

CURRICULUM VITAE OF
David E. Smith, Ph.D.
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I. PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
University of Washington
Box 359485
Seattle, WA 98195

II. EDUCATION

Ph.D. Program

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Ph.D. (1999): Religious Studies
 Primary Area: Early Christianity
 Secondary Areas: Ancient Judaism and Islamic Studies
M.A. (1995): Religious Studies

Other Studies

Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, Lynchburg, Virginia
Instructor Development School (1990)
Basic School (1988)

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia
M.A. (1988): Philosophy of Religion

III. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Philosophy and Comparative Religion Instructor, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Washington, and Beliefs and Ethics Seminars, Seattle, WA (Summer 2013 to present)

Lecturer in Philosophy and Religious Studies, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington (Fall 2010 to Spring 2013)

Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana (Fall 2009 to Spring 2010)

Associate Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana (Fall 2005 to Spring 2009))

Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana (Fall 2004 to Spring 2005)

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana (Fall 2003 to Spring 2004)

Lecturer in Religious Studies and Research Associate, Avila University, Kansas City, Missouri (Summer 2000 to Spring 2003)

Adjunct Religion Faculty, Avila University, Kansas City, Missouri (Fall 1998 to Spring 2000)

Adjunct Philosophy Faculty, Longview Community College, Lee's Summit, Missouri (Fall 1998 to Fall 1999)

Part-time English Instructor, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Fall 1997)

Teaching Assistant (Instructor/Co-instructor), Temple University (Spring 1995 to Fall 1996)

Public Relations Officer and Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Instructor, Public/Private Schools, Lynchburg, Virginia (Fall 1991 to Spring 1993)

IV. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Interests and Specialties: Comparative Religion, Philosophy of Religion, Contemporary Ethics

Teaching Awards and Honors:

Special Programs Teaching Excellence Award, Continuum College, University of Washington (2018)

Certificate of Merit in Teaching Award, Temple University (1996)

Courses Taught:

Anti-vaxxing Movements in the United States: A Philosophical Analysis

Comparative Religion

Comparative Scripture

Contemporary Christian Belief

Contemporary Ethics

English Composition

Historic Christian Belief

History of Trinitarianism (graduate course)

Introduction to Christianity (team taught)

Islam

Mormonism

The New Testament

Philosophy of Religion

Social and Criminal Justice

The Tanakh/Old Testament

Themes in Philosophy

V. SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Interests and Specialties:

The relationship between religion and human rights

The intersection and blending of Greco-Roman and Jewish ideas in the birth and development of early Christianity; particularly the place of Platonism in the recipe

The formation of the New Testament canon in early Christianity

The ethics of contemporary criminal justice; particularly the use of prison as a common punishment

Current Projects:

Human rights and moral theory

Social and criminal justice

Philosophical types of religion

Publications:

“Human Rights and Moral Duties: A Modified Deontology for COVID-19 and Beyond” in *Ethics in Biology, Engineering & Medicine – An International Journal*, 11 (1): 21-28 (2020).

“Fifth Century Christianity” and “Mormonism” in *The Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, Williston, VT: Wiley-Blackwell (2012).

“An Eye for an Eye or Turning the Other Cheek?” in *The Anglican Quarterly* (2010).

Mormons and Evangelicals: Reasons for Faith. Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2009.

“Acts and the Structure of the Christian Bible” in *Contemporary Studies in Acts*, Thomas Phillips, ed. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2009.

Review of *Constantine’s Bible: Politics and the Making of the New Testament*, by David L. Dungan. In *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* (Spring 2008): 160-163.

Review of *The Cross and the Crescent: Christianity and Islam from Muhammad to the Reformation*, by Richard A. Fletcher. In *Christian Scholar’s Review* XXXIV:4 (Summer 2005): 553-556.

The Canonical Function of Acts: A Comparative Analysis. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 2002.

“The Structure of *al-Baqarah*” in *The Muslim World* 91:1-2 (Spring 2001): 121-136.

Grant Received:

I Received an Eli Lilly humanities research grant through Taylor University to study Mormonism during the summer of 2006, and another grant to do follow-up work during the summer of 2008. I spent time in Utah (and elsewhere) interviewing Mormons, ex-Mormons, and Evangelicals about why they believe that their faith is true. The result was a book that organizes and analyzes the answers and provides commentary on why people believe. It also suggests what the role of religious experience, reason, and social context ought to be in the debates surrounding religious truth claims. During the summer of 2012 I received funding from the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Central Washington University to do follow-up research in Utah, leading to the creation of a new course on Mormonism.

VI. UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Coordinated a colloquium for the CWU Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies (Spring 2013) entitled, "Mormon Intellectual: Oxymoron or Viable Option?" with Dr. James Faulconer, Professor of Religious Understanding, Brigham Young University.

Hosted Dr. James W. Green, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington: "Physician Aided Dying and Newer Medical Challenges at the End of Life." A Philosophy and Religious Studies Colloquium, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA. (October 26, 2011)

Curriculum Management Committee and General Education Subcommittee, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana (Fall 2005 to Spring 2009)

VII. PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Papers and Presentations at Professional Meetings:

"The Nature and Legitimacy of Mormon Hermeneutics" at the Pacific Northwest Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, May 2013, Seattle University

"Acts and the Structure of the Christian Bible" at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 2005, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"Christian Ethics and Exceptions to Moral Rules" at the 41st Annual Science Seminar Series, Taylor University, November 2005.

"Acts as Literary Unifier of the Canon: A Look at the Patristic Evidence" at the Annual Meeting of the North American Patristics Society, May 2004, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois.

"Religious Authority in Islam" at the Avila University Public Forum on Current World Events and the Spiritual Principles of Islam, Kansas City, Missouri, October 17, 2001.

"The Canonical Function of Acts: A Comparative Analysis" at the 1998 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Brunswick, New Jersey

VIII. FUN FACTS KNOWN BY FEW

Police Officer, City of Lynchburg, Virginia (1988-1993)

Certified Personal Trainer (2013 to present)

Foreign Language (spoken/moderate competence): Spanish

Foreign Languages (reading/high competence): Ancient Greek

Foreign Languages (reading/low to moderate competence): Ancient Hebrew, French, Latin, German

Steelers fan. Deal with it.