Human & Nonhuman

17th Annual Florida State University Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium

February 22-23, 2019
Dodd Hall
**Schedule of Events**

**Friday, February 22nd**

**2:00-4:00 p.m.** Registration and check-in  
Dodd Hall Foyer

---

**Session 1A: Islam**  
2:30-4:15 p.m.  
Werkmeister Reading Room

Respondent: Dr. Adam Gaiser  
Moderator: Darian Shump

**Ibadi Theory of Waqf**  
Amanda Propst  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

**Are the Falasifa a Firqa? Arguing for the Sectarian Characterization of the Philosophers in al-Ghazali**  
Austin Fitzgerald  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

**Between Human and Nonhuman Through the Queen of Sheba**  
Jillian Stinchcomb  
*University of Pennsylvania, Department of Religious Studies*

---

**Session 1B: Ethics and Practice**  
2:30-4:15 p.m.  
Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Respondent: Dr. Martin Kavka  
Moderator: Joshua Carpenter

**Contemplative Practices and Neoliberal Individualism**  
Steven Quach  
*UC Riverside, Department of Religious Studies*
Karma and the Threefold Law: An Investigation of Indian Religious Influence on Wiccan Ethics
Humberto Perez
*Florida International University, Department of Religion*

A Jewish Tradition's Tug-of-War Over Natural Law: Verifying and Integrating Novak's Conception of Natural Law
Nathan Moats
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

---

**Session 2A: Technology and Religion**
4:30-6:25 p.m.
Werkmeister Reading Room

Respondent: Dr. Michael McVicar
Moderator: Michael McLaughlin

**Climbing Ropes and Inter-Webs: Tracing the Divine Thread Connecting Humanity**
Colby Long
*Vanderbilt Divinity School*

**Progress or Peril?: The Rhetoric and Risks of Moral Enhancement**
Joseph Fisher
*Columbia University, Department of Religion*

**The White Face of Death: Persons and Puppets in the Russian Avant-Garde**
Taylor Thomas
*Indiana University, Department of Religious Studies*

**Dial-A-Drunk: Alcoholics Anonymous and the Telephone**
Taylor Wilson Dean
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*
Session 2B: Demons, Ghosts, and Magic
4:30-6:25 p.m.
Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Respondent: Dr. Kristina Buhrman
Moderator: Timothy Burnside

Tibetan Witches
Amanda Brown
Florida State University, Department of Religion

The Body Demonic: Imagining Japanese Kingship and the State through Esoteric Buddhist Demon Worship
Bruce Winkelman
University of Chicago, Divinity School

From Peripheral Demon to Centralized Deity: YHWH's "Coming-Of-Age" Tale In the Exodus Plague Narrative
Carl James Dates
Columbia Theological Seminary

Medicine, Magic, and the Yeti: Tibetan Perspectives on Monstrosity and 'Wildmen'
Lee Weiss
Temple University, Department of Religion

"Writing Demons and Difference"
A Keynote Address by Dr. Annette Yoshiko Reed
New York University
7 p.m., Dodd Hall Auditorium

8:00 p.m.
Announcement of the Leo Sandon Best Paper Award and the Walter and Marian Moore Travel Awards

Afterward: Dinner and Reception, Dodd Hall Foyer
Food provided by: Mayuri Indian Restaurant
Vegan, Vegetarian, and Meat options available
Saturday, February 23rd

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast, Dodd Hall Foyer

Session 3A: Gender and Religious Practices
10:00-11:55 a.m.
Werkmeister Reading Room

Respondent: Dr. Aline Kalbian
Moderator: Lauren Lovestone

“I'll always have an extra hammer by my side”: Reconceiving Authority and Embodying Masculinity on a Depression-Era Catholic Worker Farm
   Nicholas Austin
   Florida State University, Department of Religion

Daddy I Do: Purity Balls and Evangelical Ideals of Virginity, Marriage, and Personhood
   Mihee Kim-Kort
   Indiana University, Religion in the Americas

Virginity, Bestiality, and Virtue in Sozomen's Account of the Attack of the Consecrated Virgins of Heliopolis
   LaToya Leary
   Florida State University, Department of Religion

Religious Ecstasy and the Ecological Collapse in Hogan's Solar Storms
   Liz Hutchinson
   Florida State University, Literature Program
Session 3B: Religious Resistance
10:00-11:55 a.m.
Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Respondent: Dr. Heather DuBois
Moderator: Jesse Lee

Equatorial Guinea, Modernity, and Colonialization: Foreigners and Bwiti Rituals
Zoe Walker
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Virtuous Passions and the Correction of Racist Habits
Joseph Lim
The University of Notre Dame, Department of Theology

Deploying Religion: Private Security and the Utilization of Religion at Standing Rock
Madeleine Prothero
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Doctrine of Dissent: Exploring the Evolving Role of Religion in Tibetan Protest Methods
Marah Litchford
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Session 3C: Deviancy and Bodies
10:00-11:55 a.m.
Dodd Hall Auditorium

Respondent: Dr. Jamil Drake
Moderator: Haley Iliff

Jedidiah Morse and the Theo-Spatial Politics of the Early Republic
Andrew Gardner
Florida State University, Department of Religion
John Brown, Puritans, and the Declaration of Independence
Erika Nelson
Vanderbilt University, Department of Religion

No Freedom Without Religion: Prisons and the Shaping of Religious Bodies in Antebellum New York
Robert Lee
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Sorting Bodies: Religion as Social Hierarchy in the Rajneesh Movement
Nicole M.A. Wrobel
Florida State University, Department of Religion

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch, Dodd Hall Foyer
Sandwiches – vegetarian and meat options, chips, dessert

Session 4A: Jewish Reception History
1:00-2:55 p.m.
Werkmeister Reading Room

Respondent: Dr. Annette Yoshiko Reed
Moderator: Rebekah Gordon

Angels, Humans, and Evil: An Investigation of Demons in the Book of Watchers
Emily Olsen
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Angels in Ancient Popular Literature: the Case for a New Class of Characters
Rebecca Draughon
University of Virginia, Department of Religious Studies
Dirty Jobs: Jose Saramago's Adaptation of The Book of Job
   Anderson Moss
   University of Georgia, Department of Religion

Ambrose of Milan and the Destroyed Synagogue of Callinicum: A Reception History
   J. Jordan Henderson
   Florida State University, Department of Religion

Session 4B: (Non)Human Boundaries
   1:00-2:55p.m.
   Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Respondent: Dr. Elizabeth Cecil
Moderator: Rebecca Peters

Affectively Defective: Māra’s Nonhuman Emotions in the Precious Banner Sūtra
   Adam T. Miller
   University of Chicago, Divinity School

Thinking Environmental Ethics with Later Heidegger: Dasein As Shepherd & Preserver of Being
   Jim Waters
   Florida State University, Department of Religion

Rattus Hierarchicus: Human-Rat Relations, Kinship, and Caste in Rajasthan
   Kyle J. Trembley
   University of Washington, Anthropology Department

The Modern Process is an Elaborate One: Elements and Groups, Agency and Ethics
   Thomas J. Carrico, Jr.
   Florida State University, Department of Religion
Session 4C: Identity and the Self  
1:00-2:55 p.m.  
Dodd Hall Auditorium

Respondent: Dr. Andrew Durdin  
Moderator: Amanda Propst

The Gendering of Jewishness in Edith Stein’s Life  
L.R. Lovestone  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

Theorizing about the Self in Panpsychism and the Extended Mind Using the *Dao De Jing* (道徳經) and *Zhuangzi* (莊子)  
Ryan R. Lemasters  
*Western Michigan University, Department of Comparative Religion*

A Monument to Defeat: The Alamo, David Crockett, and the Consecration of Texas  
Stephen Oleszek  
*Florida State University, Department of History*

Cultural Barriers: a case study of the Romans at Eleusis  
Jessica Tilley  
*Florida State University, Department of Classical Studies*

Session 5A: Popular Culture  
3:15-5:10 p.m.  
Werkmeister Reading Room

Respondent: Dr. Meredith Ross  
Moderator: Taylor Dean

Secret Lives, Fragmented Selves: *Ms. Marvel* and Muslim American Youth  
Darian Shump  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*
But the White Folks that Claim Him Didn't Make Him: Islam and Albinism in the Music of Brother Ali  
Michael McLaughlin  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

Panic! at the Doxology: A Theory of Secular Hymns  
Rebekah Gordon  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

**Session 5B: Religious Negotiations**  
3:15-5:10 p.m.  
Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Respondent: Dr. Joseph Hellweg  
Moderator: Kevin Burton

“Perhaps it is a swindle?”: A Yiddish Journalist on Spiritualism and Hidden Powers  
Matthew Brittingham  
*Emory University, Graduate Division of Religion*

*Hilal* and the Horizon: Marking Muslim Calendars and the Problems of Moon-sighting for Muslims in North-America  
S. Beena Butool  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*

A ‘Middle Ground’ Approach to Identity in Sinope and Heraclea Pontica  
Austin Wojkiewicz  
*Florida State University, Classics Department*

Recognizably Religious: On the Buddhist Churches of America, Citizenship, and Religious Translation  
Jesse J. Lee  
*Florida State University, Department of Religion*
Session 5C: Beyond American Religious History Canon
3:15-5:10 p.m.
Dodd Hall Auditorium

Moderator: Adam T. Miller

Other Humans and the Terror of History
Andy McKee
Florida State University, Department of Religion

"We Don't Read Because it's Boring": Pedagogical Theory and Engaging Undergrads in ARH
Haley Iliff
Florida State University, Department of Religion

Notes from the Intersection of Fat Studies and American Religious Studies
Danae Faulk
Syracuse University

Ultrasonic History
Timothy Burnside
Florida State University, Department of Religion

5:30p.m.-7:00p.m.: Closing Dinner, Dodd Hall Foyer
Food provided by: Moe’s Southwest Grill
Vegan, Vegetarian, and Meat options available
The 2019 Graduate Student Symposium would like extend a special thanks to the following individuals:

Aline Kalbian
Matthew Goff
Elizabeth Cecil
Susan Stetson
Jon Bridges

And to all the hard-working FSU Religion Graduate Student volunteers who made this possible.

Co-Directors:
Rebecca L. Peters and Michael McLaughlin

Committee Chairs:
PR and Media – Darian Shump
Housing and Food – Josh Carpenter
Scheduling – Tim Burnside
Technology and Facilities – Andy McKee
Welcoming Committee – Chris Schwenk