

STEVEN M. VOSE

Department of Religious Studies
Florida International University
11200 SW 8th St., DM 302
Miami, FL 33199

Phone (Office): 305-348-6728 • Phone (Cell): 207-844-0169 • E-mail: svose@fiu.edu

EDUCATION

- 2006-2013 **University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Ph.D., South Asia Studies
 - Fields of Specialization: Religious Studies, History, Art History
 - Dissertation (awarded with Distinction): “The Making of a Medieval Jain Monk: Language, Power, and Authority in the Works of Jinaprabhasūri (1261-1333)”
 - Advisor: Daud Ali • Committee: Michael W. Meister, Deven Patel
 - Certificate in College and University Teaching
- 2004-2006 **Harvard Divinity School** Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.), World Religions
- 1997-2001 **St. Lawrence University** Canton, New York
- B.A., *summa cum laude*
 - Major: Religious Studies (Honors) • Minor: Asian Studies
 - Phi Beta Kappa, Theta Alpha Kappa (Religious Studies), Phi Alpha Theta (History), Excellence in Religious Studies Award, Samuel B. Johnson Prize

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2014-Present **Bhagwan Mahavir Assistant Professor of Jain Studies, and Director of the Jain Studies Program**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies
- Organized Jain Studies Undergraduate Certificate Curriculum
 - Manage ~\$890K Jain Studies Professorship and Fellowship endowments
 - Added ~\$250K in pledges and additional support for fellowships and events
 - Developed two on-campus lecture series and an online lecture series
 - Hosted an international conference
 - Awarded study abroad grants to students and short-term research grants to faculty
 - Expanded MA fellowships from 1 to 4 per academic year
 - Committees: Religious Studies Undergraduate Curriculum; Program in the Study of Spirituality Assessment
 - Faculty Advisor for Theta Alpha Kappa (TAK), Religious Studies Honor Society (2013-2019)
- 2014 (Spring) **Assistant Professor**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies
- Co-coordinator of Jain Studies Program (with Dr. Nathan Katz)
- 2013 **Instructor**
Florida International University, Department of Religious Studies

- 2012 **Instructor**
University of Pennsylvania, College of Liberal and Professional Studies
- 2006-2008 **Research Assistant**
University of Pennsylvania, Department of South Asia Studies
- Cataloguer, Mary B. Wheeler Image Archive, for Dr. Michael W. Meister
- Teaching Assistant**
University of Pennsylvania, Department of South Asia Studies
- “Introduction to Indian Literature,” for Dr. Deven Patel
 - “The City in South Asia,” for Dr. Lisa Mitchell
 - “Introduction to Premodern South Asian History,” for Dr. Ramnarayan Rawat

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses:

- Religions of India (REL 3330, FIU, *Global Learning* since 2019)
- Sacred Image, Sacred Space in Indian Religions (REL 3307, FIU, Hybrid since 2018)
- Karma and Ethics in Indian Philosophy and Religion (REL 4338, FIU)
- Capstone: Theory and Methods in Religious Studies (REL 4030, FIU)
- Studies in World Religions (REL 3308, FIU, *Global Learning* and *Gordon Writing Rule*)
- Introduction to Hinduism (RELS 163/SASSt 140, U. Penn.)
- History, Culture, and Religion of Early India (RELS 164/SASSt 003/HIST 086, U. Penn.)
- Sanskrit I, II, III, IV (SRK 2100, SRK 2101, SRK 3202, SRK 3203, FIU)

Graduate Courses:

- Religions of India (RLG 5331, FIU)
- Sacred Image, Sacred Space in Indian Religions (RLG 5932, FIU)
- Karma and Ethics in Indian Philosophy and Religion (RLG 5465, FIU)
- Modern Analysis of Religion (RLG 6013, FIU)
- Seminar in Sacred Sources (RLG 6935, FIU)
- Sanskrit I, II, III, IV (SRK 5001, SRK 5002, SRK 5003, SRK 5006, FIU)
- Prakrit I: Introduction to the Prakrit Languages (SRK 5004, FIU)
- Prakrit II: Advanced Prakrit Reading (SRK 5005, FIU – added to catalogue, not yet taught)
- Directed Studies in Jain Languages and Literatures (FIU)

Invited Guest Instructor:

- Study Abroad: “Sacred Spaces in India: Myth, Land, and Tradition” (University of Denver, Winter 2019 Interterm in India, Graduate/Undergraduate)

Master’s Theses Supervised (in alphabetical order):

- Komal Ashok Kumar, “The Transformations and Challenges of a Jain Religious Aspirant from Layperson to Ascetic: An Anthropological Study of Shvetambar Terapanthi Female *Mumukshus*” (2016)
- Kuldeep Ashok Kumar, “Clairvoyance in Jainism: *Avadhijñāna* in Scripture, Philosophy and Literature” (2018)
- John Cibotti, “Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale: The Social, Religious and Psychological Foundations of His Authority” (2017)
- Grisel d’Elena, “The Gender Problem of Buddhist Nationalism in Myanmar: The 969 Movement and Theravāda Nuns” (2016)
- Joshua Falcon, “The Ethical Importance of Entheogens” (2017)

- Darbee Hagerty, “A Feminist Perspective on the Lack of Full Ordination for Burmese Buddhist Nuns” (2016) – Awarded 2015-16 Christine Gudorf Award for Best MA Thesis in Religious Studies, FIU
- Aashi Jain, Thesis topic: *Bhaktāmara Stotra* Faith-Healing Practices (expected spring 2021).
- Venu Mehta, “An Ethnographic Study of Sectarian Negotiations among Diaspora Jains in the USA” (2017) – Awarded 2016-17 Christine Gudorf Award for Best MA Thesis in Religious Studies, FIU
- Anthony Paz, “The Tensions of Karma and Ahimsa: Jain Ethics, Capitalism, and Slow Violence” (2016)
- Carol Rodriguez, “Illustrating Jain Ethics in Medieval Didactic Literature: Virtue, Karma and Female Agency in the *Līlāvātīsāra*” (2019)
- David St. John, “Non-Ownership Principles as Understood by Lay Practitioners of Jainism and Quakerism” (2017)
- Daniel Tacker, Master’s Essay topic: Tiantai Buddhism, Mahayana ethics, and local practices in premodern China (expected spring 2020)

Dissertation Committees:

- Shivani Bothra, “Keeping the Jain Tradition Alive: A Qualitative Analysis of Contemporary Children’s Religious Education in India and the US,” Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, 2017. (I read and commented on several drafts of every chapter.)
- Adam Howe, “How State Capacity Matters: A Study of the Cooptation and Coercion of Religious Organizations in Southeast Asia and Beyond,” Department of Politics and International Relations, FIU, 2019.
- Venu Mehta, “Jain Diaspora Communities in the USA,” Department of Religion, University of Florida (expected defense 2022).

PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

Vose, Steven M. 2016. “Jain Uses of *Citra-Kāvya* and Multiple-Language Hymns in Late Medieval India: Situating the *Laghu-Kāvya* Hymns of Jinaprabhasūri.” *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 20, no. 3 (Dec.): 309-337. (Published online 26 Jan. 2017: DOI: [10.1007/s11407-016-9199-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11407-016-9199-0)) Open access [link](#).

Merusundargani. 2008. “Narmadāsundarī Kathā.” Translated by Steven M. Vose. *Sandhi* 2, no. 6: 34-63.

- Translation of a fifteenth-century Old Gujarati Jain didactic narrative on women’s virtue (*śīla*).

Vose, Steven M. 2006. The Violence of Devotion: *Bhakti*, Jains and the *Periyapurāṇam* in Telling Early Medieval Tamil History. *Culture: The Graduate Journal of Harvard Divinity School* 1: 103-126.

Review Essays, Book Reviews and Booknotes:

Review Essay: “Teaching Jainism Reimagined for the Survey Course and Beyond: Lived Religions Approaches,” *Religious Studies Review* 44(4): 403-411. 2018. (DOI: [10.1111/rst.13643](https://doi.org/10.1111/rst.13643))

Jain Vastupatras: Jain Paintings on Cloth and Paper by Shridhar Andhare and Late Pt. Laxmanbhai Bhojak. *Religious Studies Review* 43(4): 419. 2017.

Dialogue in Early South Asian Religions: Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain Traditions edited by Brian Black and Laurie Patton. *Religious Studies Review* 42(3): 222. 2016.

It’s a City-Showman’s Show! Transcendental Songs of Ānandghan translated by Imre Bangha and R.C.C. Fynes. *Religious Studies Review* 41(4): 208. 2015.

Carving Devotion in the Jain Caves at Ellora by Lisa N. Owen. *Religious Studies Review* 40(1): 58. 2014.

Framing the Jina: Narratives of Icons and Idols in Jain History by John E. Cort. *Religious Studies Review* 39(2): 127. 2013.

Heroic Wives: Rituals, Stories, and the Virtues of Jain Wifedom by M. Whitney Kelting. *Religious Studies Review* 38(4): 256-257. 2012.

Victorious Ones: Jain Images of Perfection, edited by Phyllis Granoff. *Biblio: A Review of Books* XV (5&6): 32-33. 2010.

Encyclopedia Entries:

Vose, Steven M. 2020. "Jainism and Jains." In *Encyclopaedia of Islam, Three* (3rd ed.), Part 2020-1, edited by Kate Fleet, et al., 77-84. Leiden and Boston: Brill. (Published online Dec. 2019: DOI: [10.1163/1573-3912_ei3_COM_32793](https://doi.org/10.1163/1573-3912_ei3_COM_32793)).

Forthcoming/Accepted for Publication:

Vose, Steven M. Forthcoming. *Reimagining Jainism in Islamic India: Jain Intellectual Culture in the Delhi Sultanate*. London: Routledge. (Expected summer 2020.)

Vose, Steven M. with Aaron Ullrey, Brianne Donaldson, and Michael Anderson. Forthcoming. "Jainism and Violence." In *Religious Violence Today: Faith and Conflict in the Modern World*, edited by Michael Jerryson. San Diego: ABC-CLIO Press. (Expected 2020. ~22,380 words. 50% authored and chapter editor.)

Vose, Steven M. "Balarāma Visits Kṛṣṇa in Hell: The Supremacy of Karma and the Origin of Kṛṣṇa Worship from a Jain Perspective." In *A Purāṇas Reader*, edited by Dheepa Sundaram and Deven Patel. San Diego: Cognella Press. (Accepted for publication. Expected 2021.)

In Progress (in order of expected submission):

Vose, Steven M. "Jain Memory of the Tughluq Sultans: A Reflection on Historiography." *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. Special Issue edited by Luther Obrock. (Under review.)

Article, "Locating Medieval Jain Tantra: Jinaprabhasūri's Treatises on Mantras and Mendicant Hierarchy." *Religions*. Special issue edited by Anne Vallely.

Book Chapters, "Jainism: Scripture and Community" and "Jain Ethics and Devotional Life." In *Sources of Indian Tradition*, Vol. I., 3rd ed. Edited by Rachel Fell McDermott. Columbia University Press.

Review of *Identity, Community and State: The Jains Under the Mughals* by Shalin Jain. *Medieval History Journal*.

Encyclopedia Entry, "Śvetāmbara Jain History, 1000-1850." In *Brill Encyclopedia of Jainism*. John E. Cort, Paul Dundas and Kristi Wiley, eds. (Section heading, 10,000 words.)

Article, "The Command of Rituals and the Rituals of Command: Regulating Jain Rituals and Monastic Hierarchy in Jinaprabhasūri's *Wellspring of Proper Conduct*."

Article, "A Kharatara Gaccha Muni in the Tapā Gaccha Imaginaire: Tapā Gaccha Biographies of Jinaprabhasūri."

Article, "A Late Medieval Kharatara Gaccha Polemic Against the Tapā Gaccha: Jinaprabhasūri's *Tapoṭamatakuṭṭaṇaśataka*." *International Journal of Jaina Studies*.

Article, "Forming the Modern Traditional Ascetic: Translating the Visual Tropes in the Dharampur Mission's Images of Śrīmad Rājacandra."

Article, "The Layman Guru's Body: Śrīmad Rājacandra and Rakeshbhai Jhaveri in the Gujarati Jain Imaginaire."

Article, "'The Man of The Age': On the Dharampur Mission's Depiction of the Relationship between Mahatma Gandhi and Śrīmad Rājacandra."

Article, "Re-Inventing Rājacandra: The Dharampur Mission and the Birth of 'Globalized Jainism'."

Article, "Caste Prestige as Religious Piety: Jain Discourses of Women's Virtue (*Śīla*) and the Birth of Vernacular Didactic Literature in Old Gujarati."

Article, "Monks Talking to Women about Their Men: Male Virtue (*Śīla*) and Audience in Old Gujarati Jain Didactic Literature."

Edited Volume, *The Jain World*. Edited by Steven M. Vose. Routledge.

Translation (with Babu Suthar), *The Garland of Teachings on Virtue, Illustrated*. for The Murthy Library series, Harvard University Press.

Long, Jeffery, Steven M. Vose, and Ana Bajželj. *Historical Dictionary of Jainism*, 2nd ed. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Press. (Associate editor, co-author.) (Due June 2021.)

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND INVITED LECTURES

Conferences and Workshops Organized:

Workshop: “Jain *Prabandha* Literature and Indian Historiography,” First Annual Summer School on the Languages and Literatures of Jainism, University of Toronto-Mississauga, July 29-Aug 2, 2019.

- Week-long workshop to read the Sanskrit and Prakrit Jain *prabandha* (narrative) texts and to take stock of the genre in the historiography of late medieval, early modern and Islamicate India.

International Conference: “Acharya Tulsi and the Making of Modern Jainism,” Florida International University, Nov. 1-2, 2014. (See “Conference Papers” below for paper delivered.)

- Hosted 12 speakers from India, UK, Canada, and US
- Coordinated with JERF Board of Directors and local Jain community for conference events and volunteers

International Conference: “*Rāhē najāt* (The path of salvation): Religious and social dynamics amongst mercantile communities of the western Indian Ocean,” Florida International University, Nov. 12-13, 2015.

- Co-organizer with Dr. Iqbal Akhtar, FIU.

Conference Panels Organized:

“New Directions in South Asian Religions,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, Nov. 18-21, 2017. (Coordinated speakers and respondents for first-time AAR presenters.)

“Modes and Meanings of Temple Patronage in Jain Traditions,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, Nov. 22, 2014. (See “Conference Papers” below for paper delivered.)

Invited Lectures and Papers:

“Reinventing Rajacandra for a Global Indian Devotional Public,” Invited Lecture, Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions, University of Florida, Gainesville, Feb. 18, 2019; and at the Department of Religious Studies, University of California at Davis, Feb. 12, 2019.

“The Well-Spoken Monk in the Muslim King’s Court: Monastic Education, Political Discourse and the Reinvention of Jainism in the 14th Century,” Chander Mohan Jain Memorial Lecture, Huron College, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Oct. 25, 2018; and at the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, Feb. 22, 2018.

“Rājacandra, the Modern Jain: Locating ‘Modernity’ and ‘Tradition’ in the Biography and Works of a Late Nineteenth-Century Jain Renegade,” Roop Lal Jain Memorial Lecture, University of Toronto Centre for South Asian Studies, Feb. 16, 2017.

“Jain Narratives of Encounter with the Tughluq Sultans: A Historiographical Reconsideration,” Invited Lecture, Department of History, University of Delhi, Aug. 2, 2014; and at the Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi, Aug. 1, 2014.

Conference & Workshop Papers; Panelist; Respondent:

“Marketing Self-Help Jainism: Mental Health and Stress Relief in the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission’s Social Media Strategy,” Symposium: “Illness, Medicine, and Healing in the Jain Tradition,” University of California at Riverside, June 6-7, 2020.

“Registers of Virtue: A Comparative Reading of the *Nammayāsundarī śīlakathā* in Prakrit, Apabhramśa, and Old Gujarati,” Conference: “Jain Practices of Literary Transcreation,” Ghent University, May 21-22, 2020. (And panel respondent.)

“What To Do About All This Killing? Locating Jain Tantra in Medieval Indian Political and Social Life,” 22nd Annual Jaina Studies Workshop, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, March 21, 2020. (And panel respondent, “Statehood and (Non-)Violence.”)

“The Command of Rituals and the Rituals of Command: Tantra, Mantra, and Monastic Hierarchy in a Late Medieval Śvetāmbara Monastic Order,” Fourth Annual Symposium for Research and Pedagogy in South Asia and Global Hindu Traditions for Faculty and Graduate Students in Florida, Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra), University of Florida, Gainesville, Feb. 15, 2020.

“Translating Translations: Lacunae and Layers of Reference in an Old Gujarati Didactic Story Collection,” Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Sarasota, FL, Jan. 19, 2020.

“Caste Prestige as Religious Piety: Women’s Virtue in Early Vernacular Jain Didactic Literature,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), San Diego, CA, Nov. 23-26, 2019.

Panel respondent for “Genesis and Development of Jain Tantra,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, Nov. 23-26, 2019.

“Making Globalized Jainism Online: The Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur’s Networked Theology,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 18, 2019.

“Globalizing the 25th Tīrthaṅkara: Rakeshbhai Jhaveri’s Rājacandra,” Third Annual Symposium for Research and Pedagogy in South Asia and Global Hindu Traditions for Faculty and Graduate Students in Florida, Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra), University of Florida, Gainesville, Feb. 16, 2019.

“Digitizing Sacred Authority: The Dynamic Online Biographies of a Jain Spiritual Leader,” 16th Annual Cyberspace Conference, Institute of Law and Technology, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Social Sciences, Masaryk University and the European Academy of ICT Law, Brno, Czech Republic, Dec. 1, 2018.

“Constructing the Audience of a Jain *Prabandha*,” Workshop: “Assembling Knowledge and Ordering the World: Anthologies and Encyclopedias in Sanskrit Literary and Intellectual History,” University of Pennsylvania, Department of South Asia Studies, Philadelphia, September 22, 2018.

“Introducing Gujarati Jain Women to their Virtue in the 15th Century: The *Śīlopadeśamālā-Bālāvabodha* of Merusundaragaṇi,” 17th World Sanskrit Conference, International Association for Sanskrit Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, July 10, 2018.

“From Jainology to Jain Studies...and Back? Toward a Dialogic Approach to Scholarly Engagement with Jain Communities,” 20th Jaina Studies Workshop, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, March 24, 2018.

“A Fifteenth-Century Collection of Jain *Kathās* on Women’s *Śīla* in Old Gujarati,” Second Annual Symposium for Research and Pedagogy in South Asia and Global Hindu Traditions for Faculty and Graduate Students in Florida, Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra), University of Florida, Gainesville, Feb. 11, 2018.

“Forming the Traditional Modern Ascetic: Translating Textual and Visual Tropes in Representation of Rajacandra (1867-1901),” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 28, 2017.

“Reflections Toward a New Approach to the Anthropology of Jainism,” Annual Conference of the European Association for the Study of Religion, Leuven, Belgium, Sept. 20, 2017.

“Qualifying *Ahimsa*: On Hemacandra’s Ambivalence toward War in the *Triṣaṣṭīśālākāpuruṣacaritra*,” Symposium: Spiritual Warriors: (Non)Violence in the Sikh and Jain Traditions, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 24, 2017.

“Rājacandra, the Modern Jain: Locating the Forces of ‘Modernity’ and ‘Tradition’ in a Late Nineteenth-Century Jain Renegade,” First Annual Symposium for Research and Pedagogy in South Asia and Global Hindu Traditions for Faculty and Graduate Students in Florida, Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra), University of Florida, Gainesville, Jan. 21, 2017.

Panelist respondent for documentary film screening session, *Santhara: A Challenge to Indian Secularism?* Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 21, 2016.

“A Less Fated *Kali Yuga*: The Politics of Time in a Fourteenth-Century Jain Pilgrimage Text,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 21, 2016.

“Remembering the Tughluq Sultans in Early Modern Śvetāmbara Jain Literature,” pre-conference workshop “Sanskrit in Persianate India,” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 22, 2015.

“Jain Language Use in Early Modern Western India: Examining the Trajectory of Tellings of the *Narmadāsundarī Satī Kathā*,” 12th International Conference on Early Modern Languages of North India (ICEMLNI), Lausanne, Switzerland, July 18, 2015.

Conference Respondent, International Graduate Student Conference on Jain Studies, “Jains & The Other: Understanding Religious Identities,” Yale University, May 1-2, 2015.

“To Build a Temple: Caste Affiliation with Jain Mendicant Orders in Medieval Western India,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), San Diego, CA, Nov. 22, 2014. (Organized panel)

“Gandhi and Rajacandra: Reading a Modern Friendship,” International Conference: “Acharya Tulsi and the Making of Modern Jainism,” Florida International University, Nov. 2, 2014. (Organized conference)

“A Kharatara Gaccha Monk in the Tapā Gaccha Imaginaire: Tapā Gaccha Re-tellings of the Life of Jinaprabhasūri,” 16th Annual Jain Studies Workshop, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, March 21, 2014.

“The Poet with a Goddess on His Shoulder: The Nexus of *Kāvya* and *Bhakti* in the *Stotras* of Jinaprabhasūri,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 25, 2013.

“Jain Encounters with the Delhi Sultanate in the Early Fourteenth Century: Jinaprabhasūri in the Court of Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Chicago, IL, Nov. 17, 2012.

“The Re-Imagining of Jain Pilgrimage in the Delhi Sultanate (14th c.),” Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, Oct. 14, 2012.

“Tantra, Alchemy, and Goddess Worship in the Medieval Kharatara Gaccha Encounter with the Delhi Sultanate State in Gujarat (14th c.),” South Asia Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, Jan. 26, 2012.

“Jinaprabhasuri: A Kharatara Gaccha Monk in the Court of Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Invited Paper presented at the First Acharya Sushil Kumarji Memorial Conference on Ahimsa, Anekantavada and Moksha, Siddhachalam Jain Tirth, Blairstown, NJ, June 11, 2011.

“Genres of Power: The Nexus of Politics and Devotion in the Oeuvre of Jinaprabhasūri,” Association for Asian Studies/ICAS Conference, Honolulu, HI, April 1, 2011.

“Reflections on the Historiography of the Jains in Medieval Western India: The Oeuvre of Jinaprabhasuri,” International Conference: “Jainism through the Ages,” Mysore, Karnataka, India, Oct. 8, 2010.

“Prospects for the Future of Jain Studies—Graduate Student Perspectives,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Montreal, Québec, Canada, October 15, 2009.

- Presented at the inaugural panel of the Jain Studies Consultation (now, Unit).

“Gandhi and Rajacandra: Reading a Friendship Born of Modernity,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, Nov. 1, 2008.

“Pilgrimage and Identity in Medieval Gujarat: Jinaprabhasuri’s Negotiations with Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, Oct. 28, 2006.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

South Asian Religious Traditions: Primarily in Jainism, secondarily in Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Sikhism. Within and between these traditions I focus on historical and contemporary processes of community formation by examining discourses and practices of authority, sectarian polemics, mendicant-lay interactions, and connections between gender, caste and sectarian identity. I also focus on articulations of community identity to medieval and early modern Indic and Islamicate polities. I am also interested in public expressions of devotion, such as pilgrimage and temple ritual, and the place of tantra and alchemy in South Asian societies. My work also engages material culture – inscriptions, images, iconography, architecture, manuscripts, etc. – as historical evidence. Additionally, I work on the development of the Old Gujarati (Maru-Gurjara) literary tradition and the interactions of Sanskrit, Prakrit, and regional languages with Persianate and Islamicate literary and courtly practices. My theory interests center on historiography in the study of religion, literary theory and religious reading practices, modern and pre-modern religious identity politics, the circulation of religious practices, and religious- and ethno-nationalist conflict and violence.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2013 | Briton Martin, Jr. Dissertation Completion Fellowship
South Asia Studies Department, University of Pennsylvania. |
| 2010 | Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship
To conduct field and archival research on the history of Jainism in western India in the Delhi Sultanate era; based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. |
| 2006-09, 11-12 | Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
Full tuition, fees, and stipend fellowship awarded for five years of doctoral studies in South Asia Studies in the School of Arts and Sciences. |
| 2009 | Department of South Asia Studies Summer Grant, University of Pennsylvania
Awarded at Department discretion. For study at Prakrit Summer School in Würzburg, Germany. |
| 2007 | Dean's Summer Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
Awarded at Department discretion. Funds used to study Prakrit on AIIS Summer Language Program in Pune, Maharashtra. |
| 2006 | American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Fellowship
Summer fellowship awarded for study of Intermediate Gujarati in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. |
| 2005 | Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS, Title VI)
Summer fellowship awarded by the University of Pennsylvania for study of Elementary Gujarati at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI). |
| 2004-06 | Full Scholarship, Harvard Divinity School
Tuition and fees for two years of study at Harvard Divinity School for completion of Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree. |
| 1999-2000 | Tanner Fellowship, St. Lawrence University
Fellowship awarded for independent research on Hindu ritual practices while on University of Wisconsin College Year in Nepal program.

Office of International Studies and Programs Travel Grant, U. Wisconsin
Competitive grant for travel abroad on College Year in Nepal program. |

LANGUAGES

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| Sanskrit: | Advanced reading competency. |
| Prakrit: | Advanced reading competency, all dialects including Apabhramśa. |
| Gujarati: | Advanced reading, writing, and speaking competency. |

Old Gujarati: Advanced reading competency.
Nepali: Reading competency; Intermediate-Advanced speaking competency.
Hindi: Reading competency; Basic speaking competency.
French: Reading competency.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion, 2002-Present

- Co-Chair, Jain Studies Group, 2015-Present (2021)
- Steering Committee, Jain Studies Group, 2014-2015
- Steering Committee, Religion in South Asia Group, 2015-2018

Working-Class Studies Association (formerly, Association of Working-Class Academics), 2012-Present

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Guest Curator, “Conquering Karma: Jain Images of Asceticism and Devotion,” Frost Art Museum, FIU, Spring 2022.

Articles reviewed for: *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, *Religions*, *South Asian History and Culture*, *South Asian Studies*, and *International Journal of Dharma Studies*.

Judge panelist, “DK Award for the outstanding doctoral thesis on Sanskrit,” awarded by the International Association of Sanskrit Studies (IASS) and DK Printworld, 2016, 2018.

Grant application reviewer, multi-year, multiple-researcher fellowship, for the Research Foundation – Flanders (Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Vlaanderen, FWO), 2016, 2017.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.