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Education

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts:

School of Theology

Candidate, Doctor of Philosophy in Practical Theology, *ABD*

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut:

Yale Divinity School

Master of Sacred Theology, May 2008

Certificates: Anglican Studies, Institute of Sacred Music

Master of Divinity, May 2006, *magna cum laude*

Certificate: Institute of Sacred Music

Yale College

Bachelor of Arts, May 2003

Major: English Language and Literature

Study Abroad:

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, Summer 2007

St. Andrew's University, Scotland, Spring 2002

Additional Education

CoachU, Life Coach Certification, July, 2010-March, 2011

Clinical Pastoral Education in Hospital Chaplaincy, Hartford Hospital, Summer 2004

Teaching Experience

2008- Yale University (New Haven, CT), College Seminar Program

2011 **Lecturer. Designed and taught CSBR 352/371: Christian Theology and Harry Potter**, a semester-long seminar offering in which the topics of systematic theology are presented alongside the reading of the Harry Potter books for the purpose of analyzing the extent to which the series espouses a Christian worldview. Course is ongoing.

2011 Boston University (Boston, MA), School of Theology

Writing Tutor. Worked individually with students to develop ideas for papers, structure a sound argument, and understand the rules of English grammar. A majority of those coming for tutoring speak English as a second language. Position ongoing.

- 2011 Tufts University, (Medford, MA)
Lecturer. Designed and taught EXP0007S, Harry Potter and Christian Thought. See above for course description.
- 2011 Boston University (Boston, MA), School of Theology
Teaching Assistant. Led discussion, provided organizational assistance and academic support to professor and students for TS887/JD827: Restorative Justice. This course, jointly offered by the Law School and the School of Theology, focused on the fundamental principles and practices of restorative justice from theological and legal perspectives.
- 2010 Boston University (Boston, MA), School of Theology
Teaching Assistant. Led discussion, provided organizational assistance and academic support to professor and students for TTH 998: Trauma and Theology. This course provided an overview interdisciplinary materials from secular trauma studies and theology in order to consider the intersection between the two fields.
- 2007-2008 The University of New Haven (New Haven, CT), Department of English
Adjunct Faculty. Designed and taught ENG 110: Literature and Composition. This course introduced students to different genres of literature, namely fiction, the narrative essay, poetry, and drama. Students were evaluated through analytical essays and creative writing opportunities.
Designed and taught ENG 105: Composition. Course introduced students to the basics of English language composition, evaluated through essays, quizzes, and research paper.
Designed and taught ENG 110: Literature and Composition Summer Intensive Online. This course introduced students to different genres of literature, namely fiction, the narrative essay, poetry, and drama. Students were evaluated through analytical essays. This course was taught online during an intensive summer session.
- 2007 Central Connecticut State University (New Britain, CT), English Department
Adjunct Faculty. Designed and taught ENG 214: World Literature. This course surveyed literature from Afghanistan, Chile, India, Poland, England, and France and focused specifically upon issues of morality. Students were evaluated through essays, quizzes, and exams.

Academic Presentations

- 2012 Chair, “Performing Love and Embodiment”
 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA)
- 2011 “*Dignitas Personae* and the Dignity of the Couple”
 Mid-Atlantic Region AAR Conference (Religion and Ethics Section)
- 2010 “Revelio: Revealing Truth in *Harry Potter*”
 Infinitus Symposium (Orlando, Florida)

- 2009 “‘The Man Seized His Concubine:’ Understanding Identity Construction, Autonomy, and Voice in Judges 19”
The American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Montreal, Canada)
- 2008 Chair of the Harry Potter and Religion Panel
The American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- 2008 “Greeting Avada Kedavra With Open Arms: The Role of Solidarity as a Potentially Christian Response to Death in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*”
Portus Symposium (Dallas, TX)
- 2008 “To Teach or Not to Teach?: How to Use the Harry Potter Series to Teach Christian Theology”
Portus Symposium (Dallas, TX)
- 2007 “Speaking the Unspeakable: A Theology of Trauma and Grace”
Institute of Sacred Music Colloquium Talk, Yale University
- 2006 “How We Sing Death: Evaluating the Theological Dimensions of Musical and Textual Variations in Requiem Settings from the Anglican Tradition”
Institute of Sacred Music Colloquium Talk, Yale University (co-presenter: Ryan Brandau).
- 2005 “Breaking Dinah’s Silence: Voicing Sexualized Violence in a Christian Context”
Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute Conference (San Diego, CA)
- 2005 “Touching the Disaster: The Entrenchment of Traumatic Violence in the Body and the Power of Music as Embodied Grace-Bearer”
Peace and Safety in the Christian Home Conference (Newport Beach, CA)

Academic Conference and Presentation Organizer

- 2011 “Love Should Be Multiplied, Not Divided: A Conversation about Plural Marriage with the Cast of TLC’s ‘Sister Wives’”
Organized and chaired a conversation for 100 students and faculty from the Boston area with the Brown family, who practice plural marriage. Conversation filmed for an episode of the nationally syndicated show.
Hynes Convention Center (Boston, MA)
- 2010 “Practicing New Ways of Being in the Academy and the Church: Conversations with Emerging Feminist Practical Theologians”
Organized and chaired workshops for Boston area faculty and students interested in feminist practical theology.
Boston University (Boston, MA)

Scholastic Honors

- 2010 Springboard grant through Boston University School of Theology to speak at the Infinitus Symposium (Orlando, Florida)
- 2009 Springboard grant through Boston University to attend The Parliament of the World's Religions (Melbourne, Australia)
- 2008-2010 Lilly Grant for studies in Practical Theology through Boston University
- 2008 Dwight-Hooker Prize for doctoral studies in theology, Yale Divinity School Commencement Prize
- 2008 Mercer Scholarship to study trauma and reconciliation
- 2007 Two Brothers Summer Fellowship to study Biblical Hebrew in Jerusalem
- 2006 Yale Institute of Sacred Music Summer Scholarship for studies in religious poetry composition
- 2003-2008 Yale Institute of Sacred Music Fellowship and Stipend
- 2002 Bates Summer Travel Fellowship, Jonathan Edwards College, Yale University Researched history and development of English cathedral girls' choirs
- 2001-2002 Fund for Theological Education Undergraduate Fellowship

Academic Publications and Articles

God and Harry Potter at Yale: Faith and Fantasy Fiction in an Ivy League Classroom. Unlocking Press. December, 2010.

“Trauma and Grace: Theology in a Ruptured World.” Book Review. *Anglican Theological Review*. Spring, 2011.

“Birthing a Mother: The Surrogate Body and the Pregnant Self.” Book Review. *Practical Matters Journal*. Spring, 2011.

“*Divine Worship and Human Healing and Trauma Recalled.*” Book Review. *The Christian Century*. Expected Publication Date: Summer, 2011.

“Psalm 112: Theological Perspective.” *Feasting on the Word*. Westminster John Knox Press. Online supplement. Summer, 2010.

“*Grief: Contemporary Theory and the Practice of Ministry*.” Book Review. *BTI* (Boston Theological Institute) *Magazine*. Ed. Rodney Petersen. October, 2010.

“Reflections on God and Harry Potter.” Book Chapter. *Hog’s Head Conversations: Brilliant Essays on Harry Potter*. Ed. Travis Prinzi. Zossima Press. July, 2009.

“*Deconstructing Theodicy* Review.” Book Review. *The Christian Century*. December 2, 2008.

Additional Publications

2010-present Contributing Writer on Religion and Popular Culture. CNN Belief Blog. CNN.com.

2012 Commentator. *Episcopal News Service*.

2011-present Contributing Writer on Religion and Popular Culture. *The Guardian*.

2011-present Contributing Writer on Religion and Popular Culture. *Huffington Post*.

2011-present Contributing Writer on Religion and Popular Culture. *Sojourners*.

Additional Employment

2012 Interim Priest Associate (St. Anne in-the-Field’s, Lincoln, MA)
Lead worship, write and preach sermons, assist with Christian formation for adults and teenagers, lead small group discussions on future development of parish, facilitate smooth transition between previous priest associate and incoming priest associate.

2008-2011 Priest Associate (Christ Church, Quincy, MA)
Lead worship, wrote and preached sermons, offered pastoral care, prepared and implemented Christian formation programs

2008 National Public Radio Producing and Reporting Intern (WNPR, Hartford)
Wrote copy, produced episodes of the *Where We Live Show*, attended press conferences, recorded promos, edited sound, wrote scripts for newscasts

2007-2008 Senior Writer for the Yale Publications Office.
Authored profiles and articles for various written and online publications.

2007-2008 Project Assistant for Shulmann Lecture Series on religion and science at Yale
Arrange transportation and accommodation for guest speakers. Organize

publicity for the lectures and write biographies of presenters.

- 2004-2008 Chaplain Associate at Yale-New Haven Hospital
Worked on-call shifts at a major trauma center and provide crisis care to patients, family, and staff at times of trauma or death.
- 2001 Residential Advisor (RA) at Biosphere II, then owned by Columbia University
Supported high school students during Biosphere II summer science program. Coordinated activities—including a week-long trip to the Grand Canyon—lived with students, provided academic support and enforced program rules and regulations.

Languages

Modern Standard Arabic
Modern Hebrew
Biblical Hebrew
French

Professional Memberships & Committees

Bible, Theology, and Postmodernity Group Steering Committee Member for the American Academy of Religion

Ordained to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood in The Episcopal Church (canonically resident in the Diocese of Connecticut)

YaleBoston (formerly Yale Club of Boston) Board Member

Member of The American Academy of Religion

Certified Life Coach through CoachU