

AARON THOMAS HOLLANDER

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EDUCATION

- 2018 **Ph.D., Theology**
The University of Chicago, Divinity School
Dissertation Title: “The Multimедiation of Holiness: Hagiography as Resistance in Greek Orthodox Theological Culture”
Dissertation Committee:
 Co-supervisors: Dwight Hopkins (Theology) & Andreas Glaeser (Sociology). Readers: Jaś Elsner (Religion, Literature, and Visual Culture) & Vera Shevzov (Orthodox Christian Studies)
Qualifying Examinations (completed 2013):
 History of Christian Thought, 150-1350 (with Willemien Otten)
 Theology in Modernity (with Kevin Hector & Dwight Hopkins)
 Theological Ethics (with William Schweiker)
 Hermeneutic Sociology (with Arnold Davidson & Andreas Glaeser)
- 2009 **M.Phil., with Distinction, Ecumenical Studies**
Trinity College Dublin, Irish School of Ecumenics
Areas of Concentration: Interreligious studies and intercultural theology, ecumenical movements and peace processes, social theory and theological ethics, Christian-Muslim relations in Europe and the Middle East, fundamentalism and religious violence
- 2007 **B.A., with Highest Honors, Religion**
Swarthmore College
Minors in Environmental Studies & English Literature
Phi Beta Kappa

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

- 2019 [Book proposal accepted.] “‘Even they love him’: Muslim Devotion to Saint George in Orthodox Christian Imagination.” In *Hagiography and Patronage: Cross-Cultural Approaches to the Economy and Politics of ‘Sainthood’*, edited by Massimo Rondolino. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- 2017 “Blazing Light and Perfect Death: The Martyrs of Córdoba and the Growth of Polemical Holiness.” In *Contested Spaces, Common Ground: Space and Power Structures in Contemporary Multireligious Societies*, edited by U. Winkler, O. Leirvik, and L. Rodriguez, 203-224. Amsterdam: Brill/Rodopi.

- 2014 “Improvisation as a Discipline of Dialogue.” In *Den Blick weiten: Wenn Ökumene den Religionen begegnet* [Widening the View: When Ecumenism Encounters the Religions], edited by Andrew Pierce and Oliver Schuegraf, 219-234. Leipzig: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt.
- 2011 “@Edinburgh2010: Online Ecumenism in an Age of Participation.” In *Edinburgh 2010: Mission Today & Tomorrow*, edited by Kirsteen Kim and Andrew Anderson, 321-329. Oxford: Regnum Books International.

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2018 “The Heromartyrs of Cyprus: National Museums as Greek Orthodox Hagiographical Media.” Submitted for initial review.
- 2016 “Forum: Crafting the Introductory Course in Religious Studies.” With Russell McCutcheon, Andrew Durdin, Kelli Gardner, Adam Miller, and Emily Crews. *Teaching Theology and Religion* 19.1: 78-98.
- 2012 “Covenant of All Flesh: Earth Community as Grounds for Biblical and Biological Identity.” *Currents in Theology and Mission* 39.2 (2012): 122-130.
- 2010 “Renovating the Household of Life: On the Development of Ecumenical Relations Between Sacred and Scientific.” *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 45.2: 265-287.

Book Reviews

- 2015 Review of Augustine Casiday, *Beyond Heresy: Reconstructing the Theology of Evagrius Ponticus*. *The Journal of Religion* 95.1: 136-138.
- 2009 Review of Brian Stanley, *The World Missionary Conference, Edinburgh 1910*; and of David Kerr & Kenneth Ross (eds), *Edinburgh 2010: Mission Then and Now*. *One in Christ* 43.2: 201-206.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Public Lectures

- 2016 *Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute. April 2016, Nicosia, Cyprus*
 “Saint George in Colonial Cyprus: Entanglement and Liberation”

Chaired Panels

- 2017 *American Academy of Religion, Comparative Theology Unit: November 2017, Boston, MA*
 “Agents of Aesthetic Encounters with Holiness: Hagiography as a Lens on Theological-Aesthetic Developments in Islam and Christianity”
- 2015 *Ecclesiological Investigations: Vatican II – Remembering the Future. May 2015, Washington, DC*
 “Council, Culture, and Aesthetics: Art, Music, Film”

Paper Presentations

- 2018 *American Academy of Religion, Comparative Studies in Religion Unit. November 2018, Denver, CO* [accepted]
“Even they love him’: Muslim Devotion to Saint George in Orthodox Christian Imagination”
- 2018 *American Academy of Religion, Eastern Orthodox Studies Unit. November 2018, Denver, CO* [accepted]
“Visual Rhetoric and Hagiographical Resistance in Representations of Saint George as a Liberator”
- 2017 *American Academy of Religion, Interreligious & Interfaith Studies Unit. November 2017, Boston, MA*
“Threading a Needle to Weave a Fabric: Introducing Religion as Interreligion”
- 2017 *Ecclesiological Investigations: Reformation and Global Reconciliation. June 2017, Jena, Germany*
“Interreligious Violence and the Question of Reconciliation in Bach’s *St Matthew Passion*”
- 2016 *American Academy of Religion, History of Christianity Unit. November 2016, San Antonio, TX*
“Lionslayers: Hagiographical Imagination and National Struggle on the Island of Saints”
- 2015 *Catholic Theological Union, An Ecumenical and Interfaith Convocation Celebrating Pope Francis’ Encyclical Laudato Si’. November 2015, Chicago, IL*
“Homeward Bound: *Laudato Si*’s Advances in Ecumenical Theology”
- 2012 *Ecclesiological Investigations: Where We Dwell in Common. April 2012, Assisi, Italy*
“The Prismatic Cosmos through Contemplative Practice and Natural Science”
- 2011 *European Society for Intercultural Theology & Interreligious Studies: The Study of Religions in a Changing Europe. April 2011, Istanbul, Turkey.*
“Moral Minority: Narratives and Performances of Religious Difference in European Islam”

Campus Presentations – University of Chicago

- 2018 *Early Christian Studies Workshop, May 2018* [invited]
“A Theater to the World: Political Dramaturgy in the Festival Homilies of John Chrysostom”
- 2018 *Global Christianities: New Directions for the 21st Century, April 2018* [invited]
“Global Christianity: Regionalism or Rhetoric Analysis?”

- 2017 *The Craft of Teaching in the Academic Study of Religion, December 2017*
“Microteaching Workshop: Teaching What You Don’t Know”
- 2017 *The Craft of Teaching, May 2017*
“Online and Blended Teaching: Notes from the Field”
- 2017 *Global Christianities Workshop, May 2017* [invited]
“Major Works in Contextual Theology”
- 2016 *The Craft of Teaching, November 2016*
“Microteaching Workshop: The Art of Questioning”
- 2016 *The Craft of Teaching, September 2016*
“Workshop on Public Speaking”
- 2015 *Writing Program Professional Development Series, February 2015* [invited]
“Teaching Writing Principles as Tools (Not Rules)”
- 2014 *Divinity School Community Lunch, November 2014* [invited]
“Ecumenism 101: A No-Knowledge-Necessary Introduction to the Field”
- 2014 *Late Antiquity & Byzantium Workshop, April 2014*
“A Heart like Bright Water: Holiness in the Theological Metaphor of Evagrius Ponticus”
- 2013 *Theology Workshop, May 2013*
“The Catastrophic Holiness of Saint Symeon the Fool”

HONORS & AWARDS

Year-long Fellowships

- 2017 William Rainey Harper Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2016 Martin Marty Center Junior Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2015 Fulbright US Student Award, Cyprus

Short-term Fellowships

- 2016 Research Internship, Peace Research Institute of Oslo (Cyprus Centre)
- 2014 Visiting Graduate Fellowship, Fordham University, Orthodox Christian Studies Center
- 2014 Modern Greek Language Scholarship, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Awarded)

- 2013 Doolittle-Harrison Award (for academic work abroad), University of Chicago
- 2006 Eugene M. Lang Research Fellowship; Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry, India

Prizes for Academic Achievement

- 2018 Prize for Excellence in Teaching, University of Chicago Divinity School
- 2011 Essay Award, Zygon Religion and Science Student Society
- 2008 James Haire Memorial Prize for Essay Writing, Trinity College Dublin
- 2007 Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Scholarship
- 2007 Jesse Holmes Prize for Writing Excellence in Religion, Swarthmore College
- 2003 – 2007 Ida and Daniel Lang Scholarship for Academic Distinction, Swarthmore College

Other Awards

- 2015 Ellis Bonoff Kohs Award for Orchestral Excellence, University of Chicago
- 2007 Graduate Study Scholarship, Swarthmore College
- 2006 Honorable Mention, John Russell Hayes Award in Translation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Loyola University of Chicago

- Autumn 2018 Introduction to Christian Theology (Instructor)

Dominican University

- Summer 2018 Introduction to Interfaith Leadership
 Spring 2018 (Co-instructor, online)
 Autumn 2017
- Spring 2017 Introduction to Interfaith Studies (Instructor)

University of Chicago

- Autumn 2015 Greek Thought & Literature (Instructor)
- Autumn 2016 Humanities Writing Seminars
 Autumn 2015 (Instructor)
 Winter 2015
 Autumn 2014
 Winter 2012
- Autumn 2016 Greece & Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations
 (Teaching Assistant)

Winter 2015 Greek Thought & Literature (Teaching Assistant)
Autumn 2014

Autumn 2012 Introduction to the Study of Religion (Teaching Assistant)

Winter 2012 Reading Cultures (Teaching Assistant)

Pedagogical Training

2014 Certificate in the Craft of Teaching (divinity.uchicago.edu/teaching)

2011 Completion of Course: "Principles of Teaching Writing"

2011 Seminar & Workshop on Course Design

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

2018 **Cyprus**, 6 weeks: follow-up dissertation fieldwork, groundwork for subsequent research, and invited participation in an international symposium on Cypriot hagiography.

2016 **Cyprus**, 7 months: Fulbright US Student Award to undertake dissertation research on hagiographical media and interreligious dynamics in modern Cyprus.

2014 **Cyprus**, 6 weeks: intensive language study at the University of Cyprus; initial archival work for dissertation fieldwork.

2012 **Cyprus**, 6 weeks: preliminary investigation of sites and determination of topic for dissertation fieldwork.

2008 **Ireland**, 12 weeks: Master's thesis fieldwork with the Society of St. Columban.

LANGUAGES

Spoken

English (Native)
Italian (Conversational)
Modern Greek (Conversational)

Read

English (Native)
Italian (Strong)
Modern Greek (Strong)
Classical Greek (Strong)
Latin (Moderate)
French (Moderate)
German (Moderate)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & SERVICE

2015 – 2017	Program Coordinator, The Craft of Teaching in the Academic Study of Religion, University of Chicago Divinity School
2012 – Present	Member, Ecclesiological Investigations International Research Network
2011 – Present	Participant, European Society for Intercultural Theology & Interreligious Studies
2009 – Present	Member, American Academy of Religion
2015	Group Facilitator, Emerging Leaders Forum on “War, Violence, and Hate Speech,” Parliament of the World’s Religions 2015
2014 – 2015	Associate Coordinator, The Craft of Teaching in the Academic Study of Religion, University of Chicago Divinity School
2011 – 2013	Co-Coordinator, University of Chicago Theology Workshop
2011 – 2013	University of Chicago Liaison, Zygon Student Society for Religion & Science

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Dwight Hopkins (Dissertation Co-Supervisor)
Professor of Theology, University of Chicago
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(773) 834-0006

Andreas Glaeser (Dissertation Co-Supervisor)
Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago
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