

MARIA E. DOERFLER

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Department of Religious Studies, 320 York Street, #407, New Haven, CT 06511.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2016- **Assistant Professor of Late Antiquity**
Department of Religious Studies
Yale University
- 2013-16 **Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity**
Divinity School
Duke University
- Associate Member of the Graduate Program in Religion**
Duke University
- Associate Member of the Center for Jewish Studies**
Duke University
- 2015-16 **Director of the Center for Late Ancient Studies**
Duke University/University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2014-16 **Adjunct Assistant Professor**
Department of Religious Studies
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

EDUCATION

- 2013 **Ph.D., Duke University (Durham, NC)**
Late Ancient Christianity

Dissertation: "Law and Order: Constructions of Justice in Late Ancient Episcopal Formation."
Director: Elizabeth A. Clark
Minor Concentrations: New Testament; Late Ancient Liturgy.
- 2003-2006 **M.A., Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, CA)**
Biblical Studies and Theology
- 1999-2002 **J.D., School of Law, University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)**
- 1995-1999 **B.A. cum laude, Princeton University (Princeton, NJ)**
Political Science

Fellowships and Awards

- 2022 Forschungsgruppe "Migration und Mobilität in Spätantike und Frühmittelalter"/Migration and

- Mobility in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages. Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen. Visiting Fellow.
- 2022 Griswold Faculty Research Award. Yale University.
- 2021 Migration and Patristics Research Fellowship.
- 2021 American Academy of Religion's Best First Book Prize in the History of Religions.
- 2014-15 Institute for the Study of the Late Ancient World (ISAW) Visiting Research Fellowship
- 2013 Dumbarton Oaks 2013 Summer Fellowship in Byzantine Studies (June 1 – July 31, 2013)
- 2013 Eusebius Prize, Journal of Ecclesiastical History (for "Entertaining the Trinity Unawares: Genesis 18 and the Trinitarian Imagination in Late Antiquity")
- 2012-13 Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship
- 2012 Best First Article Prize, North American Patristic Society (for "The Infant, the Monk and the Martyr: The Death of Children in Eastern Patristic Thought.")
- 2012 Best Graduate Student Paper, North American Patristic Society Meeting (for "A Gaul in the Desert: Egyptian Texts and Readers in the Late Ancient Ascetic Imagination.")
- 2011 Gurney Harriss Kearns Summer Research Fellow, Duke University
- 2010-11 Interdisciplinary Dissertation Working Group Award, John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University
- 2010 Alice Blackmore Hicks Summer Research Fellow, Duke University
- 2009-12 Conference Travel Fellowships, Duke University
- 2007-11 James P. Duke Fellow, Duke University
- 2007-12 Graduate Program in Religion Doctoral Fellowship, Duke University
- 2006 David Allan Hubbard Achievement Award, Fuller Theological Seminary
- 2004-05 Burr/Roth Merit Scholarship, Fuller Theological Seminary

Publications

Books

Voices at the Threshold: Social Identity and Emotional Community in Ephrem's Necrosima. In process.

Constituting the Past: Legal Writing and the Creation of Sacred Histories. Under contract (University of California Press) for publication in 2022.

Jephthah's Daughter, Sarah's Son: The Death of Children in Late Antiquity. University of California Press. January 2, 2020.

- American Academy of Religion Award for Best First Book in the History of Religions (2021).

Church and Empire [Ad Fontes]. Editor and Introduction. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2016.

Syriac Encounters: Papers from the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University, 26-29 June 2011. Co-edited with Kyle Smith and Emanuel Fiano. Louven, Paris and Walpole, MA: Peeters, 2014.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Bishops & Friends: History and Legal Interpretation in recent *Amicus Curiae* briefs before the Supreme Court,” *Journal of Law and Religion* 38.2 (May 2023). *Forthcoming*.

“Death and the Daughter: Funerary Ritual for *Bnat Qyama* in the writings of Ephrem and Jacob of Serugh.” *Syriac Orthodox Patriarchal Journal*. *Forthcoming* 2022.

“The Churches are Empty, the Priests are Silent: Rewriting Ritual in Pandemic Times.” *Religion in the Roman Empire*. *Forthcoming* 2022.

“Translating Eve: Death and Female Identity in a Funerary Hymn ascribed to Ephrem.” *The Journal of Theological Studies* 72.1 (April 2022), *in press*.

“An Earthquake for Pulcheria: Children and Natural Disaster in Late Ancient Christian Discourse.” *Studies in Late Antiquity* 5.2 (2021): 216-240.

“Burying the Emperor's Son: Valens and the legacy of Basil in a Syriac funerary sermon,” *Journal of Late Antiquity* 13.2 (Fall 2020): 383-406.

“Politics and the Pedagogue of Pre-Modernity.” Introduction to the Special Issue: “Politics, Pedagogy, and the Profession: Engaging the Political in the Religious Studies Classroom.” With Kristi Upson-Saia. *Wabash Journal on Teaching* 1.3 (August 2020). doi: <https://doi.org/10.31046/wabashcenter.v1i3>

“Gone but not forgotten: Retrieving the Migrant in Late Antiquity.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 87.4 (2019): 1153-77.

“The Holy Man in the Courts of Rome: Roman Law and Clerical Justice in Fifth-Century Syria.” *Studies in Late Antiquity: A Journal* 3.2 (2019): 192-211.

“Listen to Her: Women as Avatars of Wisdom in Late Ancient Homiletical Discourse.” *Journal of Early Christian History* 8.3 (2018): 28-56.

“Old Stones, New Stories?” “Is this all there is?” The Immanent Frame – Secularism, religion, and the public sphere (<https://tif.ssrc.org/>).

“Entertaining the Trinity Unawares: Genesis 18 and the Trinitarian Imagination in Late Antiquity.” *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 65.3 (June 2014): 485-503.

- Recipient of the *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*'s 2013 Eusebius Prize.

“‘Hair!’ Remnants of Ascetic Exegesis in Augustine of Hippo's *De Opere Monachorum*.” *Journal of Early Christian Studies JECS* 22.1 (Spring 2014): 79-111.

“Ambrose's Jews: The Rhetorical Construction of Jews and Heretics in Ambrose of Milan's *Expositio evangelii secundum Lucam*.” *Church History* 80.4 (December 2011): 749-72.

“The Infant, the Monk and the Martyr: The Death of Children in Eastern Patristic Thought.” *Le Muséon* 124.3 (December 2011): 243-258.

- Recipient of the 2012 North American Patristic Society Best First Article Award.

Under Review

“Ritual at the Edge of Reality: Language and World-Creation in Karin Tidbeck's *Amatka*.” *Extrapolations*.

Chapters & Invited Contributions

“Ephrem the Syrian: Reaching for Paradise, Confronting Death,” in Andrew Hofer, Andrew Summerson, Austin Litke, *The Pastoral Theology of the Early Church. Forthcoming 2023.*

“Christianity and Roman Law,” in John Witte, Jr. and Rafael Domingo, eds., *The Oxford Handbook on Christianity and Law.* Oxford University Press. *Forthcoming 2022.*

“Children in Early Christianity,” in John T. Fitzgerald, Carol Meyers, Eric M. Meyers, and Chris L. de Wet, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Households in the Biblical World.* Oxford University Press. *Forthcoming 2022.*

“Biblische Frauen in der Spätantike / Biblical Women in Late Antiquity,” in Markus Vinzent and Agnethe Siquans, eds., *Biblische Frauenfiguren in Der Spätantike/Biblical Women in Late Antiquity, vol. 5.2: Die Bibel und die Frauen / The Bible and Women* (to be published in English, German, Italian, and Spanish translation). Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 2022. Pps. 32-51.

“The Reception of Philo in Ambrose of Milan,” in Courtney Friesen, David Lincicum, and David Runia, eds., *The Reception of Philo of Alexandria.* Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press. *Forthcoming.*

“Diversity in Religious Communities,” in Susan Graham, ed., *A Cultural History of Religion in the West in Antiquity.* New York: Bloomsbury Publishing. *Forthcoming.*

“Emotional Communities and the Loss of an Individual: the Case of Grief,” in Margaret Mullett and Susan Ashbrook Harvey, eds., *Managing Emotions: Passions, Affects and Imaginings in Byzantium.* Abingdon: Routledge. *Forthcoming 2022.*

“Social Justice in Early Christianity.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Law.* Pamela Barmash, ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019. Pps. 519-536.

“Glimpses from the Margins: Re-telling late ancient history at the edges of the law,” in Mark Letteny and A.J. Berkowitz, eds., *Beyond Authority: Composition and Transmission in Late Antiquity.* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2018. Pps. 107-122.

“The Sense of an Ending: Childhood Death and Parental Benefit in Late Ancient Rhetoric.” In *Studia Patristica: Papers presented at the Seventeenth International Conference on Patristic Studies held in Oxford 2015, vol. 7: Health, Medicine, and Christianity in Late Antiquity,* eds. Heidi Marx-Wolf, Jared Sercord, and Christoph Marksches. Leuven: Peeters, 2017. Pps. 153-160.

“Holy Households,” In *Melania: Early Christianity through the Life of One Family,* eds. Catherine M. Chin and Caroline T. Schroeder. University of California Press, 2016. Pps. 71-85.

"Socializing Evagrius: The Case of Philoxenus of Mabbug's *Letter to Patricius.*" In *Syriac Encounters. Papers presented at the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium Held at Duke University, 26-29 June 2011.* eds. Maria Doerfler, Emanuel Fiano and Kyle R. Smith. Leuven: Peeters, 2014.

“Coming apart at the Seams: Crossdressing, masculinity, and the social body in late antiquity.” *Dressing Judeans and Christians in Antiquity,* eds. Alicia Batten, Carly Daniel-Hughes, and Kristi Upson-Saia. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2014. Pps. 37-51.

"From Ascesis to Sexual Renunciation." With Thomas K. Hubbard. In the *Blackwell Companion to Greek and Roman Sexualities*, ed. Thomas K. Hubbard. Oxford: Blackwell, 2014. Pps. 164-183.

"Keeping it in the Family: The law and the Law in Ambrose of Milan's Letters." In *Studia Patristica: Papers presented at the Sixteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies held in Oxford 2011*, vols. 55-62, ed. Markus Vinzent. Leuven: Peeters, 2013.

Book Reviews

Byzantine Intersectionality. By Roland Betancourt. In *Studies in Late Antiquity*. Forthcoming.

Biblical Women in Patristic Reception / Biblische Frauen in patristischer Rezeption. Edited by Agnethe Siquans. In *Review of Biblical Literature*. Forthcoming.

Children and Family in Late Antique Egyptian Monasticism. By Caroline T. Schroeder. In *Church History* (December 2021). Forthcoming.

Death and Afterlife in the Pages of Gregory of Tours: Religion and Society in Late Antique Gaul. By Allen E. Jones. In *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 29.3 (Fall 2021): 453-455. With Kavya Bhat.

Jewish Law and Early Christian Identity: Betrothal, Marriage, and Infidelity in the Writings of Ephrem the Syrian. By Yifat Monnickendam. In *Review of Biblical Literature (Society of Biblical Literature)* 2021-08-08. <https://www.sblcentral.org/home/bookDetails/13663>.

The Garb of Being: Embodiment and the Pursuit of Holiness in Late Ancient Christianity. Edited by Georgia Frank, Susan R. Holman, and Andrew Jacobs. New York: Fordham University Press, 2020. In *Church History* 90.1 (2021): 173-174.

The Fathers Refounded: Protestant Liberalism, Roman Catholic Modernism, and the Teaching of Ancient Christianity in Early Twentieth-Century America. By Elizabeth A. Clark. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019. Introduction to Book Forum, including Margaret M. Mitchell, Robert Orsi, Gary Dorrien, Robin Darling Young. In *Church History* 89.2. (June 2020): 390-412.

Infancy and earliest childhood in the Roman world 'a fragment of time'. By Maureen Carroll. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2018. In *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. 2019.01.43 (<http://bmc.brynmawr.edu/2019/2019-01-43.html>).

The Ransom of the Soul: Afterlife and Wealth in Early Christianity. By Peter Brown. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015. In *Review of Biblical Literature (Society of Biblical Literature)*. 2019.03.43.

Gelehrte Frauen des frühen Christentums: Zwölf Porträts. By Katharine Greschat. Standorte in Antike und Christentum, vol. 6; Stuttgart: Anton Hiersemann, 2015. *Theologische Literaturzeitung* 12 (2016): 1372–1373.

"An Immodest Proposal: Kate Wilkinson's *Women and Modesty in Late Antiquity*." *The Marginalia Review of Books*, 2015. (<https://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/an-immodest-proposal-by-maria-doerfler>)

Violence in Ancient Christianity. Victims and Perpetrators. By Albert C. Geljon and Riemer Roukema (eds.). Leiden: Brill, 2014. In *Theologische Literaturzeitung* 1 (2016): 63-64.

Dialoguing in Late Antiquity. By Averil Cameron. Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington, D.C., distributed by Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA: 2014. In *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 23.1 (2015): 141-142.

Gender Differences and the Making of Liturgical History. By Theresa Berger. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2011. In *Theology & Sexuality* 18.2 (2012): 138-139.

The first Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity. By Robert Louis Wilken. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012. In *Commonweal* (October 26, 2012), 35-6.

Nouvelles intrigues pseudo-clémentines/Plots in the Pseudo-Clementine Romance: Actes du deuxième colloque international sur la littérature apocryphe chrétienne, Lausanne – Genève, 30 août – 2 septembre 2006. Edited by Frédéric Amsler, Albert Frey, Charlotte Touati, and Renée Girardet. (Publications de l'Institut Romand des Sciences Bibliques, 6.) Prahins: Éditions du Zèbre, 2008. In *JTS* (62.1, March 2011).

The Didascalia Apostolorum: An English Version with Introduction and Annotation. By Alistair Stewart-Sykes. Turnhout: Brepols, 2009. In *JTS* (61.2, October 2010).

Miscellanea

St. Augustine: Confessions. Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism. Advisor to the publisher concerning selection of essay reprints to be included in this volume.

“Imperial Edicts” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (De Gruyter, 2013 / 2016).

“Didascalia,” “Romanos,” and “Pius J. Zingerle” in George Kiraz, ed., *Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage* (Gorgias Press, 2010).

“The Value of a Ph.D.: Labors of Choice” in *Duke University Graduate School Newsletter*. No pages. [Cited: 1 December, 2010]. Online: <http://gradschool.duke.edu/gsa/newsletter/>

Conference Papers & Invited Talks

Invited Talks and Lectures

2023 “Family as Institution.” Keynote for *Institutions and Institutionalism in Late Antiquity: A Conference*. University of Göttingen. March 22.

2022 Center for the Study of World Religions Lecture in *Eastern Christianity*. 16th Annual Boston College Colloquy in Historical Theology. August 3-6.

2022 “Celebration and Ceremony: Zoroastrianism and Nowruz, Easter, and Passover.” Persian Studies Program. Georgetown University. March 18.

2021 “The Churches are Empty, the Priests are Silent: Pandemic and Ritual in Syriac Christian Communities.” Archaia Ancient Societies Workshop. October 22.

2021 “Leere Kirchen, stille Priester. Seuche, Bibel, und rituelles Versagen in der Spätantike.“ Katholische Fakultät. University Regensburg. Regensburg, Germany. October 14.

- 2021 “Birth and Death in Early Christian Perspective.” Valparaiso University. Valparaiso, IN. September 8, 2020.
- 2020 “The Fate of Children in the *necrosima* ascribed to Ephrem.” “Liturgical Mosaics: Ritual Song in Late Antiquity: A Workshop on Late Ancient Hymnography. Duke University. Durham, NC. May 3-6. Deferred to 2022.
- 2019 “Burying the Emperor's Son: Valens, Valentinian, and the legacy of Basil in a Syriac funerary sermon.” Center for Late Ancient Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC, November 14.
2019. “Legacies of Loss. Maternal Bereavement in Jewish and Christian Late Antiquity.” Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins (PSCO), Philadelphia, PA, October 24, with Marjorie Lehman (JTS).
2019. “The law and the Law: Negotiating *Nomos* and Narrative in Late Antiquity.” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, September 11.
- 2019 “Biblische Frauen in der Kirchenväterexegese: Sozialgeschichtlicher Kontext, Auslegungstraditionen und Fallbeispiele.” University of Vienna, Austria, February 20-22.
- 2018 “The Judge, the Bishop, and the Woman caught in Adultery: John 8:1-8 before the Roman Courts.” Leibniz-Projekt „Polyphonie des spätantiken Christentums.” Goethe Universität, Frankfurt, May 22.
- 2018 “Suffering, Death, and Human Flourishing” Consultation, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, May 3-4.
- 2017 “(Barely) East of Eden: Genesis 4 in late ancient bereavement discourses.” *Patristica Bostoniensia*, Harvard Divinity School, December 14, 2017.
- 2016 “Listen to Her: Women and Wisdom in Late Ancient Homiletic Discourse.” Medieval Circle Lecture Series. Brown University, Providence, RI. December 1.
- 2016 “Wayward mothers, saintly children? Late ancient reading strategies in pursuit of the absent parent.” *Growing up Motherless in Antiquity: A Conference on Mother Absence in the Ancient Mediterranean*. University of Basel, Switzerland. May 26-28.
- 2016 “Reading History from the Margins of the Law.” *Beyond Authority: Tradition and Transmission in Late Antiquity*. Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. March 20-22.
- 2016 “Affect Aliens: Texts of Terror and the Making of Emotional Communities in Late Antiquity.” Yale University. New Haven, CT. January 24.
- 2015 “The Least of These: Liturgical *Loci* for speaking of the Prematurely Departed in Late Antiquity.” Duke Divinity Faculty Colloquium. September 21, 2015.
- 2015 “Children, Death, and Scripture in Late Antiquity.” Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. September 10, 2015.
- 2015 “Mourning Isaac: The Death of Children in Eastern Patristic Thought.” Fordham University, New York, NY. April 10, 2015.

- 2015 “Jephthah’s Daughter, Sarah’s Son: Children, Death, and Scripture in Late Antiquity.” Visiting Research Scholar Lecture. Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University. New York, NY. March 31, 2015.
- 2014 “Why weep for worldly things? The Case of Grief.” Managing emotion: passions, emotions, affects and imaginings in Byzantium. Co-directed by Susan Ashbrook Harvey and Margaret Mullett, December 12-13, 2013.
- 2014 “What makes a Woman? Virginitly and Identity at the Turn of the Third Century.” Nancy Hardesty Memorial Lecture. Clemson University, Greenville, SC, October 28, 2014.
- 2014 “What is a woman? Debating nature, gender, and virginity in Early Christianity.” Furman University, Greenville, SC, October 27, 2014.
- 2014 “Christ and the Courts of Rome: The *Pericope Adulterae* in ancient judicial Discourse.” Judaism and Christianity in Antiquity Colloquium, University of Virginia, Richmond, VA. April 8, 2014.
- 2013 “Entertaining the Trinity Unawares: Genesis 18 and the Patristic Imagination.” Invited Lecture. St. Mary’s College, University of St. Andrews, Scotland. October 14, 2013.

Conference Presentations

- 2022 “Praying for the Living, Praying for the Dead: Intercession and Communal Construction in Syriac Funerary Liturgies.” Syriac Studies Section. *Proposal submitted.*
- 2022 "Moses is a reliable example of my words": Biblical reasoning on migrants and migration in early Christian writings. International Society for Biblical Literature Conference. Salzburg, Austria. July 17. *Proposal accepted.*
- 2022 “Speaking with the Dead, Speaking as the Dead: *eidolopoeia* in Syriac Funerary Poetry.” Panel: Imagined Scenarios and Real Feelings. North American Patristics Society Conference. May 26. *Proposal accepted.*
- 2021 “From Ephrem to Jacob: The Death of a Daughter of the Covenant.” *Symposium in Commemoration of the 15th Centenary of St. Jacob of Serugh’s Death.* Department of Syriac Studies. Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch. Paramus, NJ. December 4, 2021.
- 2021 “New Histories, Made Old: Law, Identity, and Competing Sacred Histories in the *Didascalia Apostolorum.*” Society of Biblical Literature Conference. San Antonio, TX. November 22, 2021.
- 2021 Panelist. “Author meets Critic: Elizabeth A. Clark, *The Fathers Refounded: Protestant Liberalism, Roman Catholic Modernism, and the Teaching of Ancient Christianity in Early Twentieth-Century America.* American Academy of Religion Conference. San Antonio, TX. November 21, 2021.
- 2021 “Translating Eve: Death and Female Identity in a Madrasa Ascribed to Ephrem.” Society of Biblical Literature Conference. San Antonio, TX. November 20, 2021.
- 2021 “Ritual at the Edge of Reality: Language and World-Creation in Karin Tidbeck’s *Amatka.*” Christianity & Science Fiction: A Virtual Conference. Michigan Center for Early Christian Studies. October 11-12.
- 2020 “Constituting the Past: Glimpses at History in the Canon Law writings of 'Abdisho' bar Brikha.” XIII Symposium Syriacum. Paris, July 6-11. Deferred to 2022.

- 2020 “The Trouble with Families in John Chrysostom’s *Ad Stagirium*.” North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. May 21-23. Deferred to 2021.
- 2019 “Valens's heir, Basil's legacy: Contextualizing an early Byzantine Syriac funerary-sermon (BL Add MS 18,813).” Byzantine Studies Association of North American Conference. University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 17-20.
- 2019 “Burying the Emperor's Son: Valens, Valentinian, and the legacy of Basil in a Syriac funerary sermon.” The Eighth North American Syriac Symposium. Brown University, Providence, RI, June 16-19, 2019.
- 2019 “An Earthquake for Pulcheria: Children and Natural Disaster in Late Ancient Christian Discourse.” 13th Biennial Meeting of Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity, Claremont-McKenna College, March 14-18, 2019.
- 2018 Panelist. “Politics & Pedagogy.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, November 18, 2018.
- 2018 “The Wisdom of Jephthah’s Daughter.” With Miriam Simma-Walfish (Harvard University). History and Literature of Early Rabbinic Judaism. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, November 18, 2018.
- 2018 “Parenting like a Patriarch: Sacrificial Discourses surrounding the Death of Children in Late Antiquity.” Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Helsinki, July 30-August 3.
- 2018 “Preaching Exile in Late Antiquity.” Feeding on Dreams: Exiles and Exile in Late Antiquity”: A Workshop at Yale University, April 23-25.
- 2018 “The First Family in Late Antiquity: Reading Genesis 4 as Consolation Literature.” American Society for Church History Annual Winter Meeting, January 4-7, Washington, D.C.
- 2018 “Solomon in Edessa: The Saint and the Law in the Syriac Life of Rabbula.” Narrating Power and Authority in Late Antiquity and Medieval Hagiographies from East to West: International Conference at Academia Belgica (Rome, Italy), Thursday 15th-Saturday 17th February.
- 2017 “Children of disaster: Scripting "Acts of God" for communal resilience in late antiquity.” Social History of Formative Christianity and Judaism Section. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, November 18-21.
- 2017 “Echoes of the Akedah.” Ancient Judaism Workshop, Yale University, April 25, 2017.
- “Old Law and New Philology: The Lex Dei between Sacred and Profane.” *Philologia Sacra et Profana: Constructions of the Authentic*. Whitney Humanities Center Workshop, September 18-19.
- 2017 Respondent to Fritz Graf, “Divination in Late Antiquity.” *Between Heaven and Earth: Divination, Prophecy, and Oracles in the Ancient World*. Yale University, April 20-21.
- 2017 “Children and the Sword: The Holy Innocents and the Death of Children in Late Antiquity.” Medieval Lunch, Yale University, April 11, 2017.
- 2017 “Lives and afterlives: Changing visions of souls and their ransoms in fifth century Syriac Christianity.” Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity – Twelfth Biennial Conference. Yale University. New Haven, CT. March 23-26.

- 2016 “Speaking of Strangers: Continuities in rhetorical form and function to address social displacement in late antiquity.” Fourth Annual Conference of the International Society for Late Antique Literary Studies. Bryn Mawr College and Haverford College, Philadelphia, PA. October 21-22.
- 2015 “Good Grief: Parental Bereavement in Biblical Literature and Late Ancient Reception History.” Society of Biblical Literature Meeting. Atlanta, GA, November 21-24, 2015.
- 2015 “The Sense of an Ending: Childhood Death and Parental Benefit in Late Ancient Rhetoric.” Oxford Patristics Conference. Oxford. August 10-14, 2015.
- 2015 “Bishop and Martyr: The Curious Afterlife of Ambrose of Milan in Syriac Legal Sources.” Seventh North American Syriac Symposium. Catholic University of America. Washington, D.C. June 21-24.
- 2015 “Emotions and Passions in Early Christianity.” Respondent. American Society for Church History Conference. New York, NY. January 2-5.
- 2014 “The Holy Man in the Courts of Rome: Late Ancient Conceptions of Ascetic Authority and Roman Law.” Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Vienna, Austria. July 6-10.
- 2014 “Strangers in the Gates: Economies of Exile in Late Ancient Christian Discourse.” International Late Antiquity Network Conference, New York University, New York, NY. June 11-14.
- 2014 “Introducing Syriaca.org: New Online Tools for the Study of Syriac Christianity.” Respondent. North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. May 22-24.
- 2014 “The Future of Syriac Studies.” Panelist with Jeanne-Nicole Saint-Laurent (Marquette University) and Kyle Smith (University of Toronto). Fifth Dorushe Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies, Durham, NC. March 28-29.
- 2013 “The Judge, the Bishop, and the Woman caught in Adultery: John 8:1-8 before the Roman Courts.” History of Interpretation Section. Society of Biblical Literature Meeting, Baltimore, MD. November 23-26.
- 2013 “Christ and the Courts of Rome: The Pericope Adulterae in Late Ancient Judicial Theology.” History of Christianity Section. American Academy of Religion Conference, Baltimore, MD. November 23-26.
- 2013 “‘However much you may attack his heresy, you can fairly defend him as a man:’ Jews, Christians, and Conflict Resolution in Late Antiquity.” North American Patristics Society Conference, Chicago, IL, May 23-25.
- 2012 “Coming apart at the Seams: Crossdressing, masculinity, and the social body in late antiquity.” American Academy of Religion Conference, Chicago, IL, November 17-20.
- 2012 “The Foundations of Justice: Legal and Ethical Reasoning in the writings of Ambrose of Milan.” Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Conference, Villanova University, Villanova, PA, October 26-28.
- 2012 “Judging the World: Intersections of Legal Discourse in Late Antiquity.” Between Heaven and Earth: Law, Ideology, and the Social Order in Late Antiquity (University of Manchester, 13-16 September 2012).
- 2012 “In the Eye of the Storm: The Development of Syriac Christianity.” Invited public lecture at Holy Cross Greek Theological Seminary's Pappas Patristics Summer Institute, Brookline, MA, July 25.

- 2012 "A Gaul in the Desert: Egyptian Texts and Readers in the Late Ancient Ascetic Imagination." North American Patristics Society Conference, Chicago, IL, May 24-26, 2012.
- Best Graduate Student Paper Award.
- 2011 "First Come, First Served: Simon, Peter, and the Orders of Knowledge in the Didascalia Apostolorum and the Pseudo-Clementine Homilies." Jewish Christianity/Christian Judaism Section. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 18-23, 2011.
- 2011 "Reading the Fathers as a Feminist." Duke Divinity Women's Center Brown Bag Luncheon Lecture Series, Durham, NC, November 5, 2011.
- 2011 "'Like Flowers plucked from the Meadow of Life': The Death of Children and the Legacy of the Cappadocians in Syriac Christian Thought." Pappas Patristics Institute Annual Thematic Conference: Family and Children in the Patristic Tradition. Holy Cross Eastern Orthodox Seminary, Brookline, MA, October 13-15, 2011.
- 2011 "Keeping it in the Family: The law and the Law in Ambrose of Milan's Letters." XVIth International Conference on Patristic Studies. Oxford, UK, August 8-12, 2011.
- 2011 "Socializing Evagrius: The Case of Philoxenus of Mabbug's Letter to Patriq." VIth North American Syriac Symposium. Duke University, June 26-29, 2011.
- 2011 "Bounding the Ascetic Body: Legal and Exegetical Line-Drawing in 4th Century Roman North Africa." Classical Association of Canada Annual Meeting. Halifax, CA, May 10-12.
- Best Paper in Gender Studies presented by a Graduate Student (Women's Classical Caucus); nominated.
 - Best Paper presented by a Graduate Student; finalist.
- 2011 Respondent to Kevin Uhalde, Ph.D. (University of Ohio). "Penance in Translation: Knowing, Feeling, and Suffering Regret in Early Christian Texts." Duke Center for Late Ancient Studies Symposium.
- 2010 "The Infant and the Martyr: Premature Death in Late Ancient Eastern Christianity." North American Patristics Society Annual Conference.
- 2009 "Ambrose's Jews: The Rhetorical Construction of Jews and Heretics in Ambrose of Milan's *Expositio secundam Lucam*." North American Patristics Society Annual Conference.
- 2008 Respondent to Michael Penn, Ph.D. "Erasure in Syriac Manuscripts" (Duke Center for Late Ancient Studies Symposium, February 2008).
- 2006 "That great faith which we have inherited: American Civil Religion during World War II" (American Academy of Religion, Western Region; March 2006).
- 2006 "Civil Community and Evangelical Community: Karl Barth's Political Theology in Dialogue with American Evangelical Theology" (American Academy of Religion, Mid-Atlantic Region; March 2006).

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor of the History of Religious Studies, Yale University

- 2022 RLST420: Introduction to Syriac Christianity.
 2022 RLST641: Death and Afterlife in Eastern Christianity. With Vasileios Marinis.
- 2021 RLST619: Law in History, Law as History (ARCHAIA Seminar). With Travis Zadeh.
 2021 RLST117: What didn't make it into the Bible (Yale College).
- 2020 RLST118/PLSC 242: Biblical and Constitutional Interpretation in Dialogue.
 2020 RLST640: The Body in Early Christian Thought and Practice.
- 2019 RLST007: What didn't make it into the Bible (First-Year Seminar).
 2019 RLST655: Christianity in the Second and Third Centuries. With Andrew McGowan.
- 2018 RLST118/PLSC 242: Biblical and Constitutional Interpretation in Dialogue.
 2018 RLST608: Approaches to the Study of Late Antiquity.
- 2017 RLST012: Religion & Science Fiction.
 2017 RLST654: Biblical Interpretation in Early Christianity.
- 2017 RLST252: Human and Divine in Early Christianity.
 2017 RLST642: Death and Dying in Late Antiquity.
- 2016 RLST012: Religion & Science Fiction.
 2016 RLST640: The Body in Early Christian Thought and Practice.

Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity in Late Antiquity, Duke Divinity School

- 2014 CH952: Jewish & Christian Encounter in Late Antiquity.
 2014 HT800: The "Alexandrian School": Clement, Origen, Evagrius & Co.
- 2013 CH819: The Body in Early Christian Thought and Practice.
 2013 CH750: Early & Medieval Christianity.

Directed Readings: "Asceticism and Monasticism in Early Christianity" (Fall 2014/Spring 2015); "The Latin West before Augustine" (Fall 2013); "Women, Gender, and Sexuality in Late Antiquity" (Fall 2013); The Syriac Homiletic Imagination (Spring 2014).

Instructor, Duke University

- 2012 REL 41: Introduction to Christianity
 2011 REL159: Ethical Issues in Early Christianity
 2010 REL 41: Introduction to Christianity (with Lucas Van Rompay)

Teaching Assistant/Guest Lecturer, Duke University

- 2011 REL111: The Historical Jesus (Mark Goodacre)
 2009 REL121: The Roman Catholic Tradition (Elizabeth A. Clark)

Visiting Lecturer in Early Christianity, Duke Divinity School

- 2011 Church History 13: Early & Medieval Christianity

Preceptor, Duke Divinity School

- 2010 Church History 13: Early and Medieval Christianity (J. Warren Smith)
2008 Church History 28: American Christianity (Grant Wacker)

Instructor, Fuller Theological Seminary

- 2010 CH500: Early Church History

Teaching Assistant, Fuller Theological Seminary

- 2005-9 Historical Theology; Hebrew Scriptures; Old Testament Exegesis; New Testament; Introductory Hebrew.

Instructor, Holy Cross Eastern Orthodox Theological Seminary (Summer Patristic Studies Program)

- 2011 Monks and Stylites: Asceticism in Late Ancient Syriac Christianity

Teaching Fellow, Holy Cross Eastern Orthodox Theological Seminary (Summer Patristic Studies Program)

- 2010 The Divine Liturgy Celebrated and Interpreted in the Patristic Period (Nicholas Denysenko, Loyola Marymount University)
2009 Portraits of the Invisible: The Second Iconoclastic Controversy (Thomas Cattoi, GTU)

Invited Lectures and Seminars:

- 2013 “‘Homosexuality’ in Late Antiquity: Querying the Boswell Thesis.”
Mary McClintock Fulkerson and Willie Jennings, “Sexuality: Bible, Church, and Controversy,” Duke Divinity School, Spring 2013.
- 2013 “Gender, Sexuality, and the Christian Religion.”
Jason Staples and Tim Cupery, “Historical Sociology of Christianity,” Department of Sociology, UC Chapel Hill, Spring 2013.
- 2013 “Asceticism in Early Christianity.”
Kate Bowler, “Introduction to Church History,” Duke Divinity School, Spring 2013.

Theses, Comprehensive Exam, & Dissertation Committee

Comprehensive Exam, Dissertation Prospectus, and Dissertation Committees for Candace Buckner (UNC Chapel Hill, Religious Studies); Daniel Becerra (Duke University, Religious Studies); Kavya Bhat (Yale University); Nick Wagner (Duke University, Religious Studies); Kaylee Alexander (Duke University, Art History); Mary Farag (Yale University, Religious Studies); Pratima Gopalakrishnan (Yale University, Religious Studies and Judaic Studies); Rebecca Kamholz (Yale University, Religious Studies and Judaic Studies); Julia Nations Quiroz (Yale University); Austin Rivera (Yale University, Religious Studies); Christopher West (Yale University, Medieval Studies); C.J. Rice (Yale University, Classics); Daniel Eastman (Yale University, Religious Studies); Chris Metzger (Yale University, NELC); Ashher Mahmood (Yale University, NELC); Shira Eliassian (Yale University, Religious Studies); Hannah Stork (Yale University, Religious Studies); Dominique Sirgy (Yale University, Religious Studies).

M.A. and Undergraduate Theses Committees for Amy Wigger (Duke University, Religious Studies); Alan Taylor Farnes (Duke University, Religious Studies); Emma Levine (Yale University, Religious Studies); Caitlin Westerfield (Yale University, Religious Studies); Nicholas Wagner (Duke University, Religious Studies); Liam McGrath (Yale University, Religious Studies); Montana Love (Yale University, Religious Studies).

Research Experience

- 2011- Research Assistant to Bart Ehrman, UNC-Chapel Hill
- 2007- Research Assistant to Elizabeth A. Clark, Duke University
- 2002 Research Assistant at UCLA School of Law

Service

Editorial & Referee

Referee for Oxford University Press; Gorgias Press; University of California Press; Catholic University Press; *Studies in Late Antiquity*; *Gender & History*; *The Journal of Late Antiquity*; *Journal of Ancient History*; *Zeitschrift für Religions- und Geistesgeschichte*.

- 2021- Book Review Editor, *Journal of Late Antiquity*.
- 2020- Section Editor (Christianity in Egypt). Brill Encyclopedia of Early Christianity.
- 2013- Editorial Board. Gateway to the Syriac Saints; a project of the Syriac Reference Portal (<http://www.syriaca.org>).
- 2012- Co-Editor, *Syriac Encounters. Papers presented at the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium Held at Duke University, 26-29 June 2011* (Peeters, 2013). With Emanuel Fiano and Kyle R. Smith.
- 2000-2 Executive Editor, *Women's Law Journal*, UCLA School of Law.

Conferences & Committees

- 2021- Humanities Doctoral Report Response Committee, Department of Religious Studies, Yale University.
- 2021- Professional Development Officer, Program in Medieval Studies, Yale University.
- 2020- Committee on Majors, Yale University.
- 2019. Chair. Ad hoc Committee for drafting Anti-Harassment Policy. American Society for Church History.
- 2018- Steering Committee. ARCHAIA: Yale Program for the Study of Ancient and Premodern Cultures and Societies.
- 2018-. Executive Council. American Society for Church History.
- 2018. Organizer, with Geoff Nathan (University of New South Wales), "Feeding on Dreams: Exiles and Exile in Late Antiquity": A Workshop at Yale University, April 23-25.

- 2017-2018. Organizational Name Change Committee, North American Patristics Society.
- 2017-2019. Albert C. Outler Prize Committee, American Society for Church History, Selection Committee.
- 2016-present Steering Committee Member, Social History of Formative Christianity and Judaism Section, Society of Biblical Literature.
- 2014-2018 Program Committee, American Society for Church History Conference, New York, NY, January 2-5, 2015.
- 2013 Session Chair, "Representing the Saints: Text and Performance," North American Patristic Society Conference, Chicago, IL, May 23-25, 2013.
- 2013 Co-Organizer, "Late Antiquity made New: A Celebration of the Work of Elizabeth A. Clark." Together with Catherine Chin, Laura Lieber, Jeremy Schott, Caroline Schroeder, and Annabel Wharton planned and hosted a symposium in honor of Elizabeth A. Clark's retirement, featuring three keynote addresses and twenty-five paper presentations; April 11-13, 2013, Duke University.
- 2012 Session Chair, "St. Augustine: Culture and Counter-Culture," Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Conference (PMR), October 27, 2012.
- 2011 Co-Organizer, VIth North-American Syriac Symposium, Duke University. Together with Lucas Van Rompay, Kyle Smith and Emanuel Fiano planned and hosted the quadrennial Symposium, featuring six keynote addresses and 70 paper presentations; June 26-29, 2011, Duke University.
- 2011 Session Chair, "Syriac Juridical Literature," VIth North-American Syriac Symposium, June 27, 2011.
- 2011 Convener, Center for Late Ancient Studies Symposium, Duke University. Theme: "Late Ancient Re-Readings: Interpretation and Appropriation in Late Antiquity," featuring presentations from Elisabeth DePalma Digeser (UCSB) and Kevin Uhalde (University of Ohio).
- 2010 Session Chair, "Syriac Literature and Literary Themes," North American Patristic Society Annual Meeting, May 28, 2010.
- 2010 Co-Convener, Center for Late Ancient Studies Symposium, Duke University. Theme: "The Erotic in Late Ancient Muslim/Christian Encounters," featuring presentations Gabriel Said Reynolds (University of Notre Dame) and Thomas Sizgorich (UC Irvine). With Christine Luckritz-Marquis.
- 2003-6 Planning Team Member, InterSeminarian Conference, Fuller Theological Seminary.

Departmental & Organizational Service

- 2019-. Committee on Advising, Placement, and Enrollment (CAPE). Yale University.
- 2017-2018. Faculty of Arts and Science Senate, Yale University.
- 2014-present. Search Committee Member, "Early Christianity" Associate Faculty Hire, Department of Religious Studies, Duke University.

- 2014-2016. German Language Examiner, Duke University Graduate Program in Religion.
- 2013-2016. Board Member. Center for Late Ancient Studies, Duke/UNC-Chapel Hill.
- 2014 Member, Admissions Committee for Masters of Divinity applications, Duke Divinity School.
- 2013 Member, Academic Programs Committee, Duke Divinity School.
- 2012-13 Webmaster, Duke & UNC Chapel Hill Center for Late Ancient Studies. (<http://sites.duke.edu/clas>).
- 2011-13 Member, Committee on Career Support for Graduate Students and Junior Faculty, North American Patristics Society.
- 2010-11 Chair, Graduate Student Association in Religion, Duke University.
- 2010-13 Graduate Student Representative, Center for Late Ancient Studies, Duke/UNC-Chapel Hill.
- 2008-13 Convener, Late Ancient Studies Reading Group (LASRG), Duke/UNC-Chapel Hill.
- 2011 Convener, Women Graduate Students in Religion & Divinity Panel, Duke University.
Theme: "Women in Academia: From Job Market to Tenure and Beyond," February 8, 2011.
- 2011 Panelist, Wabash Teaching & Learning Luncheon, Duke University.
Theme: "Publishing in Graduate School," January 31, 2011.
- 2010 Panelist, Women's Studies Colloquium, Duke/UNC-Chapel Hill.
Theme: "Remembering Mary Daly: A Reflection on Her Life and Work," February 18, 2010.
- 2010 Graduate Student Representative, Language Standards Committee, Duke University.

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion (AAR), American Society of Church History (ASCH), Association of Ancient Historians (AAH), Byzantine Studies Association of North American (BSANA), Ecclesiastical History Society (EHS), Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), North American Patristics Society (NAPS).

Languages

Ancient: Syriac; Coptic (Sahidic, Lycopolitan); Greek (Classical & *Koiné*); Latin; Biblical Hebrew.
Modern: German (native); French; Italian.