Ways of Knowing 2015

4th annual graduate conference on religion at Harvard Divinity School

October 22–24
Harvard Divinity School
Cambridge, MA
SPONSORS

HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL

Science, Religion, and Culture

New England–Maritimes Region
American Academy of Religion
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<td>“A Problem of Culture: The Goldman Sachs Group in Crisis,” SPERRY ROOM</td>
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<td>VII</td>
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Andover 117 is a quiet space available for prayer & meditation throughout the conference.
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“A Problem of Culture: The Goldman Sachs Group in Crisis”
Kathryn Lofton
Yale University

Thur 6:15–7:00 p.m.
Sperry

BUILDING A FAMILY AND AN ACADEMIC CAREER
Catherine Brekus
Harvard Divinity School
Christopher Hoklotubbe
Andover Newton Theological Seminary
Courtney Lamberth
Harvard University
Ian Straughn
Brown University

Fri 1:00–3:00 p.m.
Andover Chapel

SCHOLARS OF RELIGION & THE MEDIA
Cameron Partridge
Harvard Divinity School
Ayesha Chaudhry
University of British Columbia; Radcliffe Fellow, Harvard University
Kalpana Jain
Senior Editor, The Conversation

Fri 5:15–7:00 p.m.
Sperry

THE ACADEMIC JOB MARKET
Elias Muhanna
Brown University
Ahmed Ragab
Richard T. Watson Assistant Professor of Science and Religion and Director of Science, Religion, and Culture Program,
Harvard Divinity School
Alma Steingart
Harvard Society of Fellows

Sat 1:00–3:00 p.m.
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**FEATURED MODULES**

**MODULE: RELIGION AND CRISIS**

Theological Responses to Social Suffering: Famine, Poverty, and Displacement  
Thurs 4:15–6:00 p.m.  
Sperry

Race, Racism, and Religious Anti-Racist Activism in Contemporary America  
Fri 9:00–10:45 a.m.  
Sperry

Capitalism, Ethics, and Modern Crises of Meaning  
Fri 11:15 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
Sperry

Inside the Crisis Economy: Theological Archaeologies  
Fri 3:00–4:45 p.m.  
Sperry

Moral Responses to Violent Crisis  
Sat 9:00–10:45 a.m.  
Sperry

Crises of Religious Transformation: Conversion, Disenchantment, and Reincarnation  
Sat 11:15 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Sperry

Crises of Community, Identity, and Governance in Modern Islamic Contexts  
Sat 3:00–4:45 p.m.  
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**MODULE: FOOD PRACTICES ACROSS RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS**

*Organized by Khytie Brown and Mariam Goshadze, Harvard University*

Consumption, Commodification, and the Spiritual Economy of Food  
Fri 9:00–10:45 a.m.  
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Cross-cultural Communcions: Eating, Dialoguing and the Formation of Transnational Communities Through Food  
Fri 11:15 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
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Palatable Identities: Food Culture and Religious Selfhood  
Fri 3:00–4:45 p.m.  
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MODULE: THE PROMISE AND PERIL
OF TEXTUALITY

Organized by Ethan Schwartz, Harvard University

The Text Between the Individual and the Community
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Textual Religion in Mediterranean Antiquity
Fri 11:15 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
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Textual Religion in Modernity
Fri 3:00–4:45 p.m.
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MODULE: MAGIC/SCIENCE/RELIGION

Organized by Andrew Henry and Ryan Knowles,
Boston University

Anthropological Approaches
Sat 9:00–10:45 a.m.
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Early American Contexts
Sat 11:15 a.m.–1 p.m.
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Ancient Contexts & Categories
Sat 3:00–4:45 p.m.
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Philosophy of Science and Epistemology
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THURSDAY — AT A GLANCE

APPLYING TO PH.D. PROGRAMS IN RELIGION
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Epistemology in the Philosophy of Religion
Theological Responses to Social Suffering: Famine,
Poverty, and Displacement
Ritual, Knowledge, and Sacred History:
Engagements with Ritual Theory

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
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“A Problem of Culture:
The Goldman Sachs Group in Crisis”
Kathryn Lofton
Yale University

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Icons of Lenin, or Prayers for the Tsar? Russian Orthodoxy in Red Scare Detroit, 1917-1924
Aram Sarkisian, Northwestern University

The Narrative of the Clandestine Church: The Ukrainian Catholic Church in the Soviet Union
Kathryn David, New York University

“Between Seven and Eight”: Generating a Creative Post-Soviet Identity in Liudmila Ulitskaya’s The Funeral Party
Lana Jaffe, Harvard University

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THINKING, SAYING, KNOWING: HERMENEUTICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

“There’s No Way of Saying these Things Anymore”: Latour and Ricoeur on the Question of Religious Speech and the Modern Crisis of Meaning
Kevin Chaves, Stanford University

Sketching a Phenomenology of Revelation for a Theology of Liberation
Raul Zegarra, University of Chicago

Epistemic Kin: Pragmatism and Neoclassical Metaphysics
Lisa Landoe Hedrick, University of Chicago

Practices of Thinking: Henri Bergson on Philosophy and Religion
Daniel Del Nido, Columbia University

Spinoza and the Possibility of Rational Religion
Noa Ayalon, Boston University
SPERRY ROOM
THEOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO SOCIAL SUFFERING: FAMINE, POVERTY, AND DISPLACEMENT

The Hijra and the Political Discourse on Syrian Refugees in Turkey
Salih Sayilgan, Catholic University of America

Famine: Natural or Ugly? Basil of Caesarea and the Shaping of the Aesthetic of Society
Michael Motia, Harvard University

Runaway Saints and Homeless Pilgrims of Loiza Aldea, Puerto Rico
Rev. Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa, Harvard Divinity School

What’s In Your Mouth? Food, Famine, and Knowing You’re Cursed by God
Carson Bay, Florida State University

ANDOVER CHAPEL
RITUAL, KNOWLEDGE, AND SACRED HISTORY: ENGAGEMENTS WITH RITUAL THEORY

Epistemologies of Trauma: Narrative Reconstruction as Ritual Knowledge
Tyler M. Tully, Chicago Theological Seminary

Wissenschaft des Judentums’ Treatment of Sacrifice in Rabbinic Literature
Edmond Zuckier, Yale University

Positioning Oneself in Between the Heaven and the Earth: A Korean-Confucian Theological Reflection on Rituals
Daekyung Jung, Graduate Theological Union

Mourning the Posthuman: Contemporary Urban Necro-Politics as Ritual Negotiation
John Borchert, Syracuse University
KEYNOTE ADDRESS
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Sperry Room

A PROBLEM OF CULTURE:
THE GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP IN CRISIS

Kathryn Lofton
Yale University

Kathryn Lofton is Chair of the Department of Religious Studies and Professor of Religious Studies, American Studies, History and Divinity at Yale University. A historian and cultural critic, her research focuses on the problem of religion in modernity. She has written about modernism, consumerism, celebrity, and secularism. Her book in progress, Consuming Religion, includes examinations of Goldman Sachs, Kim Kardashian, and parenting as subjects for the study of religion.
BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

8:00–9:00 a.m.
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Race, Racism, and Religious Anti-Racist Activism in Contemporary America

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The Text Between the Individual and the Community

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Cross-cultural Communions: Eating, Dialoguing and the Formation of Transnational Communities Through Food

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Femininity and Religious Practice and Performance

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Capitalism, Ethics, and Modern Crises of Meaning

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Textual Religion in Mediterranean Antiquity

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The Body as Material Object
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Inside the Crisis Economy: Theological Archaeologies
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CSWR
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ANDOVER 102
CONSUMPTION, COMMODIFICATION, AND THE SPIRITUAL ECONOMY OF FOOD
Moderators: Khytie Brown and Mariam Goshadze, Harvard University

Holy Commodities: The Material and Social Nature of Contemporary Roman Catholic Altar Bread Production in America
Mark Nicolais, University of Missouri

Ramadan and the Ideology of Consumerism of Popular Culture in Morocco
Amedjar Lahoucine, Al-Akhawayn University

Sugar and Spirits: The Desire for Sweetness and the Political and Spiritual Economy of Jamaican Revival Zion
Khytie Brown, Harvard University

ANDOVER 103
SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE IN MINORITY RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Breaking the Promise: Attitudes towards Marriage, Divorce and the Anand Karaj (Sikh Wedding Ceremony) among the British Asian Sikh Community
Mandeep Singh Sehmi, Coventry University

Western LGBT Muslim Lives and the Managing of Identity Dissonance
Jean-François Brault, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

“Those Days Will Live in my Memory...Because they were Full of Pain”: A Nineteenth-Century Case Study for Religious Disappointment
Joseph Stuart, University of Utah
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RACE, RACISM, AND RELIGIOUS ANTIRACIST ACTIVISM
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American Blackness as Homo Sacer: The Coming of the Third
Zachary Settle, Vanderbilt University

Whiteness In/As Crisis
Emily Jones, Chicago Theological Seminary

Study of Intra-Muslim Ethnic Relations
Meral Kocak and Namira Islam, Harvard Divinity School

“One Bread, One Body”: Singing Reconciliation Into Reality
Kelly West Figueroa-Ray, University of Virginia

ANDOVER CHAPEL
THE TEXT BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE COMMUNITY
Moderator: Ethan Schwartz, Harvard University

Parallax Visions: Rhetoric, Experience, and Authority in Dakpo Tashi Namgyel’s Mahāmudrā, the Moonlight Quintessence of Mind and Meditation
Christopher Hiebert, University of Virginia

When the Books Disappear” Reading Benjamin, Communal Reading, and the Ritualization of Literary Communities. Or What Augustine Can Teach Us about Communities of Readers
Michael Motia, Harvard University

Reading is Believing: Online Evangelical Testimonies on Emotion
Suzanne Van Geuns, Utrecht University

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Stacie Vos, Yale University
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CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNIONS: EATING, DIALOGUING AND THE FORMATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH FOOD

Moderators: Khytie Brown and Mariam Goshadze, Harvard University

Beyond Mindful Eating: Transforming Foodscapes via Transnational Buddhist Food Practices
Jason WM Ellsworth, Dalhousie University

Setting a Table of Inclusion: Towards a Theology of an “Open” Eucharist
Hunter Beezley, Union Theological Seminary

Islam and the Coffee Question: Muslim Debates and their European Misrepresentations
Adeel Mohammadi, Harvard Divinity School

Food As a Way of Knowing: EE Evans-Pritchard’s Azande translated through Apter’s Idea of Deep-Knowledge and Bloor’s Social Epistemology
Chelsi Dimm, UCLA

ANDOVER 103
FEMININITY AND RELIGIOUS PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Women and Sufism: Religious Expression and the Political Sphere in Contemporary Morocco
Meriem El-Haitami, Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdellah University

Attending to the Angel: Affect, Consent, and the Marian Model of Embodied Knowing
Mauricio Najarro, Graduate Theological Union

Nude Mormons and Mommy Bloggers: Opposing Views for Performing Mormon Femininity
Kate Davis, Claremont Graduate University

Religiosity as a Factor of Negotiation in Healthcare Practices: The Case of Post-Natal Home Monitoring
Emilie Audy, Université de Montréal
SPERRY ROOM
CAPITUALISM, ETHICS, AND MODERN CRISES OF MEANING
The Ku Klux Klan, the Industrial Workers of the World, and Cultural Apocalypse
Colin Bossen, Harvard University

The Confucian Tradition in China’s Business Practice: Lessons from Twentieth Century’s Critical Junctures
Nikita Makarchev, University of Cambridge

Emily Dubie, Duke University

ANDOVER CHAPEL
TEXTUAL RELIGION IN MEDITERRANEAN ANTIQUITY
Moderator: Ethan Schwartz, Harvard University

“While Their Enemies Watched Them”: The Propaganda Power of Jewish Scriptures and Roman Catastrophes in Revelation 11:3-12
Aaron Ricker, McGill University

“It’s The End Of The World As We Know It (And I Feel Fine)”: Textuality and Eschatology in Early Christianity
Clement Grene, University of Edinburgh

Textual Magic: The Materiality of the Religious Text in the Late Antique Mediterranean
Scott Possiel, Boston University

LUNCH PANEL: BUILDING A FAMILY AND AN ACADEMIC CAREER
1:00–3:00 p.m., Andover Chapel

Catherine Brekus, Charles Warren Professor of the History of Religion in America; Harvard Divinity School

Christopher Hoklotubbe, Visiting Assistant Professor of New Testament and Early Christian History; Andover Newton Theological Seminary

Courtney Lamberth, Director of Undergraduate Studies; Lecturer in the Study of Religion; Harvard University

Ian Straughn, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Brown University
SESSION IV
3:00–4:45 p.m.

ANDOVER 102
PALATABLE IDENTITIES: FOOD CULTURE AND RELIGIOUS SELFHOOD
Moderators: Khytie Brown and Mariam Goshadze, Harvard University

The Creation of an Altneu Cuisine: Food Practices during the Second Aliyah
Elsien Van Pinxteren, Harvard University

Diet in Medieval Islamic Education: An Eleventh-Century Culinary Syllabus
Joseph Vignone, Harvard University

Rosca de Reyes in Sunset Park: Performativity of Consumption through Three Kings Day Celebration
Luciano Hidalgo, New York University

ANDOVER 103
THE BODY AS MATERIAL OBJECT

Animating Presence: The Body, Material Culture Theory and Conceptualizing Protestant Relics
Christopher Allison, Harvard University

The Human Body in Mahāyāna Buddhism: Object of Revulsion, Object of Compassion
Julia Stenzel, McGill University

Savage Knowledge: Phrenology and the Creation of True Frontier Religion
Andy McKee, Florida State University

Hair Care as Ritualized Self-Transformation: How Aesthetics Mediates Relationship between Self, Other, and World
Amanda Napior Gustafson, Harvard Divinity School
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INSIDE THE CRISIS ECONOMY: THEOLOGICAL ARCHAEOLOGIES

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Devin Singh, Dartmouth College

Getting Their Due: Patristic and Contemporary Justification of Looting in Times of Crisis
Yii-Jan Lin, Pacific School of Religion

The Economics of Libido: Augustine, Labor, and the Critical Erotics of Enclosure
Michael Thate, Princeton University

Calvin’s Economic Semiotics of Faith: A Critical Alternative to the Hegemony of “Work”?
Michelle Sanchez, Harvard Divinity School

ANDOVER CHAPEL
TEXTUAL RELIGION IN MODERNITY
Moderator: Ethan Schwartz, Harvard University

Rabbi Nachman Krochmal and the Possibility of a Post-Textual Judaism
Yiftach Ofek, University of Chicago

“For Everything is In It”: Scripture, the Internet, and Social Research in the Age of Big Data
Danya Lagos, University of Chicago

No Truth but Life, No Life but Style: Newman, Hopkins, Barthes
Cliff Mak, Holy Cross

Early Religious Text in Modern Context: Dynamics of Equanimity in the Bhagavad Gita
Kalpesh Bhatt, University of Toronto
PANEL: SCHOLARS OF RELIGION & THE MEDIA
5:15–7:00 p.m., Sperry Room

Cameron Partridge
Counselor to Episcopal/Anglican Students,
Lecturer on Anglican Polity,
Harvard Divinity School

Ayesha Chaudhry
Associate Professor of Islamic Studies and Gender Studies, University of British Columbia;
Rita E. Hauser Research Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

Kalpana Jain
Senior Education Editor,
The Conversation
SATURDAY
October 24th, 2015
SATURDAY — AT A GLANCE

BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

8:00–9:00 a.m.
Braun

SESSION V

9:00–10:45 a.m.

Andover 102

Knowledge and Authorization in Classical Islamic Texts

Andover 103

Death, Apocalypse, and What Remains: Biblical and Late Ancient Investigations

Sperry

Moral Responses to Violent Crisis

Andover Chapel

Anthropological Approaches

Coffee Break,
Braun

SESSION VI

11:15 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Andover 102

Muslim Communities and Authorities in Europe and North America

Andover 103

Rereading Biblical Exegesis and its Silences: Interpretations of Psalms and Job

Sperry

Crises of Religious Transformation: Conversion, Disenchantment, and Reincarnation

Andover Chapel

Early American Contexts
LUNCH PANEL: “THE ACADEMIC JOB MARKET”  1:00–3:00 p.m.  
Andover Chapel

SESSION VII  3:00–4:45 p.m.  
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Varieties of Non-Religious Experience: 
Spirituality, Skepticism, and Secularity  

Subjectivity, Identity, and Experience in 
Twentieth-Century Literature  

Crises of Community, Identity, and Governance 
in Modern Islamic Contexts  

Ancient Contexts & Categories

SESSION VIII  5:15–7:00 p.m.  
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Evangelization and Evangelicalism  

Poetics, Apophasis, and the Knowing/Known Subject  

Encountering the Challenges of Religious Plurality: 
Theoretical and Ethical Interventions  

Philosophy of Science and Epistemology

SRC PROGRAM DINNER  7:00–9:00 p.m.  
Braun
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ANDOVER 102
KNOWLEDGE AND AUTHORIZATION IN CLASSICAL ISLAMIC TEXTS

Corrupted Modes of Knowing: Practice, Discourse, and Knowledge in Ibn Taymiyya’s Criticism
Faris Al Ahmad, Columbia University

Ties of Blood and Water: The Ritualization of Knowledge and the Legitimization of the Dāʿī Muṭlaq in Ṭayyibī Shiʿism
Paul Anderson, Harvard University

The Problem of Authorship in al-Ghazālī’s Maqāsid al-Falāsifa
Ayse Betul Tekin, Columbia University

Juristic Innovation and Emulation in the Production of Shīʿī Scholarly Thought: the Contributions of al-Shaykh al-Mufid
Mohammad Sagha, University of Chicago

The Informative Role of Muhammad’s Image in Islamic Dream Theory
Abdul Rahman Chao, Vanderbilt University

Respondent: Lispeth Tibbets-Nutt, Harvard University

ANDOVER 103
DEATH, APOCALYPSE, AND WHAT REMAINS: BIBLICAL AND LATE ANCIENT INVESTIGATIONS

Did Qoheleth Believe in an Afterlife?
Jesse Peterson, University of Durham

Refining Apocalyptic: Modes of Eschatological Rhetoric in the Revelation of John
Justin Mark Staller, Graduate Theological Union

The Gospel of John and the Crisis of First-Century Judaism
Christopher Blumhofer, Duke University

Reading Affect in a Lamp: A Case Study in Queer Archaeology
Sarah Porter, Harvard University

Respondent: Christopher Hoklotubbe, Andover Newton Theological School
SPERRY ROOM
MORAL RESPONSES TO VIOLENT CRISIS

Disrupting the Calculation of Violence: James M. Lawson, Jr. and the Politics of Religious Nonviolence
Anthony Siracusa, Vanderbilt University

Religion, Politics, and Material Suffering: Makhmalbaf’s Marriage of the Blessed
Maryam Ghodrati, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Hannah Arendt on the Possibilities of Conscience in the Face of Moral Crisis
Ryan Donovan, Florida State University

Between Pantheon and Politics: “Gomateshwara” and the Warrior in India’s Sacred Art
Sreekishen Nair, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Ecclesia Militans. The Maronite Church in Peace and War
Borja Wladimiro González Fernández, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

ANDOVER CHAPEL
ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES
Moderators: Andrew Henry and Ryan Knowles, Boston University

Religion, Magic, and Globalization: Negotiations of Magic and Hindu Religion in La Réunion
Natalie Lang, University of Göttingen

Appalachian “Granny Women”: Folk Practice and Radical Politics at the Intersection of Magic, Science, and Religion
Jordan Tarwater, Union Theological Seminary

Florida Water: Meaningful and Messy Hybridity in the Atlantic Modern
Hector M. Varela Rios, University of Chicago
SESSION VI
11:15–1:00 p.m.

ANDOVER 102
MUSLIM COMMUNITIES AND AUTHORITIES IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

Western Muslim Converts and the Ta’leef Model: A Quest for Legitimacy
*Lucy Ballard, Harvard Divinity School*

Modern Muslim Intellectuals in the Anglophone European Academia (1989-2009): The Social-Construction of a Category?
*Pegah Zohouri Haghian, Oxford University*

The Politics of Belief: Prosthetic Citizenship and The Prosthetic Believer
*Zaheeda Alibhai, University of Ottawa*

ANDOVER 103
REREADING BIBLICAL EXEGESIS AND ITS SILENCES: INTERPRETATIONS OF PSALMS AND JOB

Forsaken and Forgotten: Esther and Jesus as Speakers of Psalm 22
*Emilie Amar-Zifkin, Yale University*

“Sacrament and Model:” Christology, Soteriology, and the Eucharist in Augustine De Trinitate IV and Expositions of Psalm 22
*Luke Zerra, Princeton Theological Seminary*

Violate your Torah: Crisis Discourse and Beginning-anew in Medieval Judaism
*Omer Michaelis, Tel Aviv University*

The Tragedy of an Unjustly Maligned Skeptic: Recovering the Satan’s Hermeneutics of Suspicion for Christian Emulation
*Trevor Williams, Pepperdine University*

Respondent: Michael Lesley, Harvard Divinity School
SPERRY ROOM
CRISES OF RELIGIOUS TRANSFORMATION: CONVERSION, DISENCHANTMENT, AND REINCARNATION

“A Pervert Converted”: Religion and Marriage in a Nineteenth-Century Scandal
Suzanna Krivulskaya, University of Notre Dame

Raising and Reporting a Lama: A New Buddhist Movement’s Media Representation of its Founder’s Reincarnation
Christopher Emory-Moore, University of Waterloo

Pious Partisan: The Agonistic Conversion of a Contemporary Egyptian Shi‘ite
Ian VanderMeulen, New York University

The Disinherited: Conversion crisis and the Economies of Loss in Colonial Calcutta
Mou Banerjee, Harvard University

ANDOVER CHAPEL
EARLY AMERICAN CONTEXTS
Moderators: Andrew Henry and Ryan Knowles, Boston University

Mormonism’s “Peculiar Doctrines” and the Political Consequences of Categorization
Megan Leverage, Florida State University

Dreams of Social Control: Exploring the Role of ‘Fantasy’ in the Eugenics Movement in the U.S., 1880-1930
Ayan Kassim, University of Toronto

Religious Wanderings, Spiritual Journeys and the Mobility of Faith in the Shadow of the Enlightenment: The Porous Boundaries of Science, Magic and Religion in the Early American Republic
Auréliane Narvaez, Université de Paris-Sorbonne
LUNCH PANEL: THE ACADEMIC JOB MARKET
1:00–3:00 p.m., Andover Chapel

Elias Muhanna, Manning Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, Brown University

Ahmed Ragab, Richard T. Watson Assistant Professor of Science and Religion; Director, Science, Religion, and Culture Program; Harvard Divinity School

Alma Steingart, Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows

SESSION VII
3:00–4:45 p.m.

ANDOVER 102
VARIETIES OF NON-RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE: SPIRITUALITY, SKEPTICISM, AND SECULARITY

The Three Paradoxes of Spiritual Convalescence
Anthony Biondolillo, Boston College

The Power of Humility in Skeptical Religion: Why Ietsism is Preferable to J.L. Schellenberg’s Ultimism
James Elliot, Purdue University

“The Ultra-Orthodox are Just Another Kind of Arab”: Secular Jewishness in the Israeli Settlement of the West Bank
Callie Maidhof, University of California, Berkeley

“Nones” and American Democracy
Cody Musselman, Harvard Divinity School

Respondent: Kip Richardson, Harvard University

ANDOVER 103
SUBJECTIVITY, IDENTITY, AND EXPERIENCE IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY LITERATURE

Outside the Courtroom: The Productive Role of Disappointed Recognition in Zora Neale Hurston’s Their Eyes Were Watching God
Timothy Pantoja, New York University
To Kill the Lies of Color: Personal Crisis, Assimilation, and Identity in The Human Stain  
*Thomas Owings, University of Chicago*

An Atheist Gospel: The Quest for the Fictional Jesus and the Gospel Novel as Atheist Discourse  
*Ethan Quillen, University of Edinburgh*

*La vie éternelle, roman* at the Crossroads Between Magic, Science and Religion  
*Saul Andreetti, Independent Scholar*

**SPERRY ROOM**  
**CRISES OF COMMUNITY, IDENTITY, AND GOVERNANCE IN MODERN ISLAMIC CONTEXTS**

Modernism, Ethical Crisis and the Islamic Sense of Commonality  
*Youssef Ben Ismail, Harvard University*

Debating Islamic Law Reform in Crisis-Era Greece  
*Jasmine Samara, Harvard University*

“History is the Interpretation of Events:” Sayyid Qutb and the Crisis of Islamic Modernity  
*Ilona Gerbaker, Columbia University*

**ANOVER CHAPEL**  
**ANCIENT CONTEXTS & CATEGORIES**

Moderators: Andrew Henry and Ryan Knowles, Boston University

Historicizing “Magic”: Pliny the Elder and religious anxiety in the Roman Empire  
*Andrew Durdin, University of Chicago*

Accepted, Forbidden, or Both? Magic as Social Capital in 1 Enoch  
*Blake Jurgens, Florida State University*

The Transformation of the Bedchamber Arts: From the Union of Yin and Yang to the Summary of the Golden Elixir  
*Adrien Stoloff, Brown University*

Childbirth in Ancient Israel: An Illustration of the Interconnectedness of Magic and Religion  
*NaShieka D. Knight, Towson University*
SESSION VIII
5:15–7:00 p.m.

ANDOVER 102
EVANGELIZATION AND EVANGELICALISM

“Evangelization in an Ecosystem”: Liberal Protestant Mission Theology and Environmental Action in 20th Century America
Emily Stewart, University of Pittsburgh

Christian Outsiders in Christian America: The Contradictory Discourses of American Evangelical Identity
Lauren Kerby, Boston University

Celebrity Worship: Preachers and Popularity in the Transatlantic Gilded Age
Kip Richardson, Harvard University

“A Way of Knowing: Via Crucis Reimagined for the 21st Century,“
David J.C. Waters, Harvard Divinity School

ANDOVER 103
POETICS, APOPHASIS, AND THE KNOWING/KNOWN SUBJECT

Knowledge and the Poetic Subject in Rūmī’s Nay Nāmah
Robert Ames, Harvard University

The Limitation of Language and an Ambiguous Way of Knowing: A Comparative Theological Study of Cyril of Alexandria and Nāgārjuna
Wanjoong Kim, Graduate Theological Union

Failure and a Queer Eschatological Imagination: Never-arriving Perfection in Gregory of Nyssa
Jason Frey, Chicago Theological Seminary

Respondent: Elizabeth Angowski, Harvard University
SPERRY ROOM
ENCOUNTERING THE CHALLENGES OF RELIGIOUS PLURALITY:
THEORETICAL AND ETHICAL INTERVENTIONS

Testimony and the Problem of Religious Diversity
Rosanna Picascia, Harvard University

Religion as Toleration: Dissent and Truth in Early-Eighteenth-Century England
Abigail Modaff, Harvard University

Expanding the Spiritual Circle: Muslim Women Engaging with the “Other” as a Moral Duty
Merve Reyhan Kayikci, KU Leuven

Religious Literacy and Religious Experience
Andrew Bridges, Claremont Graduate University

ANDOVER CHAPEL
PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND EPISTEMOLOGY
Moderators: Andrew Henry and Ryan Knowles, Boston University

Religious Intolerance and the Secularization of Science: The Argument for a Cosmopolitan Sacred Science
Zaheeda P. Alibhai, University of Ottawa

al-Hudā wa al-Furqān: Science, Magic, and Épistème in the Tafsīr Collections of Sayyid Ahmad Khān and Sayyid Abul Āla Maudūdī
Ali Raza Sattar, Harvard Divinity School

Science, Religion, and Incompatibility: Can Philosophy of Science Help?
Aaron Brooks, Florida State University
CONFERENCE STAFF

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Module Co-Chair: Food Practices across Religious Traditions

Mariam Goshadze
Module Co-Chair: Food Practices across Religious Traditions

Andrew Henry
Module Co-Chair: Magic/Science/Religion

Ryan Knowles
Module Co-Chair: Magic/Science/Religion

Ethan Schwartz
Module Chair: The Promise and Peril of Textuality

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Richard T. Watson Assistant Professor of Science and Religion
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