Derek. *Writing and Holiness: The Practice of Authorship in the Early Christian East*. Reviewed in *The Medieval Review*, September 2005.
- Possekkel, Ute. *Evidence of Greek Philosophical Concepts in the Writings of Ephrem the Syrian*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 28.2 (April 2002): 172-3.
- Hoffman, Paul. *Studien zur Frühgeschichte der Jesus-Bewegung*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 23.2 (April, 1997): 78.
- Bockmuehl, Markus. *This Jesus: Martyr, Lord, Messiah*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 23.2 (April, 1997): 78.
- Wilkens, Michael J. and J.P. Moreland, eds. *Jesus under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents the Historical Jesus*; and Joel B. Green and Max Turner, eds. *Jesus of Nazareth, Lord and Christ: Essays on the Historical Jesus and New Testament Christology*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 23.2 (April, 1997): 77-8.
- Watson, Alan. *Jesus the Jew: The Pharisaic Tradition in John*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 23.1 (January, 1997): 70.
- Young, Brad H. *Jesus the Jewish Theologian*. Reviewed in *Religious Studies Review* 23.1 (January, 1997): 70.

International Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

2014-18: International Research Partner in the project "Religious Conflict and the Stages of Radicalisation," based in the Early Christian Studies research concentration in the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry, Australian Catholic University.

National Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

2024: Best Historical Materials published in 2022 and 2023 Award, from the Reference and User Services Association, an affiliate of the American Library Association

2016-17: National Endowment for the Humanities, NEH Fellowship

2009-10: American Academy of Religion, AAR Individual Research Grant
2009-10: American Academy of Religion, AAR Regional Development Grant
2009-10: American Council of Learned Societies, ACLS Fellowship
2008: National Endowment for the Humanities, NEH Summer Stipend
2008: American Philosophical Society, Franklin Research Grant

University Awards and Fellowships

2024: Dr. Gilya Schmidt Endowed Faculty Award in Judaic Studies
2022-27: UT, Distinguished Professor in the Humanities
2022: UT Alumni Association's Outstanding Teacher Award
2022: UT, Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award, *semi-finalist*
2021-23: UT, Lindsay Young Professorship (*declined 2022-23 to accept Distinguished Prof.*)
2019-21: UT, Lindsay Young Professorship
2019: UT, Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award, *finalist*
2018: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Sweden)
2017-19: UT, Lindsay Young Professorship
2016: UT, College of Arts and Sciences Midcareer Research Award
2016: Honorary Ambassador, University of Tennessee LGBTQ+ Pride Center
2016-17: UT, Faculty Development Leave, (*concurrent with NEH Fellowship*)
2016-17: University of Tennessee Humanities Center, *Declined (accepted NEH Fellowship)*
2016: UT, Quest Scholar of the Week
2016: UT, Faculty Development Leave, *Declined (concurrent with UT Humanities Center)*
2015-17: UT, Lindsay Young Professorship
2015: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Oxford)
2015: UT, Faculty Trailblazer: College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Appreciation Week
2014: UT, Quest Scholar of the Week
2014: UT, Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend
2013: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Finland)
2012-13: UT, College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Academic Outreach Award
2011-12: Department of Education Arabic and Arab Culture Infusion Stipend (awarded by UT)
2011: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Oxford)
2011: UT Chancellor's Award: Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement
2010: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Syria)
2008: UT, Quest Scholar of the Week
2007: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Oxford)
2006: UT, Professional Development Award (Turkey) (\$4,867)
2005: UT, Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend
2003: UT, SARIF Foreign Travel Award (Oxford)

University Grants

2024-25: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2023-24: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2022-23: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2021-22: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2020-21: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2019-20: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2018-19: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
2018: Haines Morris Grant to help fund 2019 Dungan Lecture

2017-18: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2016-17: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2015-16: College of Arts and Sciences grant to fund Middle East Research Group
 2015-16: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2015: Gregor Kalas, Tina Shepardson, Jacob Latham, Lindsay Young Visiting Scholar Grant, Marco Institute grant to invite a senior scholar to campus
 2014-15: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2013-14: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2013: Marco Institute grant to fund the maps needed for my book
 2012-13: Humanities Center grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2011-12: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2011: Marco Institute research travel grant to Oxford conference
 2010-11: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2009-10: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Regional Workshop (\$3,275)
 2009-10: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2009: Opportunities Fund Grant to fund Regional Workshop
 2008-09: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Regional Workshop
 2008-09: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar (\$2,500)
 2007-08: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar
 2006-07: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar (\$2,500)
 2006: Marco Institute research travel grant to Newberry Library
 2005-06: Humanities Initiative grant to fund Faculty Research Seminar (\$2,500)
 2005: Marco Institute research travel grant to Newberry Library
 2005: Lindsay Young Endowment grant for library resources

International Invited Research Lectures

“Christian Martyrs in a Christian Empire: Chalcedon and the Politics of Appropriation.” Invited conference speaker, “Appropriation: A New Approach to Lived Religious Experience in Antiquity,” at University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Canada), Sept-Oct 2022.

“A Memory of Violence: The Radicalization of a Sixth-Century Christian Conflict.” Invited Brenninkmeijer-Werhahn Lecture at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2022. *Postponed from May 2020 (and October 2021) due to Coronavirus.*

“To See Ourselves: Fourth-Century Polemic and its Modern Interpreters.” Invited conference speaker, Jewish-Christian Relations and Christian anti-Jewish Polemics in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages, at the University of Toronto (Toronto, Canada), May 2022.

“Teach Your Children Well: Mothers of Monks and Martyrs in Severus of Antioch.” Invited speaker at conference for Sebastian Brock’s 80th birthday. Sweden, June 2018.

“Spinning Violence: Narrating the Suffering of Early Anti-Chalcedonian Saints.” Invited speaker at “Religious Violence in Antiquity: New Perspectives.” Ottawa, Canada, September 2017.

“Representing the Saints: John of Ephesus’s *Lives* and the Polarization of the Chalcedonian Conflict,” XVII International Oxford Patristics Conference, invited workshop, August 2015.

“Strategies of Persistence: Suffering and the Rhetoric of Religious Persecution in John of Ephesus’ *Church History*.” Invited speaker at the annual University of South Africa Symposium for New Testament and Early Christian Studies in Pretoria, South Africa, September 2014.

“Bodies on Display: Deploying the Saints in Religious Competitions of Late Antique Antioch.”

Invited speaker at an international meeting, “Intellectual Exchange and Religious Diversity in Antioch (CE 350-450),” in Zurich, Switzerland, July 2014.
“The Politics of Shaping Antioch’s Places.” Invited speaker at an international meeting in Paris, France, January 2010.

National Invited Research Lectures

Invited response to Paula Fredriksen, *Ancient Christianities*, Enoch Seminar, San Diego, November 2024.
Invited response to Blake Leyerle, *The Narrative Shape of Emotion in the Preaching of John Chrysostom*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, November 2023.
Invited moderator for keynote address by Paula Fredriksen, North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2022.
Invited panelist, “Synagogues, Churches, and Heretics: De-Ciphering Judaizers in Antioch and Edessa,” Westar Christianity Seminar, November 2021.
Invited response to Ross Kraemer, *The Mediterranean Diaspora in Late Antiquity: What Christianity Cost the Jews*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, November 2021.
Invited response to Jennifer Barry, *Bishops in Flight*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, November 2021. *Postponed from November 2020 due to Coronavirus.*
Invited Keynote, “Monumental Lives: Sixth-Century Memorials of a Community in Exile,” 7th Dorushe Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies, St. Louis University, May 2021. *Postponed from May 2020 due to Coronavirus.*
Invited response to Paula Fredriksen, *When Christians were Jews*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA, November 2019.
“A Memory of Violence: The Radicalization of Religious Difference in the Middle East (451-750 CE).” Invited research talk at *Studies in Late Antiquity* Editorial Board Meeting, UC-Santa Barbara, May 2019.
“Memories of Violence: From Heretics to Martyrs in Sixth-Century Syria.” Invited public talk at Princeton, December 2018.
Invited respondent, “Polemics in the Late Antique East,” Traditions in the Late Antique East, American Academy of Religion, Denver, November 2018.
“Review of *Early Christianity in Lycaonia and Adjacent Areas*,” invited panelist, *Polis and Ekklesia*, Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, November 2018.
“Seductive Spectacles: Competing for Congregants in Late Antique Antioch.” Invited lecture, Archaeology of Religion in the Roman World, Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November 2017.
“Hell of a Wrong Eucharist: Ritual Distinction and Community Identity in 6th-c. Syriac Christianity.” Invited lecture, Center for Late Ancient Studies, Duke University, Oct. 2017.
“Beyond Relevance: Teaching and Researching Early Christianity in the Present Moment.” Invited panelist, North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2017.
“Urban Space and Ritual.” Invited panelist for Religious World of Late Antiquity, Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, November 2016.
“Remembering the Future: Heaven, Hell, and the Eucharist in John Rufus (fl. 500-18).” Invited lecture, Regional Late Antiquity Consortium, University of Kentucky, Lexington, October 2016.
“(Dis)Locating Heresy: John of Ephesus and Religious Persecution in Late Antiquity,” Invited lecture in a sponsored session, North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2016.
“Apocalypse Now: Early Syrian Orthodoxy and the Rise of Islam.” Invited lecture, “Holistic

- Approaches to the Study of Early Islam and the Late Antique World,” Indiana University, Bloomington, April 2016.
- “From Early Christianity to ISIS: Putting Religion on the Map.” Invited lecture, American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, April 2016.
- “Controlling Contested Places: The Topography of Religion.” Invited panelist, American Association of Geographers, San Francisco, April 2016.
- “Bordering on Heresy: Early Syrian Orthodoxy and the Negotiation of Religious Identity,” Invited Keynote Lecture for “Forging Faith(s) in Global Borderlands,” University of California, Santa Barbara, March 2016.
- “Our City became a Church: The Spatial Politics of Religious Controversy in Roman Syria.” Invited lecture, University of California, Riverside, February 2016.
- “Putting Religion in its Places: How the Roman Empire became Christian.” Invited to give the annual Vassiliadis Lecture, University of California, San Diego, February 2016.
- Invited respondent, “Interpreting Text, Producing and Performing Interpretations,” Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Texts session, Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 2015.
- “Christians and Jews in late antique Antioch.” Invited panelist for the 2015 Moskow Workshop: “Jews in the Late Antique Mediterranean, 4th-7th c.” Brown University, May 2015.
- Invited respondent for a session on my book, *Controlling Contested Places*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2014.
- “Give it up for God: Wealth and the Cost of Religious Resistance in John of Ephesus’ *Church History*.” Invited lecture for “Cultures of the Late Antique Mediterranean”. Vanderbilt University, October 2014.
- “Mapping a Textured Landscape: Temples, Martyrs, Ascetics.” Invited seminar talk for the Mellon Graduate Student Workshop, “Cultures of Performance in the Post-Classical Mediterranean.” Brown University, Feb 2014.
- “The Enemy of My Enemy is a Heretic? Nestorians, Miaphysites, and Gerontius’s *Life of Melania*.” Invited lecture, Late Antiquity Made New: A Celebration of the Work of Elizabeth A. Clark, Duke University, April 2013.
- “Burying Babylas: Place Marketing and the Politics of Memory.” Invited lecture for the History Pre-Modern Seminar. (University of Kentucky, March 2013).
- “Controlling Contested Places: Fourth-Century Antioch and the Spatial Politics of Religious Controversy.” Invited lecture for the Religious History Colloquium. Vanderbilt University, October 2012.
- Invited respondent: “The Construction of Arian Memories,” American Society of Church History, Chicago, January 2012.
- “Controlling Contested Places: Constructing Religious Orthodoxy in Fourth-Century Antioch.” Invited lecture at the conference “Constructing Christianity.” University of South Carolina, November 2011.
- “Locating Orthodoxy: Syrian Judaizers and Narratives of Imperial Christianity.” Invited lecture at the annual meeting of the International Network for the Study of Late Antiquity/Internationales Netzwerk zur Spätantike-Forschung. Knoxville, May 2009.
- “The Politics of Place in Fourth-Century Antioch.” Invited lecture at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.), March 2009.
- Invited response to Paula Fredriksen, *Augustine and the Jews*, Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA, November 2007.
- Invited response to “Astrological Knowledge and Apostolic Competition: The Pseudo-Clementine *Recognitions* in the Context of Fourth-Century Syria” by Nicole Kelley.

Society of Biblical Literature, Christian Apocrypha section, Philadelphia, November 2005.

- “Fourth-Century Syriac Christianity (Aphrahat and Ephrem) and Judaism in Mesopotamia.” Invited lecture at Duke University, part of the NEH-funded summer seminar, “Aramaic in Post-Biblical Judaism and Early Christianity.” Duke University, July 2004.
- “Jewish, Christian, and Pagan Interaction in Northern Palestine and Southern Syria.” Invited lecture at Duke University, part of the NEH-funded summer seminar, “Aramaic in Post-Biblical Judaism and Early Christianity.” Duke University, June 2004.

International Conference Presentations

- “Building a Past for the Present: Mapping Religious Orthodoxy onto Antioch’s Landscape,” XXII Finnish Symposium on Late Antiquity: Spaces – Past and Present, Tvärminne, Finland, November 2013.
- “Apollo’s Charred Remains: Making Meaning in Fourth-Century Syria,” XVI International Oxford Patristics Conference, August 2011.
- “Burying Babylas: Meletius of Antioch and the Spatial Politics of Christianization,” XV International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, August 2007.
- “The Stench of the Stinking Jews’: Reconnecting Ephrem’s Rhetoric with Fourth-century Syrian Jews.” XIII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, August 2003.
- “The Importance of Being Israel: Contextualizing Ephrem the Syrian’s Interpretation of Scripture.” Society of Biblical Literature, Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity Section, Toronto, November 2002.
- “The Politics of History: Scriptural History and Community Definition in Fourth-century Syria.” Society of Biblical Literature, Ideological Criticism Section, Toronto, November 2002.
- “Anti-Jewish Rhetoric and Intra-Christian Conflict in the Sermons of Ephrem Syrus.” XII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, August 1999.

National Conference Presentations

- “Sexgendered Pilgrims of Genderqueer Saints: Embodied Experiences in Christian Late Antiquity,” Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2024.
- “‘She spilled (her) stain upon the Church’: Jacob of Serugh and the Council of Chalcedon,” Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2024.
- “Under the Influence: Severus, Syrian Orthodoxy, and the Greek Miaphysites of Gaza,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2024.
- “Doctrines without Borders: John of Tella between Rome and Persia,” Shifting Frontiers Conference, UC-Santa Barbara, September 2023.
- “Lessons for an Apocalypse: Reading the Chalcedonian Conflict under Umayyad Rule,” Ninth North American Syriac Symposium, Yale University, June 2023.
- “Complicating ‘What the Bible Says’ in a Land of Jesus and Football,” Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, November 2019.
- “Contagious Bodies: John of Tella on the Physical Danger of Heresy,” 8th North American Syriac Symposium, Brown University, June 2019.
- “Letters from a Byzantine Jail: Sixth-Century Miaphysite Christians on their Incarceration for Christ,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2018.
- “Anathemas from Heaven: John Rufus and Severus on Chalcedonian Claims of Legitimacy,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2017.
- “Persisting in Religious Truth: Reading John of Ephesus during the Rise of Islam,” Society

- of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, November 2016.
- “Inscribing Chalcedonian Orthodoxy on the Monks of Palestine,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2014.
- “The City, A Text: Inscribing Orthodoxy in Antioch’s Landscape,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2013.
- “Going to the Cemetery: Remembering the Saints in Fourth-Century Antioch,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2012.
- “Meaningful Meetings: Constructing Linguistic Difference in Late Antique Antioch,” VI North American Syriac Symposium, June 2011.
- “Legislating the Places of Religious Practice from Constantine to Theodosius,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2010.
- “The Power of Prestigious Places: Teaching and Preaching in Fourth-Century Antioch,” Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, November 2009.
- “The Rhetoric of Civic Chaos: Social and Geographical Inversion in John Chrysostom’s *De Statuis*,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2009.
- “From Mountaintop to Marketplace: The Topography of Authority in Fourth-Century Antioch,” American Society of Church History, New York City, January 2009.
- “Simply Orthodox: Exploiting the Urban/Rural Divide in Fourth-Century Antioch,” Space, Place, and Lived Experience in Antiquity section, Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November 2008.
- “Interpreting the Repentance of the Ninevites in Late Antique Mesopotamia,” History of Interpretation section, Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, November 2008.
- “Reading Regional ‘Realities’: Fourth-century Judaizers in Antioch and Edessa” SBL, San Diego, CA, November 2007.
- “Competing for Congregants: John Chrysostom and the Politics of ‘Christian’ and ‘Jewish’ Space,” Society of Biblical Literature, Europe and the Mediterranean in Late Antiquity Group, Washington, D. C., November 2006.
- “John Chrysostom and the Politics of Religious Space in Fourth-Century Antioch.” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2006.
- “Paschal Politics: The Temple’s Destruction Deployed by Fourth-Century Christians.” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2005.
- “Interpret with Care: Jews, Arians, "Jews," and "Arians" in Fourth-century Syria." Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 2003.
- “Defending Nicea: Ephrem in the Context of Empire." North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2002.
- “In the Service of Orthodoxy: Anti-Jewish Language and Intra-Christian Conflict in the Writings of Ephrem the Syrian.” Society of Biblical Literature, poster session, Denver, Nov. 2001.
- “‘Exchanging Reed for Reed’: Mapping Contemporary Heretics onto Biblical Jews in Ephrem’s *Hymns on Faith*.” North American Patristic Society, Chicago, 2001.
- “Blood, Bread, and the Bible: Scripture and Authority in Ephrem’s *Hymns on Unleavened Bread*.” American Academy of Religion, History of Christianity session, Nashville, 2000.
- “‘Whoring with the Calf’: Exodus 32 and Ephrem’s anti-Jewish Rhetoric.” North American Patristic Society, Chicago, 2000.
- “Contending with Christian Heresy: Reexamining the Anti-Jewish Rhetoric of Ephrem the Syrian.” Society of Biblical Literature, Early Jewish/Christian Relations session, Boston, 1999.
- “Claiming Christianity: Early Syriac Christianity and the Anti-Manichaean Rhetoric of Ephrem’s *Prose Refutations*.” Syriac Symposium III, Notre Dame University, 1999.

- “Drawing the Line with Gentiles: Eating Practices and Christian Self-Definition in the Pseudo-Clementine *Recognitions*.” American Academy of Religion, southeastern regional meeting, Durham, NC, 1999.
- “Stones and Stories: Reconstructing the Christianization of the Golan.” Society of Biblical Literature, Jewish, Christian, and Pagan Interaction in Late Antique Syria session, Orlando, 1998.
- “Constraining a Gendered Ideal: Basil of Ancyra’s *de vera virginitatis integritate* and the Body of the True Female Virgin.” North American Patristic Society, Chicago, 1998.
- “Stones and Stories: Reconstructing the Christianization of the Golan.” American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), southeastern regional meeting, Knoxville, TN, 1998.

UT Research Lectures

- “Doctrines without Borders: John of Tella between Rome and Persia,” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2023.
- “Christian Martyrs in a Christian Empire: Chalcedon and the Politics of Appropriation,” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2022.
- Invited session chair, “Religious Communities Across Space and Time in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East,” Marco Symposium, Knoxville, March 2022.
- “Speaking of Jews: Late Antique Antioch’s Shifting Anti-Jewish Rhetoric”, Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2021.
- “Monumental *Lives*: Sixth-Century Memorials of a Community in Exile,” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, April 2021.
- “Remembering the Future: Prophecy and the Final Judgment.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, August 2019.
- “Syriac Studies: New Conversations.” Regional Late Antiquity Consortium, Southeast (ReLACS). October 2018.
- “Teach Your Children Well: Mothers of Monks and Martyrs in Severus of Antioch.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2018.
- “Hell of a Wrong Eucharist: Ritual Distinction and Community Identity in 6th-c. Syriac Christianity.” Research Seminar, Religious Studies Department, UT, Oct 2017.
- “Spinning Violence: Narrating the Suffering of Early Anti-Chalcedonian Saints.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2017.
- “Representing the Saints: John of Ephesus’s *Lives* and the Polarization of the Chalcedonian Conflict.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, October 2015.
- “Culture, Politics, and Religion: Interpreting God’s Word in the American South.” Alumni Reunion invited speaker, UT, June 2015.
- “Suffering and the Rhetoric of Religious Persecution in John of Ephesus’ *Church History*.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2014.
- “The Enemy of My Enemy is a Heretic? Nestorians, Miaphysites, and Gerontius’s *Life of Melania*.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2013.
- “Transformative Transgression: Exploiting the Urban/Rural Divide.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, March 2013.
- “This Land is My Land: Religion, Politics, and the Power of Controlling Places.” Invited speaker for the University program “Mic Nite” (UTK, October 2011).
- “Christianizing the Landscape: Temples, Ascetics, and Martyrs.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, August 2011.
- “Controlling Contested Places: The Spatial Politics of Early Christianity.” Invited faculty speaker for the Dean’s Advisory Council meeting (UTK, April 2011).

- “The Power of Prestigious Places: Teaching and Preaching in Fourth-Century Antioch.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, April 2011.
- “Elsewhere in the Empire.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, August 2009.
- “Saving the City: Rural Role Models and Urban Corruption.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, December 2008.
- “Rewriting Julian’s Legacy: John Chrysostom’s *De s. Babyla* and Libanius’s *Oratio* 24.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, September 2007.
- “Defending Nicaea: ‘Jews’ and ‘Arians’ with Ephrem’s Greek Neighbors.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, October 2006.
- “John Chrysostom and the Politics of Religious Space in Fourth-Century Antioch.” Faculty Research Seminar on Late Antiquity, UT, March 2006.
- “Jews, Christians, Heretics: Fourth-century Politics and the Making of Christian Orthodoxy.” Public inaugural lecture at UTK, October 2004.

Professional Seminars and Workshops

- 2024-25: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2024: Invited to facilitate Yale graduate seminar (Zoom) about the Chalcedonian conflict.
- 2024: Invited to facilitate graduate seminar (Zoom) about Antioch in late antiquity for Princeton and Yale students.
- 2023-24: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2022-23: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2022: Invited workshop participant, “Archives & Beyond: Reading Ecclesiastical Histories,” at Amherst College, Massachusetts, July 2022.
- 2022: “Lessons from Antioch: Reinterpreting Ephrem’s Judaizers.” Invited to lead graduate seminar at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, June 2022. *Postponed from May 2020 (and October 2021) due to Coronavirus.*
- 2021-22: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2021: 5-module Inclusive Teaching Certification, by UT Teaching & Learning Innovation
- 2020-21: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2020: Participated in “Academics for Black Survival and Wellness,” hosted (virtually) by Dr. Della Mosley and Pearis Bellamy, June 19-25, 2020.
- 2019: Invited to participate in the Syriac working group at Stanford University, September 2019.
- 2019-20: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2018: Invited to facilitate graduate seminar about Antioch in late antiquity at Princeton for Princeton and Harvard students
- 2018: Invited to participate in the Syriac working group at Stanford University, November 2018.
- 2018: Invited facilitator, “What’s it like teaching at a large state school?” for the “Teaching Religious Studies” graduate seminar, Stanford University, April 2018.
- 2018-19: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, co-chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”
- 2017-18: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, chair: “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity.”

- 2017: Invited to participate in the Syriac working group at Harvard Divinity School, May 2017.
- 2017: Invited presenter at the Dissertation to Book workshop organized by ReMeDHe before the North American Patristics Society conference, May 2017, Chicago.
- 2017: Invited speaker at the Annual Research Symposium of the Taft Center, University of Cincinnati, February 2017.
- 2015-16: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2014-15: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2013-14: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2012-13: UT Humanities Center Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2011-12: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2010-11: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2010-11: Faculty Advisor: "Mysticism, Heresy, and Witchcraft: An Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Renaissance Studies"
- 2010: Organizer, Second Annual "Southeast Regional Late Antiquity Workshop," April 2010
- 2009-10: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2009: Organizer, UT Humanities Initiative Workshop: "Southeast Regional Late Antiquity Workshop: Roman Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity." I received funding from the Humanities Initiative to create a two-day regional workshop that brought together faculty and graduate students in the Southeast region on the topic of Late Antiquity. I was the workshop coordinator and in charge of organizing and running the workshop.
- 2008-09: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2008: UT Marco Workshop: "Marco Manuscript Workshop: Texts in Motion," Feb 2008. I participated in this workshop, and chaired a session.
- 2007-08: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2006-08: Wabash Workshop (Lilly Foundation): "Rethinking the Christian Studies Classroom: Mapping the Hidden (and Not So Hidden) Dynamics of Teaching Religion in the South." I participated in a two-year workshop with faculty from the University of Tennessee, the University of Georgia, and Appalachian State University. The three UT faculty involved met during the year, and all the faculty from the three universities met once each March. We produced a report on our activities for the Wabash Center.
- 2006-07: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, chair: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."
- 2005-06: UT Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar: "The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity." I founded this research seminar as the first such seminar through UT's Humanities Initiative program. I have organized and chaired this seminar from its beginning. I also participate in each meeting, and present my work in progress to the seminar for discussion once each year.

2004: Invited presenter at the NEH Summer Seminar, "Aramaic in Post-Biblical Judaism and Early Christianity," Duke University, June-July 2004.

Teaching and Research Interests

Christianity in Late Antiquity, Syriac Christianity, History of Christianity, Anti-Judaism and Antisemitism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Gender Studies, New Testament, Second-Temple Judaism, Cultural Geography, Politics of Biblical Interpretation, Religion and Violence, Memory Studies

Positions Held and Teaching Experience

Head, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018-23

Virtual Vol Bootcamp (online teaching training, July 2020)

Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2015-present.

University Honors Program: I accepted an invitation to teach the required second-semester seminar for the prestigious Haslam Scholars Program (Spring 2011, 2013, 2015). I also taught a one-credit University Honors seminar (2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2013).

Related Faculty, Department of Classics, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2012-present.

Adjunct Faculty, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2010-present.

I received permission to direct History M.A. and Ph.D. students.

Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2009-2015.

Associated Faculty, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2008-2010.

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Classics, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2004-2012.

Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2003-2009.

Gerst Instructor: "The Rhetoric of Religious Conflict and the History of Christian Anti-Judaism," Duke University, Spring 2003.

Visiting Lecturer: "The New Testament and the Origins of Christianity," University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Fall 2002.

Instructor: "The New Testament and the Origins of Christianity," Duke University, Spring 2000.

Instructor: "Anti-Judaism: Jews in the Christian Imagination," Duke University, Spring 1999.

Visiting Lecturer: "The New Testament and the Origins of Christianity," University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Spring 1999.

Classes Taught at the University of Tennessee (those in bold are usually taught annually)

HIST 500: Masters Thesis

HIST 529: Topics in Late Antique/Early Medieval History (Topic: Syriac Christianity)

HIST 593: Independent Study (Topic: Jews and Christians in Late Antique Syria and Palestine)

HIST 593: Independent Study (Topic: Syriac Christianity)

HIST 621: Directed Readings (Topic: Space and Place in Early Christianity)

HIST 621: Directed Readings (Topic: Eastern Roman Frontier)

HIST 629: Seminar in Late Antiquity (Topic: Basil of Caesarea)

HIST 629: Seminar in Late Antiquity (Topic: Late Antique Antioch)

HIST 629: Seminar in Late Antiquity (Topic: Syriac Christianity)

HSP 258: Foundations of Modernity

REST 101: World Religions in History

REST 102: The Comparison of World Religions (Topic: The Human Body)

REST/MEST 225: Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, Islam

REST/MEST 227: Honors: Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, Islam

REST/HIST/JST/MEST 321: The New Testament and the Origins of Christianity

REST/HIST/MEST 322: Christianity in Late Antiquity

REST 401: Texts and the Study of Texts

REST 407: Honors Thesis, I

REST 408: Honors Thesis, II

REST 423: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Sexuality and Gender)

REST 423: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Creating Christian Identities in Late Antiquity)

REST 423: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Wealth and Poverty)

REST 425: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: The Rhetoric of Religious Conflict)

REST 425: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: Sexuality and Gender in Early Christianity)

REST 493: Independent Study (Variable Topics)

REST 499: Advanced Seminar in the Study of Religion (Topic: Social and Political Approaches to the Study of Texts and Traditions)

REST 499: Advanced Seminar in the Study of Religion (Topic: Religion and Violence)

REST 499: Advanced Seminar in the Study of Religion (Topic: Making Heresy: Critical Reflections on Claiming Religious Orthodoxy)

REST 504: Advanced Seminar in the Study of Religion (Topic: Social and Political Approaches to the Study of Texts and Traditions)

REST 520: Readings in the Study of Religion (Topic: Sexuality and Gender in Early Christianity)

REST 523: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Sexuality and Gender)

REST 523: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Creating Christian Identities in Late Antiquity)

REST 523: Seminar in Early Christianity (Topic: Eastern Christian Asceticism)

REST 532: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: The Rhetoric of Religious Conflict)

REST 532: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: Sexuality and Gender in Early Christianity)

REST 532: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: Education and Christianity in Late Antiquity)

REST 532: Seminar in Western Religions (Topic: Syriac Christianity)

REST 593: Independent Study (Topic: Syriac Language, I)

REST 593: Independent Study (Topic: Syriac Language, II)

UNHO 100: Honors First-Year Seminar (Topic: Sex and Celibacy in Early Christianity)

UNHO 100: Honors First-Year Seminar (Topic: Politics of Biblical Interpretation)

Doctoral Student Supervision

Sara Daiane da Silva José (UT, History), advisor, PhD in progress (2024-)

Madison Fogle (UT, History), advisor, MA/PhD in progress (2023-)

Stacie Beach (UT, History), committee, PhD in progress

Matthew Baker (UT, History), committee, PhD 2024

“The World of Lérins: Ontology and the Late Antique Monastery, 400–542 CE”

Michelle Freeman (UNC-Chapel Hill, Religious Studies), committee, PhD 2024

“‘Crowned in Word’: Ritual, Social Consensus, and Diversity in Late Antique Homilies on Martyrs”

Laura Roesch (UT, History), committee, PhD 2021

“‘A Fine Spray of Blood’: Martyrdom, Violence, and Sacred Landscapes in the Late Antique Mediterranean”

Jacob Love (UT, History), committee, PhD 2019

“The Passover Seder: The History of a Memory”

Kathryn Kleinkopf (UT, History), co-advisor, PhD 2019

“A Second Skin: Ascetics as Body-Places in Late Antique Christianity”

Stefan Hodges-Kluck (UT, History), advisor, PhD 2016
“Ascetic Bodies: Philosophical Self-Presentation in Late Antique Cappadocia”
Christopher Lawrence (UT, History), committee, PhD 2012
“Crisis of Legitimacy: Honorius, Galla Placidia, and the Struggles for Control of the
Western Roman Empire, 405-425 C.E.”
Scott MacKenzie (UT, English), committee, PhD 2010
“Saint Oswald, Christ, and the Dream of the Rood: Mutable Signs at a Cultural
Crossroad”

Masters Student Supervision

Ashley Cornell (UT, History), committee, MA (thesis) in progress
Emma Pugmire (UT, History), co-advisor, MA (thesis) 2021
“Edessa, Goths, and Empire: Roman Identity in *Euphemia and the Goth* and the *Julian
Romance*”
Dustin Breitreuz (UT, History), advisor, MA (exams) 2020
Geoffrey Martin (UT, History), committee, MA (exams) 2015
Tarayn Ryan (UT, History), committee, MA (exams) 2014
Jen Scheuer (UT, Studio Art), committee, MFA 2014
Exhibit: “Visualizations, Mnemonics, and the Divine”
Leah Giamalva (UT, History), committee, MA (exams) 2010
Anthony Cox (UT, History), committee, MA (exams) 2008
Eric Martin (UT, History), committee, MA (exams) 2006

Disciplinary Service

Advisory Boards:

2024-2026: *Journal of Early Christian Studies*
2015-2020: *Journal of Early Christian History*
2015-2017: *Journal of Early Christian Studies*
2016: Best First Article Prize Committee, *Journal of Early Christian Studies*

Editorial Boards:

2018-23: *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, Johns Hopkins journal
2016-24: *Studies in Late Antiquity*, University of California journal
2015-present: *Early Christianity in the Context of Antiquity*, Peter Lang series
2013-present: *Studies in the History of the Christian Traditions*, Brill monograph series

Review Panelist:

2012-13: National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend
2010-11: National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend

Society of Biblical Literature

2011-2016: Early Jewish/Christian Relations Session, chair
2007: organized a conference session for the national SBL meeting
2005-2011: Early Jewish/Christian Relations Session, steering committee

North American Patristics Society

2014-17: Board Member (Member-at-Large)
2016-17: Awards Committee

2016-17: Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, co-chair
2015-16: Program Committee

American Society of Church History

2018: Nominated to run for president-elect, *declined*
2014-17: ASCH Research and Prizes Committee
2013: Executive Secretary Performance Review Committee, chair
2011-13: ASCH Council
2008-2009: Program Committee, organized a conference session

Memberships:

American Academy of Religion: 1995-present (sporadically)
American Society of Church History: 2000-present (very sporadically)
North American Patristics Society: 1997-present
Society of Biblical Literature: 1995-present

Journal submissions reviewed for:

Journal of Early Christian History
Journal of Early Christian Studies
Journal of the Jesus Movement in its Jewish Setting
Journal of Late Antiquity
Journal of Law and Religion
Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies
Studies in Late Antiquity
Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy

Book submissions reviewed for:

Brown Judaic Studies
Routledge, Classics and Archaeology
University of California

Book Reviews published in:

Ancient History Bulletin
Antisemitism Studies
Bryn Mawr Classical Review
Catholic Biblical Quarterly
Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture
Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies
Journal of Early Christian Studies
Journal of Late Antiquity
The Medieval Review
Religious Studies Review
Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies
Theological Studies

External tenure/promotion file evaluator:

2024 (1); declined (2)
2023 (2); declined (1)

2022 (1); declined (1)
2021 (2); declined (2)
2020 (1)
2019 (2); declined (1)
2018 (2)
2017 (4); declined (1)
2015 (2)

Institutional Service: Departmental Level

2024-25: Peer Teaching Review Committee, chair

Awards Committee, chair

Faculty Mentor for Manuela Ceballos

Enhanced Tenure Track Review Committee for Larry Perry, chair

Graduate Certificate Coordinator

Dean's Advisory Committee Representative

Bylaws Committee

Communications Committee

Distinguished Lecture Committee

Retention Review Committee

Assessment Committee

2023-24: On leave

Graduate Certificate Coordinator

Faculty Mentor for Shinnerrie Jackson (Dept. of Theatre)

Faculty Mentor for Khôra Martel (Lecturer, Religious Studies)

Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department

2022-23: Department Head

Academic Program Review, chair

Siddiqi Lecture in Islamic Studies Committee, chair

Distinguished Lecture in Religious Studies Committee, chair

Newsletter Coordinator

Undergraduate Advisor

Curriculum Committee, chair

Library Representative

Graduate Certificate Coordinator

Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes

(Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)

Faculty Mentor for Shinnerrie Jackson (Dept. of Theatre)

Promotion and Tenure Committee (Justin Arft, Classics Department)

Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department

2021-22: Department Head

Siddiqi Lecture in Islamic Studies Committee, chair

Distinguished Lecture in Religious Studies Committee, chair

Undergraduate Advisor

Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes

(Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)

Faculty Mentor for Shinnerrie Jackson (Dept. of Theatre)

Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department

2020-21: Department Head

Siddiqi Lecture in Islamic Studies Committee
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes
 (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2019-20: Department Head
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair
 Curriculum Committee
 Siddiqi Lecture in Islamic Studies Committee
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes
 (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)
 Search Committee (Medieval History), History Department
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2018-19: Department Head
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair
 Siddiqi Lecture in Islamic Studies Committee
 Curriculum Committee
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes
 (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2017-18: Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair (Mar '18-Feb '19)
 Strategic Plan Update Committee, chair
 Bylaws Update Committee, chair
 Curriculum Committee
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Faculty Mentor (Erin Darby)
 Faculty Mentor (Manuela Ceballos)
 Faculty Mentor for Phillip Stokes
 (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures: Arabic)
 Tenure and Promotion Committee (Erin Darby), chair
 Teaching evaluation (Stefan Hodges-Kluck, History)
 Teaching evaluation (Jenny Collins-Elliott)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2016-17: On leave for an NEH Fellowship
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee (Mar '16-Feb '17)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2015-16: Search Committee (Director of Judaic Studies), chair
 Curriculum Committee, chair
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Diversity Representative to the College
 Faculty Mentor (Manuela Ceballos)
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair (Mar '16-Feb '17)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2014-15: Curriculum Committee, chair
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Diversity Representative to the College

Peer Teaching Evaluation for Megan Bryson (Fall 2014)
 Faculty Mentor (Manuela Ceballos)
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair (Mar '14-Feb '15)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2013-14: Curriculum Committee, chair
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Search Committee (Islam), diversity advocate
 Diversity Representative to the College
 Peer Teaching Evaluation for Erin Darby (Fall 2013)
 Peer Teaching Evaluation for Megan Bryson (Spring 2014)
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee, chair (Mar '14-Feb '15)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2012-13: Curriculum Committee, chair
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee (Mar '12-Feb '13)
 CCTST test for UT seniors, administered test for department
 Peer Teaching Evaluation for Youshaa Patel (Spring 2013)
 Peer Teaching Evaluation for Erin Darby (Spring 2013)
 SACS Reaccreditation Committee, department representative (Jan 2013)
 Faculty Mentor for Youshaa Patel (Fall 2012)
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2011-12: Search Committee (Early Judaism), chair
 Undergraduate Committee
 Undergraduate Advising Committee, chair
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee (Mar '12-Feb '13)
 Bylaws Review Committee, chair
 Premodern Europe Caucus, Graduate Program, History Department
 2010-11: Search Committee (Islam), chair
 History Dept. Search Committee (Early Roman History)
 Undergraduate Committee
 Undergraduate Advisor
 Dungan Memorial Lecture Committee (Mar '10-Feb '11)
 2009-10: On leave for an ACLS Fellowship
 2008-09: Undergraduate Committee, chair
 Undergraduate Major Assessment Committee
 Middle East Subcommittee, Department Board of Visitors
 2007-08: Undergraduate Committee, chair: coordinated significant
 rewriting of Religious Studies undergraduate curriculum 2007-08
 Middle East Subcommittee, Department Board of Visitors
 2006-07: Undergraduate Committee, chair
 Middle East Subcommittee, Department Board of Visitors
 2005-06: Department Representative in Arts and Sciences Advising (Aug-Oct)
 Department Undergraduate Committee, co-chair
 2004-05: Department Undergraduate Committee, co-chair
 2003-04: Department Representative in Arts and Sciences Advising

Institutional Service: College Level¹

2024-25: The Marco Institute Steering Committee

Department of Africana Studies, Advisory Board (2024-26)

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

The Marco Institute, Advisory Board

2023-24: On leave

Department of Africana Studies, Advisory Board (2024-26)

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

The Marco Institute, Advisory Board

2022-23: College Faculty Hiring Committee

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Middle East Studies IDP, Awards Committee

Shared Services Budget Manager search committee, co-chair; *filled without full search*

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair

The Marco Institute Advisory Board

Gilya Schmidt Faculty Award Committee, member

2021-22: College Faculty Hiring Committee

Search for Political Science Department Head, chair

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair

The Marco Institute Advisory Board

Gilya Schmidt Faculty Award Committee, member

2020-21: Department of Theatre *ad hoc* Task Force for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, chair

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair

NEH campus internal reviewer

The Marco Institute Advisory Board

2021 Symposium Planning Committee (The Marco Institute)

Cost of Hate, steering committee (3 panels: anti-racism; anti-sexism; anti-fascism)

UT Humanities Center, book proposal review panel

2019-20: Search for English Department Head, chair

Dept Representative on College Honors committee

Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty

Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair

Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair

¹ N.B.: The Marco Institute refers to UT’s Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

- Early Career Research Awards Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 2020 Symposium Planning Committee (The Marco Institute)
- 2018-19: Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Core Faculty
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair
 Regional Late Antiquity Symposium, co-organizer
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 Midcareer Research Awards Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
- 2017-18: Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program, Chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” co-chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “Middle East Studies,” participant
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 2018 Symposium Planning Committee (The Marco Institute)
 Midcareer Research Awards Committee
- 2016-17: On leave for an NEH Fellowship
 Contact person for Middle East Studies Interdisciplinary Program
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” participant
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “Middle East Studies,” participant
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
- 2015-16: Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES), director
 Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 Keith Taylor Undergraduate Essay Prize Committee
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” seminar co-chair.
 Gender Studies Curriculum Committee
- 2014-15: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee
 College Curriculum Task Force (ad-hoc, re: Connections packages)
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 Jimmy and Dee Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow search committee
 Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Committee, chair
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” seminar co-chair.
- 2013-14: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 College Curriculum Task Force (ad-hoc, re: Connections packages)

- The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Committee, chair
 Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Connections Package committee, chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar co-chair.
- 2012-13: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee (extra UTrack, College Reqs meetings)
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee, chair (extra UTrack, College Reqs meetings)
 College Curriculum Task Force (ad-hoc, re: Connections packages)
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Committee, chair
 Jimmy and Dee Haslam Postdoctoral Fellow search committee, chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as Social Sciences Divisional Chair (extra UTrack, College Reqs meetings)
- 2011-12: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee, chair
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Committee, chair
 Keith Taylor UTK Undergraduate Essay Prize Committee
 Keith Taylor Undergraduate Conference Paper Prize Committee
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as Social Sciences Divisional Chair
 Reviewer of UT’s Summer NEH proposals
 Fulbright Selection Committee for the Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships
 Committee for the Curricular Infusion of Arabic and Arab Culture
- 2010-11: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee, chair
 Dean’s Advisory Committee, back-up department representative
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Lindsay Young Visiting Faculty Fellowship Committee, chair
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as Social Sciences Divisional Chair
- 2009-10: On leave for an ACLS Fellowship
 Humanities Initiative Workshop, “Southeast Regional Late Antiquity Workshop: Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity,” coordinator.
- 2008-09: Arts and Sciences Curricular Requirements Committee
 Judaic Studies Committee

Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee, chair
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as Social Sciences Divisional Chair
 Humanities Initiative Workshop, “Southeast Regional Late Antiquity Workshop: Roman Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity,” coordinator.
 Association of Women Faculty

2007-08: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as elected representative
 Association of Women Faculty

2006-07: Judaic Studies Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director, seminar chair.
 Arts and Sciences College Curriculum Committee, member as elected representative
 Association of Women Faculty, chair

2005-06: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 Social Sciences Divisional Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Humanities Initiative Faculty Research Seminar, “The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity,” project director and seminar chair: involves scheduling and chairing meetings, ordering and distributing books, managing budget, coordinating two visiting speakers each year, presenting own work in progress once each year, and writing annual report and renewal proposal.
 Association of Women Faculty, board member

2004-05: Judaic Studies Committee
 Humanities Divisional Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Association of Women Faculty

2003-04: Judaic Studies Committee
 The Marco Institute Advisory Board
 The Marco Institute Steering Committee
 Association of Women Faculty

Institutional Service: University Level

- 2023-24: On leave
- 2022-23: Limited while Department Head
Provost's Department Head Monthly Forums, co-chair
Invited Panelist, New Academic Leaders Academy
Topic: Workload Equity/Annual Evaluations
- 2021-22: Limited while Department Head
Provost's Department Head Leadership Reading Group, chair
- 2020-21: Limited while Department Head
Peer reviewer for *Pursuit* (undergraduate journal) article
- 2019-20: Limited while Department Head
Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries, faculty advisor (Egyptian Christian students)
- 2018-19: Limited while Department Head
Coptic Christian Fellowship, faculty advisor (Egyptian Christian students)
- 2017-18: Reviewer of UT's Summer NEH proposals (Office of Research)
Coptic Christian Fellowship, faculty advisor (Egyptian Christian students)
- 2016-17: On leave for an NEH Fellowship
Coptic Christian Fellowship, faculty advisor (Egyptian Christian students)
- 2015-16: Top 25/Vol Vision Milestone Review Committee
Research Council, ex officio
Chancellor's Awards Committee
- 2014-15: Research Council, chair
Chancellor's Awards Committee
SARIF Graduate Research Assistantship Committee
Faculty Senate Executive Council
Graduate Council, ex-officio
Top 25/Vol Vision Milestone Review Committee
Search Committee for Faculty Development Team Director
- 2013-14: Faculty Senate (UTK: Arts and Sciences: Humanities)
Research Council, chair
Faculty Senate Executive Council
Graduate Council, ex-officio
Research Advisory Council for the Vice-Chancellor of Research
J. Wallace & Katie Dean Fellowships Committee, UTK Graduate School
Haslam Scholars Program Curriculum Committee (April-June 2014)
- 2012-13: Faculty Senate (UTK: Arts and Sciences: Humanities)
Research Council, member as senator
Research Council Centers Review Committee
Chancellor's Awards Committee, chair
Haslam Scholars Program, Selection and Interview Committee
- 2011-12: Faculty Senate (UTK: Arts and Sciences: Humanities)
Research Council, member as senator
Research Council Center Review Committee
Haslam Scholars Program, Selection and Interview Committee
Lavender Graduation Planning Committee
- 2010-11: General Education: Cultures and Civilizations Committee
Haslam Scholars Program, Selection and Interview Committee
- 2009-10: Commission for LGBT People

General Education: Cultures and Civilizations Committee
2008-09: Provost's Junior Faculty Fellows
General Education: Cultures and Civilizations Committee
Commission for LGBT People
2007-08: Provost's Junior Faculty Fellows
General Education: Cultures and Civilizations Committee
Commission for LGBT People

Media Interviews (off campus)

Dec 2023: India-based journalist Sameer Arshad Khatlani summarized and cited my 2023 *The Conversation* essay on Gaza (<https://mypluralist.com/2023/12/26/one-people-timeless-fraternity-palestinian-christians-and-muslims/>).

Dec 2023: NBC-Universal, Chantal Da Silva, interviewed with Michael Azar for background on Christians in Gaza; not quoted (<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/fears-mount-gazas-tiny-christian-community-mom-daughter-shot-dead-rcna130132>).

Dec 2023: Associated Press, Mariam Fam, interviewed with Michael Azar for background on Christianity in Bethlehem; not quoted (https://www.thecanadianpressnews.ca/world/grieving-and-often-overlooked-palestinian-christians-prepare-for-a-somber-christmas-amid-war/article_bd3dde76-9213-5476-bf72-862ad79b6292.html).

2009: Channel 10-WBIR (Knoxville), aired television interview on gender and Bible translations
Feb 2007: Channel 6-WATE (Knoxville), aired television interview regarding the discovery of the so-called "Jesus Tomb"

Academic Outreach and Training

Mar 2024: "Gaza, Jerusalem, and the West: A Long and Complex History." Federated Church of Marlborough, NH (Zoom)

Aug 2023: RA Training: Identity Round Table Discussions,
Discussion leader on Religious Diversity and Inclusion

Oct 2022: "Special Bodies: Early Christian Martyrs and their Relics," Invited lecture for ANTH 450, also advertised to the public (Inside Knoxville blog, UT calendar)

Sept 2022: "The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation." Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.

Jan 2022: Discussion leader, adult education class. Shepherd of the Valley United Methodist Church, Hope, RI.

Apr 2021: Invited Panelist, "How to Disrupt Racism and Anti-Blackness in Academia," *Critical Race Collective*, University of Tennessee

Apr 2021: "From Jewish-Christians to Christian Anti-Judaism: The Complexity of Early Christianity," Knoxville Jewish Alliance

Mar 2021 "When Jesus was Jewish: The Important Legacy of Early Jewish/Christian Relations." Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.

Feb 2021: *The Bible With and Without Jesus*, book discussion with Erin Darby and Tina Shepardson, Union Ave Books and UT Humanities Center

Oct 2020: Panelist on "Cost of Hate: Anti-sexism/heterosexism" panel, UTK

Dec 2019: Panelist on University Housing's Head Staff Recruitment and Training Committee's "Diversity Panel"

Nov-Dec 2019: Facilitated two discussions on Jewish/Christian relations and anti-Judaism
Nov 2019: Co-facilitated undergraduate "Rocky Topics" on "Religion and Sexuality"

- Oct 2019: "Jesus' Birth and the Latin Bible," Latin Day at UTK.
- Aug 2019: "Religious Diversity in the Workplace," workshop for UTK schedulers.
- Aug 2019: "Religious Diversity in the Workplace," workshop for UTK meeting planners.
- July 2019: "God the Father(-in-Law): Early Female Saints as Brides of Christ." Summer Elective series. Church Street United Methodist Church, Knoxville.
- Mar 2019: "Becoming Male: Gendering Women Martyrs and Monks in Early Christianity." Lecture at Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, Knoxville.
- Mar 2019: "Making Truth: How First-Century Debates shaped Twenty-First Christianity." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- July 2018: "When Jesus was Jewish: The Important Legacy of Early Jewish/Christian Relations." Summer Elective series. Church Street United Methodist Church, Knoxville.
- Feb 2018: "The Bible Says... Or Does It? The Politics of God's (very) Human Interpreters." Teach-In: Fascism's Past and Present. University of Tennessee.
- Sept 2017: "A Troubled Past: Martin Luther and Christian Anti-Judaism." 500th Anniversary event for Martin Luther. University of Tennessee.
- July 2017: "Apocalypse Now? Early Christian Reactions to the Rise of Islam." Summer Elective series. Church Street United Methodist Church, Knoxville.
- Mar 2017: "Dying for God: Martyrs in Christianity and Islam." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2017: "When Jesus was Jewish: The Important Legacy of Early Jewish/Christian Relations." Lecture for Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Sept 2015: "Bodies on Display: Deploying the Saints in the Religious Competitions in Late Antiquity," Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Aug 2015: "The Politics of Creating Christianity." City TV interview, moderated by Joe Barnhart.
- Mar 2015: "The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation." Diversity Dialogues, Black Cultural Center, UTK.
- Feb 2015: "Making Truth: How 1st-c. Debates shaped 21st-c. Christianity." Lecture at Church Street United Methodist Church (Friends in Christ class), Knoxville.
- Oct 2014: "Jesus' Birth and the Latin Bible," Latin Day at UTK.
- Sept 2014: "The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation," Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Mar 2014: "Becoming Male: Women Martyrs and Gender in the Roman Empire," Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Feb 2014: "Treasonous Atheists: Early Christian Martyrs and the Roman Empire." Lecture at Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Oct 2013: "Jesus' Birth and the Latin Bible," Latin Day at UTK.
- Oct 2013: "Gender, Sexuality, and the Bible: Rediscovering the Diversity." Lecture at Day of Dialogue event at UTK's Multicultural Center.
- Sept 2013: "Christianity in the 'Middle East'." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Aug 2013: "Identity Crisis: Making Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity." Lecture at Church Street United Methodist Church (Friends in Christ class), Knoxville.
- Apr 2013: "The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation" Lecture for Volunteer Rotary Club, Knoxville.
- Apr 2013: "The Birds, the Bees, and the Bible," Lecture for UTK's Sex Week.

- Sept 2012: “Constructing Christian Orthodoxy: Fourth-Century Politics and Early Christian History.” Lecture at Church Street United Methodist Church (Friends in Christ class), Knoxville.
- Sept 2012: “Meeting the First Muslims: Seventh-Century Christians and the End of the World.” Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O’Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Sept 2012: “The Politics of Biblical Translations.” Lecture at Church Street United Methodist Church (United Methodist Women class), Knoxville.
- May 2012: “Early Christian Art and Architecture.” Lecture at Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Apr 2012: “The Politics of Biblical Interpretation.” Lecture at Church Street United Methodist Church (Friends in Christ class), Knoxville.
- Apr 2012: “Passover and Easter: A History of Community Definition” Lecture at Temple Beth-El, Knoxville.
- Feb 2012: “The Politics of Biblical Translations.” Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Oct 2011: “No Longer Male and Female”: Gender, Sexuality, and the Christian Bible. Lecture for UTK’s “OUTstanding: A Seminar Exploring LGBTIQ Diversity.”
- Sept 2011: “Whose Bible is Right? The Politics of Biblical Translations.” Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O’Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Aug 2011: “Christianity in the Middle East.” Lecture for Broadway United Methodist Church, Maryville, TN.
- April 2011: “When Jesus was Jewish: The Important Legacy of Early Jewish/Christian Relations.” Lecture for St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Maryville.
- April 2011: “The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation.” Lecture for The Rationalists of East Tennessee, Knoxville.
- Mar 2011: “Controlling Contested Places: The Topographical Politics of Early Christianity.” Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O’Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2011: “Church Politics in Roman Antioch,” Lecture at Oak Ridge Methodist Church.
- Dec 2010: “The Making of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed,” Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Oct 2010: “The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation,” Lecture at Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Sept 2010: “The Bible Tells Me So: The Politics of Biblical Interpretation,” Faculty Pregame Showcase lecture before the home football game, UT-Knoxville.
- Mar 2010: “Heresy and Faith: How Early Christians Decided and Why it Matters,” Veritas forum with Robert Wilken, Knoxville.
- Nov 2009: “Christianity in the Middle East,” lecture and discussion with Paul Tarazi at UT’s International House, Knoxville.
- Oct 2009: “Women, Gender, Sex in Early Christianity: Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Apr 2009: “Constructing Christian Orthodoxy: Fourth-Century Politics and Early Christian History.” Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O’Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Mar 2009: “More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity.” Lecture at St. John’s Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Feb 2009: “More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity.” Lecture at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Knoxville.

- Dec 2008: "Family and Sexuality in Early Christianity." Lecture for the Presbyterian Center, University of Tennessee.
- Sept 2008: "Where did the New Testament come from?" Lecture for the Methodist campus ministries, University of Tennessee.
- Sept 2008: "Women in Early Christianity." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2008: "The Little-Known but Very Interesting History of Syriac Christianity," Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2008: "Claiming God's Covenant: Early Christian Leaders and their Anti-Jewish Language." Lecture at Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Nov 2007: "Judaism and Early Christianity." Lecture at Heska Amuna synagogue, Knoxville.
- Oct 2007: "Jesus and Judaism." Lecture at Heska Amuna synagogue, Knoxville.
- Oct 2007: "Women and Gender in Early Christianity." Lecture at Faith Lutheran Church, Farragut.
- Sept 2007: "Politics and the History of early Christianity." Lecture at Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning (ORICL).
- Mar 2007: "More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2007: "Early Christianity as a Greco-Roman Religion." Lecture at Oak Ridge Methodist Church.
- Dec 2006: "When Jesus was Jewish: The Important Legacy of Early Jewish/Christian Relations." Lecture at Federated Church of Marlborough, NH.
- Dec 2006: "More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity." Lecture at Greek Orthodox Church, Knoxville.
- Nov 2006: "More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity." Lecture at Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Nov 2006: "More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity." Lecture at Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, Knoxville.
- Sept 2006: "Claiming God's Covenant: Early Christian Leaders and their Anti-Jewish Language." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Feb 2006: "Constructing Christian Orthodoxy: Fourth-Century Politics and Early Christian History." Lecture for Seniors for Creative Learning, O'Connor Senior Center, Knoxville.
- Jan 2006: "Constructing Christian Orthodoxy: Fourth-Century Politics and Early Christian History." Lecture at First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville.
- Dec 2005: "Orthodoxy on the Eastern Edge: The Theology, Politics, and Lasting Effects of the Early 'Monophysite' Controversy." Lecture at Oak Ridge Methodist Church.
- April 2005: "Local Variety and Imperial Orthodoxy in Early Christianity." Lecture at Oak Ridge Methodist Church.
- April 2005: "Early Christians Debate the Role of the Jewish Law." Lecture at St. John's Episcopal Church, Knoxville.
- Mar 2005: "The Making of Christian Orthodoxy." Lecture for Knoxville's Education for Ministry group.
- Mar 2005: "Claiming God's Covenant: Early Christian Leaders and their Anti-Jewish Language." Lecture for "Ink and Blood: Dead Sea Scrolls to the English Bible" public lecture series in Knoxville.

- Mar 2005: “The Rhetoric of Religious Violence: Christian Anti-Jewish Language and ‘Holy Week’.” Lecture for the Knoxville Ministry Association.
- Mar 2005: “More than Meets the Eye: Disagreements and Diversity in Early Christianity.” Lecture for “Ink and Blood: Dead Sea Scrolls to the English Bible” public lecture series in Knoxville.
- Feb 2005: “The Politics of Claiming Christianity.” Lecture at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, Knoxville.
- Feb 2005: “Constructing Christian Orthodoxy: Fourth-Century Politics and Early Christian History.” Lecture for “Ink and Blood: Dead Sea Scrolls to the English Bible” public lecture series in Knoxville.
- Dec 2004: “Early Christian Anti-Jewish Language.” Lecture at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church.
- Nov 2004: “Early Christian Diversity: Texts and their Translations.” Lecture at St. John’s Episcopal Church.
- April 2004: “Where did the New Testament Come From?” Lecture at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church.
- Oct 2003: “Majority Rules: Fourth-Century Emperors and the Creation of Christian Orthodoxy.” Lecture at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church.