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The University official responsible for coordinating compliance with this Notice of Nondiscrimination is Sarah Wake, Assistant Provost and Director of the Office for Equal Opportunity Programs. Ms. Wake also serves as the University’s Title IX Coordinator, Affirmative Action Officer, and Section 504/ADA Coordinator. You may contact Ms. Wake by emailing swake@uchicago.edu, by calling 773.702.5671, or by writing to Sarah Wake, Office of the Provost, The University of Chicago, 5801 S. Ellis Ave., Suite 510, Chicago, IL 60637.
The University of Chicago
Divinity School
Teaching Faculty
Book
2016 – 2017
Located in the heart of campus, the Divinity School is the graduate professional school for the academic study of religion at the University of Chicago, founded in 1890. The dominant ethos of the school — toward the cultivation of new knowledge through research — imbues both the Ph.D. and masters programs (M.A., M.Div., A.M.R.S.), which are taught by the same faculty. Many Divinity School faculty hold appointments in other departments or schools of the University, and we have a large cohort of associated faculty whose primary appointments range from the Medical and Law Schools to History, Classics and Anthropology. Divinity School students in turn take coursework throughout the University and encounter students from a range of departments in the over 100 courses offered by the Divinity School each year in the academic study of religion, across eleven areas of study: Anthropology and Sociology of Religion, Bible, History of Christianity, History of Judaism, History of Religions, Islamic Studies, Philosophy of Religions, Religion, Literature and Visual Culture, Religions in America, Religious Ethics, and Theology.

http://divinity.uchicago.edu/faculty
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DIVINITY SCHOOL
Faculty by Areas of Study

The Divinity School is organized into three committees of the faculty and eleven areas of study that support the School’s degree programs. Descriptions of the committees of the faculty and areas of study, including faculty resources, general guidelines, area Ph.D. written examinations, and course offerings can be found on our website.
Anthropology and Sociology of Religion
Hussein Ali Agrama
Alireza Doostdar
Angie Heo
Omar M. McRoberts

Bible
Simeon Chavel
Michael Fishbane
Jeff Jay
David Martinez
Margaret M. Mitchell
J. David Schloen
Jeffrey Stackert

History of Christianity
Rachel Fulton Brown
Curtis J. Evans
Karin Krause
Margaret M. Mitchell
Willemien Otten
Lucy K. Pick
Susan Schreiner

History of Judaism
Arnold I. Davidson
Michael Fishbane
Paul Mendes-Flohr
Sarah Hammerschlag
James T. Robinson

History of Religions
Steven Collins
Paul Copp
Wendy Doniger
Christopher Faraone
Matthew Kapstein
James Ketelaar
Bruce Lincoln
James T. Robinson
Christian K. Wedemeyer

Islamic Studies
Hussein Ali Agrama
Yousef Casewit
Fred M. Donner
Alireza Doostdar
Ahmed El Shamsy
Franklin Lewis
Tahera Qutbuddin
James T. Robinson
Michael Sells

Philosophy of Religions
Daniel A. Arnold
Daniel Brudney
Ryan Coyne
Arnold I. Davidson
Sarah Hammerschlag
Kevin Hector
Matthew Kapstein
Jean-Luc Marion
Françoise Meltzer
Josef Stern
Brook A. Ziporyn

Religion, Literature and Visual Culture
Philip V. Bohlman
Jas’ Elsner
Sarah Hammerschlag
John Howell
Karin Krause
Richard A. Rosengarten
Christopher J. Wild

Religions in America
Curtis J. Evans
John Howell
Omar M. McRoberts

Religious Ethics
Sarah E. Fredericks
Stephen C. Meredith
Richard B. Miller
Martha C. Nussbaum
William Schweiker
Daniel P. Sulmasy

Theology
Ryan Coyne
Kristine A. Culp
Kevin Hector
Dwight N. Hopkins
Jean-Luc Marion
Paul Mendes-Flohr
Willemien Otten
Susan Schreiner
William Schweiker

Ministry Faculty
Cynthia Gano Lindner
Wesley Sun

Visiting Faculty
Daniel Schwartz
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 in Europe, as well as in secularism, law and colonial power, and the genealogies of sovereignty and emergency states. His book, entitled *Questioning Secularism: Islam, Sovereignty and the Rule of Law in Modern Egypt*, 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 ideals. It argues that such paradoxical instabilities are not aberrations from secularism, but in fact central to its very workings. He was named a Carnegie Scholars Program Fellow for 2008–2010.

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 in a constructive and comparative way. Considering Indian Buddhist philosophy as integral to the broader tradition of Indian philosophy, he has particularly focused on topics at issue among Buddhist schools of thought (chiefly, those centering on the works of Nāgārjuna and of Dharmakīrti), often considering these in conversation with critics from the orthodox Brahmanical school of Pūrva Mimāṃsā. His first book—*Buddhists, Brahmins, and Belief: Epistemology in South Asian Philosophy of Religion* (Columbia University Press, 2005)—won an American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion. His second book—*Brains, Buddhas, and Believing: The Problem of Intentionality in Classical Buddhist and Cognitive-Scientific Philosophy of Mind* (Columbia University Press, 2012)—centers on the contemporary philosophical category of intentionality, taken as useful in thinking through central issues in classical Buddhist epistemology and philosophy of mind. He is presently working on an anthology of Madhyamaka texts in translation, to appear in the series “Historical Sourcebooks in Classical Indian Thought.” His essays have appeared in such journals as *Philosophy East and West, the Journal of Indian Philosophy, Asian Philosophy, the Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*, the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, and *Revue Internationale de Philosophie*. 
Philip V. Bohlman

Ludwig Rosenberger Distinguished Service Professor of the Humanities and of 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 Holzapfel, 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); and Revival and Reconciliation: Sacred Music in the Making of European Modernity (2013). Current research includes the five-volume “Oxford Musics of the World” and a translation of Johann Gottfried Herder’s writings on music and nationalism. Wie sängen wir Seinen Gesang auf dem Boden der Fremde! Jüdische Musik zwischen Aschkenas und Moderne (Münster: LIT Verlag) is forthcoming in 2017.

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 and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He is Honorarprofessor at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover.
Rachel Fulton Brown

Associate Professor of Medieval History in the Department of History and 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 the recipient of a 2008 Guggenheim fellowship, which she is using to pursue a project on the Virgin Mary and prayer.

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)

Yousef Casewit

**Assistant Professor of Qur’anic Studies**

**M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. (Yale University)**

Prior to joining the Divinity School, Yousef 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. (2014) in Islamic Studies at Yale University’s Religious Studies Department.

His research areas include Qur’anic studies, 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, the most recent of which is a critical edition of a Qur’an commentary by Ibn Barrajan of Seville (d. 536/1141) (Brill, TSQ Series, 2016). He is completing a study on the life and teachings of Ibn Barrajan for Cambridge University Press. He is also preparing 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 and raised in Morocco, he is 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; also in the College**

**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 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.
Steven Collins

Chester D. Tripp Professor in the Humanities, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations and the College; Associate Faculty

D.Phil. (Oxford University)

Steven Collins works on the texts and civilizational history of Buddhism in premodern and modern South and Southeast Asia. His books include Selfless Persons: Imagery and Thought in Theravada Buddhism; Nirvana and Other Buddhist Felicities: Utopias of the Pali Imaginaire; A Pali Grammar for Students; Nirvana: Concept, Imagery, Narrative; Civilization et femmes célibataires dans le bouddhisme en Asie du Sud et du Sud-est: Une “étude de genre”; and Self and Society: Essays on Pali Literature 1988–2010. His current research interests include the translation of Pali texts and Buddhist practices of the Self.

Paul Copp

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

Ph.D. (Princeton University)

Paul Copp studies the intellectual, material, and visual cultures of Chinese religion during the period stretching from 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). At present, his main project is a paleographical and material-historical study of manuscript handbooks and liturgies discovered among the cache of materials at Dunhuang. Its working title is “Seal and Scroll: Buddhism and Material Culture at Dunhuang and Beyond.” His graduate seminars focus on the philological close reading of texts in their historical (and often material) contexts; on methods for the use of manuscripts, epigraphy, and archaeological remains in the study of pre-modern religious practice; as well as on critical engagement with the fields of Sinology and the history of religions.
Ryan Coyne

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

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)

Kris 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 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 for the first time. Her essays have addressed protest and resistance as theological themes, the use of fiction in theological thinking, feminist and womanist theologies, and “experience” in contemporary theology.

She is currently working on a monograph entitled, “Glorious Life?,” which is supported by the Enhancing Life Project at the University of Chicago and Ruhr-University Bochum, funded by the John Templeton Foundation. It engages historical-theological debates about the glory of given things and of made things, and fosters critical sensibilities about the aliveness of life amidst the challenges and complexities of contemporary life. She serves as a member of the Commission of Faith and Order 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 been a visiting professor at many French institutions (including the Collège de France, the École Normale Supérieure, the University of Paris I and the University of Paris VII) and has also been Professor of the History of Political Philosophy at the University of Pisa and Professor of the Philosophy of Cultures at the University Ca’Foscari Venice, where he has been named an honorary member of the faculty. He is also European editor of the journal *Critical Inquiry*. Since the autumn of 2014 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 book is *Religión, razón y espiritualidad* (Ediciones Alpha Decay). His main publications are in French and Italian as well as in English.
Wendy Doniger

Mircea Eliade Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Religions; also in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, the Committee on Social Thought, and the College

M.A., Ph.D. (Harvard University)
D.Phil. (Oxford University)

Wendy Doniger’s research and teaching interests revolve around two basic areas, Hinduism and mythology. Her courses in mythology address themes in cross-cultural expanses, such as death, dreams, evil, horses, sex, and women; her courses in Hinduism cover a broad spectrum that, in addition to mythology, considers literature, law, gender, and zoology.

Among over forty books published under the names of Wendy Doniger O’Flaherty and Wendy Doniger are seventeen interpretive works, including *Siva: The Erotic Ascetic; The Origins of Evil in Hindu Mythology; Women, Androgynes, and Other Mythical Beasts; Dreams, Illusion, and Other Realities; Tales of Sex and Violence; Folklore, Sacrifice, and Danger in the Jaiminiya Brahmana; Other Peoples’ Myths: The Cave of Echoes; Splitting the Difference: Gender and Myth in Ancient Greece and India; The Bedtrick: Tales of Sex and Masquerade; The Implied Spider: Politics and Theology in Myth; The Woman Who Pretended To Be Who She Was; The Hindus: An Alternative History; and On Hinduism.*

Among her translations are three Penguin Classics—*Hindu Myths: A Sourcebook, Translated from the Sanskrit; The Rig Veda: An Anthology, 108 Hymns Translated from the Sanskrit*; and *The Laws of Manu* (with Brian K. Smith)—a new translation of the *Kamasutra* (with Sudhir Kakar), and *Hinduism*, for the Norton Anthology of World Religions. In progress are *The Ring of Truth, and Other Myths of Sex and Jewelry; Skepticism in the Shastras, or The Manipulation of Religion for Politics and Pleasure in Ancient India* (the 2014 Terry Lectures at Yale); *Memoirs of a Jewish Girlhood* (the 2015 Mandel Lectures at Brandeis); and a novel, *Horses for Lovers, Dogs for Husbands.*
Fred M. Donner

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. His teaching focuses on early Islamic history, Islamic social history, 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 teaches courses on social theory, modern Islam, and Iranian politics and history. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard University. His first book, forthcoming with Princeton University Press, is titled “The Iranian Metaphysicals: Explorations in Science, Islam, and the Uncanny.” The book examines the rationalization of the supernatural “unseen” since the early twentieth century through scientization and campaigns against superstition. It argues that rather than diminishing the domain of the Islamic unseen, these practices have expanded and transformed it by making it commensurable with a range of modern Western esoteric knowledges and practices—including Spiritist séances and New Age therapeutic spirituality. Doostdar’s other interests include Islamic spiritual cinema and the decades-old project of Islamizing the social sciences in Iran.

Ahmed El Shamsy

Assistant 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. He has been a foreign honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences since 2009 and was a Kosmos Fellow in Globalized Classics at the Humboldt University in Berlin 2015–16. 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 and was a Kosmos Fellow in Globalized Classics at the Humboldt University in Berlin, 2015–16. Since 2013 he has been 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.

Curtis J. Evans

Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and of Religions in America

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 Faraone

Frank Curtis Springer and Gertrude Melcher Springer Professor in the Humanities and the College; also in the Department of Classics; Associate Faculty

Ph.D. (Stanford University)

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 will soon appear 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

Assistant Professor of Environmental Ethics
Ph.D. (Boston University)

Professor Fredericks joins us from the University of North Texas, where she was Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion. Her research focuses on sustainability, sustainable energy, environmental guilt and shame, and environmental justice. Professor Fredericks holds a Ph.D. in Science, Philosophy and Religion from Boston University.


Sarah Hammerschlag

Associate Professor of Religion and Literature, Philosophy of Religions and History of Judaism; also in the College; Director of the MA Program
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). *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” and editing an anthology for Brandeis University Press on 20th-century French Jewish writing.
Kevin Hector

Associate Professor of Theology and of the Philosophy of Religions

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

Ph.D. (University of California at Berkeley)

Dr. Angie Heo is an anthropologist focusing on public and political cultures of religion, media, and economy. Her geographic areas of research include the Arab Middle East and the African Mediterranean, Northeast Asia and the Asian Pacific Rim. She is interested in the study of comparative and global Christianities in the modern world, with particular focus on Eastern Orthodox and Evangelical Protestant traditions.

Dr. Heo’s first book (under review) examines holy images in Egypt to approach the social, religious and political dynamics of Coptic Orthodoxy in Egypt. Grounded in thirty months of fieldwork carried out over a momentous decade (2004–2014), her ethnography scrutinizes the visual technological mediation of church-state power and Christian-Muslim difference on an everyday basis. Ultimately, her study tracks the materialities of imaginary practice to analyze the making of religion in public theaters of revolution, national-sectarianism and communal authoritarianism.

Her second book project shifts gears to Evangelical South Korea to consider the confluence of late capitalist development and anti-communist ideology in Cold War Asia. Of special interest are the transnational linkages between religious enterprise and political conservatism. Dr. Heo is also nourishing broader interests in American and German Protestant mission history abroad, the emergence of ‘third world’ theologies and the role of religion in post-1965 US immigrant communities.

Previously Professor Heo offered courses at Barnard College and Emory University and was a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, Germany.
Dwight N. Hopkins

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)

Professor Hopkins founded a fourteen-country network to think about the practices of building healthy communities and healthy individuals in communities. With representatives from Hawaii, Fiji, Japan, Australia, India, England, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Cuba, Jamaica, Brazil, and the USA, the network forged learning about neighbors through neighbors sharing their cultures. In fact, the larger thought focused on building bridges across global cultures. Restated, cultures facilitate harmony and balance for the purpose of another world is possible in emerging markets. A higher vision and transcendent values glue the global together spiritually and with wealth management.

Professor Hopkins was awarded the honorary recognition of Professor Extraordinarius in the Department of Philosophy, Practical and Systematic Theology at the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

Dwight N. Hopkins is a constructive theologian working in the areas of contemporary models of theology, various forms of liberation theologies (especially black and other third-world manifestations), 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.

His latest works are Teaching Global Theologies; The Cambridge Companion to Black Theology; Being Human: Race, Culture, and Religion; Walk Together Children: Black and Womanist Theologies, Church and Theological Education; Another World Is Possible: Spiritualities and Religions of Global Darker Peoples; Loving the Body: Black Religious Studies and the Erotic (coeditor); Heart and Head: Black Theology-Past, Present, and Future; Introducing Black Theology of Liberation; Down, Up and Over: Slave Religion and Black Theology; and Black Faith and Public Talk: Essays in Honor of James Cone’s Black Theology and Black Power (editor). His previous texts include Black Theology USA and South Africa: Politics, Culture, and Liberation; Shoes That Fit Our Feet: Sources for a Constructive Black Theology; and We Are One Voice: Essays on Black Theology in South Africa and the USA (coeditor). He is an editor of Religions/Globalizations: Theories and Cases; Changing Conversations: Religious Reflection and Cultural Analysis; and Liberation Theologies, Postmodernity and the Americas. Professor Hopkins is senior editor of the Henry McNeil Turner/Sojourner Truth Series in Black Religion (Orbis Books). He is an ordained American Baptist minister.
John Howell

Associate Dean of Students and Lecturer in American Religions, Literature, and Visual Culture

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

John Howell’s research and teaching focus on American religion, literature, and history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He has particular interests in Civil War memory, American religious historiography, antimodernism, and religion and American visual and material cultures. He is at work on the manuscript for a book based upon his 2013 dissertation, Civil War Literature and the Prospect of America—which reorients the long discourse on Civil War literature from the vantage of early postwar observers’ neuralgic concern to figure the war’s implications for a providential understanding of American history and the project of literary nationalism—and is in the planning stages of a subsequent project on Mark Twain and the constructive potential of satire in America.

Jeff Jay

Instructor 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, and philosophical hermeneutics. Professor Jay is the author of The Tragic in Mark (HUTh 66; Mohr Siebeck, 2014). He has also published articles and entries in the Journal of Early Christian Studies; Journal for the Study of Judaism; Contexticon of New Testament Language, and Feasting on the Gospels—Luke, Vol. 1. His current writing and research focus on the Gospel of Mark, as well as love, eros, sex, and beauty in Paul and John.
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.

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 in the Department of Art History

M.A. (University of Bonn)
Ph.D. (University of Munich)

Karin Krause has published on a wide array of topics, including Byzantine book illumination, the interrelation of images and texts, monumental art of Medieval Italy, Early Christian pilgrimage art, the cult of relics, art and liturgy, visual allegory, the classical heritage, phenomena of cultural and artistic transfer from Byzantium to the West, and the legacy of Byzantine art in post-medieval Europe.

Her first book, The Illustrated Homilies of John Chrysostom in Byzantium (published in German) was awarded a prize by the German Southeast Europe Society (Südosteuropa Gesellschaft). Krause is currently completing her second monograph, tentatively titled Propaganda – Cult – Scholarship. The Response to Byzantine Artifacts in Venice (13th–18th c.). This investigation is situated within the broader contexts of cultural exchange in the Mediterranean area and of Western perceptions of Byzantium until the Baroque age. She has begun research for a further book project, “Images of Inspiration in Byzantium and Beyond,” for which she is exploring visual and textual material relevant to the notion of divine inspiration from Antiquity to the later Middle Ages.

Karin Krause has received research grants and fellowships from the German Research Community (DFG), the Max Planck Society, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, Dumbarton Oaks, the University of Basel; the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Hellenic Republic.

Before joining the University of Chicago faculty Professor Krause was Lecturer of Art History at the University of Basel and Visiting Lecturer at the Universities of Vienna, Bonn and Helsinki.
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 Islamicate 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 Mohaqeq of Termez, the teacher who purportedly initiated Rumi in the mystic tradition.

Bruce Lincoln

Caroline E. Haskell Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Religions; also in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and Committee on Medieval Studies; Associate Faculty in the Departments of Anthropology and Classics

Ph.D. (University of Chicago)

Bruce Lincoln emphasizes critical approaches to the study of religion. He is particularly interested in issues of discourse, practice, power, conflict, and the violent reconstruction of social borders. His research tends to focus on the religions of pre-Christian Europe and pre-Islamic Iran, but he has a notoriously short attention span and has also written on a
bewildering variety of topics, including Guatemalan curanderismo, Lakota sun dances, Melanesian funerary rituals, Swazi kingship, the Saint Bartholomew’s Day massacre, Marco Polo, professional wrestling, Persian imperialism, the theology of George W. Bush, and comparative demonology. His most recent publications include Between History and Myth: Stories of Harald Fairhair and the Founding of the State (2014); Discourse and the Construction of Society: Comparative Studies of Myth, Ritual, and Classification, 2nd Ed. (2014) and Politique du paradis: Religion et empire en Perse achéménide (2015).

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 twenty years. Teaching and research interests include questions of contemporary ministerial identity and formation, the ethics of preaching and pastoral care in multicultural society and the interface of corporate worship and public witness in congregational life. She recently published a book documenting her narrative research with clergy, entitled Varieties of Gifts: Multiplicity and the Well-Lived Pastoral Life (Rowman and Littlefield, 2016) and is currently researching multiplicity and movement in congregational narratives. Rev. Lindner is also a pastoral psychotherapist at the Center for Religion and Psychotherapy, where she conducts clergy groups on narrativity and formation in addition to her work with individuals and couples. She conducts research on collaborative pedagogy in theological education, and is currently conducting interviews with clergy for a research project entitled “Accounting for Ourselves: Multiplicity in Ministry,” funded by the Louisville Institute. Rev. Lindner is a member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and of 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. Also at the University Paris–Sorbonne (Paris-IV), Department of Philosophy, and at the École Normale Supérieure, “Archives Husserl,” Paris

Docteur en IIIe cycle, Université Paris-Sorbonne, 1974; Docteur d’Etat, Université Paris–Sorbonne, 1980; Member, Académie française, elected 2008; Member of the Accademia dei Lincei, Rome, 2010; Member correspondent, Academia Chilena de Ciencias Sociales, Políticas y Morales

Jean-Luc Marion studies both the history of modern philosophy and contemporary phenomenology. In the former field, he has published several books on Descartes’ ontology, rational theology, and metaphysics, focusing especially on medieval sources and using modern patterns of interpretation (e.g., *On Descartes’ Metaphysical Prism*, *Cartesian Questions*, and *On the Ego and on God: Further Cartesian Questions*). In the latter field, he is pursuing a long-term inquiry into the question of God, as in *The Idol and Distance* and *God Without Being*. Finally, he initiated a phenomenology of givenness in *Reduction and Givenness*, which was further developed in *Being Given: An Essay on the Phenomenology of Givenness* and *In Excess: Studies on Saturated Phenomena*, and in *The Erotic Phenomenon*. In a more theological style, he has recently published *Au lieu de soi. L’approche de saint Augustin* (first edition, 2008; second edition, 2009; English translation, *In the Self’s Place*, 2012). He also continues to work on a study devoted to deconstructing the myth of Cartesian dualism, *Sur la pensée passive de Descartes*.

Professor Marion has also worked in the areas of Greek and Latin patristics; the history of medieval and modern philosophy; aesthetics; and constructive theology. He is now working on the issue of Revelation as well as painting and phenomenology. He recently published *Courbet ou la peinture à l’œil* (Paris, Flammarion, 2014). Many of his current and well-known books are into 2nd, 3rd, and even 10th editions, and have been translated into many languages.

Marion has been awarded the Grand Prix du Philosophie de l’Académie Française, the 2008 Karl-Jaspers Prize of the city and University of Heidelberg, Germany (2008), and the Humboldt-Stiftung Prize (2012). He was elected to l’Académie Française in 2008 and received as an *immortel* (member) in 2010. In 2009 he was elected to the Academia dei Lincei (Rome). In February 2013, he presented the Pere Marquette Lecture in Theology at Marquette University (subsequently published as *Givenness and Hermeneutics*, Marquette University Press, 2013). In May 2014 he gave the Gifford Lectures at the University of Scotland, Glasgow. The four-lecture series *Givenness and Revelation*, has been published by Oxford University Press (2016). His most recent title is *La reprise du donné*, PUF, Paris, 2016 (forthcoming).

In 2013 Marion was awarded four honorary doctorates, from the Universities of Glasgow, Iasi and Bucarest (both in Romania), and the Sapienza University of Rome. He had previously been awarded honorary degrees from the University of Utrecht, The
National University of San Martin (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Haverford College (USA) and the University Peter Pasmany (Budapest, Hungary). In 2015 he received an honorary doctorate from Australian Catholic University, Melbourne. He also was elected Chevalier du Tastevin, Clos-Vougeot in Burgundy, France. Additionally he was the Rouner Memorial Lecturer at Boston University (April 2015) and the Watanabe Lecturer at the American Cusanus Society (Kalamazoo, Michigan; May 2015).

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.”

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). Her new book project 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. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2015.

Paul Mendes-Flohr

Dorothy Grant Maclear Professor of Modern Jewish History and Thought; Associate Faculty in the Department of History

Ph.D. (Brandeis University)

Paul Mendes-Flohr’s major research interests include modern Jewish intellectual history, modern Jewish philosophy and religious thought, philosophy of religion, German intellectual history, and the history and sociology of intellectuals. Together with Bernd Witte, he serves as editor-in-chief of the twenty-two volume German edition of the collected works of Martin Buber, sponsored by the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, and the Heinrich Heine Universitat, Dusseldorf, Germany. He has recently published *Progress and its Discontents* (in Hebrew); *The Jew in the Modern: A Documentary History* (with Jehuda Reinharz); and *Encrucijadas en la Modernidad* (Buenos Aries). He is the editor of a series on German-Jewish literature and Cultural History for the University of Chicago Press, as well as the collected works of Martin Buber in German, which has published two
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

Ph.D. (University of Chicago)

Professor Miller’s 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 *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). His latest book, *Friends and Other Strangers* (Columbia University Press, 2016), endeavors to chart and expand the field of religious ethics. He is currently at work on two projects: a critical monograph on theory and method in the academic study of religion, and an intellectual history of “nature” in early modern and modern critical discourses about religion.
Margaret M. Mitchell

Shailer Mathews 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.


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

Martha Nussbaum is a philosopher whose work focuses on ancient Greek philosophy, contemporary moral and political philosophy, feminism, and the connections between philosophy and literature. She is a Board Member of the Human Rights Program and is the founder and Coordinator of the Center for Comparative Constitutionalism.

She has taught at Harvard, Brown, and Oxford Universities, chaired the American Philosophical Association’s Committee on International Cooperation, the Committee on the Status of Women, and the Committee for Public Philosophy, been a member of the Council of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the Board of the American Council of Learned Societies and has received fifty-one honorary degrees. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. She received the Gravemeyer Award in Education in 2002, the Barnard College Medal of Distinction in 2003, the Radcliffe Alumnae Recognition Award in 2007, and the Centennial Medal of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University in 2010. In 2009 she won the A.SK Award from the German Social Science Research Council (WZB) for her contributions to “social system reform,” and the American Philosophical Society’s Henry M. Phillips Prize in Jurisprudence. In 2012 she was awarded the Prince of Asturias Prize in the Social Sciences; in 2015 the Inamori Ethics Prize by the Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence at Case Western Reserve University. In 2016 Prof. Nussbaum was awarded the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy, bestowed by the Inamori Foundation. It is among the most significant international accolades for scholarly work and is widely regarded as the most prestigious award in fields that are traditionally not recognized with a Nobel Prize.

Willemien Otten

Professor of Theology and of the History of Christianity; also in the College; Associate Faculty in the Department of History

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

Willemien Otten studies the history of Christianity and Christian thought with a focus

on the Western medieval and the early Christian intellectual tradition, including the continuity of Platonic themes. She has worked extensively on the Carolingian thinker Johannes Scottus Eriugena and on twelfth century humanistic thinkers including Peter Abelard. Her general interest lies in analyzing (early) medieval thought and theology as an amalgam of biblical, ancient, and patristic influences which, woven together, constitute their own intellectual matrix.


Seeing theological questions embedded in broader historical and interdisciplinary study, and continuing her interest in twelfth century humanism, Otten’s current work focuses on ideas of nature and self, linking, among others, Eriugena and Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Willemien Otten 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. Otten’s project as a Luce Fellow, for which she is on leave in 2016, is entitled “Natura Educans: The Psychology of Pantheism from Eriugena to Emerson” and will take shape in a book-length project. Offering a reconfiguration of the Christian natural tradition, she aims to deconstruct notions of pantheism to arrive at a more dynamic sense of nature that is animated by the divine but does not cancel out the human self. For winter quarter 2017 Otten has been invited to serve as visiting distinguished Tipton professor of Catholic studies in the department of religious studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

A Dutch native, Otten has served since 2009 on a Task Force for Sustainable Humanities across the various Dutch universities. The work of the Task Force will be completed at the end of 2016.
Lucy K. Pick

Interim Director of the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality; Senior Lecturer in the History of Christianity; Associate Faculty in the Department of History

M.S.L. (Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies)
M.A., Ph.D. (University of Toronto)

Lucy Pick is a historian of medieval religious thought and practice. Her current research and teaching interests include the relationships between gender and religion, connections between historical writing and theology, the development of monastic thought and practice, reading and writing as spiritual exercises, and the ways in which religion shapes lives through ritual. Her first book, Conflict and Coexistence: Archbishop Rodrigo and the Muslims and Jews of Thirteenth-Century Spain, discusses Jewish, Christian, and Muslim relations in thirteenth-century Toledo by making connections between the political theology, historical and polemical writings, scholarly patronage, and politics of Archbishop Rodrigo Jiménez de Rada (1209–1247) and shows how majority groups define themselves by framing and reframing discourses about minority theological competitors.

Dr. Pick is currently completing a monograph titled, Her Father’s Daughter: Gender, Power, and Religion in the Early Spanish Kingdoms. This book considers together for the first time a group of royal women, all daughters of kings of the early kingdoms of the Asturias and of León-Castilla, for what their presence and activity says about structures of power and the roles of gender and religion in the early Middle Ages and will be published by Cornell University Press.

Her first novel, Pilgrimage, was published in 2014. It is a story about the Middle Ages that explores betrayal, friendship, illness, miracles, healing, and redemption on the road to Compostela.
Tahera Qutbuddin

Associate Professor of Arabic Literature, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and the College; Chair of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities; 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. She has written a book titled *Al-Mu’ayyad al-Shirazi and Fatimid Da’wa Poetry: A Case of Commitment in Classical Arabic Literature* (Brill, 2005), and edited and translated two compilations by al-Quda’i (New York University Press, Library of Arabic Literature series): *A Treasury of Virtues: Sermons, Sayings, and Teachings of ‘Ali*, with the 100 Proverbs attributed to the compilation of al-Jahiz (2013); and *Light in the Heavens: Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad* (forthcoming November 2016). She was awarded a 2008–2009 fellowship from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and a 2016-2017 fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies, which she is using for her current research in Arabic oratory (khatabah). She is also working on a critical edition and translation of al-Sharif al-Radi’s compilation of ‘Ali’s words titled ‘Path of Eloquence’ (*Nahj al-balaghah*). She has published articles on the Qur’an, the Prophet Muhammad, Fatimid-Tayyibi-Ismaili history, doctrine and literature, Arabic in India, and Islamic preaching. 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.

James T. Robinson

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 Center for Jewish Studies; Associate Faculty in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

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 three 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

Courses he has taught over the years at Chicago include the following: Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages; Medieval Commentaries on Ecclesiastes; Readings in Maimonides’ Guide of the Perplexed; Abraham in History, Literature, and Thought (with Hans-Josef Klauck); The Jewish Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages; 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; Jerusalem during the Middle Ages: Conquest, Pilgrimage and the Imaginaire; Reading Other People’s Scriptures (with Lucy Pick); 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).

Richard A. Rosengarten

Dean and Associate Professor of Religion and Literature; also in the College

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

Richard Rosengarten works in religion and literature, where he pursues interests in genres of narrative (especially the novel), in hermeneutics, literary theory, and aesthetics, and in the development of religious thought through the “long” eighteenth century. His book *Henry Fielding and the Narration of Providence: Divine Design and the Incursions of Evil* locates Fielding’s novels in the contexts of the debates about poetic justice in the drama, and the deism controversy’s discussions of natural religion toward the claim that the eighteenth-century English novel engages broader theological questions about the security of classic notions of providential intervention in a post-Newtonian universe. He is completing a book on Roman Catholicism between the Vatican Councils under the title *Styles of Catholicism: Flannery O’Connor, Frida Kahlo, Simone Weil*, and plans to undertake a study of satire as a mode of apophatic language from Rabelais to Swift.
J. David Schloen

Associate Professor of Syro-Palestinian 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). Born and raised in Canada, he earned a bachelor’s degree in computer science from the University of Toronto and worked professionally in that field before turning to biblical studies and archaeology. For more than twenty years he has engaged in annual excavations in Israel and Turkey, for much of that time at the ancient seaport of Ashkelon on the Mediterranean coast south of Tel Aviv; he is currently co-editing a series of excavation report volumes on that site. Since 2006, he has been the director of the Neubauer Expedition, a large-scale archaeological project to explore the walled city of Sam’al (modern Zincirli) in what is today southeastern Turkey, sixty miles north of Antakya (classical Antioch). In addition to research and publication related to these excavation projects, he has maintained a longstanding interest in the structure and operation of the small kingdoms that flourished along the eastern Mediterranean seaboard during the Bronze and Iron Ages. He is especially interested in the interaction between mundane social and economic practices and the symbolism of social order that shaped and sustained those practices. His 2001 book The House of the Father as Fact and Symbol is an effort in this direction, and he has been slowly working on a companion volume that examines the sweeping economic and ideological changes that occurred during the “Axial Age” of the first millennium B.C., in ancient Israel and elsewhere, as the “patrimonial” palace economies gave way to vast new empires. More immediately, he is writing an introductory textbook, The Bible and Archaeology: Exploring the History and Mythology of Ancient Israel (to be published in the Yale Anchor Bible series), which explains how ancient artifacts, inscriptions, and other archaeological discoveries help us to understand the Bible.

Susan Schreiner

Professor of the History of Christianity and Theology; also in the College

M.Div. (Harvard University)
Ph.D. (Duke University)

Susan Schreiner is an historian of early modern Europe (14th–16th centuries). Her research and teaching interests include the Protestant Reformation, early modern Catholicism, and the Renaissance; in addition, her teaching interests extend to twentieth-century Protestant theologians, including Jacques Ellul, Reinhold Niebuhr, Langdon...

Her courses include: Readings in Luther, Luther and the Old Testament, Calvin’s Institutes, Renaissance and Reformation, The Problem with Time, Seminar: Luther, Montaigne, and Shakespeare; and Early Modern Catholicism as well as Idolatry: Historical and Contemporary analyses of the concept of idolatry; Suffering and the Exegesis of the Book of Job and The Tragic Vision of Life.

Daniel Schwartz

Joyce Greenberg Visiting Professor of Jewish Studies

M.A., Ph.D., The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Daniel Schwartz is the Herbst Family Professor of Judaic Studies in the Department of Jewish History and Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and also the academic head of its Mandel Scholion Interdisciplinary Research Center in the Humanities and Jewish Studies. Born in the US in 1952 and living in Israel since 1971, he has specialized in the study of ancient Jewish history and historiography in the Second Temple period. His most recent volumes are a commentary on 2 Maccabees (De Gruyter, 2008), *Reading the First Century: On Reading Josephus and Studying Jewish History of the First Century* (Mohr Siebeck, 2013), *Judeans and Jews: Four Faces of Dichotomy in Ancient Jewish History* (University of Toronto Press, 2014), and—from a sideline—*Between Jewish Posen and Scholarly Berlin: The Life and Letters of Philipp Jaffé* (De Gruyter, forthcoming).
William Schweiker

Edwards 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 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); and, most recently, *Dust that Breathes: Christian Faith and the New Humanisms* (2010).

Professor Schweiker has published numerous articles and award-winning essays, as well as edited and contributed to six volumes, including *Humanity Before God: Contemporary Faces of Jewish, Christian and Islamic Ethics* (2006).


Professor Schweiker is the Director of The Enhancing Life Project, supported with a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation, that explores an essential aspiration of human beings that moves persons and communities into the future. He was the 2015–2016 President of the Society of Christian Ethics. He is an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. Schweiker was awarded in 2014 an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Uppsala in Uppsala, Sweden. Professor Schweiker’s present research is for a book on ethics and the integrity of life.

Michael Sells

John Henry Barrows Professor of Islamic History and Literature; also in the Department of Comparative Literature

Ph.D. (University of Chicago)

Michael Sells studies and teaches in the areas of Qur’anic studies; Sufism; Arabic and Islamic love poetry; mystical literature (Greek, Islamic, Christian, and Jewish); and religion and violence. His work on the Qur’an includes *Approaching the Qur’an: The Early Revelations* (2007) and *Qur’anic Studies Today* (2016), which he coedited and to which he contributed. He has published three volumes on Arabic poetry: *Desert*

Jeffrey Stackert

Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible; Associate Faculty in the Department of Classics and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; also in the College

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 recent 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 Journal of Biblical Literature, Catholic Biblical Quarterly, Vetus Testamentum, Journal of Hebrew Scriptures, Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel, Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions, Journal of Ancient Judaism, and Journal of Religion. He is currently working on a monograph on the biblical Priestly religious imagination. He is also coauthoring a commentary on Deuteronomy.
Josef Stern

William H. Colvin Professor in the Department of Philosophy; Director, Center for Jewish Studies; Associate Faculty

M.A., Ph.D. (Columbia University)

Josef Stern’s current research is principally in contemporary philosophy of language and medieval philosophy, especially the philosophy of Moses Maimonides. His broader interests and the courses he teaches include various topics in epistemology and metaphysics (such as skepticism and free will), Islamic and Latin medieval philosophy, philosophy of religion, Hume, logic, and philosophy of art. His most recent book is The Matter and Form of Maimonides’ Guide (Harvard University Press, 2013), which was recognized by the Journal of the History of Philosophy as the best book in the history of philosophy published in 2013 (thereby beating out Plato, Aristotle, Hegel, Kant, Descartes and the rest of the usual suspects), and he is presently engaged in completing books on Maimonides’ conception of the false prophet and his interpretation of the Aqedah (Genesis 22). In the philosophy of language he is engaged in research on various topics such as quotation, indirect discourse, and belief sentences; issues of representation in language and art; and the reception of Quine’s indeterminacy thesis as a case study of the transformation of a problem in twentieth-century Anglo-American philosophy.

Among his other publications are Metaphor in Context (MIT, 2000); Problems and Parables of Law: Maimonides and Nahmanides on Reasons for the Commandments (SUNY, 1998); “Metaphor, Literal, Literalism”; “Metaphor and Minimalism”; “Maimonides’ Epistemology”; “The Knot That Never Was”; “Meaning and Language in Medieval Jewish Philosophy,” and “Maimonides on Wars and their Justification.” He is also co-editing (with James Robinson) a volume on the history of translations of the Guide of the Perplexed and the impact of the Guide in translation, to be published by the University of Chicago Press.
Daniel P. Sulmasy

Kilbride-Clinton Professor of Medicine and Ethics in the Department of Medicine and the Divinity School; Associate Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics in the Department of Medicine; Director, Program on Medicine and Religion

M.D. (Cornell University)
Ph.D. (Georgetown University)

Dr. Sulmasy is an internist and an ethicist. His research interests encompass both theoretical and empirical investigations of the ethics of end-of-life decision-making, the ethics of cost-containment, and spirituality in medicine. He has done extensive work on the role of intention in medical action, especially as it relates to the rule of double effect and the distinction between killing and allowing to die. He is also interested in the philosophy of medicine and the logic of diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning. His work in spirituality is focused primarily on the spiritual dimensions of the practice of medicine. His empirical studies have explored topics such as decision-making by surrogates on behalf of patients who are nearing death, and informed consent for biomedical research.

He continues to practice medicine as a member of the University faculty practice. He completed his residency, chief residency, and post-doctoral fellowship in General Internal Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. He has previously held faculty positions at Georgetown University and New York Medical College. He has served on numerous governmental advisory committees, and was appointed to the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Problems by President Obama in April 2010. He is the author or editor of six books—The Healer’s Calling (1997), Methods in Medical Ethics (2001; 2nd ed. 2010), The Rebirth of the Clinic (2006), A Balm for Gilead (2006), Safe Passage: A Global Spiritual Sourcebook for Care at the End of Life (2013), and Francis the Leper: Faith, Medicine, Theology, and Science (2014). He also serves as editor-in-chief of the journal, Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics.
Wesley Sun

Director of Field Education and Community Engagement

M.Div. (University of Chicago)

An ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches, Wesley Sun received his M.Div. from the Divinity School in 2008. After completing a two-year Lilly Residency specializing in pastoral care, Wesley became the founding Director of Hyde Park Union Church’s Gilead Ministry—a ministry field education training program of his own design. While directing Gilead, Wesley also began training as a CPE Supervisor and served as both parish pastor and hospital chaplain on the South Side of Chicago. Currently, Wesley also serves as a volunteer chaplain at Cook County Jail, which has become a clinical field site for first year M.Divs.

Wesley's interests in theology and storytelling are also expressed through creative writing and comics. Wesley co-founded Sun Bros Studios with his brother and is the co-author of their first graphic novel, Chinatown (2012), a surreal haunted house story that examines nihilism and the supernatural through the genre of magical realism. In 2014, the Sun Bros published Monkey Fist, an irreverent, postmodern retelling of the Monkey King stories from Chinese literature.

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 most recent 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

His course offerings include Classical Theories of Religion, Contemporary Perspectives on the History of Religions, Introduction to Religion and the Human Sciences, Indian Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, Mahayana Sutra Literature, Issues in Indian Esoteric Buddhism, 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.
Brook A. Ziporyn

Professor of Chinese Religion, Philosophy and Contemporary Thought
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).


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.
Recent Faculty Books

Wendy Doniger
*Redeeming the Kamasutra*
Oxford University Press, 2016

Wendy Doniger
*The Hindus: An Alternative History*, republished in India by Speaking Tiger (Delhi) and translated into Telugu, Hyderabad Book Trust, 2015; and a Tamil translation by K. Poornachandran, Ethir Veliyedu, 2015

Brian A. Gerrish (Emeritus)
*Christian Faith: Dogmatics in Outline*

Sarah Hammerschlag
*Broken Tablets: Levinas, Derrida, and the Literary Afterlife of Religion*
Columbia University Press, 2016

Cynthia Lindner
*Varieties of Gifts: Multiplicity and the Well-Lived Pastoral Life*
Rowman and Littlefield, 2016

Jean-Luc Marion
*Givenness and Revelation*
Oxford University Press, 2016

Jean-Luc Marion
*La reprise du donné*
PUF, Paris, 2016

Richard B. Miller
*Friends and Other Strangers: Studies in Religion, Ethics, and Culture*
Columbia University Press, 2016

Michael Sells and Angelika Neuwirth, eds.
*Qur’anic Studies Today*
Routledge, 2016

Jeffrey Stackert and Brent Strawn, , John Witte, Jr., Clare K. Rothschild, and Charlotte Fonrobert, eds.
*The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Law*
Oxford University Press, 2015

Brook Ziporyn
*Emptiness and Omnipresence: An Essential Introduction to Tiantai Buddhism (World Philosophies)*
Indiana University Press, 2016
Recent Faculty Awards and Honors

Ryan Coyne received a 2016 Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise. Awarded by the University of Heidelberg’s Forschungszentrum für Internationale und Interdisziplinäre Theologie, or FIIT (Research Center for International and Interdisciplinary Theology), the award recognizes outstanding doctoral or first post-doctoral works that address the topic “God and Spirituality.”

Michael Murrin, the Raymond W. and Martha Hilpert Gruner Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in the Humanities and Professor of Religion and Literature, received the 2016 Norman Maclean Faculty Award. It honors emeritus or senior faculty for extraordinary contributions to teaching and to the student experience of life within the UChicago community.

Michael Sells was elected to the 2016 class of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. One of the nation’s most prestigious honorary societies, the AAAS is also a leading center for independent policy research.

The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Law (Oxford University Press, 2015), of which Jeffrey Stackert was a coeditor, was the winner of the 2016 Dartmouth Medal for most outstanding reference work, an annual award of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association.