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Florida State University
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EDUCATION:

2009–2017

University of Chicago, Divinity School

Ph.D., History of Religions

Advisor: Bruce Lincoln

Dissertation: *Redescribing “Magic”: Discourse, Alterity, and Religion in the Roman World*

2007–2009

University of Chicago, Divinity School

M.A., Divinity

2005–2007

Georgia State University, Department of Religious Studies

M.A., Religious Studies

1999–2003

Georgia State University, Department of Philosophy

B.A., Philosophy; Minor: Religious Studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Autumn 2018–

Assistant Teaching Professor, Florida State University, Department of Religion

Autumn 2016–Spring 2018

Lecturer in the Humanities, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts

COURSES TAUGHT:

- Introduction to World Religions (REL 1300)
- Religions of the World (HUM/RELS 201, UM-Dearborn)
- The Ancient Romans and their “Religion” (RLST 22311/CLCV 22314, UChicago)
- Academic and Professional Writing (ENGL 13000, UChicago)

AWARDS/HONORS

Mellon Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, 2015-2016

Martin Marty Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2014-2015

Alma Wilson Teaching Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2014-2015
(for the course “The Ancient Romans and their ‘religion’”)

Jerald Brauer Seminar participant, University of Chicago, 2012

Doolittle-Harrison Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2011

PUBLICATIONS

“On Z-factors and Empires,” in *Method Today: Redescribing Approaches to the Study of Religion*, edited by Brad Stoddard, forthcoming with Equinox Publishing Ltd.

“Response to Thesis 7,” in McCutcheon, Russell, *Religion in Theory and Practice: Demystifying the Field for Burgeoning Academics*, Equinox Publishing Ltd. 2018, 183-185.

Review of John Scheid’s *The Gods, the State, and the Individual: Reflections on Civic Religion in Rome*. Translated and with a foreword by Clifford Ando (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015) in *History of Religions*, August 2017, Vol. 57, No. 1, 93-96.

“The Spaces Between, or When the Choices are Hard,” as part of “Forum: Crafting the Introductory Course in Religious Studies,” Russell McCutcheon et al. in *Teaching Theology & Religion*, Volume 19, Issue 1, January 2016, p. 78-98.

Review of Jörg Rüpke’s *Religion in Republican Rome: Rationalization and Ritual Change* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012) in *Journal of Religion*, July 2014, Vol. 94 No. 3, 400-402.

OTHER WRITINGS

“From Critiquing Ancient Religion to Imagining No Religion,” invited post for “Words and Things,” a University of Alabama Religious Studies blog series engaging Brent Nongbri’s *Before Religion*, February 2017
(<https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2017/02/24/words-and-things-from-critiquing-ancient-religion-to-imagining-no-religion/>).

“*Religio* without Religion: Brent Nongbri’s *Before Religion* and the Age of Cicero,” on the University of Chicago Divinity School’s Religion and Culture Web Forum (via the Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion), January 2015 (archived at <https://divinity.uchicago.edu/religion-and-culture-web-forum-0>).

In progress:

“The Material of the ‘Magical’ Evidence,” in progress for submission to *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*.

“Historicizing ‘Magic’: Pliny the Elder’s History of the *Magicae Vanitates* and the Cultural Anxieties of Empire,” in progress for submission to *Religion in the Roman Empire*.

“Methodological and Pedagogical Reflections on J.Z. Smith’s ‘Trading Places,’” in progress for *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*’s special issue in honor of Jonathan Z. Smith.

Review of Daniel Dubuisson’s *Religion and Magic in Western Culture* (Brill, 2016) under review for *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

Moderator, “The Things We Study When We Study Religion: Subjects,” North American Association for the Study of Religion Annual Conference, 2017.

Respondent, “Method Today: Comparison,” North American Association for the Study of Religion Annual Conference, 2016.

“Pliny the Elder’s History of Magic and the Logic of Demonization,” delivered to the AAR Comparative Studies in Religion Section, “Theorizing Demonic Language in Mediterranean Religions,” at the AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, November 2016.

“The Ancient Romans and Their ‘religion’,” delivered to the Society for Ancient Mediterranean Religions and International Qu’ranic Studies Association SBL program unit “Teaching Ancient Mediterranean Religions from Rome to Islam,” at AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, November 2016

“Just Another Roman Intellectual: Magic, the Hellenistic occult, and the Utterly Ordinary Case of Nigidius Figulus,” delivered to the 2016 Florida State University Graduate Student Symposium.

“From Greece to Rome: On the Formation and Transmission of a Concept of ‘Magic’ in Antiquity,” delivered to the Religion and Human Sciences Workshop, University of Chicago, November 2015.

“Historicizing ‘Magic’: Pliny the Elder and Religious Anxiety in the Roman Empire,” delivered to the Magic/Science/Religion module “Ancient Contexts and Categories” of the Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School, October 2015.

“A ‘Theological’ Discourse at Rome: on Empire, Knowledge, and Religion,” presented to the University of Chicago Theology and Religious Ethics Workshop, May 2015.

“*Religio* without Religion: Reflections on Recent Debates in Roman Religion and Religious Studies,” delivered to the AAR Cultural History of the Study of Religion Group and SBL Religious World of Late Antiquity Section, “Brent Nongbri’s Before Religion: A History of a Modern Concept (Yale University Press, 2013): Critical Engagement,” at the AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, November 2014.

“On Malinowski’s *Magic, Science, and Religion*,” presented to Bruce Lincoln’s “Classic Theories of Religion” class, Autumn 2014.

“Ritual Lost: The Abolition and Representation of the Sotah Ritual in M. Sotah 9:9,” presented to the History of Judaism section at the 2007 Southeastern Conference of the American Academy of Religion (SECSOR).

AFFILIATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS

- American Academy of Religion, member since 2006
- Society for Biblical Literature, member since 2016
- North American Association for the Study of Religion, member since 2016

LANGUAGES

- Reading proficient: Latin, Attic Greek, French, and German
- Some reading knowledge of Italian, Spanish, and (Biblical and Modern) Hebrew

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE:

- Reviewer for *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*
- Reviewer for *History of Religions*

REFERENCES

Bruce Lincoln, Caroline E. Haskell Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Religions in the Divinity School at the University of Chicago
(773) 702-5083
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Clifford Ando, David B. and Clara E. Stern Professor; Professor of Classics, History and Law and in the College at the University of Chicago
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(773) 702-8520
cf12@midway.uchicago.edu

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Jeffrey Stackert, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible; Associate Faculty in the
Department of Classics at the University of Chicago
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