

Donovan O. Schaefer

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Positions Held

2017– present	Assistant Professor of Religious Studies	University of Pennsylvania
2022– present	Core Faculty, Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies	University of Pennsylvania
2014–2017	Departmental Lecturer in Science and Religion	University of Oxford
2014–2017	Organizing Tutor in Theology and Religion	Trinity College, Oxford
2012–2014	Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow	Haverford College
2012–2014	Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion	Haverford College
2011–2012	Adjunct Professor of Religion	Le Moyne College
2008–2011	Instructor of Religion	Syracuse University

Education

2012	Ph.D., Religion Committee: John D. Caputo, M. Gail Hamner, Patricia Cox Miller, Joanne Punzo Waghorne, R. Gustav Niebuhr.	Syracuse University
2007	M.Phil., Religion	Syracuse University
2005	M.A., Religion	Syracuse University
2003	B.A., Religion, Literature, and the Arts	University of British Columbia

Research Areas

Theory and philosophy of embodied religion, religion and emotion, material culture, science, and secularisms.

Books

2022	<i>Wild Experiment: Feeling Science and Secularism</i>	Duke University Press.
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2019	<p><i>after Darwin.</i></p> <p><i>The Evolution of Affect Theory: The Humanities, the Sciences, and the Study of Power.</i> Commissioned for the Cambridge Elements (short monographs) series “Histories of Emotions and the Senses.”</p>	<p>328 pp. ISBN 978-1-4780-1825-4.</p> <p>Cambridge University Press. 75 pp. ISBN 9781108765343.</p>
2015	<p><i>Religious Affects: Animality, Evolution, and Power.</i> Reprint 2016. Reviewed in <i>Journal of the American Academy of Religion</i>, <i>Cultural Studies</i>, <i>Times Literary Supplement</i>, <i>The Atlantic</i>, <i>Material Religion</i>, <i>Marginalia Review of Books</i>, <i>Reading Religion</i>, <i>The Journal of the British Association for the Study of Religion</i>, <i>The Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory</i>, <i>Critical Research on Religion</i>, <i>Journal of Religion and Popular Culture</i>, <i>Humanimalia</i>, <i>Religious Studies Review</i>, <i>Relations</i>, <i>Animal Studies Journal</i>, <i>ESSSAT News and Reviews</i>, <i>Affectsphere</i>. Review symposia in <i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> (2018) and <i>Syndicate</i> (2018). Conference symposia at American Academy of Religion (2016) and Society for Biblical Literature (2018) annual meetings.</p>	<p>Duke University Press. 304 + xi pp. ISBN 0822359901.</p>

Journal Articles

2022	<p>Visions of Contempt: Emotion and the Visual Culture of the Scopes Trial.</p> <p>Rationalist Nostalgia: A Critical Response to Ruth Leys’ <i>The Ascent of Affect</i>.</p> <p>The Territories of Thinking and Feeling: Rethinking Religion, Science, and Reason with Alister McGrath.</p>	<p><i>Material Religion</i>. 18.4. Peer reviewed.</p> <p><i>Capacious</i>. Forthcoming. Peer reviewed.</p> <p><i>Zygon</i>. 57.1: 200–222. DOI 10.1111/zygo.12766 (Invited contribution to forum on the work of Alister McGrath.)</p>
2021	<p>Darwin’s Orchids: Queerness, Natural Law, and the Diversity of Desire.</p>	<p><i>GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies</i>. 27.4: 525–550. DOI 10.1215/10642684-9316824. Peer reviewed.</p>
2020	<p>Whiteness and Civilization: Shame, Race, and the Rhetoric of Donald Trump.</p> <p>Talal Asad’s Challenge to Religious Studies.</p>	<p><i>Journal of Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies</i>. 17.1: 1–18. DOI 10.1080/14791420.2019.1667503. Peer reviewed.</p> <p><i>Religion and Society</i>. 11: 20–23. DOI 10.3167/arrs.2020.110102. (Invited contribution to “Portrait” section on the work of Talal Asad.)</p>
2019	<p>The Secular Twist: Nonreligion in the World Religions Classroom.</p>	<p><i>Implicit Religion</i>. 22.1: 86–93. (Invited response to symposium on podcast with <i>The Religious Studies Project</i> “Is Secularism a World Religion?”)</p>

	Mere Science: Mapping the Land Bridge between Emotion, Politics, and Ethics.	<i>Zygon</i> . 54.2: 382–6. (Invited contribution to symposium on Lisa Sideris’ <i>Consecrating Science</i> .)
	An Extension of Saturday Night: Affect and Downfall at Mars Hill.	<i>Religious Studies Review</i> . 45.3: 287–89. (Invited contribution to symposium on Jessica Johnson’s <i>Biblical Porn</i> .)
2018	Precopulatory Sexual Cannibalism and Other Accidents: Desire, Evolution, and Natural Law.	<i>Studies in Gender and Sexuality</i> . 19.1: 28–35. DOI 10.1080/15240657.2018.1419685.
2017	You Don’t Know What Pain Is: Affect, the Lifeworld, and Animal Ethics.	<i>Studies in Christian Ethics</i> 30.1: 15–29.
	Animal Politics: Species, Evolution, and Power.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> 46.3–4: 40–45. (Invited response to symposium on <i>Religious Affects</i> .)
2016	Heavenbeast: A New Materialist Approach to <i>Ulysses</i>.	<i>Angelaki</i> 21.2: 119–137. <i>Peer reviewed</i> .
	The Fault in Us: Ethics, Infinity, and Quantum Bodies.	<i>Zygon</i> 51.3: 783–796.
2014	Blessed, Precious Mistakes: Evolution, Deconstruction, and the American New Atheism.	<i>International Journal for Philosophy of Religion</i> 76: 75–94. <i>Peer reviewed</i> .
	Embodied Disbelief: Poststructural Feminist Atheism.	<i>Hypatia</i> 29.2: 371–387. <i>Peer reviewed</i> .
	Our Peculiar Institution: <i>12 Years a Slave</i>, American Protestantism, and the Erotics of Racism.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> 43.1: 34–36.
2013	The Promise of Affect.	<i>Theory & Event</i> 16.2. (N.P.)
2012	Do Animals Have Religion? Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Religion and Embodiment.	<i>Anthrozoös</i> 25.S1 (25 th Anniversary Supplemental Issue): S173–S189. <i>Peer reviewed</i> .

Book Chapters

2022	Whiteness and Civilization: Shame, Race, and the Rhetoric of Donald Trump.	In: <i>Religion, Protest, and Social Upheaval</i> . Guth, Karen, Matthew Eggemeier, and Peter Fritz, eds. Fordham University Press. <i>Invited chapter, reprint of journal article of same title, peer-reviewed</i> . <i>Forthcoming</i> .
	Science and Religion Naturally	In: <i>Stereotyping Religion: Critiquing Clichés</i> ,

	Conflict.	<i>Vol. 2.</i> Martin, Craig and Brad Stoddard, eds. Bloomsbury. <i>Invited chapter. Forthcoming.</i>
	Emotion.	In: <i>Animals and Religion.</i> Aftandilian, David, Barbara Ambros, and Aaron Gross, eds. Routledge. <i>Invited chapter. Forthcoming.</i>
2019	The Secular Experiment: Science, Feeling, and Atheist Apocalypticism.	In: <i>Affect and Emotion in Multi-Religious Secular Societies.</i> von Scheve, Christian, Anna Lea Berg, Meike Haken, and Nur Yasemin Ural, eds. Routledge. ISBN 9780815354345. pp. 211–227. <i>Invited chapter, reprinting material from chapter “The Wild Experiment,” below.</i>
	The Animality of Affect: Religion, Emotion, and Power.	In: <i>Religion, Emotion, Sensation: Affect Theories and Theologies.</i> Bray, Karen, and Stephen D. Moore, eds. Fordham University Press. ISBN 9780815354345. pp. 19–37. <i>Invited chapter, peer reviewed, reprinting material from Evolution of Affect Theory, above.</i>
2018	Beautiful Facts: Religion, Secularism, and Affect.	In: <i>Feeling Religion.</i> Corrigan, John, ed. Duke University Press. ISBN 0822370379. pp. 69–92. <i>Invited chapter, double-blind peer reviewed.</i>
2017	The Science of Life.	In: <i>The Oxford Handbook of Nineteenth-Century Christian Thought.</i> Rasmussen, Joel, Judith Wolfe, & Johannes Zachhuber, eds. Oxford University Press. ISBN 0198718403. pp. 89–107. <i>Invited chapter.</i>
	The Wild Experiment: Emotion, Reason, and the Limits of Science.	In: <i>Are there Limits to Science?</i> Straine, Gillian, ed. Cambridge Scholars Press. ISBN 1443895814. pp. 61–79. <i>Invited chapter.</i>

Invited Talks and Lectures

2022	How Reason Gets Racialized: Affect and Queer of Color Theory.	“Aesthetics and Affects of Power in the Context of Religion” workshop, University of Erfurt, Erfurt. <i>Invited keynote speaker, forthcoming.</i>
	Longing to Believe: Affect, Cognition,	Drew University. Theology &

	Cogency.	Philosophical Study of Religion group. <i>Invited speaker.</i>
	Voracious Secularism: Knowledge, Violence, and Desire.	University of California, Irvine. Knowing Life: The Ethics of Multi-Species Epistemologies. <i>Invited speaker, forthcoming.</i>
	Longing to Believe: Affect, Cognition, Cogency.	Columbia Affect Studies Seminar. <i>Invited seminar speaker.</i>
	Longing to Believe: Affect, Cognition, Cogency.	“Thinking of the Body—The Body as Unthinkable” workshop, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum. <i>Invited workshop participant, forthcoming.</i>
2021	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	Universität Leipzig. <i>Invited lecture, presented digitally.</i>
	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	University of Oxford, “God, Science, and the Rise of No Religion: Towards New Principles of Constructive Engagement” workshop. <i>Invited participant, presented digitally.</i>
	Religious Animal Bodies: Notes on an Affect Theory of Religion.	Union Theological Seminary. <i>Invited public lecture, presented digitally.</i>
	Response to Teya Brooks Pribac’s <i>Enter the Animal</i>.	Counterpoints Navigating Knowledge Series. <i>Invited respondent, presented digitally.</i>
2020	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	University of North Carolina—Charlotte, Sensory Cultures of Religion, Fourth Annual Graduate Conference. <i>Keynote address, presented digitally.</i>
	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	Discussing Atheism and the Study of Atheism for the 21 st Century workshop, Georgetown. <i>Invited participant, postponed due to COVID-19.</i>
2019	From Creationism to Climate Change Denial: An Affective Approach to Science Skepticism.	Australian Catholic University. <i>Public lecture.</i>
	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	Macquarie University, Faithful Bodies: Affect Theory and Religion symposium. <i>Keynote address.</i>
	Feeling Faithless: Taking the Affective Turn in Secularism Studies.	Australian National University, Sacred Histories symposium. <i>Keynote address.</i>
	Longing to Believe: Affect, Conspiracy Theory, and Race.	Australian Catholic University, Affect, Politics, and Knowledge workshop.

2018

Whiteness and Civilization: Shame, Race, and the Alt-Right in the Age of Trump.

Invited speaker.

University of Toronto, Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies. *Invited lecture.*

Only Better Beasts: Emotion, Material Religion, and the Scopes Trial.

Georgetown University, Religion, Politics, and Culture Workshop. *Invited lecture.*

Affects and Publics.

Lehigh University, "Religion and Its Many American Publics." *Invited symposium participant.*

Parochial Enchantment: The Affects and Ethics of *Vibrant Matter*.

Union Theological Seminary, Insight Project Colloquium. *Invited symposium participant.*

The Sentiments of Rationality: Feeling, Science, and Secularism after Darwin.

University of Oxford, Faculty of Theology and Religion. *Invited lecture.*

The Sentiments of Rationality: Feeling, Science, and Secularism after Darwin.

University of Cambridge, Faculty of Divinity. *Invited lecture.*

Desire, Power, and Digital Media.

Penn, Center for Advanced Research in Global Communication, South x Southeast Conference. *Invited respondent.*

The Materiality of Choice.

Penn, Wolf Humanities Seminar on "Stuff." *Invited respondent to Sophia Rosenfeld.*

Affect and Objects.

Penn, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Sites of Passage: Domestic Materials in Jewish Contexts. *Invited respondent.*

Whiteness and Civilization: Shame, Race, and the Alt-Right in the Age of Trump.

Lancaster, PA, "Capacious: Affect Inquiry/Making Space." *Plenary speaker.*

The Wild Experiment: Emotion, Science, and Secularism.

University of Dayton, "Once More with Feeling: Affect and the God of the Philosophers" conference. *Invited speaker.*

Only Better Beasts: Emotion, Material Religion, and the Scopes Trial.

Bucknell University. *Invited lecture.*

Darwin's Orchids: Queerness, Natural Law, and the Diversity of Desire.

Albright College. *Invited lecture.*

Discussant for Cassie Adcock's "The Heads or Tails of Cow Protection in India: Religious Freedom or Secular

Penn, Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism faculty workshop series. *Invited*

2017

Agriculture?”

Darwin, Queerly: Teleology, Nature, and the Diversity of Desire.

You Don't Know What Pain Is: Emotion, the Lifeworld, and Animal Ethics.

Animal Religion: Evolution, Embodiment, and Affect.

Only Better Beasts: Emotion, Material Religion, and the Scopes Trial.

Only Better Beasts: Emotion, Material Religion, and the Scopes Trial.

Whiteness and Civilization: Shame, Race, and the World Trump Built.

The Wild Experiment: Emotion, Science, and Secularism.

The Wild Experiment: Emotion, Science, and Secularism.

Animality, Evolution, and Theory in the Humanities.

Jewish Perspectives on Religion and Science: A Response.

Only Better Beasts: Emotion, Material Religion, and the Scopes Trial.

The Animality of Affect: Religion, Emotion, and Power.

Rethinking Science and Religion.

discussant.

New York University, “Queer Humanimalities” colloquium. *Keynote speaker.*

Le Moyne College, “The Future of Being Human” series. *Invited lecture.*

Yale-National University of Singapore, “Explaining Religion: Anthropology, Social Cognition, and Phenomenology” colloquium. *Plenary speaker.*

Queen's University, “Unraveling Religion 4: Bodies and Objects” conference. *Keynote speaker.*

University of Manchester, Theory and Method in the Study of Religion Seminar Series. *Invited lecture.*

College of the Holy Cross, “Religion, Protest, and Social Upheaval” conference. *Plenary speaker.*

Swarthmore College, Haverford College, and Bryn Mawr College, TriCo Religion Senior Colloquium. *Daylong visiting scholar event.*

Eastern University, Templeton Honors Forum. *Invited lecture.*

Philadelphia Seminar in Christian Origins. “Thinking with Ancient Animals” symposium. *Invited speaker.*

Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. “Jews and the Natural World: Bodies, Animals, and Evolution” symposium. *Invited respondent.*

Freie Universität Berlin. *Invited lecture.*

Freie Universität Berlin, “Governing by Affect” conference. *Plenary speaker.*

North London Collegiate School, “Creation: A Dialogue between Science and Religion Interfaith Conference.” *Plenary speaker.*

2016	The Animality of Affect: Religion, Emotion, and Power.	Drew University Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium, "Affectivity and Divinity." Drew University. <i>Plenary speaker.</i>
	You Don't Know What Pain Is: Affect, Animal Religion, and the Violence of Confinement.	Society for the Study of Christian Ethics annual conference, Cambridge University. <i>Plenary speaker.</i>
	The Wild Experiment: Emotion, Secularism, and the Limits of Science.	Science and Religion Forum, Birmingham. <i>Plenary speaker.</i>
	Secular Affects: Emotional Elements of Religion and Non-Religion.	"Inside Out: Affect(s) in Multi-Religious Secular Societies," Freie Universität Berlin. <i>Plenary speaker.</i>
	It's Not What You Think: Affect, Politics, and American Racism.	Georgetown University. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	It's Not What You Think: Affect, Politics, and American Racism.	Emory University, Oxford College. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	You Don't Know What Pain Is: Affect, Animal Religion, and the Violence of Confinement.	Harvard Center for the Study of World Religions and the Harvard Islamic Law Project. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	You Don't Know What Pain Is: Affect, Animal Religion, and the Violence of Confinement.	University of Florida. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	You Don't Know What Pain Is: Affect, Animal Religion, and the Violence of Confinement.	Wesleyan University. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	The Animality of Affect: Religion, Emotion, and Power.	Sewanee, the University of the South. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
	The Animality of Affect: Religion, Emotion, and Power.	Syracuse University. <i>Invited lecture.</i>
2015	Beautiful Facts: Secularism, Religion, and Affects.	Religion and Emotion NEH Working Group, National Humanities Center, Duke University. <i>Invited speaker.</i>
2014	The Order of Affects: Power, Knowledge, and Materiality.	Theory and Things Symposium, Syracuse University. <i>Invited speaker.</i>
2013	Animal Bodies Are Not Digital	Lightning Talks Series, Haverford College. <i>Invited speaker.</i>
	Post-Atheism	Cross-listed Series, Haverford College. <i>Invited speaker.</i>
2012	Political Affect: The American Case.	Religion and Media Workshop, AAR, Chicago, IL. <i>Invited session leader.</i>

- 2010 Cognitive Science and Religion: A Way In and a Way Out. Syracuse University Dept. of Religion Biennial Retreat, Cazenovia, NY. *Invited speaker.*

Book Reviews

- 2022 Review of Alec Ryrie's *Unbelievers: An Emotional History of Doubt*. *Religion and Its Publics* blog. *Forthcoming.*
- 2021 Review of Teya Brooks Pribac's *Enter the Animal: Cross-Species Perspectives on Grief and Spirituality*. *Animal Studies Journal* 10.2: 201–206. DOI: 10.14453/asj.v10i2.9
- Review of Andrew Jewett's *Science Under Fire: Challenges to Scientific Authority in Modern America*. *Isis*. 112.3: 655–656.
- 2019 Review of David Chidester's *Religion: Material Dynamics*. *Reading Religion*. February 2019.
- American Mania: A Review of Lawrence Grossberg's *Under the Cover of Chaos: Trump and the Battle for the American Right*. *Cultural Studies*. 34.1: 169–71. DOI: 10.1080/09502386.2019.1584904
- 2017 A Thinking Heart: A Review of John P. Gluck's *Voracious Science and Vulnerable Animals*. *PsycCRITIQUES*. 62.14. (Selected for *PsycCRITIQUES* "Spotlight" series.)
- 2016 The Modern Mosaic of Science and Religion. *Marginalia Review of Books*. Sept. 2016. (Review essay on Peter Harrison's *Territories of Science and Religion*.)
- Review of James William Jones's *Can Science Explain Religion? The Cognitive Science Debate*. *Religious Studies Review*. 42.2: 93.
- Review of Christian Smith and Richard P. Cimino's *Atheist Awakening: Secular Activism and Community in America*. *American Studies*. 50.2: E31.
- Review of Aaron S. Gross's *The Animal Question in Religion: Theoretical Stakes, Practical Implications*. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*. 10.4: 516–518.
- 2015 How Not to Do What We Always Do: A Review of Hector A. Garcia's *Alpha God*. *The Revealer*. Oct. 2015.
- Review of Linda A. Mercadante's *Belief without Borders: Inside the* *Secularism and Nonreligion*. 4.1: Art. 9. DOI 10.5334/snr.bb

	<i>Minds of the Spiritual but Not Religious.</i>	
2011	On Dictionaryism: The Good News and Maledictions of Religious Literacy.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion.</i> 40.2: 3–8. (Review of Stephen Prothero’s <i>God Is Not One.</i>)
2009	The Shape of the Field: Bruce Lincoln’s <i>Discourse and the Construction of Society.</i>	<i>Council of Societies for the Study of Religion Bulletin.</i> 38.3: 58–60.

Selected Online Writings

2021	How Do Words Work? A Response to Craig Martin.	<i>The Religious Studies Project.</i> Invited response to Craig Martin’s <i>Discourse and Ideology.</i> December 2021.
2020	Affect.	<i>The Immanent Frame.</i> Invited contribution to “A Universe of Terms.” April 2020.
2019	The Codex of Feeling: Affect Theory and Ancient Texts.	<i>Ancient Jew Review.</i> January 2019.
	The Face of the Sovereign.	<i>Political Theology.</i> February 2019.
	<i>Credulity</i>, or Science as an Intoxication.	<i>The Immanent Frame.</i> Part of the “Modernity’s Resonances” symposium. Response to Emily Ogden’s <i>Credulity.</i> February 2019.
	The Monograph as Laboratory.	<i>The Philosophers’ Cocoon</i> blog. April 2019.
2018	Material Mourning in the Secular Sculpture Garden.	<i>The Immanent Frame.</i> March 2018.
2017	Rational Passions.	<i>Syndicate.</i> Five essays in dialogue with five responses to <i>Religious Affects</i> from Pamela Klassen, Devin Singh, Yasemin Ural, Christopher Carter, Jason Blum. October–December 2017.
	The Trembling Hive: A New Fable of the Bees.	
	The Stickiness of Classification.	
	White Winter Blues.	
	The Material Foucault.	
	Ideology Becomes an Addiction.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog, April 11, 2017.
2016	It’s Not What You Think: Affect Theory and Power Take to the Stage.	Duke University Press blog. February 15, 2016.
	Trump’s Evangelical Support in the Gut, Not the Theology.	<i>Religion Dispatches.</i> March 21, 2016.

	Affect Theory Is an Animalism.	<i>WTF Affect</i> blog. (With Maya Pindyck.) May 2016.
	Smelling the Sacred: Better Lived Religion through Chemistry.	<i>Religion Dispatches</i> . May 24, 2016.
	Animal Dress-up: On Hiroshi Watanabe.	<i>Capilano Review</i> . 3.29 (Summer 2016): 92–94.
	The Shared Fantasy of Redemptive Violence between ISIS and the Islamophobic Right.	<i>Religion Dispatches</i> . July 18, 2016.
2015	Dad Wanted a Boy: Feminism, Transcendence, and Cuarón’s <i>Gravity</i>.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog, January 30, 2015.
	Did Pope Francis Just Change the Course of the Science–Religion Dialogue?	<i>Religion Dispatches</i> . June 18, 2015.
2014	Partisan Science: Evolution and Creationism in Postsecular American Politics.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog. April 4, 2014.
	Defining Postsecularism.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog. April 16, 2014.
	Religion as Little Something: Kathleen Stewart’s <i>Ordinary Affects</i>	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog. June 23, 2014.
	<i>Calvary</i>: Imaging Postsecular Sacrifice.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog. August 25, 2014.
2013	An Institution Is Not a Text: Pope Francis, Affect, and Power.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog. December 13, 2013.
2012	<i>A Separation</i>: Religion, Class, Secularism.	<i>Bulletin for the Study of Religion</i> blog, March 30, 2012.

Interviews

2021	The Classical Ideas Podcast.	Interview with guest host Brian Carwana. Episode 191.
	Fear and Loathing in Science Podcast.	Interview with Penn Arts and Sciences, season 3, episode 1, “Facts vs. Feelings.”
	CreatureKind Podcast.	Interview with Shea Watts.
2017	Debating Religion: Science, Religion, and Reductionism.	Interview with Jessica Frazier. The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies.
2016	Trauma Makes You: An Interview with	Interview with Nathan Rein and

Donovan O. Schaefer.

Matthew Sheedy. *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* 45.2.

In the Beginning Was Not the Word: Why Belief in the Primacy of Language Leads to a Misunderstanding of Richard Dawkins, Islamophobia, and Politics.

Interview with Andrew Aghapour and Michael Schulson. *Religion Dispatches*. Feb. 11, 2016.

Interview with the Author: *Religious Affects*.

Interview with Tenzan Eaghll. *Practicum* blog. March 3, 2016.

Writing Space Interview.

Interview with Greg Seigworth. *WTF Affect* blog. April 2016.

Is Secularism a World Religion?

Interview with Christopher Cotter. *The Religious Studies Project* podcast. November 28, 2016.

An Interview with Donovan Schaefer on *Religious Affects*.

Interview with Christian von Scheve, Freie Universität Berlin. November 28, 2016.

Conference Papers

2022

The Longing to Believe: Rationality, Secularity, and Conspiracy Theory.

Political Theology Network conference, Arizona State University.

The Sense of Science: Cognition, Emotion, and Knowledge Production.

International Society for Research on Emotion conference, University of Southern California. *Forthcoming*.

Power-Knowledge-Pleasure: Rethinking the Religious/Secular Binary with Foucault.

Annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO. *Forthcoming*.

2021

Re-Disenchanting Weber: Looking again at “Science as a Vocation.”

Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network conference. *Presented digitally*.

Secular Páthos: Religion, Pathology, and Belief in the Work of William James.

AAR, San Antonio, TX. *Invited participant in roundtable on “The Pathological and Religion in North America.”*

Longing to Believe: Affect, Cognition, Cogency.

Psychology and the Other conference. *Presented digitally*.

2020

The Charisma of Bad Prose: Feeling Writing in Theory.

AAR. *Presented digitally*.

2019

The Faith of the Enlightenment: Theology, Religious Studies, and the Affective Science of Cognition.

AAR, San Diego, CA. *Co-presenter with Simeon Zahl. Panel organizer.*

Science as an Intoxication.

AAR, San Diego, CA. *Invited participant*

	From Affect Theory to Science and Religion.	<i>in roundtable on "Modernity's Resonances."</i>
	From Creationism to Climate Change Denial: An Affective Approach to Science Skepticism.	Annual meeting of the International Society for Science and Religion, San Diego, CA. <i>Invited participant.</i>
	From Secular Bodies to Secular Affects: Understanding Cultures of Unbelief through Affect Theory.	Annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, Cork, Ireland.
	Feeling Is Believing: Emotion Science, Cognition, and Religion.	Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network conference, Rome, Italy.
	Feeling Is Believing: Emotion Science, Cognition, and Religion.	Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, MO. <i>Invited panel participant.</i>
2018	Mere Science: Mapping the Land Bridge between Emotion, Science, and Ethics.	AAR, Denver, CO. <i>Invited discussant for roundtable on Lisa Sideris' Consecrating Science.</i>
	An Extension of Saturday Night: Affect, the Pornopticon, and the Downfall of Mars Hill.	AAR, Denver, CO. <i>Invited discussant for roundtable on Jessica Johnson's Biblical Porn.</i>
	The Codex of Feeling: Affect Theory and Ancient Texts.	AAR, Denver, CO. <i>Invited discussant for roundtable on Maia Kotrosits' Rethinking Early Christian Identity.</i>
2017	The Lust to Believe: Paranoia, Conspiracy Theory, and Apocalypticism.	AAR, Boston, MA.
	Precopulatory Sexual Cannibalism and Other Accidents: Desire, Evolution, and Natural Law.	"Religion, Society, and the Science of Life" conference, Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford.
2016	Is Secularism a World Religion?	British Association for the Study of Religion annual conference, Wolverhampton.
	Animal Politics: Species, Evolution, and Religious Affects.	AAR, San Antonio, TX. <i>Invited response to session on Religious Affects.</i>
	Only Better Beasts: An Essay on the Animality of Secularism.	"A Postsecular Age?" conference, Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford.
	The Mat of Matter.	"Human Transcendence: Philosophies beyond Mere Materialism" symposium, The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies.
	Unbecoming: Considering the Bio-Logic of Affect.	Society for European Philosophy annual conference, London.

2015	Secular Animacy Hierarchies: Violence and Reason after “Faith and Knowledge.”	“Re-Reading Derrida’s ‘Faith and Knowledge’” conference, University of Nottingham.
	Biology, History, and Metaphysics: Science in Nineteenth-Century Christian Thought.	“Dimensions in Nineteenth Century Christian Thought” colloquium, Oxford.
	Affect and the Animality of Religion: Toward a Theory of the Waterfall Dance.	“The Human Difference?” conference, Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford.
	Animal Method: The Materialist Shift in Aaron S. Gross’ <i>The Question of the Animal and Religion</i>.	AAR, Atlanta, GA.
	Imaging Postsecular Sacrifice: <i>Calvary</i> and Economies of Attachment.	AAR, Atlanta, GA.
2014	Let’s Be Queer about Darwin: Teleology, Desire, and Religion.	“Evolution and Historical Explanation” conference, Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford.
	Dad Wanted a Boy: Gender, Embodiment, and Transcendence in <i>Gravity</i> and <i>2001</i>.	AAR, San Diego, CA.
	Being and Noneness: Post–atheism, Religion, and the Intransigence of Data.	AAR, San Diego, CA.
2013	Heavenbeast: Affect, Accident, and Animality in Joyce’s <i>Ulysses</i>.	Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, ON.
	The Limits of the Text: Affect, Undecidability, and Embodiment in <i>Infinite Jest</i> and <i>Ulysses</i>.	“Return of the Text” conference, Le Moyne College and Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.
	Theses on Guns, Apocalypticism, and American Religion.	AAR, Baltimore, MD.
	Animalism: Religion, Affect, and Non–Sovereign Bodies.	AAR, Baltimore, MD.
2012	What Does It Feel Like to Be an Atheist? Affective Disciplines and Atheism after Darwin.	AAR, Chicago, IL.
	Compulsory Affectivity: Affect, Animality, and the Nonhuman Turn.	“The Nonhuman Turn in 21 st Century Studies” conference, Center for 21 st Century Studies, UW-Milwaukee.
	Embodied Disbelief: Poststructural Feminist Atheism.	“The Varieties of Continental Thought in Religion” conference, Ryerson

2011	<p>Blessed, Precious Mistakes: Deconstruction, Evolution, and the New Atheism.</p> <p>Dances of Awe: Embodiment, Affect, and the Animal Religions.</p> <p>The Irreducibility of Affect: Nietzsche, Foucault, and Frustration.</p> <p>Songs of Love and Hate: Religion, Affect, and the Park51 Controversy.</p> <p><i>Se Plastiquer: Freedom and Metaphysics in Catherine Malabou's What Should We Do with Our Brain?</i></p>	<p>University, Toronto, ON.</p> <p>“The Future of Continental Philosophy of Religion,” Postmodernism, Culture, and Religion conference, Syracuse University.</p> <p>“Animals as Religious Subjects” conference, European Forum for the Study of Religion and Ecology, Chester University, UK.</p> <p>“Anatomy of Affect” symposium, SU Humanities Center, SU.</p> <p>“Self Among Selves: Emotion and the Common Life” conference, SU.</p> <p>Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy conference, Villanova University, Philadelphia, PA.</p>
2010	<p>The Metaphysics of the Metaphysical: The New Age Body in <i>What the Bleep Do We Know!?</i></p> <p>Tight Genes: Feminism, Evolutionary Theory and the Dancing Religious Body.</p>	<p>Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion (AAR-EIR), University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON.</p> <p>AAR, Atlanta, GA.</p>
2009	<p>Modern Society is Dead: The Politics and Poetics of Religious Nostalgia.</p> <p>Love/FOXP2: Language, Genetics, and the Ethical Relation in Levinas.</p>	<p>AAR-EIR, LeMoyne College, Syracuse, NY. <i>Panel organizer.</i></p> <p>AAR, Montreal, QC.</p>
2008	<p>Vivekananda, Müller, and <i>Ramakrishna</i>: Scholarship, Devotion, and Indian Nationalism in the Late 19th Century.</p>	<p>AAR-EIR, McGill University, Montreal, QC.</p> <p><i>Graduate Paper Competition Prize.</i></p>
2007	<p>New Critical Perspectives on Teaching World Religions.</p>	<p>AAR-EIR, Waterloo University, Waterloo, ON. <i>Panel organizer.</i></p>
2006	<p>Resources for Theorizing an Animal-Oriented Ethics in Badiou's <i>Ethics</i>.</p>	<p>AAR-EIR, Laval University, Quebec City, QC. <i>Panel organizer.</i></p>
2005	<p>Theoretical Foundations for a Zoocentric Ethics.</p>	<p>AAR-EIR, McGill University, Montreal, QC.</p>

Teaching Areas

Material religion; science and religion; theory and method in the study of religion; American religion; religion and film; continental philosophy of religion; religion, gender, and sexuality; religion and globalization.

Courses Taught

Penn, graduate	Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion Affect Theory and Power Religion and Cinema Deleuze and Affect Theory (independent study, four students) Material Secularisms (independent study, three students)
Penn, undergraduate	Science and Religion Religion and Evolution Sacred Stuff: Religious Bodies, Places, and Objects
Oxford, graduate	Science and Religion (seminars and tutorials) Global Christianity (tutorials)
Oxford, undergraduate	Religion and Religions Sociology of Religion Science and Religion Introduction to the Study of Religion Nature of Religion Psychology of Religion God, Christ, and Salvation Christian Doctrine of Creation
Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford	Bridging the Two Cultures Program (tutorials)
Haverford College	Philosophy of Religion Religion, Sex, and Power Religion, America, and the Science of Life Religion, Emotion, and Global Cinema
Le Moyne College	Gender, Sexuality, and Religion
Syracuse University	Religions of the World Animal Religion

Doctoral Students (Primary or Co-Supervisor)

2018–present	Angela Xia	Penn
2016–present	Tyler Tully	Oxford
2016–2021	Matthew Pritchard (successfully defended)	Oxford
2016–2020	Justine Ellis (successfully defended)	Oxford

2015–2018	Marek Sullivan (successfully defended)	Oxford
2015–2020	Stefani Ruper (successfully defended)	Oxford

Doctoral Students (Committee Member/Examiner)

2021–present	Amiel Wayne	Drew Univ.
2021–present	Kirby Sokolow	Penn
2020–2022	Mari Ovsepyan (successfully defended)	Oxford
2020–present	Rawad Wehbe	Penn
2020	Brian Carwana (successfully defended)	Univ. of Toronto
2019–present	Ali Noori	Penn
2019–present	Max Dugan	Penn
2019–present	Erez DeGolan	Columbia
2016–2020	Jonathan Sparks-Franklin (successfully defended)	Indiana
2018–2019	Alex Weisberg (successfully defended)	New York Univ.
2017–2018	Susanne Kerekes (successfully defended)	Penn
2017–2018	Venise Adjibodou (successfully defended)	Penn

Undergraduate Theses Supervised

2021–present	Madison Hynson (with Reyhan Durmaz)	Penn
2020–2021	Zovinar Khrimian (Rose Prize winner)	Penn

Awards and Fellowships

2022	Penn Undergraduate Research Mentor Award	Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, Penn
2020–present	Elected Fellow	International Society for Science and Religion
2019–2020	School of Arts and Sciences Conference Support Grant for “Material Secularisms” Conference	Penn (\$2000)
2019–2020	University Research Foundation Research Grant for “Material Secularisms” Conference	Penn (\$3000)
2019–2020	Regional Development Grant for “Material Secularisms” Conference	American Academy of Religion (\$2000)
2018–2019	Wolf Humanities Center Faculty Fellow	Penn
2018–2020	Co-investigator (with PI Simeon Zahl,	Templeton World

	Cambridge) on “Affect and Knowledge-production in Theology and Religious Studies”	Charities Foundation (£146,313.47)
2017	Award for Excellence	University of Oxford (~£1000)
2017	Short-term Research Fellowship	Freie Universität Berlin (€2500)
2017	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence	European Commission
2015	Fellow of the Higher Education Academy	United Kingdom
2013–2015	Collaborative Research Grant (with PI John Corrigan, Florida State) “How Do We Study Religion and Emotion?”	American Academy of Religion
2012–2014	Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship	Haverford College
2013	Student Research Assistant Grant	Haverford College
2010–2011	Humanities Center Dissertation Fellow	Syracuse University (\$21,000)
2010	Certificate in University Teaching	Syracuse University
2008–2010	Teaching Fellow/Mentor	Syracuse University
2009	Outstanding TA Award	Syracuse University
2008	Graduate Paper Competition Prize	AAR-EIR Conference
2007	Summer Fellowship	Syracuse University
2003–2006	Syracuse University Fellowship	Syracuse University (\$15,000/a)
2001	Belle Mulholland Memorial Prize in Religious Studies	University of British Columbia (\$500 CDN)

Conferences, Workshops, and Other Events Organized

2022	Virtual Book Launch for Justin McDaniel’s <i>Wayward</i>	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated virtual book launch for Justin
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	<i>Distractions.</i>	McDaniel's <i>Wayward Distractions: Ornament, Emotion, Zombies, and the Study of Buddhism in Thailand</i> at Penn.
2020	Material Secularisms.	<i>Co-organizer.</i> Designed and implemented 3-day symposium at Penn with Jolyon Thomas. Curated permanent archive of grad student responses to the event at web.sas.upenn.edu/material-secularisms/
2019	Salvation as Affective Pedagogy in the Theology of Martin Luther.	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker Simeon Zahl's visit to Penn.
	The Politics of Modern Yoga.	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker Andrea Jain's visit to Penn.
2018	Once More with Feeling: Affect and the God of the Philosophers.	<i>Co-organizer.</i> Conference hosted at the University of Dayton, February 24–25.
	Charismatic Affects.	<i>Organizer and leader.</i> Workshop at "Capacious: Affect Inquiry/Making Space" conference, August 8–11, Lancaster, PA.
2017	Religion and the Science of Life.	<i>Co-organizer.</i> Conference hosted by the Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion, Oxford, July 19–22.
	<i>Cloud of the Impossible: Darkening Horizons, Deepening Entanglements.</i>	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker Catherine Keller's visit to Oxford.
	An Introduction to the Academic Job Market.	<i>Organizer and presenter.</i> Created and led graduate student workshop for the Penn Religious Studies Department Colloquium.
2016	A Postsecular Age?	<i>Co-organizer.</i> Conference hosted by the Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford, July 27–30.
	Secularism and Sacrifice.	<i>Presenter and co-organizer of series of 8 seminars.</i> Interdisciplinary Seminars in the Study of Religion series, Hilary Term. Supported by a grant from the Ian Ramsey Centre.
2015	The Human Difference?	<i>Co-organizer.</i> Conference hosted by the Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford, July 22–25.
	Secularism and Sacrifice:	<i>Co-organizer.</i>

	Embodied Economies of Value.	Panel for the Philosophy of Religion group of the American Academy of Religion for the 2015 annual meeting.
	On Hunting.	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker Kevin Lewis O'Neill's visit to University of Oxford.
2014	Visceral Nation: Religion/Affect in Postsecular America.	<i>Organizer.</i> Day-long conference at Haverford College, March 28.
	On Not Settling for an Abridged Edition of Postmodernism.	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker John D. Caputo's visit to Haverford College.
2013	Religion, Affect and Emotion Unit.	<i>Founder.</i> Created new program unit at American Academy of Religion. Granted permanent unit status January 2018.
	Affect, Transcendence, Citizenship: Sensing Religion in <i>Children of Men</i>.	<i>Organizer.</i> Coordinated guest speaker M. Gail Hamner's visit to Haverford College.
2012	Embodied Pedagogy: Affect in the Classroom.	<i>Organizer & presenter.</i> Graduate workshop for the SU Religion Department, March 23, 2012.
	The Affective Turn in Religious Studies.	<i>Organizer & presenter.</i> Exploratory Session at AAR (four-paper panel).
2011	The Anatomy of Affect: New Approaches to Embodied Emotion.	<i>Organizer.</i> Symposium at the SU Humanities Center, April 2011. Speakers: Kimerer LaMothe, Karmen MacKendrick, M. Gail Hamner, Donovan Schaefer.
	Embodied Pedagogy.	<i>Organizer & presenter.</i> Graduate workshop for the SU Religion Department, April 4, 2011.
2006	The Role of the Scholar of Religion in the Public Sphere.	<i>Organizer, moderator.</i> Religion Graduate Students Organization Bi-Annual Retreat. Syracuse, NY, May 2006.

Other Research Supervised

2022	Olivia Haynie and Justin Seward	<i>Summer undergraduate research students, through the Penn Undergraduate Research Mentorship award, Penn.</i>
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2021	Liesl Dietrich	<i>Summer undergraduate research student, Penn.</i>
2020	Jack Kiyonaga	<i>Summer undergraduate research student, Penn.</i>
	Luis Juarez Ortiz	<i>Summer undergraduate research student, Penn.</i>
2019	Scheherazade Khan	<i>Graduate student translator of Latin text, Penn.</i>
2013	David Roza	<i>Summer undergraduate research student, Haverford College.</i>

Professional Service

2021–present	Science, Technology, and Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion	<i>Steering Committee Member.</i>
2020	German Research Foundation	<i>External Reviewer.</i>
	Macquarie University Research Fellowship	<i>Independent Reviewer.</i>
2019	Society for the Study of Affect Summer School	<i>Selection Committee Member.</i>
2018–present	<i>Journal of the American Academy of Religion</i>	<i>Editorial Board Member.</i>
2018–present	Religion, Affect, and Emotion Unit, American Academy of Religion	<i>Steering Committee Member.</i>
2016–present	<i>Capacious: The Journal for Emerging Affect Inquiry</i>	<i>Editorial Board Member.</i>
2015–2017	<i>The Oxford Theologian</i> alumni magazine	<i>Managing Editor.</i> Faculty of Theology and Religion.
2015–2017	B.A. Theology and Religion Board of Examiners	<i>Examiner.</i> Faculty of Theology and Religion.
2015–2017	Master of Studies in Study of Religion Board of Examiners	<i>Examiner</i> Faculty of Theology and Religion.
2015–2017	Study of Religion Group	<i>Secretary.</i> Faculty of Theology and Religion.
2015–2017	Post-Graduate Diploma Program	<i>Director of Studies.</i> Faculty of Theology and Religion.
2015–2021	Animals and Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion	<i>Steering Committee Member.</i>
2013–2018	Religion, Affect, and Emotion	<i>Co-chair and Co-founder.</i>

	Unit, American Academy of Religion	
2011	Humanities Dissertation Fellow Selection Committee, Syracuse University Humanities Center	<i>Graduate Representative.</i>
2010–2011	Promotion and Tenure Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Syracuse University	<i>Graduate Representative.</i>
2010–2011	Faculty Search, Department of Religion, Syracuse University	<i>Graduate Representative.</i>
2010–2013	Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory	<i>Assistant Editor.</i>
2009–2017	Bulletin for the Study of Religion	<i>Associate Editor.</i>
2008–2011	Teaching Fellowship Program, The Graduate School, Syracuse University	<i>Teaching Fellow/Teaching Mentor.</i> Planned and organized TA Orientation Program for new TAs.
2005–2006	Graduate Admissions Committee, SU Department of Religion	<i>Graduate Representative.</i>
2005–2006	SU Religion Grad Students Organization	<i>Co-president.</i>

Service to the University of Pennsylvania

2021–2022	Religious Studies Graduate Group, University of Pennsylvania	<i>Interim Chair of the Graduate Group.</i>
	Colloquium Committee, Department of Religious Studies, Penn	<i>Interim Chair.</i>
2021	Center for Teaching and Learning Grad Student Workshop Series, Syllabus Workshop	<i>Invited speaker.</i>
2020	Material Secularisms Conference	<i>Co-organizer (with Jolyon Thomas).</i>
2018–2019	Faculty Search, Department of Religion, Penn	<i>Search Committee Member.</i>
2018–2019	Wolf Humanities Center	<i>Fellows Selection Committee.</i>

2018	Quaker Days Collegepalooza, Penn	<i>Invited faculty lecture “What Is Religion and How Do We Study It?”</i>
	Penn Career Services, “Interviewing for Faculty Jobs” panel	<i>Invited Panelist.</i>
	Race, Rights, and Religion Conference	<i>Session Chair and Moderator.</i>
2017–present	Graduate selection committee, Department of Religious Studies	<i>Selection Committee Member.</i>
2017	CURF Undergraduate Advisory Board, “Clash of Art and Science? Unexpected Unions” panel	<i>Invited Panelist.</i>

Journals and Publishers Served as Peer Reviewer

Capacious
Early American Studies
Feminist Scholarship
Feminist Studies
Hypatia
Journal of the American Academy of Religion
Journal of Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies
Journal of Religious History
Journal for Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies
Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture
Method and Theory in the Study of Religion
Philosophy, Theology, and the Sciences
Political Theology
Religion and Society
Religion Compass
Secularism and Nonreligion
Society and Animals
 Bloomsbury
 Cambridge University Press
 Duke University Press
 Routledge
 Yale University Press

Professional Memberships

- American Academy of Religion
- European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment
- International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture
- International Society for Science and Religion
- North American Association for the Study of Religion
- Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network
- Political Theology Network
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
- Theta Chi Beta

Research Languages

Reading level French, German, and Japanese

Citizenship

Dual: Canadian & US