

SONIA HAZARD
Florida State University
Department of Religion, M05 Dodd Hall
641 University Way
P.O. Box 3061520
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1520
shazard@fsu.edu

POSITIONS

2019 - Assistant Professor, Religion Department, Florida State University
2017 - 2018 Visiting Assistant Professor, Religious Studies Department, Franklin & Marshall College

EDUCATION

2017 **Ph.D.** in Religion, Duke University
Major field: American Religion
Minor fields: Art History and Critical Theory
Dissertation: "The Touch of the Word: Evangelical Cultures of Print in Antebellum America"

2017 **Certificate** of Proficiency, Rare Book School, University of Virginia
Specialization: Printed Books Since 1800

2010 **M.T.S.**, Harvard Divinity School
Area of focus: History of Christianity

2008 **B.A. *summa cum laude***, Macalester College
Majors: Religious Studies and Art History
Minor: American Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Book manuscript in progress

Building Evangelical America: How the American Tract Society Laid the Groundwork for a Religious Revolution (under advance contract with Oxford University Press, due December 2021)

Articles

2021 "How Joseph Smith Encountered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism," *Religion and American Culture* 31, no. 2 (2021), in press. Peer-reviewed.

2020 "Evangelical Encounters: The American Tract Society and the Rituals of Print Distribution in Antebellum America," *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 88, no. 1 (2020), 200-234. Peer-reviewed.

2020 "The American Tract Society and the Refinement of the Evangelical Book, 1825-1861," *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* 114, no. 2 (2020), 127-94. Peer-reviewed.

2018 "Thing," *Early American Studies* 16, no. 4 (2018), 792-800. Peer-reviewed.

2013 "The Material Turn in the Study of Religion," *Religion and Society* 4 (2013), 58-78.

Under review

“The Sovereignty of *Poor Sarah*: A Christian Revival in Print During the Removal Crisis in Cherokee Nation,” submitted in December 2020 to *Church History*

“Document, Trace, Act: Aspects of Marginalia at a Scene of Missionary Contact,” chapter in *American Contact: Intercultural Encounter and the History of the Book*, edited by Rhae Lynn Barnes and Glenda Goodman, submitted in April 2021 for book under advance contract at University of Pennsylvania Press

Special issues edited

- 2021 Guest editor, “Religion and Material Texts in the Americas,” special issue of *Material Religion* 17, no. 2 (2021). Introduction on pp. 141-46.
- 2018 Guest editor with Marcy J. Dinius, “Keywords in Early American Literature and Material Texts,” special issue of *Early American Studies* 16, no. 4 (2018). Introduction on pp. 579-83.

Invited short essays

- 2019 “Two Ways of Thinking about New Materialism,” *Material Religion* 15, no. 5 (2019), 629-31.
- 2015 “Agency, the Idea of Agency, and the Problem of Mediation in *America’s God* and *Secularism in Antebellum America*,” *Church History* 84, no. 3 (2015), 610-15.

Article manuscripts in progress

“An Evangelical History of ____: The Typographical Blank and the Space of Millennial Desire”

Book reviews

- 2021 Review of Jenna Supp-Montgomerie, *When the Medium was the Mission: The Atlantic Telegraph and the Religious Origins of the Network* (New York: NYU Press, 2021) in *American Religion* (in progress).
- 2021 Review of Brett Malcolm Grainger, *Church in the Wild: Evangelicals in Antebellum America* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019) in *The Journal of Religion* (2021), in press.
- 2021 Review of Michael Hubbard MacKay, Mark Ashurst-McGee, and Brian M. Hauglid, eds., *Producing Ancient Scripture: Joseph Smith’s Translation Projects in the Development of Mormon Christianity* (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2020) in *Mormon Studies Review* 9 (2021), in press.
- 2021 Review of Jordan Alexander Stein, *When Novels Were Books* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2020) in *Studies in the Novel* 53, no. 2 (2021), 200-202.
- 2018 Review of William Mazarella, *The Mana of Mass Society* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017) in *Religion* 48, no. 4 (2018), 737-40.
- 2018 Review of Tisa Wenger, *Religious Freedom: The Contested History of an American Ideal* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2017) in *Journal of Unitarian Universalist History* 41 (2018), 217-20.

- 2018 [“The Anxiety of Religious Studies,”](#) contribution to symposium on Thomas Lewis, *Why Philosophy Matters for the Study of Religion—and Vice Versa* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016) in *Syndicate* (2018)
- 2017 [“Bibles, American Style,”](#) review of John Fea, *The Bible Cause: A History of the American Bible Society* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016) in *Common-place* 17, no. 2.5 (2017)
- 2017 Review of T.J. Tomlin, *A Divinity for All Persuasions: Almanacs and Early American Religious Life* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014) in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 141, no. 2 (2017), 199-200.
- 2016 [Review of John Modern,](#) *Secularism in Antebellum America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015) in *Reading Religion* (2016)
- 2013 Review of Thomas Tweed, *America’s Church: The National Shrine and Catholic Presence in the Nation’s Capital* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011) in *Religious Studies Review* 39 no. 1 (2013), 46.

Reference book entries

- 2016 “Robert Baird,” “Censorship,” “Floral Art,” “Frederick Manfred,” and “Mason Locke Weems” in *The Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*, George Thomas Kurian and Mark Lamport, eds. (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016), 191-93, 476-77, 899-900, 1406-7 and 2443-44.
- 2016 “Icons” and “Shroud of Turin” in *Miracles: An Encyclopedia of People, Places and Supernatural Events from Antiquity to the Present*, Patrick Hayes, ed. (Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 2016), 187-89 and 359-61.
- 2013 “Elizabeth Burgin” and “Anna ‘Nancy’ Smith Strong” in *An Encyclopedia of American Women at War: From the Home Front to the Battlefields*, Lisa Tendrich Frank, ed. (Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 2013), 112-13 and 521-23.

Online publications

- 2018 [“Off the Cuff: Teaching with TIF”](#) in *The Immanent Frame* (September 20, 2018)
- 2017 [“Do my socks respond to my caress?”](#) in Tenth Anniversary Forum on “Is this all there is?” for *The Immanent Frame*, Courtney Bender and Nancy Levene, eds. (November 27, 2017)
- 2013 [“Abigail Hutchinson: A Young Woman Hopefully Converted,”](#) *Material Objects Archive* for the Yale Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion (December 2013). Peer-reviewed.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Major fellowships

- 2019 - 2020 NEH Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia, nine months (*declined*)
- 2019 American Antiquarian Society-NEH Fellowship, six months

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- 2016 - 2022 Invited Fellow, “Material Economies of Religion in the Americas: Arts, Objects, Spaces, and Mediations,” directed by Sally Promey and Sarah Rivett, Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion, Yale University
- 2016 - 2017 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2016 - 2017 Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship, National Museum of American History (*declined*)
- 2016 - 2017 Josephine de Karman Dissertation Fellowship (*declined*)
- 2016 - 2017 Winterthur Dissertation Fellowship, four months
- 2015 - 2017 Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in Critical Bibliography, Rare Book School
- 2015 - 2016 Greenfield Dissertation Fellowship, four months, Library Company of Philadelphia
- 2014 - 2015 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in Early American Literature and Material Texts, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Internal awards (FSU)

- 2021 Committee on Faculty Research Support Award (\$20K)
- 2021 Humanities Area Book Subvention
- 2020 First Year Assistant Professor Award (\$20K)
- 2019 Arts and Sciences Dean’s Faculty Travel Award
- 2019 Bradley Research Grant

Other external awards

- 2017 Last Fellowship in Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society (*declined*)
- 2016 Reese Fellowship in American Bibliography and the History of the Book in the Americas, Huntington Library
- 2015 New York Public Library Research Fellowship
- 2015 Taylor Visiting Fellowship in American Literature, Harrison Institute for American History, Literature, and Culture, University of Virginia
- 2015 McCorison Fellowship for the History and Bibliography of Printing in Canada and the United States, Bibliographical Society of America
- 2015 American Congregational Association-Boston Athenaeum Fellowship
- 2014 Isaiah Thomas Scholarship, Program in the History of the Book in American Culture, American Antiquarian Society
- 2014 Director’s Scholarship, Rare Book School
- 2013 School of Criticism and Theory Fellowship, for “A Political Ecology of Things” with Jane Bennett, Cornell University
- 2013 Last Fellowship in Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society
- 2010 Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, AAR New England/Maritimes Regional Meeting
- 2008 Phi Beta Kappa

CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS & LECTURES

Keynote lecture

- 2021 Keynote lecture, “The Case of the ‘Gold Plates’: How Ordinary Religious Objects Sparked a Religious Revolution,” for the conference “Religious Materials,” Dynamiken religiöser Dinge im Museum (REDIM) Project, Center for Interdisciplinary Religious Research, Philipps Universität-Marburg, Marburg, Germany (June 3)

Conferences organized

- 2017 Organizer (with Holly Borham), "[Protestantism and the Materiality of Texts: An Interdisciplinary Symposium](#)," Princeton University (April 20-22)
- 2016 Organizing committee member, "Early American Literature and Material Texts," University of Pennsylvania and the Library Company of Philadelphia (May 25-27)

Panels organized

- 2017 Organizer (with Dana Logan) and presider, "Do I Love My Subjects? A Roundtable about Pleasure, Paranoia, and Care in American Religious Studies," Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion Unit and Religion, Affect, and Emotion Unit, American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA (November 20)
- 2017 Organizer (with Dana Logan) and panelist, "Author-Meets-Critics: A Roundtable on Finbarr Curtis's *The Production of American Religious Freedom*," Religion and Economy Unit and Secularism and Secularity Unit, American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA (November 19)
- 2016 Organizer and panelist, "Keywords in Early American Material Texts," Early American Material Texts Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (May 25)
- 2015 Organizer (with Karen Bray) and panelist, "Between Philosophy and a Phenomenological Hard Place: New Materialism as a Methodology in the Study of Religion," Philosophy of Religion Section, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA (November 21)
- 2015 Organizer (with Dana Logan and Caleb Maskell) and panelist, "Futures of the American Religious Past: A Conversation about Mark Noll's *America's God* and John Lardas Modern's *Secularism in Antebellum America*," American Society of Church History, New York, NY (January 3)
- 2013 Organizer (with Brendan Pietsch) and panelist, "Religious Change and Technological Mediation in Modern America," North American Religions Section, American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD (November 25)

Papers

- 2021 "The Sovereignty of *Poor Sarah*: A Christian Revival in Print During the Removal Crisis in Cherokee Nation," Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (SCRIPT) at the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX (November 20-23)
- 2019 "Getting Real, Nineteenth-Century Style: The Case of Joseph Smith's Gold Plates, in "Debunked: Fakes and Their Investigators," American Academy of Religion, Secularism and Secularity Unit, San Diego, CA (November 23)
- 2018 "How Joseph Smith Discovered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism," American Academy of Religion, Mormon Studies Unit, Denver, CO (November 19)
- 2018 "Evangelical Encounters: Affect and the Rituals of Print Distribution in Antebellum America," in "Beyond Circulation: Material Texts and Their Movements, Distributions, and Networks" (organized with John Garcia), C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Albuquerque, NM (March 25)
- 2018 "What Does Benevolence Feel Like? The American Tract Society and the Rituals of Print Distribution in Early America" in "Media Histories of Evangelicalism," Religion and Politics in Early America Conference, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (March 1)
- 2018 "Are We Doing American Religious Studies Yet?" in "Revisiting 'The Study of American Religions: Critical Reflections on a Specialization,'" American Society for Church History, Washington, DC (January 4)
- 2017 "How Joseph Smith Discovered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism," Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts and the Society for Biblical Literature, Boston, MA (November 19)

- 2017 “‘Em are’s tracts ain’t they? They don’t want ‘em here”^[SEP]: Class and the Evangelical Politics of Tracts and Books in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” Harvard-Yale Book History Conference, Cambridge, MA (April 28)
- 2016 “The Pilgrim’s Parlor: Gilt, Bookcloth, Steel, and the Making of the Evangelical Middle Class,” North American Conference on British Studies, Washington, DC (November 12)
- 2015 “How to Do Things with Tracts: The American Tract Society and the Burdens of Circulation, 1825-1850,” Material Religion: Embodiment, Materiality, and Technology Conference, Duke University, Durham, NC (September 11)
- 2014 “The Construction of Agency as a Category in the Study of Religion,” in “Key Concepts in the Study of Religion,” Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion Group, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA (November 25)
- 2014 “Reassembling Religions: A New Materialist Method for Studying People and Things in Religious Studies,” Remixing Religion Conference, University of Texas at Austin (April 5)
- 2014 “A Life of Its Own: A New Materialist’s Look at Religious Imagery,” Perceiving Religion: The Production, Consumption, and Reception of Religious Imagery Conference, McGill University, Montréal, Québec (March 22)
- 2013 “The Education of the Eye: Seeing God’s Kingdom in Nineteenth-Century Print Culture,” American Society of Church History, New Orleans, LA (January 3)

Panels and roundtables

- 2020 Book panelist, for Peter Coviello’s *Make Yourself Gods: Mormons and the Unfinished Business of American Secularism*, American Studies Association, Baltimore, MD (November 14) [delayed to 2021 due to COVID]
- 2019 Panelist, “#CaptioningReligion: Characterizing the Material Economies of Religion in the Americas,” American Academy of Religion, North American Religions Unit and Religion and Economy Unit, San Diego, CA (November 24)
- 2015 Panelist, “Books in the Larger World of Objects in the Long Eighteenth Century,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, CA (March 19)
- 2013 Panelist, “Materialisms: New Materialism and Historical Materialism in Dialogue,” convened by Jane Bennett, Cornell School of Criticism and Theory, Ithaca, NY (July 22)

Invited papers, seminars, and guest lectures

- 2020 “The Agency of Tracts,” Religious Studies Seminar, University of Southern California [online due to COVID] (September 16)
- 2019 “How Joseph Smith Encountered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism,” New Materialism Seminar, Williams College, Williamstown, MA (April 26)
- 2019 “Makers of the Sensible,” for the course “The Mediated Book,” Harvard History Department, Cambridge, MA (March 25)
- 2019 “How Joseph Smith Encountered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism,” Nineteenth Century US History Workshop, Brown University, Providence, RI (February 8)
- 2018 “America’s Cargo Cult: How Joseph Smith Discovered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism,” Workshop in the History of Material Texts, Kislak Center, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (March 19)
- 2018 “America’s Cargo Cult: How Joseph Smith Discovered Printing Plates and Founded Mormonism,” Public Lecture, University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, IL (February 1)
- 2017 “‘Em are’s tracts ain’t they? They don’t want ‘em here”: Class and the Evangelical Politics of Tracts and Books in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” Symposium on Protestantism and the Materiality of Texts, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (April 22)

- 2017 “How to Do Things with Tracts: The American Tract Society and the Burdens of Circulation, 1825-1861,” for the course “The Mediated Book,” Harvard History Department, Cambridge, MA (March 20)
- 2017 “Bibliography and the Reception of Evangelical Print Media in Antebellum America,” for the course “Book Production and Social Practice in Early Modern Europe and America,” Rare Book School, Houghton Library, Cambridge, MA (January 12)

Lectures organized

- 2017 Mellon/Rare Book School Symposium, featuring Pamela Klassen, “Protest on the Page: Print as an Affordance for Revolutionary Spirits,” Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA (October 25)

Panels, as chair or respondent

- 2021 Chair, “Made to Move: Small-Format Print and its Uses in Nineteenth-Century West Africa and the United States,” Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing” (July 8) [online due to COVID]
- 2020 Respondent, “The Visual Politics of Redaction,” C19: The Society for Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Coral Gables, FL (October 23) [online due to COVID]
- 2020 Chair, “Affective Thinkers in Dialogue,” American Studies Association, Baltimore, MD (November 13) [delayed due to COVID]
- 2020 Chair, “Religious Minorities and the Paths to Power in the Early United States,” American Society for Church History, New York, NY (January 4)
- 2018 Chair, “Mormonism and its Institutions,” American Society for Church History, Washington, DC (January 7)
- 2017 Chair, “Digitization, Representation, and Access,” Bibliography Among the Disciplines Conference, Philadelphia, PA (October 14)

Pedagogy workshops

- 2018 Workshop Leader, “Classroom and Public Pedagogies in Critical Bibliography: The Americas,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography, Charlottesville, VA (May 23)

TEACHING & ADVISING

Florida State University, Assistant Professor

Graduate

- American Religion, 1791-1861 (Spring 2020, Fall 2021)
- Religion and Material Culture (Spring 2021)
- Christianity and the Book in the Atlantic World, 1500-1900 [delayed due to COVID]

Undergraduate

- What is Religion? (Fall 2021)
- Religion in the United States (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021)
- Evangelicalism in America (Spring 2020)

Dissertation Committee Member

- Taylor Dean
- Michael McLaughlin

Doctoral Comprehensive Exams Committee Member

Darryl Hunter (Fall 2021)
Nick Austin (Fall 2021)
Devin Burns (Fall 2021)
Haley Iliff (Fall 2020)
Jesse Lee (Spring 2020)
Taylor Dean (Fall 2019)
Michael McLaughlin (Fall 2019)

Franklin & Marshall College, Visiting Assistant Professor

African American Religions (Spring 2018)
Religion and Material Culture (Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
The Cultural History of American Religion (Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
Gender, Sexuality, and the Body in Christianity (Spring 2018)
Introduction to Religious Studies (Spring 2018)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & ACTIVITIES

Committees, external

2020 - Section Chair, Religions in America, Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion
2019 - 2022 Selection Committee Chair and Council Member, Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography, Rare Book School
2017 - 2019 Selection Committee, Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography, Rare Book School
2016 - 2017 Planning Committee, Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography, Rare Book School
2014 - 2015 Mentor, Undergraduate Research Workshop, McNeil Center for Early American Studies

Committees, FSU

2021 Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee
2021 Faculty Advisor, Publishing Workshop Committee
2020 - Faculty Advisor, Religion Graduate Student Conference
2020 - Executive Committee, Religion Department
2019 - History of Text Technologies (HoTT) Steering Committee
2019 - Religion Library Committee

Manuscript and proposal reviews

Yale University Press; Routledge; *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*; *Material Religion* (x2); *William and Mary Quarterly*; *American Anthropologist*; *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*; *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*; *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*; *Journal of Southern Religion*; *Material and Visual Cultures of Religion (MAVCOR) Journal*

Research fellowship reviews

New York Public Library NEH Long-Term Fellowship Committee (2021); Winterthur Dissertation and Postdoctoral Fellowship Review Committee (2018)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2015 - 2017 Rare Book School, University of Virginia: “Printed Books to 1800” with David Whitesell; “American Publishers’ Bookbindings, 1800-1900” with Todd Pattison; “History of 19th- and 20th-Century Typography and Printing” with John Kristensen and Katherine Ruffin; “The Printed Book in the West Since 1800” with Eric Holzenberg; “Book Illustration to 1900” with Terry Belanger; and “Advanced Seminar in Critical Bibliography” with Michael Suarez
- 2014 Summer Seminar on the History of the Book in American Culture, American Antiquarian Society: “Books in the Larger World of Objects” with Lynn Festa and David Brewer
- 2013 Cornell School of Criticism and Theory: “A Political Ecology of Things” with Jane Bennett

LANGUAGES

French (reading), German (reading)

ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion
American Society of Church History
Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (Inducted Senior Fellow in 2017)
Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (Board of Trustees since 2020)
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists
Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing
American Studies Association