

Division of Religious and Theological Studies

Ph.D. Dissertations

Listed by Specialization (updated 7/09)

Counseling Psychology and Religion (formerly: Pastoral Psychology)

“Shame, Images of God and the Cycle of Violence in Adults who Experienced Childhood Corporal Punishment” (1999) by Jeanette Anderson Good. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“A Kind of Religious Coping: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis of Consolation in the Lutheran Tradition” (1999) by Leonard Hummel.

“Abortion and Loss: A Psychological and Theological Study of Religious Coping, Forgiveness, and Grief” (2000) by Emily Geoghegan. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Redescribing Relationships in Christian Spiritual Direction Using Winnicott’s Psychoanalytic Object Relations Theory,” (2000) by Douglas Hardy. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Correlating Religious and Psychological Factors in Wife-battering: a Study of Battering and Non-Battering Siblings” (2000) by Ronald Hindelang. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Relating Different Types of Christian Prayer to Religious and Psychological Measures of well-being.” (2001) by Robert Cox. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“The Use of Religious Resources in Response to Anti-Homosexual Religious Attitudes and Behaviors” (2001) by Edouard Thomas Fontenot. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Failures Unmended: A Pastoral Psychological Study of a Tragic Vision of Evil in the Writings of DW Winnicott.” (2002) by Gerald David Williams. *Professor Chris Schlauch*

“Bereavement and Grief Related to a Significant Death: a Psychological and Theological Study of Attachment Styles and Religious Coping.” (2003) by Melissa M. Kelley. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“The Relationships Between Images of God, Self-Esteem, and Spiritual Well-Bing: A Study of Roman Catholic Women” (2003) by Mary Lynne Mack. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Creativity and Religious Experience: A Correlational Study.” (2004) by Ann Sherman Clarke. *Professor Carole Bohn*

“A Prevention Program for Adolescent Substance Abuse” (2004) by Jennie Ruth Gould. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Religious Faith and Stress Among Healthcare Providers of the Elderly” (2004) by George Henry Grant. *Professor Carrie Doehring*

“Female Clergy and Attractiveness: The Impact of Social Context on Both Gender and Pastoral Identity” (2006) by Christina Belogour. *Professor Chris Schlauch*

“Fostering Social Support and Compassionate Love in the Greek Orthodox Church Through Small Groups” (2008) by Markos Achilles Nickolas. *Professor Carole Bohn*

“Mindfulness, Compassion, and the Nature of Self: A study of Vipassana Meditation in Context” (2009) by Frank Dibert. *Professor Chris Schlauch*

History of Christianity

“The Politics of the Faithful: The Theology of the Cross, and the Right of Resistance in the Theology of Martin Luther; With Specific Reference to the Magdeburg Confession of 1550” (1999) by David Mark Whitford. *Professor Lindberg*

“The Legions of Good Will: The Religious Culture of Protestant Pacifism: 1918-1963” (2001) by Patricia F. Applebaum. *Professor Prothero*

“From Vow to Ring: Celibacy and Marriage in Luther’s Theology” (2002) by Dong Joo Kim. *Professor Lindberg*

“Methodist Preaching in New England, c. 1790-1850: The Armenian Message on Calvinist Soil” (2006) by Jonathan D. Cooney. *Professor Hempton*

“The Contentious Birth of Wesleyan Methodism, 1738-1741: Gender, Charism, and Sectarian Division” (2007) by Brian C. Clark. *Professor Hempton*

“Alberto Rembao (1895-1962): Mexican American Protestant For Internationalism and Catholic Holism” (2007) by Ruben Rivera. *Professor Robert*

“Religion and the American Industrial City: Protestant Culture and Social Transformation in Lowell, Massachusetts, 1824-1890” (2009) by Eric Baldwin. *Professor Hempton*

Islamic Studies

“Developments in Muslim Jurisprudence in 20th Century Indonesia” (1999) *Professor Merlin Swartz*

“Reasoning with Revelation: The Significance of the Qur’anic Contextualization of Philosophy in Al-Ghazali’s *Mishkat Al-Anwar (The Niche of Lights)*” (2009) by Scott Michael Girdner. *Professor Ali*

Judaic Studies (Including Hebrew Bible)

“The Relationship of Judah and Joseph in Genesis 49” (2001) by Kristin Swenson-Mendez. *Professor Simon Parker*

“The Book of Jonah and a Reframing of Israelite Theology: A Reader-Response Approach” (2003) by Rev. Timothy R. Koch. *Professor Kathe Darr*

“The Significance of the Divine Speeches in Job 38-41” (2003) by Keun-Jo Ahn. *Professor Simon Parker*

“The Book of Lamentations and the Social World of Judah in the Neo-Babylonian Era.” (2005) by Laress Wilkins *Professor Simon Parker*

Philosophy of Religion

“Deficient Existence in a Divine World: Ontological Deficiency in the Metaphysics of John Scotus Eriugena” (1999) by Douglas W. Hadley. *Professor Hart*

“T.S. Eliot’s Theology of Style” (2000) by Christopher Wilkins. *Professor Ricks*

“On the Nonsense of Religion: A Study of the Relation of Logic to Religion in Wittgenstein’s Early Work With Implications for Theology and Philosophy of Religion” (2001) by James Mark Lazenby. *Professor Neville*

“A Theological Comparison of Yulgok’s Concept of Cheng and John Wesley’s Concept of Love” (2001) by Hyun Gyum Kim. *Professor Neville*

“The Context of Being: Heidegger’s Critique of Kant, Schelling, and Hegel” (2001) by Craig Nichols. *Professor Olson*

“The Human Experience of Resistance, Difficulty, and Aporia: Its Yield for Thought” (2001) by Jared Jenisch. *Professor Hart*

“Buddhist Discourse in Traditional Vietnam” (2001) by Dung Ngoc Duong. *Professor Eckel*

“Mystical Vision and Prophetic Voice in Saint John of the Cross: Toward a Mystical Theology of Final Integration” (2003) by Cristobel Serran-Pagan. *Professor Mason*

“The Liberal Dilemma in Formulating a Fundamental Political Principle: Political Unanimity and Non-Political Diversity” (2003) by Jenn-Chyun Mark Shieh. *Professor Olson*

“The Reconstruction of a Mother’s Religious Worldview After the Death of her Infant Child” (2004) by Micki Pulley. *Professor Neville*

“The Aporia of Inner Sense in Kant and Fichte” (2004) by Garth Green. *Professor Ray Hart*

“The German Gita: the Reception of Hindu Religious Texts within German Romanticism” (2004) by Bradley L. Herling. *Professor John Clayton*

“Heidegger’s Disciplines: The Project of Fundamental Ontology and the Practice of Hermeneutic Phenomenology in Being and Time” (2004) by Omar Bozeman. *Professor Dahlstrom*

“How to Say What Can’t Be Said: Techniques and Rules of Ineffability in the Dionysian Corpus” (2005) by Timothy Knepper. *Professor Wesley Wildman*

“The Concept of Acedia-Melancholia and the Life of its Symbolic Presentiments” (2005) by Alina Nicoleta Cioroiu. *Professor Hart*

“The Evil of God: Post-Christian Lamentations at the End of Theodices” (2005) by Ioan Dorin Igna. *Professor Hart*

“Divine Onomatology: Naming God in *Imyaslavie*, Symbolism, and Deconstruction” (2005) by Helena Gourko. *Professor Olson*

“How to Say What Can’t Be Said: Techniques and Rules of Ineffability in the Dionysian Corpus” (2005) by Timothy D. Knepper. *Professor Wildman*

“The Dialects of *Tama* in Japanese Religious Experiences” (2006) by Tomoko Iwasawa. *Professor Olson*

“The Use of Scripture in Nietzsche’s Zarathustra” (2006) by Laura C. Miguez. *Professor Olson*

“Mysticism, Contextualism, and Community: A communitarian /Pragmatic Epistemology of Mysticism” (2007) by Cecil Theodore Cole, Jr. *Professor Neville*

“Comparing Comparisons: An Analysis and Appraisal of Methodologies of Cross-Cultural Comparison from the American Pragmatist and Process Philosophical Traditions” (2007) by Robert Smid *Professor Neville*

“Mourning with the Earth: Heidegger’s Confrontation with Greek Tragedy” (2007) by David Nichols. *Professor Olson*

“Fideism and Wittgenstein’s Ethic of Perspicuity” (2008) by Thomas Donald Carroll. *Professor Alan Olson*

“Hegel, History, and Evil: Towards Finite Theodices” (2008) by Eric M. Dale. *Professor Alan Olson*

Religion and Literature

“Louis-Ferdinand Celine’s Relation to Christian Thought and Belief” (1999) by Eric R. Lorey. *Professor Lindberg*

“Sign, Art, and Ritual: Moses Mendelssohn on Language and Religion” by Leah Hochman. *Professor Michael Zank*

“Sustaining Fiction: Intertextuality, Midrash, Translation, and the Literary Afterlife of the Bible” (2002) by Lesleigh Cushing. *Professor Zank*

“Therapeutic Pieties: Sentimental Prescriptions for Surviving Loss in Mid-Nineteenth Century America” (2005) by Marjorie Purnine. *Professor Mizruchi*

“Biblical Fictions: Modern Short Stories That Retell Biblical Narratives” (2005) by Marwood Larson-Harris. *Professor Hawkins*

“Rivers of Ecstasy: Henry Miller’s Affair with religion” (2005) by Thomas Nesbit. *Professor Mizruchi*

“The Virtue of Devils: Vladimir Nabokov’s Phenomenology of the Demonic” (2005) by Christopher A. Link. *Professor Hart*

“Dante’s Virgil: A Poet’s Type of Exile” (2006) by Joy Lawrence Clark. *Professor Hawkins*

“Beyond the Fringe: Alternative religion and Sexuality in American Culture Since 1960” (2006) by Christine Hoff Kraemer.

“Transformations of Language and Religion in Rainer Maria Rilke” (2006) by Johannes Wien-Schwarz. *Professor Hawkins*

“‘Whatever’: God as Absent Presence in the Poetry of Geoffrey Hill, Derek Walcott, and Charles Wright” (2007) by Emily Taylor Merriman. *Professor Hawkins*

“American Gnosis: The Literary Afterlife of a Heresy” (2008) by Joshua T. Pederson. Dr. Susan Mizruchi

“A Thousand and One Nights and the Construction of Islam in the Western Imagination” (2008) by Martyn Oliver. *Professor Prothero*.

Religion and Society

“Raising the Morning Star: A Social and Ethnographic History of Urban Dani Christians in New Order Indonesia” (2001) by Charles Farhadian.

“How the Power Dynamic in Business Organizations and the Culture of Fear Contribute to the Gap Between Ethics and Morality in Business Practice” (2003) by Annabel Constance Beerel. *Professor Andresen*

“A Facsimile of Grace: The Protestant Basis for Order in the Early American Republic” (2004) by Stephen Michael Dawson. *Professor Seligman*

“Religion and Collective Identity: A Comparative Study of the Roman Catholic Church in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slavenia” (2004) by Slavica Jakelic. *Professor Seligman*

“Ancient Daoist Diets for Health and Longevity” (2006) by Shawn Arthur. *Professor Kohn*

“Orthodoxy Beyond the Walls of the Church: A Sociological Inquiry into Orthodox Religious Experience in Contemporary Russian Society” (2006) by Inna Naletova. *Professor Berger*

“Cultivating Perfection: Mysticism and Self-Transformation in Early Quanzhen Daoism” (2005) by Louis Andor Komjathy III. *Professor Kohn*

“The Transmission of Religious and Cultural Knowledge and Potentiality in Practice: An Anthropology of Social Navigation in the Kyrgyz Republic” (2007) by David William Montgomery *Professor Seligman*

“Ancient Daoist Diets for Health and Longevity” (2006) by Shawn Arthur *Professor Kohn*

“Ye Shall Be Free From Slavery: The Concept of Freedom In Contemporary Wicca” (2008) by Robert Puckett. *Professor Korom*

“The Virtue of Humble Authority in Saint Thomas Aquinas and Master Zhu Xi” (2009) by Catherine Agnes Hudak. *Professor Berthrong*

New Testament and Christian Origins

“Paul’s Use of Part-Whole Rhetoric of *To Sympheron* in 1 Corinthians” (2009) by Kei Eun Chang. *Professor Walters*

Theology

“Jonathan Edwards’ Theology: The Spirit of the Trinity” (1999) by Rachel Stahle. *Professor Neville*

“Discerning Spirits: a Pentecostal-Charismatic Contribution to Christian Theology of Religions” (1999) by Amos Yong. *Professor Neville*

“The Economy of Cosmic Power: A Theory of Religious Transaction and A Comparative Study of Shangqing Daoism and the Christian Religion of Augustine of Hippo” (2000) by James Miller. *Professor Neville*

“A Trinitarianism of Interreligious Engagement: The Thought of Roman Pinikkar and its Contribution to Christian Theology of Religions” (2001) by Robert Miles Park, Jr. *Professor Neville*

“A Study of the Writing of J.R. Graves (1820-1893) As An Example of the Nature and Function of Absolutes in Religious Symbol Systems” (2001) by Michael Henry Bone. *Professor Neville*

“Nonduality and Ecstasy: Sankara and Tillich on Theological Anthropology” (2001) by John Thatamanil. *Professor Neville*

“Knowing that One Knows: The Buddhist Doctrine of Self-Cognition” (2001) by Yao Zhihua. *Professor Eckel*

“Ultimate Human Transformation: Liang-Chih in Wang Yang-Ming and the Imago Dei in John Calvin” (2002) by Seok Hwan Hong. *Professor Neville*

“Does Not Nature Itself Teach? Biotechnology and Natural Law in a Theology of Nature” (2002) by Rolf T. Bauma. *Professor Wildman*

“God’s Preferential Option for the Poor: A Study of Liberation Theology and Metaphysics” (2002) by Andrew Irvine.

“An Exploration of the Idea of Rhythm in Metaphysics and Christian Theology” (2003) by Loye Ashton. *Professor Neville*

“Perfecting Grace: Holiness, Human Being, and the Sciences” (2003) by Mark Mann. *Professor Neville*

“The Reconstruction of Mothers’ Religious Worldviews After the Death of an Infant Child.” (2004) by Mickey Pulley-King. *Professor Neville*

“Fragments of the Divine: A Protestant Interpretation of Creation As a Broken Symbol” (2005) by Peter Heltzel. *Professor Wildman*

“The Relation of Faith and History in Ernst Troeltsch’s *Die Absolutheit des Christentums und die Religionsgeschichte* and Robert Neville’s Theory of Religious Symbols: Two Methodologies for Discerning Christian Normativity” (2006) by Echol Nix, Jr. *Professor Neville*

“The Future of Inquiry: Charles Peirce, Naturalism, and the Symbols of the Christian Eschaton”(2008) by Brandon C. Daniel-Hughes. *Professor Wesley Wildman*

Science, Philosophy, and Religion

“The Spontaneity of Nature and Human Experience” (2007) by Nathaniel Barrett. *Professor Wildman*

“Environmental Ethics Across Worldviews: A Critique of Sustainable Energy Development Indexes” (2007) by Sarah Fredericks. *Professor Wildman*

“From Method to Practice: A Critique of Two Models for Relating Science and Religion” (2009) by Josh Andrew Reeves. *Professor Wildman*

Social Ethics

“A Comparative analysis of the Men and Religion Forward Movement and Promise Keepers” (2000) Larry Dean Allen *Professor Chai-sik Chung*

“Religion and Corporate Social Responsibility: The Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility and the Corporate Withdrawal Movement from Burma” (2003) by Lisa Allen. *Professor Chai-sik Chung*

“Common Grounds without Foundations: A Pragmatic Approach to Ethical Disagreements across Cultural, Philosophical, and Religious Traditions” (2007) by David Kratz Mathies. *Professor Berthrong*