



**The 21st Annual Religion Graduate Student Symposium
at Florida State University, Tallahassee FL
February 9th - 11th, 2024**

Call for Papers

This year’s symposium will center on the theme: *“Crisis and Calamity: the Aesthetics of Apocalypse, Immorality, and Conspiracy”*

Given our current socio-political atmosphere, our 21st annual symposium seeks to explore questions surrounding times of crisis and calamity. We invite scholars to present papers concerning historical or current crises as they relate to religion. Previous symposia have featured scholars from various disciplines and departments. We therefore invite papers from fields as varied as History, Anthropology, Political Science, Literature, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Classics.

David Frankfurter, Boston University, Professor of Religion; Aurelio Professor of the Appreciation of Scripture, will deliver this year’s keynote address: *Conspiracy, Atrocity, and “Ritual”*

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

Religion, Violence, Terrorism, & Nationalism	Power & Religion
Internal Disputes & Hierarchical Conflicts	New Religious Movements
Civil and State-Sanctioned Religion	Religion & the Experiences of Identity-Making
Surveillance & Policing	Monster Theory & the Creation of the Other
The Occult, Witchcraft, & Ritual	Hell, Demons, Demonology
Embodiment, Corporeality, & the Transhuman	Religion & Material Culture
Singularity & Assimilation	Existentialism, Philosophy, & Critical Thought
Religion, Disgust, & Heresy	Religious Ethics & Moral Problems
Panic, Anxiety, Emergency, Pain, Pleasure, Fear, & Terror	Affect Theory: Form & Feeling in Religious Discourse
Plague, Contagion, Diseases	Weather, Climate Change, & Natural Disasters

Presentations should be approximately 15 to 18 minutes in length and will receive faculty responses. In addition, respondents will select an outstanding graduate paper to receive the Leo F. Sandon Award, an endowed award named for the Religion Department's former Chair.

Proposals including an abstract of approximately 300 words, a list of key terms, and any institutional affiliations should be submitted by December 9, 2023 for review. Please submit proposals via this provided link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHh_5Ps_SeEJbL6PRqHQnbWartKqx7iyRWJx3UE0gbQnRVoA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you at the 2024 Graduate Student Symposium at Florida State University.

Please contact this year's symposium directors with any questions: Scott Bursey (rbursey@fsu.edu); Ashley Douglas (ald16d@fsu.edu); or Emily Olsen (etolsen@fsu.edu)