

REBECCA BARRETT-FOX

rebeccabarrettfox@ksu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in American Studies (with honors), University of Kansas

M.A. in American Studies, University of Kansas

B.A. in English & Human Studies (summa cum laude), Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

July 2024-present

Assistant Professor of Integrated Studies

Kansas State University Salina

- teach courses in areas of academic expertise, including sociology and professional ethics
- support the Salina faculty's success in writing and the scholarship of teaching
- forward my scholarly research agenda, focusing on educational and health equity, religion, hate, terrorism, rightwing movements, gender, sexuality, and politics

January-July 2024

Director of Pre-College Pathways

Kansas State University Salina

- develop pathways for precollege students in collaboration with both college and K12 partners
- advocate for dual and concurrent enrollment students in the K-State system
- support college and K12 faculty teaching dual and concurrent enrollment students
- ensure that emerging college programs include opportunities for precollege learners
- provide oversight to faculty liaisons to high schools

May 2020-January 2024

Director of Online Learning and Digital Pedagogy

Hesston College

- advocate for online learning to stakeholders
- guide college through accreditation processes related to online learning
- oversee digital initiatives across campus
- train faculty in pedagogy geared to emerging adult learners in the first two years of college
- provide academic success support for students, especially related to digital learning tools
- build structures of accountability to ensure progress toward institutional goals
- build partnerships across colleges with shared interests to ensure cost-effective programs
- support high school educators in the transition to teaching at the college-level, including training on laws and practices unique to higher education
- support faculty writing and support faculty research on issues related to areas of expertise

2013-2020

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Arkansas State University

- directed Women and Gender Studies program
- taught a variety of undergraduate sociology courses
- developed fully online courses in growing online degree program
- served on MA thesis committees
- wrote grants
- conducted qualitative research

2011-2013

Professor of Social Sciences

Hesston College, Hesston, Kansas

- taught lower-level sociology and anthropology courses
- advised students
- participated in shared governance

2011-2012

Visiting Professor of Social Sciences and History

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas

- taught introduction to sociology, US History I and II, and history of American religion
- Taught senior seminar and oversaw senior theses

CONSULTANCIES/PROJECT LEADERSHIP

2015-present

Independent online education consultant

- collaborate with universities and colleges in implementing online learning
- support academic programs and departments in developing online degrees
- coach individual instructors in designing robust, accessible, inclusive online courses
- support administrators as they implement online learning
- design university-specific trainings for novice and experienced educators, especially focusing on the cognitive and social development of emerging adult learners
- advocate for online learning as a way of meeting higher education's goals related to belonging and inclusion, especially with skeptical educators or stakeholders

February 2022-May 2025

Local Health Equity Action Team Lead, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

- collaborated with county and regional stakeholders to identify and ameliorate inequity due to social determinants of health, including education
- developed public-private partnerships to address local health and educational inequity
- trained community leaders in addressing community needs
- developed, launched, supported, and evaluated a variety of programs and projects to address educational inequity, especially for rural learners
- conducted scholarly research on about inequity in rural Kansas

November 2022-October 2024**Community Justice caseworker (5 hours per week), OVM, Newton, Kansas**

- supported families and adolescents in overcoming barriers to successful participation in school
- worked with regional high schools to develop programs to reduce truancy while respecting student autonomy and fostering student responsibility to self and others
- assisted students and families in identifying pathways to successful completion of educational goals, especially after setbacks; supported students in developing resiliency in educational efforts

2021-2022**Program evaluator, Harvey County Drug Court, Harvey County, Kansas**

- contributed to developing Drug Court policies and procedures, especially regarding disparate harm, ethics, and privacy
- designed data collection tools
- implemented a data collection and analysis process
- prevented adverse impacts of Drug Court on select populations, including people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, non-English speakers, women, and those with disabilities and monitor the Court for such impacts
- conducted program evaluation

January-August 2020**Interim executive director, Offender/Victim Ministries, Newton, Kansas**

- fundraised and maintained relationships with donors
- won grants and oversaw their implementation
- led transition to emergency remote services, including batterers' intervention (BIP) and community justice programs (CJP)
- supported staff in identifying new strategies to meet mission during COVID shutdown of in-person services
- conducted program evaluation for BIP, CJP, and prison conversation, education, and arts programs

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

[*God Hates: Westboro Baptist Church, American Nationalism, and the Religious Right.*](#) University Press of Kansas, 2016.

EDITORSHIP

Guest Editor, *Journal of Hate Studies*, [“Hate and Heritage”](#) Special Issue. May 2017.

ARTICLES and CHAPTERS

[“Teaching Online in the Age of COVID.”](#) Forum contribution. (2021). *Journal of American Studies* 55(1), 212-241.

with Andrew K. T. Yip. “Crosses and Crossroads: Purity and Intersectionality in Conservative American Christianity’s Erasure of Queer Believers.” [Intersecting Religion and Sexuality](#). Edited by Sarah-Jane Page and Andrew K. T. Yip. Brill, 2020.

[“How the Coronavirus Pandemic Will Change Our Future Teaching.”](#) FORUM contribution (2020). *Religion and American Culture* 30(2), 147-186.

[“Prayer and Religious Observance.”](#) *Legislating Morality: Debating the Morality of Popular U.S. Laws and Policies*. Edited by Don Haider-Markel. ABC-CLIO, 2020.

“Constraints and Freedoms in Conservative Christian Women’s Lives,” [Introduction to Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Approaches, 2nd edition](#). Edited by Ayu Saraswati, Barbara Shaw, and Heather Rellihan. Oxford University Press, 2020 [1st edition, 2017].

with Matthew Costello, James Hawdon, and Colin Bernatzky, [“The Perpetuation of Online Hate: A Criminological Analysis of Factors Associated with Participating in an Online Attack.”](#) *Journal of Hate Studies*. 2019.

[“A King Cyrus President: How a Donald Trump Presidency Reasserts Conservative Christians’ Right to Hegemony.”](#) *Humanity & Society*. 42, no. 4 (2018): 502-522.

[“Comic, Tragic, and Burlesque Burkean Responses to Hate: Notes from Counterprotests of Antigay Pickets.”](#) *Contention* 6, no. 1 (2018): 23-48.

with Matthew Costello, Rebecca Barrett-Fox, Colin Bernatzky, James Hawdon, and Kelly Mendes. [“Predictors of Viewing Online Extremism among American Youth.”](#) *Youth & Society*, 52, no. 5 (2018).

with Jennifer Chappell Deckert, Jennifer C. Greenfield, Suzanne Kucharczyk, and Johanna M. Thomas. “400 Words at a Time: Transforming Our Writing in Academia.” [Writing as a Way of Staying Human in a Time That Isn’t](#). Edited by Nate Mickelson. 2018. Wilmington, DE: Vernon Press, 2018.

“The Bible and the Religious Right.” [*Handbook of the Bible in America*](#). Edited by Paul Gutjahr. Oxford University Press, 2017.

“Christian Romance Novels: Inspiring Convention and Challenge,” in [*Romance Fiction and American Culture: Love as the Practice of Freedom?*](#) Edited by William Gleason and Eric Selinger. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Press, 2016.

[“The 4th R: Encountering Conservative Christianity in the Classroom,”](#) *Thought & Action*. Summer 2016.

“The Rise of Anti-Gay Religious Right Activism in the U.S.: A Review of Major Sociological Theories,” in [*Globalized Religion and Sexual Identity: Policies, Voices and Contexts*](#). Edited by Heather Shipley. Boston: Brill, 2014.

“Congress at the Kitchen Table: Religious Right Applications of Moral Home Economics to Federal Economic Policy,” in [*The Great Recession in Fiction, Film, and Television: Twenty First Century Bust Culture*](#). Edited by Kirk Boyle and Daniel Mrozowski, 211-232. New York: Lexington Books, 2013.

[“Anger and Compassion on the Picket Line: Ethnography and Emotion in the Study of Westboro Baptist Church,”](#) *Journal of Hate Studies* 9, no. 1 (2010/11).

“Hope Faith and Toughness: An Analysis of the Christian Hero” in [*Empowerment versus Oppression: 21st Century Views of Popular Romance Novels*](#). Edited by Sally Goade, 93-102. New Castle, U.K.: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2007.

[“Tunnel of Reification: How the Tunnel of Oppression Reaffirms Righteousness for Members of Dominant Groups,”](#) *Radical Teacher* 80 (Winter 2007): 24-29.

“Remodeling the ‘University of Destruction’: Conflicts between Academic Workers and Conservative Christians in American Universities,” *Proteus: A Journal of Ideas* 23, no. 2 (2006): 1-8.

[“Higher Love: What Women Gain from Christian Romance Novels,”](#) *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 4 (Summer 2003).

SELECTED ENTRIES and POPULAR WRITING

[“College Is About Community, Not Just Courses. That’s a Challenge For Faculty This Fall.”](#) *EdSurge*. September 1, 2020.

[“Discrimination as Love: Asbury, BYU, and LGBTQ+ Students.”](#) *Righting America*. March 13, 2020.

[“Ask the Expert: Religiosity.”](#) *SociologicalYou: NextGen Introductory Sociology*. Edited by Angela Thompson and Keith Whitworth. Fort Worth, TX: United Instructors and Textbook Authors Co-op, 2018.

[“Youth are Fleeing Anti-LGBTQ+ Churches.”](#) *Righting America*. June 28, 2018.

“Hate Groups,” in [*The American Middle Class: An Economic Encyclopedia of Progress and Poverty*](#). Edited by Robert S. Rycroft. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood Press, 2017.

[“God Hates, Part Two.”](#) *Righting America*. October 24, 2017.

[“God Hates, Part One.”](#) *Righting America*. October 19, 2017.

[“The Religious Right: Everything Rests on Everyone Being Straight.”](#) *Righting America*. August 14, 2017.

[“A Friendly Welcome to a Hate-Filled Church,”](#) *Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 3, 2017.

[“The Theology of Westboro: The ‘World’s Meanest Church’ is More than Picket Signs,”](#) *Religion Dispatches*, September 2, 2016.

[“The Author’s Corner with Rebecca Barrett-Fox,”](#) interview with John Fea, *The Way of Improvement Leads Home*, August 25, 2016.

[“7 Women Scholars on the Gender Divide in Religious Studies, the Power of Mentors, and Leading While Female.”](#) [Wendi Adamek, Nancy Ammerman, Elaine Howard Ecklund, Serene Jones, Peggy Levitt, Laura Maffly-Kipp, and Ann Taves]. *Religion Dispatches*. November 21, 2015.

[“God Hates Nags: Why in God’s name is Westboro Baptist Protesting Kim Davis?”](#) *Religion Dispatches*, October 19, 2015.

[“KIM DAVIS CAUSED GAY MARRIAGE! Westboro Baptist Church and Religious Anti-Gay Politics,”](#) Interview by Kelsy Burke, *Girl w/Pen*, a blog of *The Society Pages*, September 16, 2015.

[“When Congregation-based Activism is... Complicated,”](#) *Studying Congregations*, August 11, 2015.

[“The Americanization of Religious Minorities,”](#) Entry in the Theory and Religion Series of *Religion Bulletin*. March 25, 2015.

“American Family Association,” “Baptism,” “Covenant Marriage,” and “Family Research Council,” [*Social History of American Families*](#). Edited by Marilyn J. Coleman and Lawrence H. Ganong. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Reference. 2014.

[“When the Founder Dies: Westboro Baptist Church in the Afterman of Pastor Fred Phelps’ Passing.”](#) Interview by David G. Bromley, *World Religions and Spiritual Project*, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2014.

[“Duck Dynasty Patriarch, Hero of the Christian Right,”](#) *Religion Dispatches*, December 23, 2013.

“A Response to ‘Evidentiary Boundaries and Improper Interventions: Evidence, Implications, and Illegitimacy in American Religious Studies,” *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, July 29, 2013.

“Christian Romance Novels,” [*The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*](#). Edited by Dale C. Alison, Jr., et al. Berlin: Verlag de Gruyter, 2013. Choice Outstanding Academic Title.

[“A Bill Passes, Westboro Baptists Shrug,”](#) *Religion Dispatches*, August 8, 2012.

[“Gay-Hating Church Burns ‘Idols’: A Report,”](#) *Religion Dispatches*, September 13, 2010.

BOOK REVIEWS

Nahban-Warren, Kristy. [*Meatpacking America: How Migration, Work, and Faith Unite and Divide the Heartland*](#). *Reading Religion*. (2023).

Wilde, Melissa J. *Birth Control Battles: How Race and Class Divided American Religion*. [*Feminist Encounters*](#). 6 no. 1: article 15. (2022).

Kamali, Sara. [*Homegrown Hate: Why White Nationalists and Militant Islamists are Waging War against the United States*](#). *Reading Religion*. November 2021.

Burridge, Richard A. and Jonathan Sacks. [*Confronting Religious Violence: A Counternarrative*](#). *Reading Religion*. January 2021.

Phelps-Roper, Megan. *Unfollow: A Memoir of Loving and Leaving the Westboro Baptist Church, Kansas History*. (Spring 2021).

Johnson, Jessica. [*Biblical Porn: Affect, Labor, and Pastor Mark Driscoll’s Evangelical Empire*](#). *Reading Religion*. (2018).

Fea, John. [*Believe Me: The Evangelical Road to Donald Trump*](#). *Reading Religion*. (2018).

Berry, Damon. *Blood & Faith: Christianity in White Nationalism*, *Sociology of Religion* 79 no. 3: 384-385. (2018).

Antony Alumkal, [*Paranoid Science: The Christian Right’s War on Reality*](#), *Contemporary Sociology* 47 no. 5: 555-556. (2018).

David Weaver-Zercher. *Martyrs Mirror: A Social History*. *American Studies* 56:3-4 (2018).

Matthew Avery Sutton and Darren Dochuk, editors. [*Faith in the New Millennium: The Future of Religion and American Politics*](#), *Reading Religion*. (2016).

Alison Collis Greene, [*No Depression in Heaven: The Great Depression, the New Deal, and the Transformation of Religion in the Delta*](#). *Reading Religion*. (2016).

Lisa S. Shaver, [*Beyond the Pulpit: Women’s Rhetorical Roles in the Antebellum Religious Press*](#). *Arkansas Review: A Journal of Delta Studies* 45 no. 3 (2014): 194-196.

Clara S. Lewis, [*Tough on Hate? The Cultural Politics of Hate Crimes Legislation*](#), *American Studies* 53 no. 4 (2014): 142-143.

Susan Crawford Sullivan, [*Living Faith: Everyday Religion and Mothers in Poverty*](#), *American Studies* 53, no. 3 (2014): 92-93.

Thomas R. Pegram, *One Hundred Percent American: The Rebirth and Decline of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s* and Arthur Goldwag, *The New Hate: A History of Fear and Loathing on the Populist Right*, *Journal of Hate Studies* 10, no. 1 (2012), 221-229. [\[Review essay\]](#).

Tobin Shearer Miller, [*Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries*](#), *Journal of American History* 99, no. 2 (2012): 662-663.

Robert Wuthnow, [*Red State Religion: Faith and Politics in America's Heartland*](#), *Christian Century* (August 13, 2012): 40-41.

Robert D. Putnam and David E. Campbell, [*American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us*](#), *Journal of Communication and Religion* 35, no. 1 (Spring 2012): 93-96.

Mark D. Naison, White Boy, [*Radical Teacher*](#) 71 (Winter 2004): 10-11.

HONORS, GRANTS, and FELLOWSHIPS

Peace Fellow, Elizabethtown College

October 2021

New Scholar Award, National Education Association,

March 2017

\$2500 for a [publication](#) that “offers practical approaches to improving teaching and learning at the college level”

[“Rohwer Reconstructed: Interpreting Place through Experience”](#)

National Parks Service, January 2015-February 2017

~\$20,000 / Oral historian

[“Radicalization on the Internet: Virtual Extremism in the U.S. from 2012 – 2017”](#)

National Institute of Justice, January 2015-January 2018

\$796, 906 / Co-Investigator

Title IV-E Grant, [“Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare”](#)

State of Arkansas, August 2014-May 2016

Co-Investigator

[The Bible in American Life Conference](#), Indiana University-Purdue

University Indianapolis’ Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, August 2014

\$1000 / Participant

William Coolidge Fellowship

CrossCurrents Research Colloquium sponsored by Auburn Seminary, Columbia University, Jewish Theological Seminaries, and Union Theological Seminary, July 2014

CONSULTING and SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Guest on [Collegeland](#), a podcast focused on higher education during COVID
- Guest on [More and More Every Day](#), a teaching focused podcast
- Media consultant for [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) and [Inside Higher Ed](#) regarding online teaching
- Consultant for communities threatened by WBC pickets (2010-present)
- Guest on Up to Date with Steve Kraske, “Westboro and the Religious Roots of Hate”
- Media consultant for [New York Times](#) regarding the June 2016 Pulse shooting
- Scholarly consultant for Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression (2015)
- Media consultant for [The Oregonian](#) regarding Westboro Baptist Church protests
- Media consultant for *This Land* magazine article on Religious Right politics
- Media consultant for [New York Times](#), [Al Jazeera America](#), *CNN*, and [The Huffington Post](#) regarding the death of Fred Phelps
- Guest on [State of Belief](#) [radio] to discuss death of Fred Phelps, March 22, 2014

- Media consultant for Pacific Standard on Dave Ramsey and Christian financial planning, November 2013
- Guest on [Up for Debate](#) on Moody Bible Radio to discuss Christian romance novels, February 9, 2013
- Subject of Evangelical Press Association First Place and Associated Church Press Award of Merit (2nd place) interview on researching Westboro Baptist Church in [Sojourners](#) magazine, May 2012
- Media consultant for [New York Times](#) coverage of *Snyder v. Phelps*
- Media consultant for *Topeka Capitol-Journal* coverage of *Snyder v. Phelps*

PRESENTATIONS, INVITED LECTURES, and WORKSHOPS

May 2025, Kansas State University, Manhattan KS, SoTL Showcase
“Warmth without Burnout: Tending to Students without Exhausting Yourself”

February 2024, Kansas State University, Manhattan KS, New Faculty Institute
“Building a Sustainable Writing Practice”

November 2024, Kansas State University Salina, Salina, Kansas, Center for Communicating Innovation
“Why Study Hate Groups? *God Hates*, Revisited”

November 2024, Great Plains Political Science Association, Wichita, Kansas
“The Construction of Midwestern Innocence in Trumpian Political Violence”

October 2021, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
“‘Worthy of Their Calling’: Can American Churches Reject Hate?”

November 2020, University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines
“Teaching the Humanities Online,” keynote delivery to the College of Arts & Letters

April 2019, Allegheny Mennonite Conference Pastoral Retreat, Mt. Pleasant Pennsylvania
“Making Hate Unsustainable”

April 2019, Pittsburgh Mennonite Church, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania
“Don’t Let Hate Win: Why Bigotry Still ‘Works’ in American Society and What You Can Do about It in Your Community”

April 2019, University Mennonite Church, State College, Pennsylvania
“A Community Conversation about Hate”

April 2019, Community Peace Walk, State College, Pennsylvania
“Signs of Hope amid Hate”

November 2018, American Academy of Religion, Denver
“How Christian Nationalism Lays the Groundwork for White Nationalism”

April 2018, Holistic Education Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association and the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning of the National Council of Teachers, New York City

“Some Ways to Educate People Out of Hate and to Counteract the Ways They Are Educated Into It”

April 2018, International Network for Hate Studies, Oshawa, Ontario

“Online Hate Exposure and Government Mistrust”

April 2017, Hate of the Nation, Lincoln Cottage, Washington, D.C.

“Measuring Hate by Its Consequences”

January 2017, Sociology and Anthropology Brown Bag Series, Weber State University

“‘The Hottest Part of Hell’: Growing Up, Leaving, and Staying in Westboro Baptist Church”

November 2016, Texas A & M San Antonio

“Faith on the Picket Line: Westboro Baptist Church’s Hateful Uses of the First Amendment”

November 2016, American Academy of Religion

“GodSmacks: Westboro Baptist Church, Delivering God’s Hate in Love”

August 2016, Kansas City Public Library Lecture Series

“God Hates”

April 2016, Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Symposium, Arkansas State University

“The Uses of Religious Freedom and Trans Panic”

April 2016, Gender Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas

“Women Soldiers in the Culture Wars: Kim Davis, the Women of Westboro Baptist Church, and Anti-Gay Activism”

April 2016, Eden Theological Seminary, HT126: Religion in American

“Tragic, Comic, and Burlesque Responses to Westboro Baptist Church”

April 2016, Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta

“Recruiting Soldiers in the Army of God: A Content Analysis of Anti-Abortion Online Archives”

March 2016, Mid-America American Studies Association, Lawrence, Kansas

“Soldier for the Lord, Warrior for the Babies: Canonization in the Army of God”

November 2015, Georgia State University, REL 4255/6255: Religion, Race, and Nation

“Religion, Race, and Hate: The Strange Case of Westboro Baptist Church”

October 2015, American Studies Association, Toronto

“Homo- and Heteronormativity in Anti- Anti-Gay Activism”

October 2015, *Love Between the Covers* Panel Discussion, Arkansas State University

“Researching Christian Romance Novels and their Readers”

October 2015, Title IV-E Grant Lunch and Learn, Arkansas State University
“The State of LGBTQ+ Families and Youth”

September 2015, Feminist Union, Arkansas State University
“The Place of Men in Feminist Organizations”

August 2015, American Sociological Association and Association for the Sociology of Religion, Chicago; joint panel of the ASA and ASR
“Standing Up to (Some Kinds of) Hate: Ambivalence in Community Responses to Westboro Baptist Church”

April 2015, Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Symposium, Arkansas State University
“United Against What? Ambivalence in Protests of Anti-Queer Activism”

March 2015, Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans
“Radicalization on the Internet: A Virtual Ethnography of Domestic Extremism and Hate” (presenter), with Matt Costello and Thomas Ratliff

March 2015, Midwest Sociological Society, Kansas City
“Taking the Sociological Imagination Public: Revising the Goals of the Capstone Course,” with Gretchen Hill (presenter)

March 2015, Social Work 4363: Religion and Spirituality in Social Work Practice, Arkansas State University
“Religion in Arkansas: A Snapshot of Diversity”

March 2015, Multicultural Center, Arkansas State University
“Red Wolf Religiosity”

March 2015, Eden Theological Seminary, HT126: Religion in American
“Ways of Standing Up to Homophobia”

November 2014, Arkansas Sociology and Anthropology Association, University of Central Arkansas
“Rubbing Religion the Wrong Way: Teaching in the Context of Conservative Protestantism”

November 2014, Social Work 3343: Child Welfare and Neglect, Arkansas State University
“Religiously-Justified Child Abuse”

October 2014, Rutgers University, Income Inequality in U.S. Politics and Culture Conference
“Saving Ourselves: Cynicism and Self-Help in Christian Money Management and Social Welfare Policy”

August 2014, The Bible in American Life, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis’ Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture
“Money Talks: Biblical Teaching on Personal Finance, Debt, and Economic Policy”

August 2014, American Sociological Association, San Francisco
“Debt Shaming: Internalized Classism among Financial Peace University Students” (roundtable)

April 2014, Fair Housing Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas
“National Origins and Diversity in Arkansas: Patterns, Puzzles, and Possibilities”

March 2014, Criminology, Sociology, and Geography Symposium, Arkansas State University
“Responding in Love: Countermessaging Westboro Baptist Church’s Funeral Pickets”

March 2014, Doing Disability Seminar, Arkansas State University
“Giving Birth, Preparing for Death: Birthing Babies with ‘Incompatible with Life’ Diagnoses”

March 2014, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Spring Seminar, Arkansas State University
“Poverty, Debt, and Shame: Motivation to Change, Motivation to Shame in Dave Ramsey’s Conservative Protestantism”

November 2013, American Studies Association, Washington, D.C.
“Congress at the Kitchen Table: Religious Right Applications of Moral Home Economics to Federal Economic Policy”

October 2013, Multicultural Center, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Arkansas
“Women’s Sexuality: Rights and Responsibilities” [panelist]

March 2013, Wright State University-Lake Campus, Celina, Ohio
“Gender, Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Sexuality: Identifying Privilege”

September 2012, Hate Studies Symposium, Institute for Hate Studies, Washington D.C.
“Updates in Scholarly Literature about Hate”

September 2012: Bethel College Mennonite Church, Newton Kansas
“Religion, Politics, and Sex: Westboro Baptist Church as the Religious Right’s Radical Flank”

November 2011: Bethel College’s Convocation Speaker Series, Newton, Kansas
“Giving Jesus a Bad Name: Christian Responses to Westboro Baptist Church”

October 2011, American Studies Association, Baltimore, Maryland
“The Straight American Hero: Opposition to Military Funeral Pickets as Honoring the Heteronormative”

April 2011: American Identities Honors Course, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
“Innovations in Ethnographic Methodologies: Studying Westboro Baptist Church”

April 2011, Institute for Hate Studies Bi-Annual Conference, Spokane, Washington
“Anger and Compassion on the Picket Line: Ethnography and Emotion in the Study of Westboro Baptist Church”

April 2011: Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington

Invited Lecture, “Why Picket? Theological Thinking and Westboro Baptist Church,”

April 2011: Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington

Invited Lecture, “Understanding Westboro Baptist Church,” Political Philosophy,

November 2010, American Studies Association, San Antonio, Texas Chair, New Directions in American Christian Material Culture Studies Re-engaging Colleen McDannell’s Material Christianity, featuring respondent Colleen McDannell

April 2010, Mid-American Humanities Council Conference, Lawrence, Kansas

“Savior or Anti-Christ? Barack Obama in the Religious Right Imagination”

March 2010, Graduate Research Symposium, Lawrence, Kansas

“Civility, Civil Liberties, and the Challenge of Westboro Baptist Church”

April 2009, Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, Iowa City, Iowa

“A Womb of One’s Own: The Difficulties of Embryo Adoption for the Religious Right”

March 2009, Middle Atlantic American Studies Association Conference, Elizabethtown, PA

“Westboro Baptist Church versus Every Decent American Citizen: What Public Response to Snyder v. Phelps Reveals about American Heteronationalism”

October 2008, American Studies Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico

“‘Pray Not for this People for their Good’: Westboro Baptist, the Religious Right, and the American Nation”

October 2007, American Studies Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

“‘America: A Sodomite Nation of Flag-Worshipping Idolaters’: Examining the Claim that Deviant Sexual Practices Will Destroy America”

March 2007, First North American Conference on Global Radicalism, East Lansing, MI

“Pacifism at the Fringe: The Anti-War Messages of Westboro Baptist Church, Topeka, Kansas”

April 2006, Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, St. Louis, Missouri

“‘God Hates’ and ‘Fags’: The Not-So-Shocking Shock Speech of Fred Phelps of Westboro Baptist Church”

September 2005, Interdisciplinary Scholars Initiative, Lawrence, Kansas

“‘Apostate Nation’: Geographic Metaphors of Fred Phelps and Westboro Baptist Church”

March 2005, New Literacies Conference, Lawrence, Kansas

“Strategies for Incorporating Local Culture into the College Classroom”

October 2003, Feminism(s) and Rhetoric(s), Columbus, Ohio

“(Christian) Women in Love: Conventional Language and Personal Experience in the Lives of Christian Romance Readers”

April 2003, New England American Studies Association, Hartford, Connecticut

“Higher Love: What Women Gain from Christian Romance Novels”

March 2003, Cultural Studies Symposium at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

“Sentiment and Sympathy: Reading Christian Romance Novels”

SERVICE and MEMBERSHIPS

2025-present Coordinator, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, K-State College of Technology and Aviation
2025-present Member, First Book Selection Committee, Kansas State University
2024-2025 Director of Faculty Affairs, Kansas State University
2016-Present Host, the Any Good Thing writing challenge
2022-2024 Warkentin House Museum board member
2018-2020 Features editor, Religious Studies Project
2017-2021 Editorial board member of *Reading Religion*
2011-2019 Book review editor, *Journal of Hate Studies*
2015-2016 Women and Gender Studies Director, Arkansas State University

Occasional reviewer: *Approaching Religion*, *Social Problems*, *American Studies*, *Girl: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, *American Studies*, *Teaching Sociology*, *Teachers College Record*, *Journal of Popular Romance Studies*, *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, *University of Nebraska Press*

UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT

100 and 200 level courses

Introduction to sociology
Social problems
Sociology of families
Social diversity
Social psychology
Understanding America
US History I & II
Cultural anthropology

Advanced Undergraduate Courses

Social science research methods
Social statistics
Social theory
Collective behavior
Social inequality
Sociology of gender
Sociology of religion
Sociology of sexuality
Sociology of aging
Sociology of race and ethnicity

Sociology of disasters
Applied sociological research
History of American religion
Sex, Religion, & Politics in the Contemporary U.S
Senior research seminar in history
Professional Ethics, Conduct, and Analysis

Graduate courses

Thesis writing workshop
Dissertation writing workshop

Please request my teaching portfolio for detailed syllabi, signature assignments, assessment plans, reflections, and samples of student work with my feedback.