

## **Theodore Louis Trost**

[ttrost@ua.edu](mailto:ttrost@ua.edu)

<http://www.as.ua.edu/rel>

Religious Studies and New College  
The University of Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0264  
(205) 348-7534

### **ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE**

Professor, Department of Religious Studies and New College, University of Alabama, 2010 to present  
Visiting Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Edinburgh University, Scotland,  
January-August 2022  
Interim Director, New College, University of Alabama, August 2016-December 2016  
Visiting Research Fellow, School of Philosophy, Religion, and History of Science, University of Leeds,  
England, September 2013-July 2014  
Chair, Department of Religious Studies, University of Alabama, 2010-14  
Associate Professor (tenured), University of Alabama, Department of Religious Studies and New  
College, 2004-2009  
Visiting Professor, College of the Humanities, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, July 2005-  
July 2006  
Assistant Professor, University of Alabama, Department of Religious Studies and New College, 1998-  
2004  
Visiting Lecturer, Wesleyan University (Connecticut), Department of Religion, 1994  
Visiting Lecturer, Trinity College (Connecticut), Department of Religion, 1992-1994  
Teaching Assistant and Tutor, Harvard University, Committee on the Study of Religion and Department  
of English, 1991-1995

### **EDUCATION**

PhD Harvard University, Committee on the Study of Religion (American Religious History), 1998  
AM Harvard University, Committee on the Study of Religion, 1992  
MA Graduate Theological Union (Biblical Studies, thesis passed with honor), 1989  
MDiv San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1988  
BGS University of Michigan (Languages and Literature), 1976

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES**

Purser, In-Flight Services Instructor, and Flight Attendant, Pan American World Airways, San Francisco  
(1980-1986), Honolulu (1979), and London, England (1977-1979)

### **AUTHORED BOOK**

*Douglas Horton and the Ecumenical Impulse in American Religion*, Harvard Theological Studies Series,  
50 (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2002).

## EDITED BOOKS

*Love Across the Atlantic: US-UK Romance in Popular Culture*, Barbara Jane Brickman, Deborah Jermyn, and Theodore Louis Trost, eds. (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2020; pbk. 2021).

*The Development of the Church: The Principle of Protestantism and Other Historical Writings of Philip Schaff*, David Bains and Theodore Louis Trost, eds. (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2017).

*The African Diaspora and the Study of Religion*, Theodore Louis Trost, ed. (New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2007).

*Teaching African American Religions*, Carolyn M. Jones and Theodore Louis Trost, eds. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005).

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Theo-political Discourse and Rock 'n' Roll in the Reagan Era," *Religion and Theology* 25/3-4 (December 2018): 223-236.

"Philip Schaff: The Flow of Church History and the Development of Protestantism," co-authored with David Bains, *Theology Today* 71/4 (January 2015): 416-428.

"The Pan Am *Quipper* as Site of Anxiety: Managing Emotion in an Era of Neoliberalism and Corporate Decline," *American Quarterly* 66/4 (December 2014): 1021-1037.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

"'Imagine There's No Countries': John Lennon's Politics of Love," in Barbara Jane Brickman, Deborah Jermyn, and Theodore Louis Trost, eds., *Love Across the Atlantic: US-UK Romance in Popular Culture* (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2020; pbk. 2021), 209-224.

"Introduction: 'Still Crazy After All These Years? The Special Relationship in Popular Culture," co-authored with Barbara Jane Brickman and Deborah Jermyn, in Barbara Jane Brickman, Deborah Jermyn, and Theodore Louis Trost, eds., *Love Across the Atlantic: US-UK Romance in Popular Culture* (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2020; pbk 2021), 1-16.

"Randy Newman's Satirical Vision and the Myth of America," in Nicolas Baxter-Moore and Thomas Kitts, eds., *The Routledge Companion to Popular Music and Humor* (London: Routledge, 2019), 186-195.

"Transgressive Theology: The Sacred and the Profane at U2's PopMart" in Scott Calhoun, ed., *U2 Above, Across, and Beyond: Interdisciplinary Assessments* (Eugene, OR: Lexington, 2014), 91-104.

"'Devil's on the Loose': Creedence Clearwater Revival and the Religious Imagination" in Tom Kitts, ed., *Finding Fogerty: Interdisciplinary Readings of John Fogerty and Creedence Clearwater Revival* (Eugene, OR: Lexington, 2013), 53-70.

"The Passion and the Compassion of the Christ" in Scott Paeth, ed., *Who Do You Say That I Am? Christology and Identity in the United Church of Christ* (Cleveland, OH: United Church Press, 2006), 145-166; 217-220.

"Marking the New Humanity: Discourses on the Way" in Douglas R. McGaughey and Cornelia Cyss-Wittenstein, eds., *From Biblical Interpretation to Human Transformation: Reopening the Past to Actualize New Possibilities in the Future* (Salem, OR: Chora-Strangers, 2006), 156-170.

"Watching for Religion and Race at the Movies" in Carolyn M. Jones and Theodore Louis Trost, eds., *Teaching African American Religions* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 219-240.

"Mining the Motherlode of African American Religious Traditions," co-authored with Carolyn M. Jones in Carolyn M. Jones and Theodore Louis Trost, eds., *Teaching African American Religions* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 3-10.

"Story, Product, Franchise: Images of Postmodern Cinema," co-authored with Bruce Isaacs in Matthew Kapell and William G. Doty, eds., *Jacking into the Matrix Franchise: Cultural Reception and Interpretation* (New York: Continuum, 2004), 65-79.

"Confessional Identity: An Early Exchange" in M. Douglas Meeks and Robert D. Mutton, eds., *In Essentials Unity: Reflections on the Nature and Purpose of the Church* (Minneapolis: Kirk House, 2001), 108-112.

## **INVITED ARTICLES AND MISCELLANEOUS WRITINGS**

"The Lion, the Crowd, and Amazing Grace." The Uncivil Religion Project (January 2022).  
<https://uncivilreligion.org/home/the-lion-the-crowd-and-amazing-grace>

"January 6, 2021: Call it Epiphany." Religious Studies Blog (December 2021).  
<https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2021/12/13/january-6-2021-call-it-epiphany/>

"This is War in the USA—Notes on 1969 and 2020. The U2 Conference (October 2020).  
[https://www.academia.edu/43939687/This\\_is\\_War\\_in\\_the\\_USA\\_Notes\\_on\\_1969\\_and\\_2020\\_by\\_Theodore\\_Louis\\_Trost](https://www.academia.edu/43939687/This_is_War_in_the_USA_Notes_on_1969_and_2020_by_Theodore_Louis_Trost)

"Fifty Years Ago Today: Religious Studies at the University of Alabama." Religious Studies Department, University of Alabama (2018). 8 pages.

"The Ecumenical Trajectory of the Mercersburg Movement," *The New Mercersburg Review* 54 (Fall 2015): 1-25.

"Foreword" in Steven W. Ramey, ed., *Writing Religion: The Case for the Critical Study of Religions*, co-authored with Steven L. Jacobs (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama, 2015).

"Identity and Identification: The United Church of Christ's 'God is Still Speaking,' Television Ad Campaign," *Prism*, 21/2 (2008): 102-122.

"'Never Have I Witnessed Such Hospitality': Malcolm X's Pilgrimage to Mecca," *FootSteps Magazine of African American Heritage* 8/2 (March-April 2006): 17-19.

"May I Share an Interpretive Task With You? Religion and Film in the Introduction to Religion Course," *Bulletin of the Council of Societies for the Study of Religion* 33/2 (April 2004): 39-42.

"An Inevitable and Unique Compatibility: Some Factors Leading to the Creation of the Evangelical and Reformed Church," *The New Mercersburg Review* 32 (Spring 2003): 3-24.

"Christian Salvation in The Matrix," *The Clergy Journal* 77/9 (August 2001): 6-8.

"Douglas Horton Before the Fall," in *The Annual Historical Lectures of the Historical Council of the United Church of Christ, 1999-2000* (Cleveland, OH: United Church of Christ, 2001): 1-33.

Biographical and theological introductions to the writings of John Nevin, George Richards, and Samuel Press, in *The Living Theological Heritage of the United Church of Christ*, Volume 5 (Boston: Pilgrim, 2000): 111-112; 485-486; 490-491.

"Exposing, Experiencing, and Explaining America: Philip Schaff's Progress from The Principle of Protestantism to America (1844 to 1856)," *The New Mercersburg Review* 23 (Spring 1998): 3-24.

"Of Scarecrows and Red Flags," *Prism* 11/2 (Fall 1996): 7-10.

"Hostage to Public Radio," *The Christian Science Monitor*, October 28, 1996, 11.

"Of Networks and Nets: An Exegesis of Mark 1: 14-20," *No Other Foundation* 17/1 (Summer 1996): 35-38.

"An Exegesis of Luke 8: 26-39," *No Other Foundation* 15/2 (Winter 1994): 29-34.

"The Anxious Bench: An Invitation to Lutheran-Reformed Dialogue," *The New Mercersburg Review* 12 (Fall 1992): 16-25.

"The Trivial Entry into Jerusalem," *No Other Foundation* 11/2 (Winter 1991): 19-22. "Unreal City," *Pacific Theological Review* 19/1 (Fall 1985): 60-64.

## REVIEW ESSAYS

A review of Tom Kitts, *John Fogerty: An American Son* (New York: Routledge, 2016) in *Volume! The French Journal of Popular Music Studies*, 14/2 (May 2018): 270-272.

A review of Michael J. Gilmour, *The Gospel According to Bob Dylan* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2011) in *Church History*, 81/4 (December 2012): 1039-1041.

A review of Terry Lindvall, *Sanctuary Cinema: Origins of the Christian Film Industry* (New York: New York University Press, 2007) in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 76/4 (December 2008): 1043-1046.

A review of James B. Bennett, *Religion and the Rise of Jim Crow in New Orleans*, (Princeton: Princeton, 2005) in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 75/2 (June 2007): 490-493.

"Religion's Role in 'Our' County." A review of Alan Mittleman, ed., *Religion as a Public Good: Jews and other Americans on Religion in the Public Square* (New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2003). H-NET Book Review. Published by H-AMREL@h-net.msu.edu (August 2004). <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showpdf.cgi?path=99741095269594>

"Hooray for Our Side!': Songs, Identity Construction, and Sound Doctrine," *Religious Studies Review* 29/3 (July 2003): 215-223. A comprehensive review of eight books that focus upon the "religious" as expressed in popular and sacred songs.

A review of Stephen Graham, *Cosmos in the Chaos: Philip Schaff's Interpretation of Nineteenth-Century American Religion* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995) in the *Journal of Religion* 78/8 (October 1999): 668-669.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **National and International**

"Epiphany at the Capitol." Inventing the Secular Literature and Religion from Medieval to Modern. An International Conference in New College, University of Edinburgh, organised by the "Literature and Religion" research group (University of Bergen), the Scottish Network for Religion and Literature (University of Edinburgh), and the Centre for Theology and Public Issues (University of Edinburgh). [April 20-22, 2022.]

"Plant a Demon Seed: Revisiting America In The Film *Rattle and Hum*." Heartland: U2's Looking For American Soul. An International Virtual U2 Conference For Scholars And Fans. U2 Conference 2020 hosted by Cedarville University via Whova. October 20, 2020.

"Liverpool, Love Songs, and Immigration: John Lennon's Palimpsestuous Relationship with America." International Association for the Study of Popular Romance. Las Palmas, Grand Canary Island. (*June 2020 rescheduled due to the coronavirus; June 2021 rescheduled and cancelled due to the coronavirus.*)

"'When You're in Trouble I Just Turn Away': The American Way and Randy Newman's Good Old Boys." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. Washington, DC. April 18, 2019.

"'Christ, You Know it Ain't Easy': John Lennon's Radical Politics and Immigration Woes." European Popular Culture Association. London, England. July 25, 2017.

"'Imagine There's No Countries': John Lennon's Politics of Love." Love Across the Atlantic: An Interdisciplinary Conference on US-UK Romance at Roehampton University. London, England. June 16, 2017.

"'A Working-Class Hero is Something to Be': Lennon in America." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. San Diego, California. April 10, 2017.

"Rhetorically Religious: A Response to the Notion of Moral Communities in Popular Music." Religion and Popular Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. San Antonio, Texas. November 22, 2016.

"'The American Ruse': Religious Rhetoric, Erotic Politics, and the MC5." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. Seattle, Washington. March 23, 2016.

"'Modern Romans, False Gods': Rock and Religion in the 1980s." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 3, 2015.

"Philip Schaff Unveils *The Principle of Protestantism*." Nineteenth Century Theology Group, American Academy of Religion. Baltimore. November 23, 2013.

"Transgressing Theology: Locating Jesus in a 'Fed Up World.'" U2: The Hype and the Feedback Conference. Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame. Cleveland, Ohio. April 27, 2013.

"Sound Theology: The Place of *POP* in the U2 Canon." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. Washington, D.C. March 29, 2013.

"'Devil's on the Loose': Creedence Clearwater Revival and the Religious Imagination." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. Boston. April 13, 2012.

"The Call's Theo-political Songcraft." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. San Antonio. April 21, 2011.

"Site of Anxiety: The *Quipper* as Harbinger of Pan Am's Fate." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. Saint Louis. April 1, 2010.

"'I Give You a Testimonial': Religious Rhetoric in the Songs of the MC5." American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association. New Orleans. April 12, 2009.

"Pampered Tourists and Tasty Meats: Ironies of Resilience in Tuscan Eco-tourism" with Catherine Roach. Association for the Study of Food and Society. New Orleans. June 8, 2008.

"Fits and Starts; Or, Field Notes in Search of a Narrative: The 'God is Still Speaking,' Campaign as Identity Crisis." Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Research Group. Ottawa University, Canada. May 15, 2006.

"The Marketing of the United Church of Christ: Edgy Branding and 'The Bouncer Ad.'" Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Research Group. Ottawa University, Canada. December 12, 2005.

"Protest Songs and Battle Hymns of the Republic: Singing America in a Dangerous Time." Religion and Popular Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. Atlanta. November 24, 2003.

"Salvation in *The Matrix*: New World Order or Same Old Hierarchy?" Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. Nashville. November 19, 2000.

"Approaching *Apocalypse Now*." Arts, Literature, and Religion Section, American Academy of Religion. Boston. November 1999.

"Religious Yearnings in U2's *Pop*." Third International Conference on Religion, Media, and Culture. Edinburgh, Scotland. July 1999.

"What if God Was [sic] One of Us?: Religious Quests, Questions, and Quandaries in Popular Songs." American Academy of Religion. New Orleans. November 1997.

### **Regional**

"Crossing the Line Between Sacred and Profane on U2's *POP* Album." Lunchtime Discussion Series. Department of Religious Studies, University of Alabama. April 17, 2013.

"Emotional Labor, The Decline and Fall of Pan Am, and the Promise of Afterlife in TV Serialization." Americanist Workshop, University of Alabama. October 5, 2010.

"What if God Was [sic] One of Us?: Religious Questions in Popular Songs." New England/ Maritime Regional AAR. Quincy, Massachusetts. Spring 1997.

"Religion in Popular Songs." North East Popular Culture Association. Hamden, Connecticut. Fall 1996.

"Traversing Bruce Springsteen's *Nebraska*: A Pilgrimage from Unholy to Holy Land." New England American Studies Association. Providence, Rhode Island. Spring 1994.

"The Theology of Bruce Springsteen." North East Popular Culture Association. Providence, Rhode Island. Spring 1993.

"Mercersburg Theology as a Critique of Evangelical Atomism." Lilly Endowment Research Group Conference "Protestantism and Cultural Change in American History." Cambridge, Massachusetts. Spring 1992.

"Where Were the Churches? Protestant Social Witness and the Brown v Board of Education Decision (1954)." Lilly Endowment Research Group Conference "The Protestant Establishment and Cultural Change: Intended and Unintended Adaptations Since the Late 19th Century." Cambridge, Massachusetts. Spring 1990.

## **INVITED LECTURES**

"Fifty Years Ago Today: Religious Studies at the University of Alabama." Religious Studies Department. University of Alabama. March 28, 2017.

21st Century Ecumenism and the Mercersburg Movement," Keynote Address. The Annual Conference of the Mercersburg Society. Lancaster, Pennsylvania. June 4, 2015.

"The Formation of the New Testament Canon." Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. University of Alabama. October 23, 2008.

"Douglas Horton and the Writing of American Religious History." Writer meets Readers. Southern Historians of Religion, Samford University. October 31 and November 1, 2003.

"Re-conceptualizing the Problem of Race and Religion as Portrayed in Popular Films." Wabash/Oxford University Press Book Project: Teaching African American Religions. Dallas, Texas. October 20, 2002.

"Problematizing the Popular: Religion, Race, and Film." Wabash/Oxford University Press Book Project: Teaching African American Religions. Dallas, Texas. June 1, 2002.

"My Own Personal Jesus Christ': The Curiously Christian Worldview in the Movie The Matrix." Second Annual Faculty Lecture, College of Continuing Education, University of Alabama. September 2000.

"Douglas Horton's Ecumenism: Nostalgia for a Previous Century or Vision for the Next One?" Annual Meeting of the United Church of Christ Historical Society, Cleveland. October 1999.

"Tradition and Trajectory: The Mercersburg Movement into the 21st Century." The Mercersburg Society Annual Conference. Pittsfield, Massachusetts. June 1997.

"John Nevin's Appeal for Lutheran Confessional Identity." The Mercersburg Society Annual Conference, Philadelphia. June 1992.

## **OTHER CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES**

"More Time, Less Budget: The Role of the Department Chair in a New Economic Context," panelist. Leadership Conference Workshop. American Academy of Religion. Chicago. November 16, 2013.

"Music of the American Southeast," moderator. Arts, Literature, and Religion Section, American Academy of Religion. Atlanta, Georgia. October 30, 2010.

"Connect the Dots: A National Student Conference on Public Dialogue, Deliberation, Community Problem Solving and Action," participant. Point Clear, Alabama. March 3-6, 2010.

"Creativity and Play across the Disciplines," moderator. Association for Integrative Studies Annual Conference. Tuscaloosa, Alabama. October 9, 2009.



"Approaches to the Study of African Diaspora Religions," moderator. African Diaspora Religions Wildcard Session, American Academy of Religion. Montreal, Québec. November 9, 2009.

"Explorations in Music and Religion," moderator. Music and Religion Consultation, American Academy of Religion. Montreal, Québec. November 7, 2009.

"Race and Religion in the Race for the White House," moderator. Religion and Media Workshop, American Academy of Religion. Chicago. October 30, 2008.

"Religious Institutions Consultation," participant. The Louisville Institute. Louisville, Kentucky. May 29-30, 2008.

"Engaging the Affective: Music, the Senses, and Subjectivity in Film Experiences," moderator. Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. San Diego. November 18, 2007.

"Religious and Theological Reflection upon Musical Meaning," moderator. Religious and Theological Reflection upon Musical Meaning Wildcard Session, American Academy of Religion. San Diego. November 19, 2007.

"Horror, Heroes, and the Supernatural in Film," moderator. Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. Washington, DC. November 18, 2006.

"Religion, Popular Culture, and Community Formation," moderator. Religion and Popular Culture Group, American Academy of Religion. Nashville. November 20, 2000.

## **CREATIVE WORKS**

*Philosophical Fragments* by Thaddaeus Quince and the New Originals. WreckLoose Recordings CD, 2009. Writer, arranger, producer, and vocalist for all songs.

*The One You Love: Blues, Ballads, Hymns, and other Songs of Protest* by Thaddaeus Quince and the New Originals. WreckLoose Recordings CD, 2007. Writer, arranger, producer, and vocalist for all songs.

*The Wrest* by Thaddaeus Quince and the New Originals. WreckLoose Recordings CD, 2004. Writer, arranger, producer, and vocalist for all songs.

*Communitas* by Thaddaeus Quince and the New Originals. WreckLoose Recordings CD, 1999. Writer, arranger, producer, and vocalist for all songs.

*Cold War, Baby* by Thaddaeus Quince and the New Originals. WreckLoose Recordings CD, 1996. Writer, arranger, producer, and vocalist for all songs.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

Grand Marshal, College of Arts and Sciences Commencement, Fall 2019.

Distinguished Teaching Fellow 2015-2018, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alabama.

Southlands Methodist Trust Research/Travel Grant: "John Lennon's Politics of Love." September 2016-June 2017. £960.

The Louisville Institute for the Study of American Religion, Religious Institutions Program Grant: "End of Decline or End of the Line? The United Church of Christ's 'God is Still Speaking,' Identity Campaign." July 2005-July 2006 (Sabbatical grant). \$45,000.

University of Alabama, College of Arts and Sciences. Faculty Development Grant to develop the course "Organic Farming and Slow Food in Italy." July 2005. \$2,000.

University of Alabama, College of Arts and Sciences. Research and Advisory Committee Summer Grant. May 2002 to May 2004. \$3,000.

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. Project Grant, "Mining the Motherlode: Teaching and Learning African American Religious Life." November 2001 to October 2003. \$35,000.

University of Alabama. Arts and Sciences Collegiate Fund Teaching Grant. May 2001 to May 2002. \$3,000.

University of Alabama, College of Arts and Sciences. Research and Advisory Committee Summer Grant. May 2000 to May 2002. \$4,000.

Louisville Institute for the Study of American Religion Dissertation Grant, 1996-1997. \$12,000.

Lilly Endowment Fellowship for the Project on American Protestantism, 1989-1990; 1990-1991; 1995-1996.

Louisville Institute for the Study of American Protestantism. Grant to convene a conference on the contemporary significance of the Mercersburg Movement (1840-1880) at Lancaster Theological Seminary. March 1995. \$5,000.

Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University, Award for Excellence in Teaching, 1994. Writing Fellow at the Danforth Center for Teaching Development, Harvard University. Fall 1993.

San Francisco Theological Seminary Alumni Scholarship Award, 1988.

Martin Dwelle Kneeland Preaching Prize, San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1988.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

29th Annual Academic Chairpersons Conference, Orlando, Florida. February 9-10, 2012.

Americanist Workshop: an interdisciplinary congress of scholars doing research on American themes. Department of English, University of Alabama. September 2008-2016.

Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Research Group, Ottawa University, Canada. September 2005-June 2006.

Interdisciplinary and Integrative Research Group, The University of Alabama. January 1999 to 2005.

American Academy of Religion and the Lilly Endowment. Teaching workshop, "Mining the Motherlode of African American Religious Life," a national teaching and research seminar. August 1999 to August 2000.

Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith, a national seminar sponsored by the Lilly Endowment. March 1997.

## **TEACHING**

### **Undergraduate Courses in Religious Studies**

REL 100 Introduction to Religious Studies REL 112 Introduction to the New Testament  
REL 124 Religion and Popular Culture in America REL 240 Portraits of the Apocalypse in Film  
REL 241 The Narrative Construction of American Religious History REL 311 The English Bible  
REL 355 Rhetorics of Religious Conviction  
REL 420 Critical Approaches to the Gospel of Mark  
REL 445 Research Seminar on Religion in Popular Culture  
REL 490 Capstone Seminar: Apocalypse Now! and Intertextuality REL 490 Capstone Seminar: The Problem of Canon

### **Undergraduate Course in New College**

NEW 211 Perspectives in the Humanities  
NEW 212 Creativity: Artistic Sensibilities and the Self  
NEW 412 Songcraft: The Art of Song Writing  
NEW 490 Food, Farm, and Culture in Italy

### **Undergraduate Course in the Blount Undergraduate Initiative**

BUI 301 Rhetorics of Conviction: Sojourner Truth, Mahatma Gandhi, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

### **PhD Committees**

Inmaculada Perez Casal, "Antecedents and Development of the Contemporary Romance Novel in English: A Study of the Contribution to the Genre by Rosamunde Pilcher and Lisa Kleypas," Department of English (Escola de Doutoramento Internacional, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain), 2019-2020.

Leonard Ares, "Quebécois Identity in Selected Novels of Paul Jasmin, Department of Modern Languages and Classics, 2010-2014.  
 Cori Perdue, "'If the Heart be Moved': Examining the Heart Crisis in Milton, Herbert, Donne, and Crashaw," Department of English 2010-2013.  
 Darren Surman, "A Kierkegaardian Approach to Environmental Ethics," Department of Political Science, 2010-2012.  
 Charity Rakestraw Carney, "Serving Two Masters: Methodism and the Negotiation of Masculinity in the Antebellum South," Department of History, 2009.  
 William Courville, "Coach, Therapist, or Spiritual Director? An Analysis of Discourse about the Spirituality as Used in Professional Coaching," External Reviewer Religious Studies and Classics (University of Ottawa), 2008-2009.  
 Don Gilliland, "Dickinson, Melville, Poetry, God," Department of English 2008-2009.  
 David DeWitt, "The Star Wars Franchise as Global Religious Phenomenon," Interdisciplinary Studies, 2004-2006.  
 Jonathan Berry, "Theories of Religion and Culture," Interdisciplinary Studies, 1999-2005.

### **DMA (Music) Thesis Committees**

Joseph Glaezer, "Reference Recordings of Advanced Flexible-Instrumentation Literature for Wind Band," 2021.  
 Félipe Leitao, "Isaac's World: A Composition," 2019.  
 Elizabeth Pellegrini, "A Study of Selected Contemporary Compositions for Bassoon," 2018.  
 Balee Pongklad, "Concerto for Horn and Chamber Orchestra," 2015.  
 Rebecca Damler Remley, "Quadratic Projections for Saxophone Quartet: A Composition," 2012.  
 Wayne Bucknor, "The Changing Role of Music in the Liturgy of the Black Seventh Day Adventist Church," 2007 (Document Adviser).

### **MFA (Creative Writing) Thesis Committees**

Tyler Corbridge, "Stories for Missing Persons" (short stories collection), 2019.  
 Carl Peterson, "Under Every Spreading Tree" (novel), 2008.  
 Brooke Parks, "Situations That Cannot be Made Better" (poetry), 2007.  
 TJ Beitelman, "Women and Fish in Heaven" (poetry), 2002.  
 Ben Gunsberg, "Half the World Outside" (poetry), 2001.  
 Matthew Doherty, "Letters from the Albion Hotel" (poetry), 2000.  
 Maurice Manning, "Lawrence Booth's Book of Visions" (poetry), 1999.

### **MA Thesis Committee**

Jared Powell, "'I Will not Cease from Mental Fight': William Blake's Milton and the Process of Adaptation" (English), 2018.

### **STUDY ABROAD**

Co-director, "Food, Farm, and Culture in Italy," University of Alabama course in Tuscany, June 2007.  
 Co-leader, "Holy Lands Tour: Egypt, Jordan, Israel," San Francisco Theological Seminary travel group, January 1990.

## **UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

### **University**

Member, Faculty Senate, 2014-2016

Member, Academic Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, 2014-2016

Member, International Studies Committee, 2015-2016

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

Member, Faculty Advisory Council, 2019-2021

Member, College of Arts & Sciences Support for Undergraduate Research, 2017-2021

Member, College of Arts and Sciences Research Grant Committee, 2008-2011.

Member, College of Arts and Sciences Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2006-2008

Mentor, The McNair Undergraduate Program, 2008-2009; 2003-2005

Member, College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee, 2004-2005

### **Department of Religious Studies**

Undergraduate Director, Fall 2020; 2016-2018

Chair of the Department, 2009-2014

Academic Adviser to all Religious Studies majors and minors, 2004-2005; 2006-2009

Chair, Full Time Teaching Instructor search committee, 2009

Chair, Learner-Centered College outcomes assessment committee, 2007-2019

Chair, Religious Studies Tenure and Promotion committee, 2004-2005; 2016- current; member, 2006-2015

Member (for consultation purposes while on sabbatical), Religious Studies faculty search interviewing committee (Asian Religions position), Fall 2005

Member, Religious Studies scholarship committee, 2003-current

Chair, African Diaspora conference planning committee, 2004-2005

Chair, Religion in Culture lecture series committee, 2003-2004; 2004-2005

Chair, Religious Studies learning assessment committee, 2004

Chair, U of A-Stillman College Religion in Culture lecture coordinating committee, 2002-2003

Chair, Religious Studies tenure and promotion documents committee, 2002-2003

Member, Religion in Culture lecture series planning committee, 2002

Member, Religious Studies ad-hoc committee on curriculum revision, 2002

Member, Religious Studies ad-hoc committee on targeted affirmative action hire, 2001

Member, Religious Studies faculty search committee (Judaic Studies position), 2000-2001

Member, Religious Studies faculty search committee (Asian Religions position), 1999-2000; 2000-2001

Member, Religious Studies 5-year Plan committee, 2000-2001

Member, Aaron Aronov Chair in Judaic Studies Advisory Committee, 1998-2001

### **New College**

Chair, 50th Anniversary Committee, 2019-2021

Interim Director and Chair, Fall 2017

Member, New College faculty search committee (Humanities and Fine Arts position), 2007-2008

Member, New College faculty search committee (Natural Sciences position), 2006- 2007

Chair, New College Honors Day planning committee, 2000-2003

Chair, New College Graduation Day planning committee, 2000-2003

Member, New College faculty search committee (Director position), 2000-2001; 2001-2002  
Member, New College 5-year Plan committee, 2000-2001

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS**

### **National**

Member, Editorial Board, *Rock Music Studies* (journal), 2013-current  
Peer Reviewer, Fellowship Program of the National Humanities Center, 2013-current  
Member, Board of Directors, Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, 2006-current  
Corresponding Editor, *The New Mercersburg Review*, 2002-current  
Manuscript Consultant, Oxford University Press; Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group; Duke University Press; Routledge Press; Westminster/John Knox Press; Palgrave-Macmillan Press  
Chair, Academic Relations Committee, American Academy of Religion, 2014-2018  
Co-Chair, Music and Religion Consultation, American Academy of Religion, 2008-2013  
Member, Academic Relations Committee, American Academy of Religion, 2013-2014  
Member, Steering Committee, Religion and Media Workshop, American Academy of Religion, 2006-2014  
Referee, *American Historical Review* (2010)  
Referee, *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* (2009-2013)  
Member, Steering Committee, Religion, Film and Visual Culture Group, American Academy of Religion, 2000-2007  
Member, Corporate Board of the Mercersburg Society, 1998-2004  
Member, Alumni Council of the San Francisco Theological Seminary, 2001-2003

### **Regional**

Member, Senior Thesis Examination Committee, Religion Department, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, 2002 and 2003  
Chair, Host Committee for Southern Historians of Religion, Spring 2003  
Consultant on religion and American culture to the Tuscaloosa News, 1998-2010  
Consultant on religion and American culture to Fox 6 News Tuscaloosa (television), 2000-2007  
Consultant on religion and American culture to ABC 33/40 Birmingham (television), 2001-2012

### **Societies**

American Academy of Religion; American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers; American Studies Association; Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society; The Mercersburg Society; Popular Culture Association

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