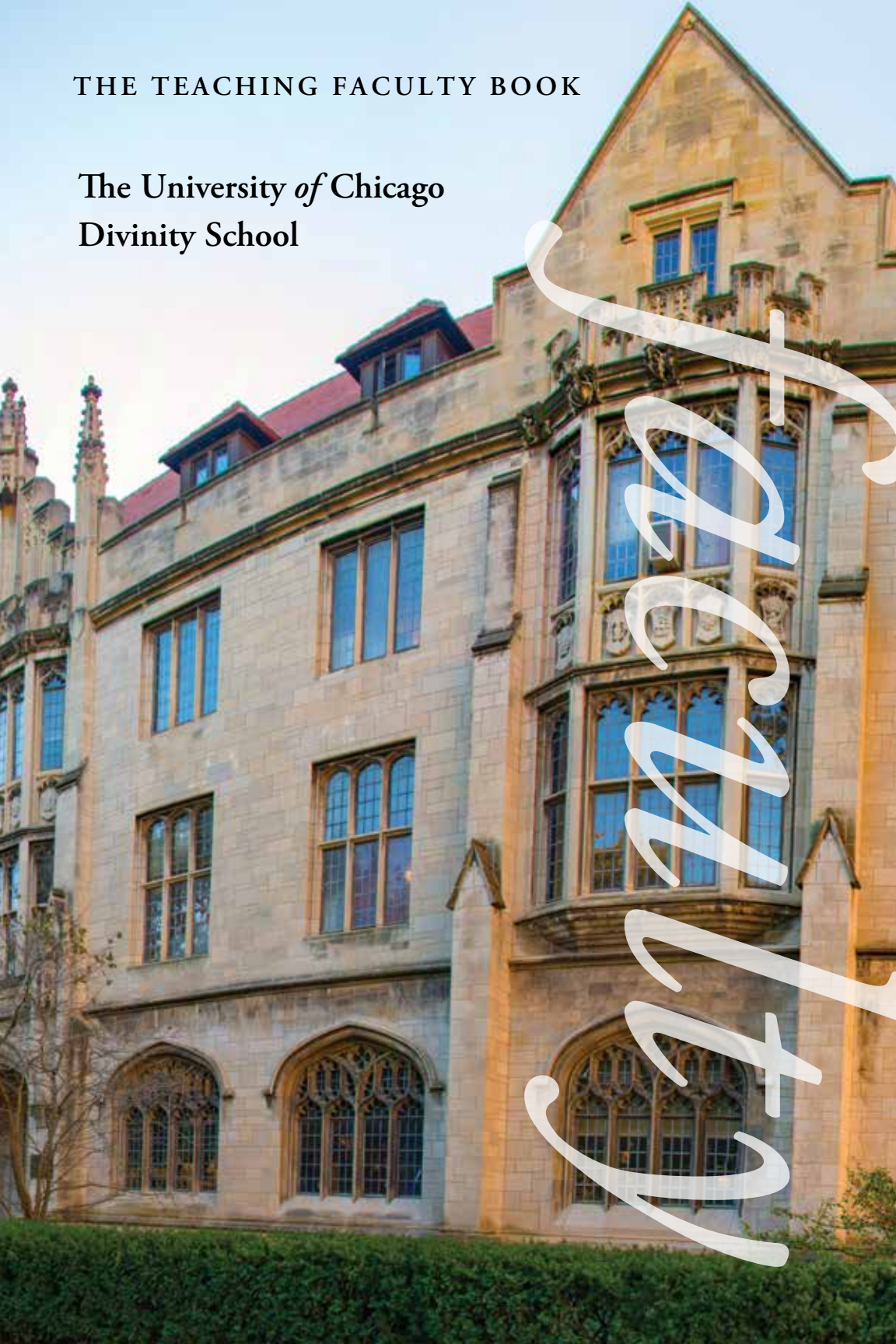


THE TEACHING FACULTY BOOK

The University of Chicago
Divinity School

Faculty



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The University of Chicago
Divinity School
Teaching Faculty Book

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Hussein Ali Agrama

Associate Professor of Anthropology and the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

Hussein Ali Agrama has ongoing research interests in the anthropology of law, religion and Islam in the Middle East and Europe, as well as in secularism, science studies, law and colonial power, and the genealogies of state sovereignty. He was named a Carnegie Scholars Program Fellow for 2008–2010. He is the author of *Questioning Secularism: Islam, Sovereignty and the Rule of Law in Egypt* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), which details how modern litigation in the courts of Cairo shapes Islamic concepts and practices in ways that both express liberal legal sensibilities and yet undermine the legal system's professed secular ideas. He is also the author of, recently, "Religious Freedom and the Bind of Suspicion in Contemporary Secularity" in *After Secular Law* (2015); "Justice between Islamic Shari'a and Western Legal Tradition: Remarks on the Comparative Context" in *A Companion to the Anthropology of the Middle East* (2016), and "Proximate Enigmas" which appeared on the SSRC *Immanent Frame* blog.

He currently has ongoing projects on the historical and contemporary relationships between Muslim and Jewish communities in France; the history of intelligence agencies and their impacts on modern liberal democratic imaginaries; biohacking, "alternative" science and forgotten knowledges of the body; and Phenomenology.

Daniel A. Arnold

Associate Professor of the Philosophy of Religions; also in the College

M.A., Columbia University

M.A., Iliff School of Theology

Ph.D., University of Chicago

Dan Arnold is a scholar of Indian Buddhist philosophy, which he engages constructively and comparatively, understanding Buddhist philosophers in conversation with rival Indian philosophers as well as contemporary philosophers. His first book—*Buddhists, Brahmins, and Belief: Epistemology in South Asian Philosophy of Religions* (Columbia University Press, 2005)—won an American Academy of Religion Book Award. His second, *Brains, Buddhas, and Believing: The Problem of Intentionality in Classical Buddhist and Cognitive-Scientific Philosophy of Mind* (Columbia, 2012), was awarded the Numata Book Prize in Buddhism. He is nearing completion of an anthology of original translations from Buddhist philosophers of India's Madhyamaka school, to be published in the series Historical Sourcebooks in Classical Indian Thought. His work has been published in the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and also in refereed journals from *Philosophy East & West* to *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, as well as in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* and in numerous edited volumes including the "Oxford Handbooks" of *Indian Philosophy* and of *Buddhist Ethics*.

Together with Cécile Ducher and Divinity School alumnus Pierre-Julien Harter, he has edited a Festschrift volume entitled *Reasons and Lives in Buddhist Traditions: Studies in Honor of Matthew Kapstein*, to be published in late 2019 by Wisdom Publications.

Philip V. Bohlman

Ludwig Rosenberger Distinguished Service Professor in Jewish History and of the Humanities, Music, and the College; Chicago Center for Jewish Studies; Member of the Center for East European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies; Center for Middle Eastern Studies; Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture; Committee on Southern Asian Studies; Associate Faculty, Department of Germanic Studies; Associate Faculty

B.M., University of Wisconsin–Madison

M.M., Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

Philip V. Bohlman is an ethnomusicologist with broadly conceived teaching and research interests. Music and religion form central subjects, ranging from Jewish music in the modern era to the interpretation of music in worship in North American religious communities to fieldwork in the Muslim communities of Europe and the multi-religious communities of India. His writings address issues at the intersections of music with race, nationalism, and colonial encounter; the ontological and ethical dimensions of music; and the social agency of aesthetics and performance. Among his many publications are *The Land Where Two Streams Flow* (1989); *The Folk Songs of Ashkenaz* (with Otto Holzappel, 2001); *Jüdische Musik: Eine mitteleuropäische Geistesgeschichte* (2005); *Music in American Religious Experience* (coedited with Edith Blumhofer and Maria Chow, 2006); *Jewish Music and Modernity* (2008); *Focus: Music, Nationalism, and the Making of the New Europe* (2011); *The Cambridge History of World Music* (2013); *Revival and Reconciliation: Sacred Music in the Making of European Modernity* (2013); and *Song Loves the Masses: Herder on Music and Nationalism* (with J. G. Herder, 2017). Current research includes the five-volume “Oxford Musics of the World” and, with Anna C. Schultz, a volume on Religion and Music for Cambridge University Press. *Wie sängen wir Seinen Gesang auf dem Boden der Fremde! Jüdische Musik zwischen Aschkenas und Moderne* (Berlin: LIT Verlag) is forthcoming in 2018.

He is Artistic Director of the New Budapest Orpheum Society, a Jewish cabaret and ensemble-in-residence at the University of Chicago, whose fourth CD, *As Dreams Fall Apart: Cabaret during the Golden Age of Jewish Cinema, 1925–1955*, was a Grammy Award Nominee in 2016. Bohlman is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a Corresponding Member of the British Society. In 2014, he held the Franz Rosenzweig Guest Professorship at the University of Kassel. Among his awards are the Derek Allen Prize from the British Academy, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the 2018 Koizumi Fumio Prize of Japan. He is Honorary Professor at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover.

Rachel Fulton Brown

Associate Professor of Medieval History in the Department of History and in Fundamentals;
also in the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Columbia University

Rachel Fulton Brown's research and teaching focus on the intellectual and cultural history of Europe in the Middle Ages, with emphasis on the history of Christianity and monasticism in the Latin West. She also offers courses on warfare and travel in the Middle Ages and on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien. Her first book, *From Judgment to Passion: Devotion to Christ and the Virgin Mary, 800–1200*, is a study of the intellectual and emotional origins of the European devotion to Christ in his suffering humanity, with special emphasis on the role of scriptural exegesis and liturgy. It was awarded the Journal of the History of Ideas Morris D. Forkosch Prize for the best book in intellectual history published in 2002 and the John Nicholas Brown Prize from the Medieval Academy in 2006; it was also a *Choice Magazine* Outstanding Academic Title of the Year. Her current work addresses the interplay between intellect and empathy in the practical development of a discipline of prayer. She is also working on a translation of John of Garland's *Epithalamium beate virginis Marie* and editing a volume on Medieval Marian Devotion for Brill's *Companions to the Christian Tradition*. She is the recipient of a 2008 Guggenheim fellowship, which she used to work towards her book *Mary and the Art of Prayer* (2017).

Daniel Brudney

Professor in the Department of Philosophy and the College; Associate Faculty,
MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Harvard University

Daniel Brudney writes and teaches in political philosophy, bioethics, philosophy and literature, and philosophy of religion. He is the author of *Marx's Attempt to Leave Philosophy* (1998). His recent work includes "Changing the Question," *Hastings Center Report* (2019), "Concepts at the Bedside: Variations on the Theme of Autonomy," *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* (2019), "Two Marxian Themes: The Alienation of Labor and the Linkage Thesis," in *Reassessing Marx's Social and Political Philosophy: Freedom, Capitalism, and Communism* (2018) and "The Breadth of Moral Character," in *Fictional Characters, Real Problems: Essays on the Ethical Content of Literature* (2016). Brudney received the 2014 Llewellyn John and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education.

Yousef Casewit

Assistant Professor of Qur'anic Studies; also in the College

M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Yale University

Professor Casewit is a Qur'anic studies scholar. His research interests include intellectual history of North Africa and al-Andalus, Muslim perceptions of the Bible, and medieval commentaries on the ninety-nine divine names. He has several publications, most recently *The Mystics of al-Andalus: Ibn Barrajan and Islamic Thought in the Twelfth Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), a study on Ibn Barrajan's life and teachings. He is also the author of a critical edition of a Qur'an commentary by Ibn Barrajan (Brill, TSO Series, 2016). Prior to joining the Divinity School, Professor Casewit was a Humanities Research Fellow at New York University Abu Dhabi, and an Assistant Professor of Arabic Intellectual Heritage and Culture at the American University of Sharjah. He completed his M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Islamic Studies at Yale University's Religious Studies Department. Current projects include a translation and critical edition of a Sufi-Philosophical commentary on the divine names by the Algerian scholar 'Afif al-Din al-Tilimsani (d. 1291) for the Library of Arabic Literature, NYU Press. Born in Egypt, raised in Morocco, and fluent in Arabic, French, and Spanish, Yousef has traveled throughout the Islamic world, and has studied with Muslim scholars in Morocco, Syria, and Mauritania.

Simeon Chavel

Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible; Associate Faculty in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; also in the College; Board Member, Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies and CEDAR Digital Humanities Project

Ph.D., The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr. Chavel studies the literature of the Hebrew Bible, the religion of ancient Israel and Judea, and their relationship. His approach combines theory of literature, religious studies, the ancient historical and social context, and early Jewish interpretation. Dr. Chavel's first book, *Oracular Law and Priestly Historiography in the Torah* (Mohr Siebeck 2014), studies the combination of law and narrative in a distinct set of stories. His second book, *God in the Eyes of Israel: A History of the Religious Imagination in Ancient Israel & Judea*, traces the growing use of text as a discrete site of religious innovation and experience that draws on and reconfigures the lived spheres of family, region, royalty, and nationhood. Dr. Chavel seeks to help students develop creative research agendas and launch a career. He supports varied types of doctoral projects, defined by text, historical period, phenomenon or critical lens, and his courses range across the biblical corpus, themes running through it, and disciplines relevant to its study. A complete list of offerings and an academic bio can be found at LinkedIn; published work can be found at Academia.edu.

Paul Copp

Associate Professor in Chinese Religion and Thought, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, and the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Princeton University

Paul Copp studies the intellectual, material, and visual cultures of Chinese religion, with a focus on the 8th through the 12th centuries. He is the author of *The Body Incantatory: Spells and the Ritual Imagination in Medieval Chinese Buddhism* (Columbia, 2014), and co-editor, with Wu Hung, of the 2018 volume, *Refiguring East Asian Religious Art: Buddhist Devotion and Funerary Practice* (UChicago Center for the Art of East Asia / Art Media Resources). At present, his main project is a paleographical and material-historical study of ritual handbooks and liturgies discovered among the cache of materials at Dunhuang. Its working title is “Seal and Scroll: The Ritualist’s Craft at Dunhuang and Beyond.”

Ryan Coyne

Associate Professor of the Philosophy of Religions and Theology; also in the College;
Director, Program in Undergraduate Studies

M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago

Ryan Coyne studies the relationship between modern European philosophy and the history of Christian theology. His research thus far has focused on the history of phenomenology, hermeneutics, and deconstruction. His first book, *Heidegger’s Confessions: The Remains of Saint Augustine in Being and Time and Beyond* (University of Chicago Press, 2015) examines the shifting roles assigned to religion, and to Augustine of Hippo more specifically, in Martin Heidegger’s early, middle, and later works. Coyne is currently completing a second book tentatively entitled *A Spectacle for the Gods: Nietzsche and the Question of Faith*. In it, he analyzes Friedrich Nietzsche’s struggle to redefine faith after the death of God, arguing that this struggle sheds new light on recent debates in continental philosophy of religion. A third book-length project, on deconstruction and method in the philosophy of religion, is tentatively entitled *The Dreams of Metaphysicians*. Coyne’s teaching generally focuses on the themes of subjectivity, temporality, and the nature of religious experience as they appear in ancient, medieval, and modern texts. His longstanding interests include Christian mysticism, the history of Augustinian theology, and Freudian psychoanalysis.

Kristine A. Culp

Associate Professor of Theology and Dean of the Disciples Divinity House;
also in the College

M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary

Ph.D., University of Chicago

Krist Culp works in constructive theology. She is the author of *Vulnerability and Glory: A Theological Account* (Westminster John Knox, 2010), one of the first theological works to connect multidisciplinary conversations about environmental and economic vulnerability with theological anthropology and sociality. She is now writing a book that is tentatively titled, "Glorious Life?" It engages historical-theological debates about the glory of given and made things in order to foster critical sensibilities about the aliveness of life amidst contemporary challenges and complexities. It was begun as part of the Enhancing Life Project at the University of Chicago and Ruhr-University Bochum, funded by the John Templeton Foundation.

Her essays have addressed protest and resistance as theological themes, feminist and womanist theologies, liberal and humanist strands of the Reformed tradition, the use of fiction in theological thinking, pilgrimage as a theological theme, and "experience" in contemporary theology. She is the editor of *The Responsibility of the Church for Society and Other Essays* by H. Richard Niebuhr (2008), which collected Niebuhr's various writings on ecclesiology and Christian community. She serves as a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches.

Arnold I. Davidson

Robert O. Anderson Distinguished Service Professor of the Philosophy of Judaism and Philosophy of Religions in the Divinity School; also in the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, and the Committee on the Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science

Director, France-Chicago Center; Officier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques

M.A., Georgetown University

Ph.D., Harvard University

Arnold I. Davidson is interested in the historical and systematic relationships between philosophy and theology. He has written about, and taught courses on, twentieth-century European philosophy and theology, as well as on the history of philosophy and theology: ancient, medieval, and modern. He is especially interested in the tradition of spiritual exercises and the related ideas of philosophy and religion as a way of life and moral perfectionism.

His interests in the history of Judaism are primarily in modern and contemporary Jewish thought, including the relation between Judaism and philosophy in contemporary French thought, the role of practice in Jewish philosophy and the status of moral, political and religious concepts after the Shoah. He has also worked on problems concerning the relations and tensions between theological and cultural conceptions of Jewish identity, and is currently engaged in a study of thinkers who have tried to combine traditional Jewish learning with modern philosophical ideas. A focus of his current work concerns the history of attempts to derive philosophical and theological conclusions from Halakhic argumentation.

He has taught at many French and Italian institutions, and is an honorary member of the faculty at the University Ca'Foscari Venice. He is also European editor of the journal *Critical Inquiry*. Most recently he has been a Distinguished Visiting Professor at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 2018 he was named an Honorary Fellow of The Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In addition, he has been the jazz critic for the Sunday cultural supplement, "Domenica", of the Italian newspaper Il Sole 24 Ore.

He is the author of *The Emergence of Sexuality: Historical Epistemology and the Formation of Concepts*. He has edited and written an introduction to Pierre Hadot's *Philosophy as a Way of Life: Spiritual Exercises from Socrates to Foucault* (of which he is also editor of the French edition), and has co-authored a book of conversations with Pierre Hadot, *La philosophie comme manière de vivre*. He is the co-editor of the standard French anthology of Michel Foucault's writings, *Michel Foucault. Philosophie*, and is the English-language editor of the thirteen volumes of Michel Foucault's courses at the Collège de France. He has published articles in Italian on, among other topics, the tradition of spiritual exercises and St. Francis of Assisi. He has also edited the volume *La vacanza morale del fascismo. Intorno a Primo Levi* as well as a Spanish edition of Primo Levi's essays *Vivir para contar. Escribir tras Auschwitz*. His most recent work is the forthcoming *Una espiritualidad no dogmática* (Ediciones Alpha Decay).

His ongoing projects revolve around figures as diverse as Pierre Hadot, Joseph Soloveitchik, Michel Foucault and Primo Levi, and around themes that range from the history of spiritual exercises and practices of self-transformation to the relation between Talmudic and philosophical argumentation, and the aesthetics, ethics and politics of improvisation. He is also currently working on a critical edition of the manuscripts of Zalman Gradowski. Gradowski was assigned to the Sonderkommando in Auschwitz—he managed to write one of the most singular and powerful accounts of the Shoah, from both an historical and a literary point of view, composed during the time of the events themselves. His manuscripts were buried under the ashes of Birkenau and discovered after the war. This edition (under contract with the University of Chicago Press) will be the first complete critical edition in English. Davidson's main publications are in French, Italian and Spanish as well as in English.

Fred M. Donner

Peter B. Ritzma Professor of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations,
the Oriental Institute, and the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Princeton University

Fred Donner's early interest in the role of pastoral nomadic groups in Near Eastern societies led to his dissertation on the role of Arabian pastoral nomadic groups in the early Islamic conquest movement in Iraq in the seventh century C.E. His first book, *The Early Islamic Conquests* (Princeton University Press, 1981), examined this question in more detail, particularly the relationship between pastoral nomads and the state, as well as the more general processes of state formation and state expansion. Close work with the sources for this early period of Islamic history, and the profound questions about the reliability of these sources raised by revisionist scholarship that has appeared since 1977, led Donner to a long-term examination of those sources, culminating in his *Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing* (Darwin Press, 1998). Donner then shifted his focus to the intellectual or ideological factors that were at play in the early expansion of Islam, particularly the significance of militant piety, possibly rooted in an apocalyptic outlook. This line of work culminated in his book *Muhammed and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam* (Harvard, 2010). In recent years, Donner has begun to study Arabic papyri, as the largest group of documents contemporary with the earliest Islamic community. He was President of Middle East Medievalists from 1992–1994, and was President of the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) in 2012. In 2012 he was appointed a life member of the Scientific Council of the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts "Beit al-Hikma." He has held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Stanford Humanities Center, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the American Academy in Berlin (the "Berlin Prize"). His teaching focuses on early Islamic history, Islamic social history, Arabic palaeography and epigraphy, and aspects of Islamic law.

Alireza Doostdar

Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies and the Anthropology of Religion;
also in the College

Ph.D., Harvard University

Alireza Doostdar's research and teaching bring together anthropological approaches to the study of Islam, science, gender, embodiment, and the state. His first book, *The Iranian Metaphysicals: Explorations in Science, Islam, and the Uncanny* (Princeton University Press, 2018), was awarded the 2018 Albert Hourani Book Award from MESA, the Middle East Studies Association. It examines the rationalization of the metaphysical "unseen" in Iran since the early twentieth century. Through ethnographic and historical analysis, it considers a range of knowledges and practices usually treated as marginal to orthodox Islam: sorcery and occult sciences, séances with the souls of the dead, jinn exorcisms, the marvels of Shi'i mystics, and various New Age-inflected therapeutic spiritualities.

Ahmed El Shamsy

Associate Professor of Islamic Thought, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Harvard University

Ahmed El Shamsy studies the intellectual history of Islam, focusing on the evolution of the classical Islamic disciplines and scholarly culture within their broader historical context. His research addresses themes such as orality and literacy, the history of the book, and the theory and practice of Islamic law. His first book, *The Canonization of Islamic Law: A Social and Intellectual History*, traces the transformation of Islamic law from a primarily oral tradition to a systematic written discipline in the eighth and ninth centuries. He is now at work on his second book, a study of the reinvention of the Islamic scholarly tradition and its textual canon via the printing press in the early twentieth century. Other ongoing research projects investigate the interplay of Islam with other religious and philosophical traditions, for example by exploring the influence of the Greek sage Galen on Islamic thought and the construction of a distinct self-identity among early Muslims. He teaches courses on all aspects of classical Islamic thought.

Jas' Elsner

Visiting Professor of Art and Religion; Associate Faculty,
Department of Art History

Ph.D., King's College Cambridge

Jas' Elsner studied Classics and Art History at Cambridge, Harvard and London, receiving his doctorate from King's College Cambridge.

His main research interest is in the art of the Roman empire, broadly conceived to include late antiquity and the early middle ages and including Byzantium as well as the pre-Christian Classical world. His research began by looking at the way art was viewed in antiquity, which led to an interest in all kinds of reception from ritual and pilgrimage in the case of religious art to the literary description of art (including the rhetorical technique known as *ekphrasis*) to the more recent collecting and display of art as well as its modern historiography and receptions. Since the art of antiquity has such a privileged, indeed canonical, position in our culture, the study of its receptions is an exploration of more recent history's varied, competing and often ideologically charged understandings of its own past.

Prof. Elsner has held visiting attachments at the British School at Rome, the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris, the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan, UCLA, the Institute of Fine Art in New York and Princeton University. He serves on the editorial boards of a number of Journals around the world and is the joint editor of two monograph series, *Greek Culture in the Roman World*, with the Cambridge University Press and *Ashgate Studies in Pilgrimage*. He has been a foreign honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences since 2009 and was Kosmos Fellow in Globalized Classics at the Humboldt University in Berlin 2015–16. From 2013–2018 Prof. Elsner was Principal Investigator on the Empires of Faith Project between the British Museum and Wolfson College, Oxford, exploring the visual cultures of the world religions in the Mediterranean and Asia between 200 and 800 AD.

In 2019 he was elected to the Max Planck Society, where he is now External Member of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence.

Curtis J. Evans

Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and of Religions in America;
also in the College

M.A., Gordon–Conwell Theological Seminary

Ph.D., Harvard University

Curtis Evans is an historian of American religion, primarily with expertise in cultural and religious changes in the US since the Civil War. He is particularly interested in teaching about developments in religion and race over the course of the 20th century and the various ways in which religious communities interpret and seek to influence or restrain social changes. His research focuses on interpretations of African American religion, debates about the role of churches in the modern world, especially as they have addressed issues such as segregation, race, and gender, and the evolution of the place of conservative and liberal Protestants in the social order since the late 19th century. His first book, *The Burden of Black Religion* (Oxford, 2008) is a critical historical analysis of debates over the role of African American religion within black communities and within the nation. It is also a genealogy of the emergence of the category of “the black church,” which, he argues, was a way of understanding and prescribing how very diverse and varied African American religious communities should function in society. His second book, *A Theology of Brotherhood: The Federal Council of Churches and the Problem of Race* (Oxford, forthcoming), examines the history of the Federal Council of Churches’ (an ecumenical Protestant federation of denominations founded in 1908) Department of Race Relations from the 1920s to the 1940s. He looks at various projects such as the FCC’s anti-lynching campaign and its annual Race Relations Sundays to understand how this group of ecumenical Protestants understood the problem of race and to assess how they sought to realize concretely their theology of brotherhood that broke from a dominant theology of segregation, which had argued that the separation of the races was a part of the natural divine order. Some of his more recent interests have moved in the direction of the evolution of evangelical Protestantism and developments within conservative Protestant Christian communities.

Christopher A. Faraone

The Edward Olson Professor of Classics in the Department of Classics; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Stanford University

Professor Faraone’s research interests focus on Ancient Greek poetry, religion and magic. He coedited (with D. Obbink) *Magika Hiera: Ancient Greek Magic and Religion* (1991); (with T. Carpenter) *Masks of Dionysus* (1993); (with D. Dodd) *Initiation in Ancient Greek Rituals and Narratives: New Critical Perspectives* (2003); and (with Laura McClure), *Prostitutes and Courtesans in the Ancient World* (2006). He is also the author of *Talismans and Trojan Horses: Guardian Statues*

in *Ancient Greek Myth and Ritual* (1992); *Ancient Greek Love Magic* (1999); and *The Stanzaic Structure of Early Greek Elegy* (2008). His most recent works are *Vanishing Acts: Deletio Morbi as Speech Act and Visual Design on Ancient Greek Amulets*, Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies Supplement 115 (London 2013) and (with Dirk Obbink), *The Getty Hexameters: Poetry, Magic and Mystery in Ancient Greek Selinous* (2013). His *Transformation of Greek Amulets in Roman Imperial Times* appeared in April 2018 with the University of Pennsylvania Press and he is actively working on two book projects: *The Play of Ritual Genres in Homeric Epic* and *The Transformation of Divine Images in the Greek Magical Recipes of Later Antiquity*. With Sofia Torallas-Tovar he is also co-editing a new Greek text and translation of the Greek magical handbooks that is forthcoming in two volumes in the "Writings of the Greco-Roman World" as the *The Greco-Egyptian Magical Formularies*, and with Richard Gordon, a special issue of *Religions of the Roman Empire* entitled "Curse-Tablets in Italy and the Western Roman Provinces."

Avraham Faust

Joyce Z. Greenberg Visiting Professor of Jewish Studies

Ph.D., Bar-Ilan University

Avi Faust is Professor of Archeology at the Department of General History, Bar-Ilan University. His research interests include the archaeology of the land of Israel in the Bronze and Iron Ages (biblical archaeology), especially from social and anthropological perspectives, as well as aspects of settlement archaeology, urban-rural interaction, socio-economic stratification, ethnicity, processes of social complexity, and excavations and survey methods and methodology.

He has participated in a number of excavations and surveys in Israel and abroad, and is currently directing the excavations at Tel 'Eton. Prof. Faust has written a number of books and over 150 articles covering various aspects of Israel's archaeology from the Early Bronze Age to the Byzantine period, with a special focus on Iron Age society. His books include *Israel's Ethnogenesis: Settlement, Interaction, Expansion and Resistance* (London: Equinox/Routledge; 2012), *Judah in the Neo-Babylonian Period: The Archaeology of Desolation* (Atlanta: The Society of Biblical Literature; 2012), *The Archeology of Israelite Society in Iron Age II* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns; 2012) and *The Settlement History of Ancient Israel: A Quantitative Analysis* (Ramat Gan: Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies, 2015 (with Zeev Safrai).

Michael Fishbane

Nathan Cummings Distinguished Service Professor of Jewish Studies;
also in the College

Ph.D., Brandeis University

Michael Fishbane was trained in Semitic languages, biblical studies, and Judaica. His writings span from the ancient Near East and biblical studies to rabbinics, the history of Jewish interpretation, Jewish mysticism, and modern Jewish thought. Among his many books are *Text and Texture; Biblical Interpretation in Ancient Israel; Garments of Torah; The Kiss of God; and The Exegetical Imagination: On Jewish Thought and Theology*. Both *Biblical Interpretation in Ancient Israel* and *The Kiss of God* won The National Jewish Book Award in scholarship. His commentary on the prophetic lectionary (Haftarot) in Judaism was published in 2002 (Jewish Publication Society Bible Commentary), and his book *Biblical Myth and Rabbinic Mythmaking* was published in 2003 (Oxford University Press). His latest work, *Sacred Attunement: A Jewish Theology*, was published in fall 2008 by the University of Chicago Press. He has recently published a multileveled comprehensive commentary presenting the full range of Jewish interpretations on the Song of Songs (Jewish Publication Society, 2015). A volume on him and his work appeared as *Michael Fishbane. Jewish Hermeneutical Theology* in the Library of Contemporary Jewish Philosophers (Brill, 2015). Fishbane is now working on the poetics of Jewish liturgical poetry and a new work in contemporary theology. Professor Fishbane received a Guggenheim Fellowship, among other major grants, and has twice been a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies at Hebrew University. Professor Fishbane is a member of the American Academy of Jewish Research, and was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award in Textual Studies by the National Foundation of Jewish Culture. An entry on him and his work appears in the new edition of the *Encyclopedia Judaica*. Fishbane is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Sarah E. Fredericks

Associate Professor of Environmental Ethics and Director of Doctoral Studies;
Affiliated Faculty, Program on the Global Environment and The Center for the
Study of Gender and Sexuality

Ph.D., Boston University

Professor Fredericks' research focuses on sustainability, sustainable energy, environmental guilt and shame, and environmental justice; her work draws upon pragmatic and comparative religious ethics.

She is the author of *Measuring and Evaluating Sustainability: Ethics in Sustainability Indexes* (Routledge, 2013), and articles in *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*; *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology*; *Environmental Justice*, and *Ethics, Policy, and Environment*. Fredericks co-edits a book series, *Religious Ethics and Environmental Challenges* (Lexington Press), with Kevin O'Brien. Fredericks, along with colleagues from three other university, was recently awarded a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded Humanities Without Walls, a consortium that funds cross-institutional teams researching topics in the humanities. Prof. Fredericks' project, "Being Human in the Age of Humans: Perspectives from Religion and Ethics," seeks to better understand the impact of climate change from a humanities perspective.

Prior to joining the Divinity School Professor Fredericks was Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at the University of North Texas. She holds a Ph.D. in Science, Philosophy and Religion from Boston University.

Professor Fredericks is currently working on a book about the ethical dimensions of experiencing and inducing environmental guilt and shame, particularly about climate change.

Yair Furstenberg

Visiting Professor of the History of Judaism

Ph.D., Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Yair Furstenberg is a senior lecturer in the Talmud department at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His recent book *Purity and Community in Antiquity* examines the social role of purity in both Jewish and Christian communities. Other publications further address the role of law in the Jesus traditions. Dr. Furstenberg's work traces the evolution of the rabbinic literature and movement during the first two centuries CE within its Greco-Roman context. In various articles he evaluates the impact of Greco-Roman intellectual environment upon rabbinic religion. His current work investigates the role of Romanization on the shaping of rabbinic law.

Sarah Hammerschlag

Associate Professor of Religion and Literature, Philosophy of Religions and History of Judaism; also in the College

M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago

Sarah Hammerschlag is a scholar in the area of Religion and Literature. Her research thus far has focused on the position of Judaism in the post-World War II French intellectual scene, a field that puts her at the crossroads of numerous disciplines and scholarly approaches including philosophy, literary studies, and intellectual history. She is the author of *The Figural Jew: Politics and Identity in Postwar French Thought* (University of Chicago Press, 2010) and *Broken Tablets: Levinas, Derrida and the Literary Afterlife of Religion* (Columbia University Press, 2016) and the editor of the volume *Modern French Jewish Thought: Writings on Religion and Politics* (Brandeis University Press, 2018). *The Figural Jew* received an Honorable Mention for the 2012 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award, given by the Association of Jewish Scholars, and was a finalist for the AAR's Best First Book in the History of Religions in 2011. She has written essays on Jacques Derrida, Emmanuel Levinas and Maurice Blanchot which have appeared in *Critical Inquiry*, *Jewish Quarterly Review* and *Shofar*, among other places. She is currently working on a manuscript entitled "Sowers and Sages: The Renaissance of Judaism in Postwar Paris."

Kevin Hector

Associate Professor of Theology and of the Philosophy of Religions; also in the College

M.A., Wheaton College

Ph.D., Princeton Seminary

Kevin Hector's teaching and research are devoted largely to interpretive questions, particularly (a) how best to understand faith commitments, and (b) how the outworking of such commitments can shed light on broader cultural issues.

Hector's first book, *Theology without Metaphysics* (Cambridge University Press, 2011), thus defends a novel approach to the problem of metaphysics by developing a philosophically informed and critically articulated theology of language. The argument, simply stated, is that one of the central premises of contemporary postmetaphysical theology—namely, that language is inherently 'metaphysical,' that it therefore shoehorns objects into predetermined categories, and that it must accordingly be kept at a distance from God—assumes metaphysics' own understanding of language. Drawing on recent work in theology and philosophy of language, Hector

renders this assumption optional by developing an alternative account of language and its relation to God, thereby demonstrating that one need not choose between fitting God into a metaphysical framework, on the one hand, and keeping God at a distance from language, on the other.

In his second book, *The Theological Project of Modernism: Faith and the Conditions of Mineness* (Oxford University Press, 2015), Hector explores the idea of ‘mineness,’ in the sense of being able to identify with one’s life or experience it as self-expressive, by tracing the development of this idea in modern theology. He argues, accordingly, that theologians such as Kant, Schleiermacher, Hegel, Ritschl, Troeltsch, and Tillich offer accounts of how one’s life would have to hang together such that one could identify with it; of the oppositions (e.g., injustice, tragedy, luck) which stand in the way of such hanging-together; of God as the one by whom oppositions are overcome, so that one can have faith that one’s life ultimately won’t fall apart; and of what such faith would have to be like in order for one to identify with it.

Angie Heo

Assistant Professor of the Anthropology and Sociology of Religion;
also in the College

M.A., Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley

Angie Heo is an anthropologist of religion, media, and economy. She is broadly interested in minority politics, critical mission history, postcolonial nationalism, and global religious movements. Her fieldwork so far has focused on two traditions, Eastern Orthodoxy and Evangelical Protestantism, and her research has explored two geographic regions, the Middle East and East Asia. Heo’s first book *The Political Lives of Saints: Christian-Muslim Mediation in Egypt* (University of California Press, 2018) offers a form-sensitive account of Coptic Orthodoxy and Christian-Muslim relations from before the Arab uprisings to their post-revolutionary aftermath. Drawing on traditions of martyrdom, pilgrimage, and icon veneration, it analyzes embodied practices of imagination to grasp the vexed interplay of nationalism and sectarianism in Egypt. Heo’s second book (in progress) turns to various sites of religious freedom, transnational capitalism, and Cold War empire in the Korean peninsula.

John Holt

Visiting Professor of Buddhism

Ph.D., History of Religions, University of Chicago

Holt is the William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor Emeritus of the Humanities in Religion and Asian Studies at Bowdoin College, where he has taught since 1978. His teaching focuses on Asian religious traditions, especially Hinduism and Buddhism, and theoretical approaches to the study of religion. In 1982, he organized and founded the Inter-collegiate Sri Lanka Education (ISLE) Program for a consortium of private liberal arts colleges, and in 1986 he became the first chair of Bowdoin's Asian Studies Program. Holt spent three separate terms as the Visiting Professor of History and Comparative Religion at Sri Lanka's University of Peradeniya. He was awarded a Doctor of Letters from the same institution for his contributions to Sri Lankan and Buddhist studies. He was selected as the Alumnus of the Year by the University of Chicago Divinity School in 2007. He has received numerous research awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2014.

His publications include *Discipline: the Canonical Buddhism of the Vinayapitaka* (Dehli: Motilal Banarsidass, 1981), *A Guide to the Buddhist Religion* (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1981), *Buddha in the Crown* (NY: Oxford University Press, 1991) for which he was awarded an American Academic Book Award for Excellence in 1992; and *The Buddhist Visnu* (NY: Columbia University Press, 2005), a groundbreaking study analyzing the assimilation and transformation of the Hindu cult of Visnu by the Sinhala Buddhists of Sri Lanka.

Sree Padma Holt

Visiting Research Associate Professor

Ph.D., History and Archaeology, Andhra University

Sree Padma Holt is Research Associate Professor at Bowdoin College. Her foundational training is in both the modern history and archaeology of India. As such, her research interests are interdisciplinary as she draws on primary resources from archaeology, art, literature, archives, and ethnography. Prof. Holt's publications include five books, thirty-one articles and forty-two papers presented in national and international conferences reflect her diverse research interests both in India and more recently in Sri Lanka. Her current research on indigenous medicine practices in Sri Lanka with a focus on *parampara* (hereditary) physicians and their use of herbs, adds yet another tone to her research. Her most recent article, "Are *Satara Varan Devi* Sinhala Buddhist Deities? Vibhishana, A Case Study" is published by *Sagar* Vol. XXXVI by the University of Texas at Austin. Her co-edited collection of articles, *Lankapura: Sri Lanka and the Rāmāyaṇa in Historical Perspective* as a special issue for *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* will be out in September 2019.

Dwight N. Hopkins

Alexander Campbell Professor of Theology; also in the College

M.Div., M.Phil., Ph.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York

Ph.D., University of Cape Town, South Africa

Dwight N. Hopkins is the Alexander Campbell Professor.

He graduated from Groton (Boarding) School and Harvard University (B.A.).

From 2005 to 2013, Professor Hopkins founded and managed a 14-country not-for-profit startup, network funded by the Ford Foundation. With representatives from Hawaii, Fiji, Australia, Japan, India, England, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Cuba, Jamaica, Brazil, and the USA, the network centered on education—educating youth, students, and women across different cultures in different countries. In fact, in international transactions of business, politics, and religions, one of the greatest challenges is lack of cultural understanding. In other words, knowing other peoples' cultures makes it easier to interact on the firm and country levels, particularly in emerging markets. By focusing on higher or transcendent, common human values, we can improve wealth management and long term business relations.

In order for him to keep the global network together, he had to do fundraising, manage the budget, hire and fire people, strategy, vision, and he had to understand each country's culture "on the ground" in everyday practice. By learning about the motivations behind their beliefs, Professor Hopkins was able to appreciate how people accumulate wealth, how this is linked to their family structures, and what are the foundational things they think about when they deal with different cultures from other countries.

He also had to build solid teams made up of different people. Professor Hopkins managed the 14-country startup by learning from various family structures, country histories, spiritual beliefs (which, in emerging markets, are important for doing business), ways of working, and what are the true and fundamental things that drive people to think and do what they do. The network was made up of youth, middle age and older representatives, and men and women.

He was Visiting Professor at Renmin (People's) University, Beijing, China (course on "The History of Western Civilization") and Visiting Lecturer at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics, Surrey International Institute, Dalian, China (ten lectures on "China and the West: Cross Cultural Communication"). He was also Professor Extraordinary at the University of South Africa (Pretoria, South Africa).

Prof. Hopkins is a constructive theologian working in the areas of contemporary models of theology, various forms of liberation theologies, and East-West cross-cultural comparisons. Professor Hopkins is interested in multidisciplinary approaches to the academic study of religious thought, especially cultural, political, economic, and interpretive methods.

Jeff Jay

Lecturer in New Testament and Early Christian Literature

M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago

Jeff Jay's teaching and research focus on early Jewish and Christian literature in their original languages and especially in terms of their context in Second Temple Judaism and Greek and Roman literature, religion, and philosophy. His interests also extend to the history of Biblical interpretation, the history of religions, religion and literature, philosophical hermeneutics, and the history of sexuality. Professor Jay is the author of *The Tragic in Mark* (HUTH 66; Mohr Siebeck, 2014). He has also published articles in the *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, *Journal for the Study of Judaism*, and *Ancient Judaism*. His current writing and research focus on reading the Gospel According to John in light of ancient erotic poetry and other love literature and, more broadly, the literary history of gospel texts.

Matthew Kapstein

Numata Visiting Professor of the Philosophy of Religions and the History of Religions

Ph.D., Brown University

Matthew T. Kapstein specializes in the history of Buddhist philosophy in India and Tibet, as well as in the cultural history of Tibetan Buddhism more generally. He regularly teaches Contemporary Theories in the Study of Religion in the History of Religions program, and Introduction to the Philosophies of India in Philosophy of Religions. His seminars in recent years have focused on particular topics in the history of Buddhist thought, such as Buddha Nature, idealism, and epistemology (*pramāṇa*), or on broad themes in the study of religion including the problem of evil, death, and the imagination. Kapstein has published over a dozen books and numerous articles, among the most recent of which are a general introduction to Tibetan cultural history, *The Tibetans* (Oxford, 2006), an edited volume on Sino-Tibetan religious relations, *Buddhism Between Tibet and China* (Boston, 2009), and a translation of an eleventh-century philosophical allegory in the acclaimed Clay Sanskrit Series, *The Rise of Wisdom Moon* (New York 2009). With Kurtis Schaeffer (University of Virginia) and Gray Tuttle (Columbia), he has completed *Sources of Tibetan Traditions*, published in the Columbia University Press Sources of Asian Traditions series in 2013. Kapstein is additionally Director of Tibetan Studies at the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris. Kapstein was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2018.

James Ketelaar

Professor of History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations;
Director of the Center for East Asian Studies; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., University of Chicago

James Ketelaar works on the intellectual, cultural and religious history of Japan. His current book project looks at the roles and meanings of emotion in Japanese historical imaginations. Chapters on imagining erotic emotionality in the Edo period and the relation between mantrayana practices and the popular representation of erotic love have been completed. Subsequent work will look at issues ranging from the relationship of the creator gods Izanami and Izanagi to the emotive powers of the deaths of Christian martyrs.

Professor Ketelaar is past Chair of the Executive Committee for the Inter-University Center of Yokohama (a consortial program for the advanced study of Japanese language and culture), Executive Committee member and Director of the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies, and Director of the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Chicago. His publications include *Of Heretics and Martyrs in Meiji Japan: Buddhism and its Persecution* (Princeton: 1989), winner of the Hans Rosenhaupt Memorial Award. *Values, Identity and Equality in 18th and 19th century Japan* (Brill, 2015), co-edited with Peter Nosco and Kojima Yasunori, contains an introductory essay and a chapter by Ketelaar. This latter chapter, "Searching for Erotic Emotionality in Tokugawa Japan" is the first published study for the book length project on emotion and history. Both books, in edited versions with new introductions, have also appeared in Japanese editions.

Karin Krause

Assistant Professor of Byzantine Theology and Visual Culture; Affiliated Faculty,
Department of Art History; Faculty Member in the Program in Medieval Studies;
also in the College

Ph.D., University of Munich, LMU

Karin Krause is an art historian who specializes in the Christian visual culture of Byzantium and the pre-modern Mediterranean.

In her teaching at the Divinity School, Professor Krause seeks to broaden the concept of religion by drawing attention to the significance of material artifacts alongside texts and theories. She welcomes projects that explore the role of visual culture in religion and helps students develop the skills to address material artifacts as primary evidence.

Her first book, *The Illustrated Homilies of John Chrysostom in Byzantium*, published in German, won an award from the Southeast Europe Association (Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft). Making available, often for the first time, the illuminated manuscripts that contain the teachings of Byzantium's preeminent theologian, it reconstructs the circumstances of their production and their relevance for the liturgy. Krause is currently completing a second book with the working title *Images of Inspiration: Art, Authenticity, and the Sacred in Byzantium*. It explores claims about the divine origin of sacred texts and artifacts, claims that are manifest in both theological writings and visual images. Analyzing how their underlying notions of authenticity were adapted from Greco-Roman and Jewish antiquity, the study also shows how Byzantine thinkers reinterpreted ancient epistemic theories of truth in order to promulgate claims of religious orthodoxy and authority. Krause's third monograph, tentatively titled *Propaganda, Cult, Scholarship: The Response to Byzantine Artifacts in Venice* is far advanced, and builds on her previous publications on the impact of Byzantine culture on medieval and early modern Italy. Karin Krause's research has been supported by the German Research Community (DFG), the Max Planck Society, Dumbarton Oaks, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and others. She is currently an affiliated scholar in the research cluster "Mobility, Microstructures and Personal Agency in Byzantium" (Austrian National Research Foundation, FWF), based at the University of Vienna.

Aden Kumler

Associate Professor of of Art History and of Romance Languages & Literatures;
Associate Faculty

M.A., University of Toronto

Ph.D., Harvard University

Aden Kumler is an Associate Professor of Art History and of Romance Languages & Literatures at the University of Chicago. In broad terms, her research and teaching focus on the imbrication of art, material culture, and religion in European medieval culture. Her research has been supported by the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, the Medieval Academy of America, The Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, and the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts. She is the author of *Translating Truth: Ambitious Images and Religious Knowledge in Late Medieval France and England* (Yale University Press, 2011).

Recent essays include “Manufacturing the sacred in the Middle Ages: The Eucharist and other medieval works of ars” *English Language Notes* 53 (2015): 9-44; “*Imitatio rerum*: Sacred objects in the St Giles Hospital Processional,” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, 43 (2014): 469–502; “From Sacrament to Street Food,” *Cabinet: A Quarterly of Art and Culture*, 58 (2016): 63-71; “*Signatis... vultus tui*: (re)impressing the Veronica in the Middle Ages,” *Convivium*, Supplementum 2 (2018): 102-113; “Seeing the worldly with a moral eye: Illuminated observation as introspection in the later Middle Ages,” in *Optics, Ethics, and Art in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries: Looking into Peter of Limoges’s Moral Treatise on the Eye*, Herbert Kessler & Richard Newhauser, eds. (Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Press: 2018): 47-63; and “Materials, *Materia*, Materiality,” in *A Companion to Medieval Art: Romanesque and Gothic in Northern Europe*, Conrad Rudolph, ed., 2nd revised edition (Malden, MA: Blackwell; 2019): 96-111; and “Counterfeiting the Eucharist,” in *Quid est sacramentum?: On the Visual Representation of Sacred Mysteries in Early Modern Europe and the Americas, 1400–1700*, Walter Melion, Elizabeth Pastan, Lee Wandel, eds., *Intersections* (Brill; forthcoming).

Her current book in progress examines the formal and conceptual relationships cultivated between the Eucharistic host, coins, and seals over the course of the Middle Ages.

Franklin Lewis

Associate Professor of Persian, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations;
Associate Faculty

Ph.D., University of Chicago

Franklin Lewis teaches courses on Persian literature and language, medieval Islamic thought, Islamic mysticism, Baha'i Studies, modern Middle Eastern literature and cinema, and translation history. He is the current Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, the past President of the American Institute of Iranian Studies, and runs the discussion list Adabiyat for Persian, Arabic, Turkish and Urdu literatures.

Lewis' research interests include Persian and Arabic literature, particularly of the Samanid to Timurid period, as well as twentieth-century poetry and prose (from the perspective of performance, genre studies, semiotics, sociology of literary production, narratology, hermeneutics, homiletics, codicology and editorial theory); and mystical and esoteric traditions in the Islamic world (including Sufi, Shi'i and Baha'i thought and theology). His publications include several translations of modern Persian prose and poetry, studies of Hâfez, 'Attâr, Sa'di, Najm al-Din Dâye, Sanâ'i, Persian literature and the Qur'ân, the Sufi orders, the hagiographical tradition, and the writings of Bahâ' Allâh. An ongoing interest in Mowlânâ Jalâl al-Din Rumi is reflected in a monograph on the subject, a book of literary translations of his poems, a guest-edited special journal issue focusing on the current state of Rumi studies, and an edition and translation of the discourses of Borhân al-Din Mohaqqueq of Termez, the teacher who purportedly initiated Rumi in the mystic tradition.

Cynthia Gano Lindner

Director of Ministry Studies and Clinical Faculty for Preaching and Pastoral Care

D.Min., University of Chicago

Cynthia Lindner received her training in the Divinity School's Doctor of Ministry program with emphases in biblical studies, ethics, and psychological studies. She has worked as a parish pastor, hospice chaplain, and pastoral psychotherapist for over thirty years. Teaching and research interests include questions of contemporary ministerial identity and formation, multi-religious theological education, the practice and ethics of preaching and pastoral care in multicultural society, the role of religious communities in addressing communal violence and trauma, and the interface of corporate worship and public witness, and its impact on identity formation and congregational life. She is one of the directors of the Divinity School's Chicago Commons Project, an early-career pastoral leadership development program funded by the Lilly Endowment.

Lindner explores pastoral multiple-mindedness in her book *Varieties of Gifts: Multiplicity and the Well-Lived Pastoral Life*, published in 2016 by Rowman and Littlefield, and is currently developing two new research projects: one on the narrative experience of congregational life, and another on collaboration as pastoral practice.

Rev. Lindner is also a pastoral psychotherapist at the Center for Religion and Psychotherapy, where she conducts clergy groups and offers congregational consultation in addition to her work with individuals and couples. Rev. Lindner is a member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and the International Association for Spiritual Care.

Jean-Luc Marion

Andrew Thomas Greeley and Grace McNichols Greeley Professor of Catholic Studies and Professor of the Philosophy of Religions and Theology.

Professeur émérite at the Université Paris-IV (Sorbonne), Department of Philosophy.

Doctorat de IIIe cycle, Université Paris-IV, Sorbonne

Doctorat d'Etat, Université Paris-IV, Sorbonne

Jean-Luc Marion works at the intersection of contemporary phenomenology, the history of philosophy, and Christian theology. Many of his books are into 2nd, 3rd, and even 10th editions, and have been translated into several languages. In *Reduction and Givenness, Being Given, In Excess, Givenness and Hermeneutics*, and most recently *Reprise du donné* among other works, he has presented and developed a phenomenology of givenness. Elsewhere he has applied those results to a variety of special subjects such as painting (*Courbet ou la peinture à l'oeil*), love (*Prolegomena to Charity* and *The Erotic Phenomenon*), and certitude (*Negative Certainty*). In more directly historical work Marion has published several studies reading philosophy through a phenomenological lens, particularly Descartes. Full-length works include *Sur l'ontologie grise de Descartes*, *Sur la théologie blanche de Descartes*, *Descartes' Metaphysical Prism*, and most recently *Sur la pensée passive de Descartes*. In theology and the history of Christian thought Marion wrote *The Idol and Distance* and *God Without Being* on the question of God and metaphysics, and more recently he has written books on Augustine (*In the Self's Place*) and on the concept of revelation (*Givenness and Revelation*). He has also worked in Greek and Latin patristics and in medieval thought. His most recent title is *Brève apologie pour un moment catholique*. In 2017 a collection of short pieces and a collection of interviews with Dan Arbib was published in translation (*Believing in Order to See* and *The Rigor of Things*).

Marion is a member of the Académie Française (elected 2008, received as an *immortel* in 2010), the Accademia dei Lincei in Rome (2009), the Pontifical Council on Culture (2011), and the Academia Chilena de Ciencias Sociales, Políticas y Morales (2015). He is the recipient of many awards, including the 1992 Grand Prix du Philosophie de l'Académie Française, the 2008 Karl-Jaspers Prize of the city and University of Heidelberg, and the 2012 Humboldt-Stiftung Prize. Marion has also received nine honorary doctorates, most recently from the Australian Catholic University, Melbourne (2015). The same year he was elected Chevalier du Tastevin, Clos-Vougeot in Burgundy. Previously he was professeur at the Institut Catholique de Paris and directeur of the Centre d'Etudes Cartésiennes, and in 2014 he was selected to give the Gifford Lectures at the University of Scotland, Glasgow (now published as *Givenness and Revelation*). In 2018 Marion was a visiting professor at the Universität Regensburg.

David Martinez

Associate Professor, Department of Classics and the Divinity School;
also in the College

M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary

M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan

David Martinez is a classicist and papyrologist whose research and teaching focus on Greek papyrology and paleography, Hellenistic authors, early Christian literature, and the Hellenistic background of the New Testament. He is the author of *P. Michigan XVI: A Greek Love Charm from Egypt* and *Baptized for Our Sakes: A Leather Trisagion from Egypt*. He has also written articles on documentary Greek papyri and ancient Greek religion and magic. His current projects include the publication of the Texas papyri and projects that relate papyrological research to the study of early Christianity. He founded a seminar at the Society of Biblical Literature entitled "Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds."

William T.S. Mazzarella

Department Chair, Neukom Family Professor of Anthropology and of Social Sciences
in the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., University of California Berkeley

William T.S. Mazzarella writes and teaches on the political anthropology of mass publicity, critical theory, affect and aesthetics, psychoanalysis, ritual and performance, and the occult shadow of the modern. His books include *Shoveling Smoke: Advertising and Globalization in Contemporary India* (Duke, 2003), *Censorium: Cinema and the Open Edge of Mass Publicity* (Duke, 2013), *The Mana of Mass Society* (Chicago, 2017), and, with Eric Santner and Aaron Schuster, *Sovereignty, Inc: Three Inquiries in Politics and Enjoyment* (Chicago, 2019). He is also the co-editor, with Raminder Kaur, of *Censorship in South Asia: Cultural Regulation from Sedition to Seduction* (Indiana, 2009), and the editor of *K D Katrak: Collected Poems* (Poetrywala, 2016). His article 'The Anthropology of Populism: Beyond the Liberal Settlement' appears in the 2019 issue of *Annual Review of Anthropology*. For a sampling of Dr. Mazzarella's publications, please visit his [academia.edu](#) profile.

Omar M. McRoberts

Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and the College; Associate Faculty
Ph.D., Harvard University

Omar McRoberts's scholarly and teaching interests include the sociology of religion, urban sociology, urban poverty, race, and collective action. His first book, *Streets of Glory: Church and Community in a Black Urban Neighborhood* (University of Chicago Press, 2003) won the 2005 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. It is based on an ethnographic study of religious life in Four Corners, a poor, predominantly black neighborhood in Boston containing twenty-nine congregations. It explains the high concentration, wide variety, and ambiguous social impact of religious activity in the neighborhood. Professor McRoberts currently is conducting a study of black religious responses to, and influences on, social welfare policy since the New Deal, culminating with George W. Bush's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. He is also initiating an ethnographic project on cultures of death and dying among black congregations in low-income urban contexts.

Françoise Meltzer

Professor of the Philosophy of Religions; also the Edward Carson Waller Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities; Chair, Department of Comparative Literature and the College
M.A., Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

Françoise Meltzer marshals postmodern critical theories in order to explore representations of the subject. Her first book, *Salome and the Dance of Writing*, deals with mimesis as evidenced in literary texts that describe painted portraits. In *Hot Property: The Stakes and Claims of Literary Originality*, she examines the ideas of originality and authorship in a series of case studies from Descartes to Walter Benjamin. Her book on Joan of Arc (*For Fear of the Fire: Joan of Arc and the Limits of Subjectivity*), undertakes a study of that figure in relation to gendered subjectivity as it is treated in philosophical and literary theoretical discourses. At the Divinity School, she delivered the 1996 John Nuveen Lecture, "The Hands of Simone Weil." She edited (with David Tracy) a "Symposium on 'God'" for the journal *Critical Inquiry*,

and, with Jas' Elsner a book entitled *Saints: Faith Without Borders*, published by the University of Chicago Press in 2011. Her book *Seeing Double: Baudelaire's Modernity*, published with Chicago in 2011, argues (among other things) that Baudelaire's modernity is largely informed by his obsession with Original Sin. She has written the introduction to a book collecting the essays of Jacques Derrida published in *Critical Inquiry* over the years (University of Chicago Press, 2013). Prof. Meltzer was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2015.

Her latest book, *Dark Lens: Imaging Germany, 1945* (University of Chicago Press, 2019) concerns the bombing of German civilians during the Second World War. It raises the question of human suffering, and is based on a series of unpublished photographs of the 1945 ruins of German cities.

Stephen C. Meredith

Professor in the Department of Pathology, the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, The Department of Neurology, and the College;
Associate Faculty

M.D., Washington University

Ph.D., The University of Chicago

Stephen C. Meredith works on the biophysics of protein structure, concentrating on amyloid proteins associated with neurodegenerative diseases. He also teaches courses in the College and the Divinity School, including ones on James Joyce's *Ulysses*, and Dostoevsky's *Brothers Karamazov*, and on the problem of evil, focusing on St. Thomas Aquinas and Augustine. His main theological interest is in the problem of evil. In this connection, he is currently writing a book on philosophical (especially metaphysical) and literary perspectives on disease. His current interests also center on the impact of biotechnology and the genetic revolution on the definition of human nature.



Richard B. Miller

Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Religious Ethics; also in the College
Ph.D., University of Chicago

Professor Miller examines the relationship between religion and ethics in a comparative, critical, and constructive way. His research interests include religion and public life, political and social ethics, theory and method in religious thought and ethics, and practical ethics. He is the author of the award-winning *Interpretations of Conflict: Ethics, Pacifism, and the Just-War Tradition* (University of Chicago Press, 1991); *Casuistry and Modern Ethics: A Poetics of Practical Reasoning* (University of Chicago Press, 1996); *Children, Ethics, and Modern Medicine* (Indiana University Press, 2003), and *Terror, Religion, and Liberal Thought* (Columbia University Press, 2010/16). His recent book, *Friends and Other Strangers: Studies in Religion, Ethics, and Culture*, seeks to chart and expand the field of religious ethics by exploring the implications of taking a cultural turn in the humanities and social sciences (Columbia University Press, 2016/18). Miller's essays have appeared in the *Journal of Religion*, the *Journal of Religious Ethics*, *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Ethics and International Affairs*, *Harvard Theological Review*, and *Theological Studies*.

Miller's courses include "Contemporary Religious Ethics I & II", a two-quarter sequence that provides students with a foundational overview of critical works in religious ethics from 1970-present. He also teaches a mini-curriculum of three courses on religion and politics: "Contemporary Political and Social Ethics," "Religion and Democracy," and "Rights and Justice." Other courses include "The Problem of Love in Augustine and Kierkegaard," "The Ethics of War: Foundational Texts," "Religion, Ethics, and Medicine," and "Religion and the Political Order." A relentlessly self-reflexive teacher, Miller has designed all of his courses with an underlying thesis that situates course readings within a historical and intellectual arc.

With his faculty colleagues in Religious Ethics, Miller has launched a new initiative at the Divinity School—"Minor Classics in Ethics," focusing on recent essays in moral philosophy, social thought, political theory, and theological ethics that have revitalized forgotten themes or have posed new and complicated questions for religious ethicists to take up.

Elham Mireshghi

Lecturer in the Divinity School; also in the College

Ph.D., University of California, Irvine

Elham Mireshghi is a cultural anthropologist. Her research and teaching expertise spans the anthropology of public policy, medical anthropology, economic anthropology, and the anthropology of morality, bioethics, and Islamic law, with a regional focus on Iran and the larger Middle East. She earned her doctorate from the University of California at Irvine after completing a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (University of California, Berkeley) and a brief foray in intellectual property law.

Her ethnographic research investigates the making and implementation of Iran's one-of-a-kind organ transplantation policy that regulates monetary transactions between living unrelated kidney donors and recipients. She examines the formation of fatwas that facilitated the policy, as well as enactments and moral valuations of the exchange that challenge widespread conceptualizations of bodily commodification. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Wenner Gren Foundation, and the Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship on Religion and Ethics from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

At UChicago she teaches a "Self, Culture, and Society" sequence in the Social Sciences Collegiate Division as well as graduate courses in anthropology and the Divinity School. Her previous courses have included "Islam and Biomedicine," "Islam, Welfare, and Neoliberalism," "Anthropology of Public Policy," and "Bodies, Gifts, and Commodities."



Margaret M. Mitchell

Shailer Mathews Distinguished Service Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Literature; also in the College

M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago

Margaret M. Mitchell is a literary historian of ancient Christianity. Her research and teaching span a range of topics in New Testament and early Christian writings up through the end of the fourth century. She analyzes how the earliest Christians literally wrote their way into history, developing a literary and religious culture that was deeply embedded in Hellenistic Judaism and the wider Greco-Roman world, while also proclaiming its distinctiveness from each. Special interests include the Pauline letters (both in their inaugural moments and in the history of their effects), the poetics and politics of ancient biblical interpretation, and the intersection of text, image, and artifact in the fashioning of early Christian culture.

Prof. Mitchell is the author of four books: *Paul and the Rhetoric of Reconciliation* (1991); *The Heavenly Trumpet: John Chrysostom and the Art of Pauline Interpretation* (2000); *The “Belly-Myther” of Endor: Interpretations of 1 Kingdoms 28 in the Early Church* (with Rowan A. Greer, 2007), and *Paul, the Corinthians and the Birth of Christian Hermeneutics* (2010). The first volume of her collected essays, *Paul and the Emergence of Christian Textuality: Early Christian Literary Culture in Context*, appeared in autumn, 2017. She is also the coeditor of two volumes, including, with Frances M. Young, *The Cambridge History of Christianity, Volume 1: Origins to Constantine* (2006). Prof. Mitchell is currently completing a volume, *John Chrysostom on Paul: Praises and Problem Passages*, to be published in the Writings from the Greco-Roman World series (Society of Biblical Literature), and, among other projects, is engaged in ongoing study of the newly recovered (2012) Greek homilies on the Psalms by Origen of Alexandria, as well as a book project, “The Letters of Paul: A Biography.” Mitchell has applied her research into how the Bible was a source of “problems” for its interpreters in antiquity to an important test case in contemporary America in a recent essay, “‘It’s Complicated.’ ‘No It’s Not.’ Problems and Solutions in the Museum of the Bible” (in Jill Hicks-Keeton and Cavan Concannon, eds., *The Museum of the Bible: A Critical Introduction*, 2019).

Prof. Mitchell’s research has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Luce, Mellon and Guggenheim foundations. She is an elected member of Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas, l’Association internationale d’études patristiques, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

David Nirenberg

Dean of The Divinity School and the Deborah R. and Edgar D. Jannotta Distinguished Service Professor, Committee on Social Thought, Department of History, The Divinity School, the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Fundamentals, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies, and the College

Ph.D., Princeton University

Much of David Nirenberg's work has focused on the ways in which Jewish, Christian, and Islamic cultures constitute themselves by interrelating with or thinking about each other. His first book, *Communities of Violence: Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages*, studied social interaction between the three groups within the context of Spain and France in order to understand the role of violence in shaping the possibilities for coexistence. In later projects he took a less social and more hermeneutical approach, exploring the work that "Judaism," "Christianity," and "Islam" do as figures in each other's thought. One product of that approach, focused on art history, was (jointly with Herb Kessler) *Judaism and Christian Art: Aesthetic Anxieties from the Catacombs to Colonialism* (2011). In *Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition* (2013), Nirenberg attempted to apply the methodology to a very *longue durée*, studying the work done by pagan, Christian, Muslim, and secular thinking about Jews and Judaism in the history of ideas. More recently, in *Neighboring Faiths: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism Medieval and Modern* (2014), he brought the social into conversation with the hermeneutic, in order to show how, in multireligious societies (particularly those of medieval Spain), interactions between lived experiences and conceptual categories shape how adherents of all three religions perceive themselves and each other. His most recent book, *Aesthetic Theology and Its Enemies: Judaism in Christian Painting, Poetry, and Politics* (2015), focused on how thinking about Judaism shaped the ways in which Christian cultures could imagine the possibilities and limits of community and communication. Nirenberg has also engaged in contemporary debates about the possibility of overcoming those limits, in essays such as "The Politics of Love and Its Enemies" and "Badiou's Number: a Critique of Mathematics as Ontology" (the latter with Ricardo Nirenberg).

In collaboration with a mathematician (Ricardo Nirenberg), he is completing a philosophical history of the various types of sameness that underpin the claims of different forms of knowledge (from poetry and dreams, to monotheism, math, and physics), exploring both the powers and the limits of the sciences and the humanities. He is currently working on a series of lectures on the relationship between episodes of religious conversion and the emergence of racial discourses, and directing a new research initiative on the historical co-production of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

Martha C. Nussbaum

Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics in the Law School, the Department of Philosophy, and the College; Associate Faculty in the Departments of Classics and Political Science; Member of the Committee on Southern Asian Studies; Board Member, Human Rights Program; Associate Faculty

M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University

Martha C. Nussbaum has taught at Harvard, Brown, and Oxford Universities. From 1986 to 1993 Nussbaum was a research advisor at the World Institute for Development Economics Research, Helsinki, a part of the United Nations University. She has chaired the American Philosophical Association's Committee on International Cooperation, the Committee on the Status of Women, and the Committee for Public Philosophy. From 1999 to 2000, she was one of three Presidents of the Association, delivering the Presidential Address, Central Division. She has received honorary degrees from sixty-three colleges and universities in the US, Canada, Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe, including Lawrence University, Williams College, the Universities of Athens, St. Andrews, Edinburgh, Toronto, and Haifa, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Emory University, the University of Bielefeld, Ohio State and Georgetown Universities, the Universities of the Free State and of Jyväskylä, and the Universidad Iberoamericana. She is an Academician in the Academy of Finland, a Fellow of the British Academy, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. Among her awards are the Grawemeyer Award in Education (2002), the University of Chicago Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching (2001), the Centennial Medal of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University (2010), the Prince of Asturias Prize in the Social Sciences (2012), the American Philosophical Association's Philip Quinn Prize (2015), the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy (2016), and the Don M. Randel Prize for Achievement in the Humanities from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2018), and the Berggruen Prize for Philosophy and Culture (2018).

Her books include *Aristotle's De Motu Animalium* (1978), *The Fragility of Goodness: Luck and Ethics in Greek Tragedy and Philosophy* (1986, updated edition 2000), *The Therapy of Desire* (1994, updated edition 2009), *Poetic Justice* (1996), *Cultivating Humanity: A Classical Defense of Reform in Liberal Education* (1997), *Sex and Social Justice* (1998), *Women and Human Development* (2000), *Hiding From Humanity: Disgust, Shame, and the Law* (2004), *Frontiers of Justice: Disability, Nationality, Species Membership* (2006), *The Clash Within: Democracy, Religious Violence, and India's Future* (2007), *Liberty of Conscience: In Defense of America's*

Tradition of Religious Equality (2008), *From Disgust to Humanity: Sexual Orientation and Constitutional Law* (2010), *Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* (2010), *The New Religious Intolerance: Overcoming the Politics of Fear in an Anxious Age* (2012), *Political Emotions: Why Love Matters for Justice* (2013), *Anger and Forgiveness: Resentment, Generosity, Justice* (2016), *Aging Thoughtfully: Conversations about Retirement, Romance, Wrinkles, and Regret* (co-authored with Saul Levmore, 2017) and *The Monarchy of Fear: A Philosopher Looks at Our Political Crisis* (2018) and *The Cosmopolitan Tradition: A Noble but Flawed Ideal* (2019). She has also edited twenty-one books and published over 450 articles.

Orietta Ombrosi

Joyce Z. Greenberg Visiting Professor of Jewish Studies

Ph.D., Université Paris X-Nanterre

Orietta Ombrosi is Associate Professor of Moral Philosophy in the Department of Philosophy at Sapienza, University of Rome. She has taught Philosophy of Judaism at the Université de la Méditerranée (Aix-en-Provence–Marseille) and was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah (Paris). She also taught Philosophical Anthropology for four years at the University of Bologna. An essayist and translator, she has published the monographs *The Twilight of Reason. Benjamin, Adorno, Horkheimer and Levinas Tested by the Catastrophe* (Academic Studies Press, Boston, 2012) and *L'umano ritrovato. Saggio su Emmanuel Levinas* (Marietti, Milan, 2010). She has edited collective volumes and monographic issues including *Tra Torah e Sophia. Orizzonti e frontiere della Filosofia ebraica* (in three languages; Marietti, Milan, 2011), 'Jewish Women and the Shoah' for *Bamidbar. Journal for Jewish Thought and Philosophy* (1/2013), *Ebraismo al 'femminile'. Percorsi diversi di intellettuali ebrei del Novecento* (Giuntina, Florence, 2017) and, with Raphael Zagury-Orly, *Derrida-Levinas. An Alliance Awaiting the Political* (Paris/London, Mimesis International, 2018).

Willemien Otten

Professor of Theology and of the History of Christianity; also in the College;
Associate Faculty in the Department of History; Director of the Martin Marty Center
for the Public Understanding of Religion

M.A., Ph.D., University of Amsterdam

Willemien Otten studies the history of Christianity and Christian thought with a focus on the medieval and the early Christian intellectual tradition, especially in the West, and an emphasis on the continuity of Platonic themes. She has worked on the Carolingian thinker Johannes Scottus Eriugena and on twelfth-century humanistic thinkers including Peter Abelard. She analyzes (early) medieval thought and theology as an amalgam of biblical, classical, and patristic influences which, woven together, constitute their own intellectual matrix. Within this matrix the place and role of nature and humanity interest her most.

Reflecting her lasting interest in medieval nature, the volume *Eriugena and Creation* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2014), which she co-edited with Michael Allen (Classics), brings together selected papers on that theme. The volume *Religion and Memory* (Fordham, 2013), which she co-edited with Burcht Pranger and Babette Hellemans, addresses methodological concerns related to the question how to conceive of the pastness of religion. Besides her medieval work Otten maintains an active interest in Tertullian, Augustine, and the broader patristic tradition. In collaboration with Editor-in-Chief Karla Pollmann (University of Bristol, UK), Willemien Otten edited the three-volume *Oxford Guide to the Historical Reception of Augustine (430–2000)* (Oxford University Press, 2013) and with Susan Schreiner she co-edited *Augustine Our Contemporary. Examining the Self in Past and Present* (Notre Dame University Press, 2018).

Embedding theological questions in broader historical and interdisciplinary study, Otten's forthcoming book *Thinking Nature and the Nature of Thinking: From Eriugena to Emerson* (Stanford University Press, March 2020) approaches ideas of nature and human selfhood across a wide array of thinkers, from Augustine to William James and from Maximus the Confessor to Schleiermacher. Deconstructing the notion of pantheism in the Western religious tradition, Otten draws attention to a more elusive idea of nature in which nature was an ally and co-worker of the divine. She will organize a colloquium on the topic of "Pantheism, Creation, Emanation, and Other Aspects of Nature" on April 29–30, 2020. Confirmed speakers are: Mary-Jane Rubenstein, Virginia Burrus, Burcht Pranger, Karmen McKendrick, and Jean-Luc Marion. For details, please check the Martin Marty Center webpage closer to the date.

Willemien Otten serves as the president of the Society for Eriugenian Studies (SPES). She was named a 2015–2016 Luce Fellow by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS) and The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc. In Winter 2017 Otten served as visiting distinguished Tipton professor of Catholic studies in the department of religious studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. In Spring 2020 Otten will give the annual Etienne Gilson lecture at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies in Toronto, Canada.

Willemien Otten is director of the Martin Marty Center for the Public Understanding of Religion.

Aasim Padela

Director of the Program on Medicine and Religion; Director of the Initiative on Islam and Medicine; Associate Professor, Section of Emergency Medicine; Faculty, Maclean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics; Associate Faculty

M.D., M.Sc., Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Dr. Padela is a clinician-researcher with scholarly foci at the intersections of healthcare, bioethics, and religion. His scholarship aims at improving health and healthcare through better accommodating religious values in healthcare delivery. Using Muslim Americans and Islam as a model, he studies how (i) religion impacts patient health behaviors and healthcare experiences, (ii) informs the professional identities and workplace experiences of clinicians, and (iii) furnishes bioethical guidance to patients, providers, policy-makers, and religious leaders. His current projects span behaviors related to cancer screening, organ donation, end-of-life care, and the intersection of religion and science, and are funded by the Templeton Foundation, the American Cancer Society, the Health Research and Services Administration, and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Dr. Padela's empirical work examines how religious beliefs, values and identity impact American Muslim health behaviors and healthcare experiences. This knowledge is then mobilized towards the design of religiously-tailored, community-based healthcare interventions and hospital-based policy accommodations. He also charts out the ways in which Islam impacts the bioethical attitudes and workplace experiences of Muslim clinicians.

Dr. Padela's normative work focuses on analyzing in the moral reasoning and conceptual knowledge deployed by Islamic scholars to assess modern biomedicine. His interest lies in how scientific data and ways of knowing can inform and work in concert with traditional Islamic moral, epistemic and ontological frameworks. In this area he collaborates with Islamic studies scholars and institutes around the world.

The Initiative on Islam and Medicine (II&M) houses Dr. Padela's scholastic forays. Dr. Padela teaches courses on religious bioethics, religion and medicine, and Islamic bioethics, and the II&M convenes multidisciplinary symposia, workshops, and conferences focused on Islam and biomedicine, students are encouraged to reach out to participate.

Stephan Palmié

Professor of Anthropology and of Social Sciences in the College;
Associated Faculty

D.Phil, Habilitation, UMunich

Professor Palmié conducts ethnographic and historical research on Afro-Caribbean cultures, with an emphasis on Afro-Cuban religious formations and their relations to the history and cultures of a wider Atlantic world. His other interests include practices of historical representation and knowledge production, systems of slavery and unfree labor, constructions of race and ethnicity, conceptions of embodiment and moral personhood, science and technology studies, and the anthropology of food and cuisine.

Tahera Qutbuddin

Professor of Arabic Literature, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
and the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Harvard University

Tahera Qutbuddin's research focuses on intersections of the literary, the religious, and the political in classical Arabic poetry and prose. Her teaching includes topics in Islamic thought and literature, classical Arabic prose, poetry and poetics, and classical Arabic syntax. She is an Editorial Board Member of the NYU Press series *Library of Arabic Literature*, and the Brill series *Shii Islam: Texts and Studies*.

Her first monograph was *Al-Mu'ayyad al-Shirazi and Fatimid Da'wa Poetry: A Case of Commitment in Classical Arabic Literature* (Brill, 2005). She edited and translated *A Treasury of Virtues: Sayings, Sermons, and Teachings of Ali* compiled by al-Qadi al-Quda'i, with the *One Hundred Proverbs* attributed to al-Jahiz (Library of Arabic Literature, NYU Press, 2013). She also edited and translated *Light in the Heavens: Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad*, compiled by al-Qadi al-Quda'i (Library of Arabic Literature, NYU Press, 2016).

Professor Qutbuddin's latest book is *Arabic Oration: Art and Function* (Brill, 2019), in which she presents a comprehensive theory of this preeminent genre in its foundational oral period, 7th-8th centuries AD, and discusses its continuing influence on the contemporary Muslim sermon. She is currently working on an edition and translation of al-Sharif al-Radi's compilation of Ali's sermons titled *Path of Eloquence (Nahj al-balaghah)*.

James T. Robinson

Caroline E. Haskell Professor of the History of Judaism, Islamic Studies, and the History of Religions; Professor of the History of Judaism, Islamic Studies, and the History of Religions; also in the Program on Medieval Studies, Religious Studies, Fundamentals: Texts and Issues, and the Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies; Associate Faculty in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; also in the College

M.Phil., Oxford University

M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University

James Robinson's research focuses on medieval Jewish intellectual history, philosophy, and biblical exegesis in the Islamic world and Christian Europe. His main interests lie in the literary and social dimensions of philosophy, and the relation between philosophy and religion. Specific areas of expertise include ethics, political philosophy, and psychology; the history of philosophical-allegorical exegesis; Karaites and Rabbanites; the translation and reception of Greek and Arabic philosophy and science; Jewish Sufism and Neoplatonism; Maimonides, Maimonideanism, and the Maimonidean controversies; religious polemic; sermons and homiletical literature; and the interactions between the Jewish, Islamic, and Christian intellectual traditions.

He has published four books and one edited volume: *Samuel Ibn Tibbon's Commentary on Ecclesiastes, The Book of the Soul of Man* (Texts and Studies in Medieval and Early Modern Judaism 20. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2007); *The Cultures of Maimonideanism: New Approaches to the History of Jewish Thought* (Leiden and Boston: E.J. Brill, 2009); *Asceticism, Eschatology, Opposition to Philosophy: The Arabic Translation and Commentary of Salmon b. Yeroham on Qohelet (Ecclesiastes)* (Leiden and Boston: E.J. Brill, Karaite Texts and Studies, 2012); *The Arabic Translation and Commentary of Yefet b. 'Eli the Karaite on the Book of Joshua* (Leiden and Boston: E.J. Brill, Karaite Texts and Studies, 2014) and *Perush Qohelet li-Shemuel b. Yehudah ibn Tibbon* (Jerusalem: World Union of Jewish Studies, 2016).

Courses Prof. Robinson has taught include: Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages; Medieval Commentaries on Ecclesiastes; The Jews in Medieval Spain; Interactions between Jewish Philosophy and Literature in the Middle Ages; Jewish Heretics and Apostates in the Middle Ages; Soul, Intellect and Immortality in Medieval Jewish Thought; Science and Scripture: Jewish Philosophical Exegesis in the Middle Ages; A Medieval Menagerie: Animal Spirituality in the Middle Ages; Readings in Abraham Ibn Ezra; Medieval Jewish Thought: Philosophy, Sufism, Kabbalah; The Buddha in Barcelona (with Matthew Kapstein); Reading Hayy ibn Yaqzan; Islamic and Jewish Neoplatonism; Maimonides as Mystic (A study of Guide 3:51); Comparative Scriptural Interpretation (with Margaret M. Mitchell); Maimonides, Eight Chapters and Commentary on Avot; Medieval Commentaries on Psalms; Introduction to Judaeo-Arabic Literature and Thought; Aristotle in the Middle Ages; Jewish Sufism; The Bible in Arabic; Maimonides on the Problem of Evil (a study of Guide 3:8–12); Arabic Religious Texts (with Michael Sells); The Occult in the Islamic World (with Alireza Doostdar).

Na'ama Rokem

Associate Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature & Comparative Literature;
Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Stanford University

Na'ama Rokem works on Modern Hebrew and German-Jewish literature. Her first book, *Prosaic Conditions: Heinrich Heine and Spaces of Zionist Literature* (Northwestern University Press, 2013) argues that prose—as a figure of thought, a mode and a medium—played an instrumental role in the literary foundations of the Zionist revolution. She is now writing a book about the encounter between Paul Celan and Yehuda Amichai, as well as articles on multilingualism and translation in the works of Hannah Arendt and Leah Goldberg, on the politics of translation in Israel. With Amir Eshel, she coedited a special issue of *Prooftexts*, on *German-Hebrew relations*. She teaches a variety of courses including Advanced Readings in Hebrew, The Bible in Modern Hebrew Literature, Multilingualism in Modern Jewish Literature, Writing the Jewish State, and Readings in World Literature.

Richard A. Rosengarten

Associate Professor of Religion and Literature; also in the College

M.A., Ph.D., University of Chicago

Richard Rosengarten studies Enlightenment thought and its import for religious (especially Christian) thought and practice. His teaching and research focus on how modern literary forms (especially the novel, but also satire and autobiography) enact, absorb, engage, and transform that impact, and on how the work of “criticism”—in its literary, biblical, and philosophical expressions—comes to have exponential import for thought and culture. Understanding religious thought and practice from the perspective of the Enlightenment inevitably involves engagement of earlier thought (especially the ancients) as well as the history of its effects (“modernism” and its aftermaths). His book on the novelist Henry Fielding is thus framed by engagements with Augustine’s *Confessions* and Faulkner’s *Absalom, Absalom!*, and his forthcoming book on Catholicism between the Vatican Councils compares the ways that Flannery O’Connor, Frida Kahlo, and Simone Weil engaged Roman Catholic sacramental theology as crucial to the formation of their artistic styles (in prose fiction, *retablo*, and *essai*, respectively) for modernity.

Rosengarten has made a significant commitment to administrative work in his professional life, including, in the Divinity School, serving as Dean of Students (1991–2000) and as Dean (2000–2010, 2015–17). He has been active as an accreditor for the Association of Theological Schools and as Secretary (1995–1998) and then Vice Chair and Chair (1999–2005) of the Council on the Graduate Study of Religion.

Ven. Dhammadipa Fa Yao Sak

Visiting Professor

Ph.D., University of Bristol

Currently the Abbot of the U.S. Zen Institute in Maryland, Ven. Dhammadipa Sak, Ph.D., is a Buddhist bhikkhu, a Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions and International Buddhist Association of America. He is a scholar of Theravada Buddhism and early Mahayana Buddhism, and an acclaimed meditation instructor. His research focus not only in Pali scholasticism, but also Abhidharma studies and textual criticism with regards to meditation manuals in both Chinese and Pali.

Ven. Dhammadipa was born in Taiwan and brought up in East Malaysia. He was ordained in Sri Lanka in 1987. He later earned his Ph.D. from the University of Bristol in England. Ven. Dhammadipa is a Buddhist "ecumenist" who is conversant with the different traditions of Buddhism and seeks to bridge them. He is frequently involved in interfaith activities around the world.

Eric L. Santner

Philip and Ida Romberg Distinguished Service Professor in Modern Germanic Studies, Professor of Germanic Studies, Committee on Jewish Studies, and the College; Chair of the Department of Germanic Studies; Associate Faculty

M.A., Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin

Eric L. Santner is the Philip and Ida Romberg Distinguished Service Professor in Modern Germanic Studies at the University of Chicago. He came to Chicago in 1996 after twelve years of teaching at Princeton University. He has been a visiting fellow at various institutions, including Dartmouth, Washington University, Cornell, and the University of Konstanz. He works at the intersection of literature, philosophy, psychoanalysis, political theory, and religious thought. His books include: *Friedrich Hölderlin: Narrative Vigilance and the Poetic Imagination*; *Stranded Objects: Mourning, Memory, and Film in Postwar Germany*; *My Own Private Germany: Daniel Paul Schreber's Secret History of Modernity*; *On the Psychotheology of Everyday Life: Reflections on Freud and Rosenzweig*; *On Creaturely Life: Rilke, Benjamin, Sebald*; *The Neighbor: Three Inquiries in Political Theology* (with Slavoj Žižek and Kenneth Reinhard); *The Royal Remains: The People's Two Bodies and the Endgames of Sovereignty*; *The Weight of All Flesh: On the Subject-Matter of Political Economy* (revised version of the Tanner Lectures in Human Values given at UC Berkeley); *Sovereignty Inc.: Three Inquiries in Politics and Enjoyment* (with William Mazzarella and Aaron Schuster; forthcoming, 2019). He edited the German Library Series volume of works by Friedrich Hölderlin and co-edited with Moïse Postone, *Catastrophe and Meaning: The Holocaust and the Twentieth Century*. His work has been translated into German, Spanish, French, Korean, Hebrew, Polish, Italian, and Portuguese.

J. David Schloen

Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology in the Oriental Institute and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Harvard University

David Schloen specializes in the archaeology and history of the ancient Levant (Syria and Palestine) from ca. 3000 to 300 BCE. He has a longstanding interest in Canaanite and Israelite religion and culture, and the relevant biblical and archaeological evidence, which emerges in a book he is currently writing on *The Bible and Archaeology: Exploring the History and Mythology of Ancient Israel*. He directs archaeological excavations in Israel and Turkey, in which Divinity School students are welcome and have regularly participated—especially in the work at a Canaanite and Phoenician site called Tell Keisan, near Haifa (<http://keisan.uchicago.edu>). In addition to research and publications related to these excavations, Schloen has a general interest in understanding economy and society in the ancient Mediterranean and Middle East. He is especially concerned with the interaction between mundane social and economic practices, of the kind studied by archaeologists, and the symbols and metaphors of social order evident in ancient iconographic and textual sources such as the Bible—symbols which both shaped, and were shaped by, those practices. His book on *The House of the Father as Fact and Symbol* is an effort in this direction and he is working on a companion volume that examines the sweeping economic and ideological changes of the “Axial Age” in the first millennium BCE, in ancient Israel and elsewhere, as patrimonial royal economies gave way to the vast empires of the Persians, Greeks, and Romans.

William Schweiker

Edward L. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Theological Ethics; also in the College

M.Div., Duke University

Ph.D., University of Chicago

William Schweiker works in the field of theological ethics. His scholarship and teaching engage theological and ethical questions attentive to global dynamics, comparative religious ethics, the history of ethics, and hermeneutical philosophy. A frequent lecturer and visiting or guest professor at universities around the world, he has been deeply involved in collaborative international scholarly projects. His books include *Mimetic Reflections: A Study in Hermeneutics, Theology and Ethics* (1990); *Responsibility and Christian Ethics* (1995); *Power, Value and Conviction: Theological Ethics in the Postmodern Age* (1998); *Theological Ethics and Global Dynamics: In the Time of Many Worlds* (2004); *Religion and the Human Future: An Essay in Theological Humanism* (2008, with David E. Klemm); *Dust that Breathes: Christian Faith and the New Humanisms* (2010); and *Religious Ethics: Meaning and Method* (2019–2020, with David Clairmont).

Professor Schweiker has published numerous articles and award-winning essays, as well as edited and contributed to eight volumes, including *Humanity Before God: Contemporary Faces of Jewish, Christian and Islamic Ethics* (2006) and chief editor and contributor to *A Companion to Religious Ethics* (2004), a comprehensive and innovative work in the field of comparative religious ethics. He is now chief editor and contributor to the three-volume *Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics* (forthcoming). Schweiker's present research and writing is a book titled *Enhancing Life and the Forms of Freedom*. Professor Schweiker was awarded in 2014 an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Uppsala in Uppsala, Sweden. He was a Mercator Professor, Universität Heidelberg, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (2012–2013). He was the 2015–2016 President of the Society of Christian Ethics and the Director of *The Enhancing Life Project* (2014–2017), supported with a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation. He is an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church.

Eric Slauter

Associate Professor in the Department of English; Director, The Karla Scherer Center for the Study of American Culture; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Stanford University

Prof. Slauter's scholarship focuses chiefly on transformations in political thought and behavior in the eighteenth century. His first book, *The State as a Work of Art: The Cultural Origins of the Constitution*, examined the relation of culture to politics in revolutionary America, with a special interest in how the emergent state was challenged in its effort to sustain inalienable natural rights alongside slavery and to achieve political secularization at a moment of growing religious expression. In another book project, *Natural Rights: A Cultural History, 1689–1789*, he hopes to explain how and why ordinary people came to believe they had rights before and through the Revolution. Prof. Slauter specializes in early American cultural, intellectual, and literary history, with additional research and teaching interests in a range of fields and methods: legal history; the history of political thought; book history; visual and material culture studies; quantitative analysis; the history of slavery, abolition, and emancipation; labor history; environmental history; and Atlantic history.

Jeffrey Stackert

Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible; also in the College and the Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies; Associate Faculty in the Department of Classics and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; Director of MA Studies

M.T.S., Boston University School of Theology

Ph.D., Brandeis University

Jeffrey Stackert is a biblical scholar who situates the Hebrew Bible in the context of the larger ancient Near Eastern world in which it was composed. His research focuses especially on the composition of the Pentateuch, ancient Near Eastern prophecy, cultic texts, and ancient Near Eastern law. His first book, *Rewriting the Torah: Literary Revision in Deuteronomy and the Holiness Legislation* (Mohr Siebeck, 2007), addresses literary correspondences among the biblical legal corpora and especially the relationships between similar laws in Deuteronomy and pentateuchal Priestly literature. It was honored with the 2010 John Templeton Award for Theological Promise.

His second book, *A Prophet Like Moses: Prophecy, Law, and Israelite Religion* (Oxford University Press, 2014), analyzes the relationship between law and prophecy in the pentateuchal sources and the role of the Documentary Hypothesis for understanding Israelite religion.

Stackert has published essays in various volumes and journals, including *The Journal of Biblical Literature*, *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, *The Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions*, *Vetus Testamentum*, *The Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*, *The Journal of Ancient Judaism*, and *The Journal of Religion*. He serves on the editorial boards of *Die Welt des Orients* and *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* and is co-general editor of the open access series *Ancient Near East Monographs*, published by the Society of Biblical Literature Press. Stackert is also leading a digital humanities project, CEDAR: Critical Editions for Digital Analysis and Research (cedar.uchicago.edu), which is funded by a grant from the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society.

Stackert is currently working on two monographs, one on Deuteronomy and its relationship to the Pentateuch and the other on the biblical Priestly religious imagination. He is also coauthoring a commentary on the biblical book of Deuteronomy.

Sarah Pierce Taylor

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Pierce Taylor's research focuses on gender and emotion in premodern religion in South India. Her current book project, "Embodying Souls: Emotion, Gender, and Animality in Premodern South Asian Religion," considers the soteriological tension in Jainism between experiencing and escaping the pleasures of the body. Located at a moment of literary change between the Sanskrit and Old Kannada in the medieval Deccan (south-west India), it argues that literature became a central techne for Jain poets to negotiate a worldly reality filled with attachment, embodiment, desire, and pleasure antithetical to the traditions' focus on withdrawal and detachment. Her second book project considers the rich tradition of ghost stories (*vētāla/bētāla*) in Sanskrit and Old Kannada as a site that challenges gender normativity, various forms of cultural hierarchy, and the boundaries between the living and the dead. Her work is broadly informed by theoretical developments in the study of affect, animality, disability and the body, and gender. Dr. Taylor was previously an Assistant Professor of South Asian Religions at Concordia University.

Sofia Torallas-Tovar

Professor of Classics and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations;
Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain

Prof. Torallas-Tovar's areas of specialization are Greek and Coptic papyrology and the study of Greco-Roman and late-antique Egypt. She works at the crossroads between the material study of written objects—papyri, ostraca, mummy labels, and inscriptions—and the analysis of the information provided by the wealth of Egyptian documentation. On the one hand, she has numerous editing projects in Greek, Coptic, and Latin, such as the Coptic versions of the Gospel of Saint Mark, the papyri of Montserrat, the ostraca of Syene, or the re-edition of the magical handbooks on papyrus. On the other, her work in cultural studies covers the sociolinguistic situation in Greco-Roman Egypt, Philo of Alexandria and the Jewish communities in Egypt, the transition from pre-Christian to Christian burial practices, and early Coptic monasteries.

Jenny Trinitapoli

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin

Jenny Trinitapoli's training and background is in two areas: social demography and the sociology of religion. Bridging these two fields, her work features the demographer's characteristic concern with data and denominators and an insistence on connecting demographic processes to questions of meaning. Professor Trinitapoli has written extensively on the role of religion in the AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa, but religion permeates her research, even when it isn't present as a variable. Since 2008 she has been the principal investigator of Tsogolo la Thanzi (TLT)—an ongoing longitudinal study of young adults in Malawi asking how TLT asks how young adults negotiate relationships, sex, and childbearing with a severe AIDS epidemic swirling around them.

Gary Tubb

Anupama and Guru Ramakrishnan Professor in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations; Associate Faculty

M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University

A wide-ranging Sanskrit scholar, Professor Tubb examines the tradition's poetics, grammatical forms and commentarial traditions, and draws insights across the culture's philosophy, religion and literature. His research interests include Sanskrit poetry and poetics; Sanskrit grammatical and commentarial traditions; the history of Vedanta philosophy; connections between philosophy, religion, and literature in Sanskrit culture; and the Mahabharata epic. Tubb is the author of *Scholastic Sanskrit: A Handbook for Students*. He is an editor and primary contributor in the book *Innovations and Turning Points: Toward a History of Kavya Literature* (Oxford University Press, Delhi). Another book, *Remembrance and Identity in Sanskrit Texts*, is also forthcoming from Oxford University Press.

Works in progress include an edition and translation of the *Bhojaprabandha* of Ballala, a source-book on Vedanta philosophy, and an annotated translation of Book 7 (the Drona Parva) of the Mahabharata, as part of the Chicago series of translations from the critical edition of the epic.

Anand Venkatkrishnan

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Columbia University

Anand Venkatkrishnan is an intellectual historian of religion in South Asia. His book in progress, *Love in the Time of Scholarship: The Bhāgavata Purāṇa in Indian Intellectual History*, examines the relationship of *bhakti*, religion as lived affect, with philosophy as intellectual practice. It shows how Sanskrit scholars in early modern India allowed personal religious commitments to feature in and reshape their scholastic writing, a genre that was generally impervious to everyday life. It also demonstrates how vernacular ways of knowing pushed through the glass ceiling of Sanskrit intellectuality. Anand's second project, titled *Left-Hand Practice*, concerns a group of loosely affiliated religious intellectuals in the 20th century who had significant ties with the Indian political left. Each, in their own way, articulated a critique of modernist, bourgeois Hinduism.

Anand was most recently Preceptor in Sanskrit in the Department of South Asian Studies at Harvard University. He received his Ph.D. in South Asian Religions from Columbia University. Anand fills his spare time with sports commentary, pop culture, and translations of Sanskrit poetry at <https://apurvaracana.tumblr.com/>.

Erin Galgay Walsh

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Duke University

Erin Galgay Walsh's research focuses on the reception of biblical literature and asceticism within the late antique Mediterranean world. Her current book project examines how Syriac and Greek poets retold and expanded biblical stories featuring unnamed New Testament women. She studies how male poets inhabited the voices of marginalized female biblical figures in order to make interpretative and theological claims. More broadly, her research and teaching interests include the history of Biblical interpretation, Syriac language and literature, embodied practices, religious poetry, and women and gender within the ancient world. She works across the languages of early Christianity: Syriac, Latin, Greek, and Armenian, and she has an enduring interest in translation and multilingualism in the late antique and early Byzantine east. During the 2018–2019 academic year, she was a Junior Fellow in Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection of Harvard University. Professor Walsh is also the Executive Editor for Christianity at *Ancient Jew Review*, a non-profit web journal devoted to the interdisciplinary study of ancient Judaism.

Christian K. Wedemeyer

Associate Professor of the History of Religions; also in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations; also in the College

M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Columbia University

Christian Wedemeyer is an historian of religions whose interests comprehend theory and method in the human sciences, the history of modern scholarship on religion and culture, and issues of history, textuality, and ritual in the Buddhist traditions. Within these very general domains, much of his research has concerned the esoteric (Tantric) Buddhism of India and Tibet. He has written on the modern historiography of Tantric Buddhism; antinomianism in the Indian esoteric traditions; canonicity, textual criticism, and strategies of legitimating authority in classical Tibetan scholasticism; and the semiology of esoteric Buddhist ritual.

His book, *Making Sense of Tantric Buddhism: History, Semiology, and Transgression in the Indian Traditions* (Columbia University Press, 2012), received the 2013 American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion (Historical Studies). Previously, he authored a text-critical study of one of the principal Indian works on esoteric praxis: *Āryadeva's Lamp that Integrates the Practices (Caryāmelāpakapradāpa): The Gradual Path of Vajrayāna Buddhism according to the Esoteric Community Noble Tradition* (critically edited Sanskrit and Tibetan texts, annotated English translation, and study; American Institute of Buddhist Studies, 2007). He has coedited three volumes: *Tibetan Buddhist Literature and Praxis: Studies in its Formative Period, 900–1400* (Brill 2006, with Ronald M. Davidson), *Hermeneutics, Politics, and the History of Religions: The Contested Legacies of Joachim Wach and Mircea Eliade* (Oxford 2010, with Wendy Doniger), and *In Vimalakārti's House: A Festschrift in Honor of Robert A.F. Thurman on the Occasion of his 70th Birthday* (AIBS 2015, with John D. Dunne and Thomas F. Yarnall).

His course offerings include Classical Theories of Religion, Contemporary Theories of Religion, Introduction to the Study of Religion, Indian Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, Mahayana Sutra Literature, Indian Tantrisms, Tibetan Auto/biography, Buddhism in the Americas, and Ritual in South Asian Buddhism.

Christopher J. Wild

Associate Professor of Germanic Studies and the College; Director of Undergraduate Studies of the Department of Germanic Studies; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., John Hopkins University

Professor Wild is the author of *Theater der Keuschheit–Keuschheit des Theaters. Zu einer Geschichte der (Anti-)Theatralität von Gryphius bis Kleist* (Rombach: Freiburg, 2003), which traces the profound historical transformation of theatricality that takes place in German theater from the Baroque to Classicism. Furthermore, he has edited (with Helmut Puff) *Zwischen den Disziplinen? Perspektiven der Frühneuzeitforschung* (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2003) and several thematic issues of *Germanic Review* (with Eric Downing) and *Modern Language Notes* (with Rüdiger Campe). His current projects examine the ways in which theology and religion inform developments that are generally considered genuinely modern. Most immediately, he is working on a book that asks the seemingly simple question why Descartes' founding text of modern philosophy was titled *Meditations on First Philosophy* in order to take its generic affiliation seriously. A more long-term project concerns a media history of the Reformation.

John E. Woods

Professor of Iranian and Central Asian History, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the College; Associate Faculty

Ph.D., Princeton University

Professor Woods focuses primarily on the history of Turkey, Iran, and Central Asia from the thirteenth to eighteenth centuries. He is particularly interested in aspects of the encounter of sedentary and nomadic people in those regions during that time period. He is at present working on several projects dealing with the age of Chinggis Khan and Timur (Tamerlane). He has played a central role in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies since 1980.

Brook A. Ziporyn

Professor of Chinese Religion, Philosophy and Contemporary Thought;
also in the College

Ph.D., University of Michigan

Brook A. Ziporyn is a scholar of ancient and medieval Chinese religion and philosophy. Professor Ziporyn received his B.A. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago, and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Prior to joining the Divinity School faculty, he has taught Chinese philosophy and religion at the University of Michigan (Department of East Asian Literature and Cultures), Northwestern University (Department of Religion and Department of Philosophy), Harvard University (Department of East Asian Literature and Civilization) and the National University of Singapore (Department of Philosophy).

Ziporyn is the author of *Evil And/Or/As the Good: Omnicentric Holism, Intersubjectivity and Value Paradox in Tiantai Buddhist Thought* (Harvard, 2000), *The Penumbra Unbound: The Neo-Taoist Philosophy of Guo Xiang* (SUNY Press, 2003), *Being and Ambiguity: Philosophical Experiments With Tiantai Buddhism* (Open Court, 2004); *Zhuangzi: The Essential Writings with Selections from Traditional Commentaries* (Hackett, 2009); *Ironies of Oneness and Difference: Coherence in Early Chinese Thought; Prolegomena to the Study of Li* (SUNY Press, 2012); and *Beyond Oneness and Difference: Li and Coherence in Chinese Buddhist Thought and its Antecedents* (SUNY Press, 2013). His seventh book, *Emptiness and Omnipresence: The Lotus Sutra and Tiantai Buddhism*, was published by Indiana University Press in 2016. He is currently working on a cross-cultural inquiry into the themes of death, time and perception, tentatively entitled *Against Being Here Now*, as well as a book-length exposition of atheism as a form of religious and mystical experience in the intellectual histories of Europe, India and China.

Laurie Zoloth

Margaret E. Burton Professor of Religion and Ethics; also in the College;
Senior Advisor to the Provost for Programs on Social Ethics

M.A., California State University

M.A., Ph.D., Graduate Theological Union

Laurie Zoloth's scholarly interests focus on bioethics and Jewish studies, bringing together theoretical exploration with an understanding of how arguments of theology and moral philosophy can address societal challenges.

Zoloth's research explores religion and ethics, drawing from sources ranging from Biblical and Talmudic texts to postmodern Jewish philosophy, including the writings of Emmanuel Levinas. Her scholarship spans the ethics of genetic engineering, stem cell research, synthetic biology, social justice in health care, and how science and medicine are taught. As a founding board member of the Society for Scriptural Reasoning, she also researches the practices of interreligious dialogue, exploring how religion plays a role in public discussion and policy.

Zoloth is author of *Health Care and the Ethics of Encounter: A Jewish Discussion of Social Justice* and co-editor of five books, including *Notes from a Narrow Ridge: Religion and Bioethics* and *Jews and Genes: The Genetic Future in Contemporary Jewish Thought*.

Zoloth has been the president of the American Academy of Religion and the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities. She was the inaugural director of the Jewish Studies program at San Francisco State University and director of graduate studies in religious studies at Northwestern. She is an elected member of the Hastings Center and a life member of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge. She currently serves on the Ethics Advisory Board of NASA; the steering committee of The Engineering Biology Research Committee; on the CDC (Biological Agents Working Group); and on the Ethics Board of the American Heart Association.



Divinity School Teaching Fellows, 2019–2020

A new program offers recent graduates the post-doctoral opportunity to continue to develop their research and teaching at the School for up to two years, under the mentorship of a faculty colleague and within a pedagogical community of practice organized for Teaching Fellows by the Center for Teaching.

David Barr is a scholar of social and political ethics, with specific interests in environmental ethics, Christian realism, political discourse, and racial justice. His work draws on Christian theological symbols, such as its descriptions of human nature, to help make sense of complex historical phenomena (such as climate change and structural racism) with the aim of clarifying the character, structure, and limits of contemporary moral contexts.

His current writing project explores the value of Christian realism for Christian environmental ethics. In particular, it argues that the principle contribution theology can make to environmental thinking is in interpreting the depth and complexity of the problem, helping to specify the task and prospects of environmentalist activism, rather than using Christian resources to motivate it.

He teaches classes on religious and philosophical accounts of the ethical life, particularly as they relate to contemporary moral problems. His current course offerings include *Christian Ethics* and *Is Humanity Doomed?*

Cathleen Chopra-McGowan studies ideas, genres, and history of the Hebrew Bible and the relationship of this collection to ancient Judah, Israel, and its ancient Near Eastern context. She is particularly interested in the literary and artistic construction of kingship, masculinity, and war in the ancient Near East. Her dissertation examined literary representations of the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BCE at the hands of the Babylonians that each purport to describe the destruction of Jerusalem. Her study showed that even though scholarly impetus has been to study these works together, the texts in fact provide widely divergent accounts that lay bare competing ideologies and ideas about empire, masculinity, memory, and historiography. Her approach draws on the ancient Near Eastern setting of these works as well as modern literary theory and memory studies. In addition to her work on the Hebrew Bible, Cathleen studies the political reuse of ancient Indian epic works in contemporary Indian politics.

Lisa Landoe Hedrick's current research explores the relationship between Anglo-American theories of language, nature, and metaphysics. She focuses on how anti-metaphysical or metaphysically-minimalist trends in contemporary pragmatism function to obscure problematic beliefs about intra- and inter-relationships between self, other(s), and world—often with regrettable ethical and ecological implications. Her past research investigates the problem of intentionality in Analytic philosophy of language after the so-called linguistic turn. In her dissertation, “Theology after the Problem of Intentionality: A Whiteheadian Corrective to Analytic Philosophy of Language,” she argues that a tacit metaphysics of subjecthood, one which takes judgments to be the smallest units of awareness, inhibits post-Sellarsian Analytic philosophers of language in their efforts to make sense of the relationship between mind and world. She proposes the aesthetic ontology of Alfred North Whitehead as a cognitive exercise for simultaneously exposing and loosening the grip this problematic picture has on our thinking. She further explores what role God-talk might have in our theorizing once we have done this therapeutic work.

Russell Johnson studies religious ethics and the philosophy of communication. His research focuses on disagreement, “us versus them” frameworks, and how groups imagine and treat their enemies. His work is interdisciplinary and draws on resources from rhetorical theory, Christian theology, dialogical philosophy, and peace and conflict studies.

Prior to becoming a Teaching Fellow, he completed his doctorate in Philosophy of Religions at the University of Chicago, where he taught the courses “Star Wars and Religion” and “Reasons of the Heart: Rhetoric, Philosophy, and the Passions.” His current teaching involves courses on nonviolent direct action, argumentation and epistemology, and religion and film.

He has published articles and entries in *Theology*, *Sophia*, *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*, and the *Encyclopedia of Communication Ethics*. His current writing project is about the sources of misunderstanding in political conflict and the potential for nonviolent criticism to disrupt ideological impasses.

teaching fellows

