

# AARON THOMAS HOLLANDER

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## EDUCATION

- 2018 [Expected] **Ph.D.**, Theology  
*The University of Chicago, Divinity School*  
Dissertation Title: “The Multimediatio**n** 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: Ecumenical movements and peace processes, intercultural theology and interreligious studies, social theory and 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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

- 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**

- 2017 *University of Chicago, Craft of Teaching Program, May 2017*  
 “Online and Blended Teaching: Notes from the Field”
- 2016 *University of Chicago, Global Christianities Workshop, October 2016*  
 “Memorializing National Struggle on the Island of Saints”
- 2016 *University of Chicago, Craft of Teaching Program, September 2016*  
 “Workshop on Public Speaking”
- 2015 *University of Chicago, Writing Program Professional Development Series, February 2015*  
 “Teaching Writing Principles as Tools (Not Rules)”
- 2014 *University of Chicago, Divinity School Community Lunch, November 2014*  
 “Ecumenism 101: A No-Knowledge-Necessary Introduction to the Field”
- 2014 *University of Chicago, Late Antiquity & Byzantium Workshop, April 2014*  
 “A Heart Like Bright Water: Holiness in the Theological Metaphor of Evagrius Ponticus”
- 2013 *University of Chicago, Theology Workshop, May 2013*  
 “Paradox and Wonder: 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

- 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

- 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

### Dominican University

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

## University of Chicago

- Autumn 2015      Greek Thought & Literature  
(Instructor, undergraduate course)
- Autumn 2016      Humanities Writing Seminars  
Autumn 2015      (Instructor, undergraduate course)  
Winter 2015  
Autumn 2014  
Winter 2012
- Autumn 2016      Greece & Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations  
(Teaching Assistant, undergraduate course)
- Winter 2015      Greek Thought & Literature  
Autumn 2014      (Teaching Assistant, undergraduate course)
- Autumn 2012      Introduction to the Study of Religion  
(Teaching Assistant, graduate course)
- Winter 2012      Reading Cultures  
(Teaching Assistant, undergraduate course)

## Pedagogical Training

- 2014      Certificate in the Craft of Teaching ([divinity.uchicago.edu/teaching](http://divinity.uchicago.edu/teaching))
- 2011      Principles of Teaching Writing
- 2011      Seminar on Course Design

## FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- 2016      **Cyprus**, 7 months: Fulbright US Student Award to undertake dissertation research on hagiographical media and interreligious dynamics in colonial 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.
- 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 – Present	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
2016	Research Intern, Peace Research Institute of Oslo – Cyprus Center
2015	Group Facilitator, Emerging Leaders Forum on “War, Violence, and Hate Speech,” Parliament of World 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
2008 – 2012	Participant, Societas Oecumenica

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES****Dwight Hopkins**

Professor of Theology, University of Chicago  
dhopkins@uchicago.edu  
(773) 834-0006

**Andreas Glaeser**

Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago  
aglaeser@uchicago.edu  
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**Jaś Elsner**

Humfrey Payne Senior Research Fellow in Classical Archaeology and Art, Oxford University  
Visiting Professor of Art & Religion, University of Chicago  
jas.elsner@ccc.ox.ac.uk

**Vera Shevzov**

Professor of Religion, Smith College  
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**Richard Rosengarten** (Teaching & Service Reference)

Former Dean and Associate Prof of Religion & Literature, University of Chicago Divinity School  
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**Margaret M. Mitchell**

Shailer Mathews Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Literature  
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**Gerard Mannion** (Service Reference)

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**Rachel Hart Winter** (Teaching Reference)

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**Clodagh Weldon** (Teaching Reference)

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