

GEOFFREY S. SMITH

Fellow of the Louise Farmer Boyer Chair in Biblical Studies
Director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins (ISAC)

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Religions of Mediterranean Antiquity, Princeton University	2013
M.T.S., Early Christianity, Harvard Divinity School	2008
B.A., Biblical Studies (<i>summa cum laude</i>), Biola University	2005

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins (ISAC)	2021-
Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UT Austin	2021-
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UT Austin	2015-21
Postdoc, Dept. of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, University of Minnesota	2014
Lecturer and W.C. Nease Fellow in Biblical Greek, UT Austin	2013-15

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Secret Gospel of Mark: A Rogue Scholar, A Controversial Gospel of Jesus, and the Fierce Debate Over Its Authenticity. Coauthored with Brent Landau. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2023. 240 pp.

Valentinian Christianity: Texts and Translations. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2020. 349 pp.

Guilt by Association: Heresy Catalogues in Early Christianity. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2015. 191 pp.

Articles and Reviews

“Paul and the “Other” in Revelation’s Letters to the Seven Churches Revisited,” in *Revelation and Material Religion in the Roman East: Essays in Honor of Steven J. Friesen*. Co-edited by Nathan Leach, Daniel Charles Smith, and Tony Keddie. Routledge Monographs in Classical Studies. London: Routledge, 2023.

“The Archaeology of Two Early Gospels: P.Oxy. 1 and 2 and the Trash Mounds of Oxyrhynchus.” Pp. 297-316 in *The Social Worlds of Ancient Jews and Christians. Essays in Honor of L. Michael White*. Edited by J. Gunderson, T. Keddie, and D. Boin. Leiden: Brill, 2022.

“First Apocalypse of James.” Coauthored with Brent Landau. Pp. 3-13 in Nicholas Gonis et al. (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXXV*. The Graeco-Roman Memoirs Vol. 107. London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society, 2021.

“Canonical and Apocryphal Writings Copied by the Same Scribe: P.Oxy. II 209 (=P10), P.Oxy. II 210, and the Archive of Aurelius Leonides.” Coauthored with Brent Landau. *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses* 95/1 (2019), 145-162.

“Identifying Justin’s Valentinians.” Pp. 353-380 in Ulrich Mell and Michael Tilly (Eds.), *“Opponents.” Conflicts with Rivals in Early Jewish and Christian Literature*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2019.

“Contesting the Gift of Gnosis in 1 Corinthians.” Pp. 97-114 in Courtney Friesen (Ed.), *Envisioning God in the Humanities: Essays on Christianity, Judaism, and Ancient Religion in Honor of Melissa Harl Sellew*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2018.

“The Willoughby Papyrus: A New Fragment of John 1:49-2:1 (P134) and an Unidentified Christian Text.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 137.4 (2018), 941-963.

“Anti-Origenist Redaction in the Fragments of the Gospel of Truth (NHC XII, 2): Theological Controversy and the Transmission of Early Christian Literature.” *Harvard Theological Review* 110.1 (2017), 46-74.

“A Manichaean Hymn at Oxyrhynchus: A Reevaluation of P. Oxy. 2074.” *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 24.1 (2016), 81-97.

“Ephesians 3:21-4:2, 14-16.” Pp. 1-3 in J. Brusuelas & C. Meccariello (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXXI*, The Graeco-Roman Memoirs Vol. 102. London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society, 2016.

“Toward a Text-Market Approach to Early Christianity.” Pp. 111-130 in Cavan Concannon & Lindsey A. Mazurek (Eds.), *Across the Corrupting Sea: Post-Braudelian Approaches to the Ancient Eastern Mediterranean*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2016.

“The Death of Judas according to Papias.” Pp. 309-312 in Tony Burke & Brent Landau (Eds.), *New Testament Apocrypha: More Noncanonical Scriptures, Volume 1*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2016.

Review of *Christian Oxyrhynchus: Texts, Documents, and Sources*, by Lincoln Blumell and Thomas Wayment (Eds.). *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2016 (12).

“Irenaeus, the Will of God, and Anti-Valentinian Polemics: A Closer Look at Against the Heresies I.12.1.” Pp. 93-147 in E. Iricinschi, L. Jenott, N. Denzey Lewis, and P. Townsend (Eds.), *Beyond the Gnostic Gospels: Studies Building on the Work of Elaine H. Pagels*. Heidelberg, Germany: Mohr Siebeck, 2013.

“Constructing a Christian Universe: Mythological Exegesis of Ben Sira 24 and John’s Prologue in the Gospel of Truth.” Pp. 64-81 in Lance Jenott & Sarit Kattan Gribetz (Eds.), *Jewish and Christian Cosmogony in Late Antiquity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2013.

Review of *Early Christian Manuscripts: Examples of Applied Method and Research*, by Thomas J. Kraus and Tobias Nicklas, (Eds.). Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists, 49 (2012), 329-334.

“P. Oxy. 5073. Mark 1:1-2: Amulet.” Coauthored with A. E. Bernhard. Pp. 19-23 in D. Colomo & J. Chapa (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXVI*, The Graeco-Roman Memoirs Vol. 97. London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society, 2011.

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“The Archaeological Context of Thomas (P.Oxy. 1), Matthew (P.Oxy. 2), and the Other Papyri Discovered Near the Theater in Oxyrhynchus.” Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Antonio, TX. November 2023.

“Gnostic Gospels or New Testament Gospels—Which Came First?” Keynote address delivered at the annual meeting of the Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism Network in Colorado Springs, CO. November 2022.

“Coptic Papyrus Fragments from Philippians 1 and 2 in the Chester Beatty Library (Pap 1009).” Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Antonio, TX. November 2021.

“‘Clement’s’ use of Eusebius in the Letter to Theodore.” The Social Worlds of Early Christians: A Symposium in Honor of L. Michael White. Austin, TX. October 24, 2020.

“Boris Mouravieff, Clement of Alexandria, and the Centre d’Études Chrétiennes Ésotériques. Annual Meeting of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies. San Francisco, CA. November 2019.

“Nag Hammadi at Oxyrhynchus: A New Discovery.” Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Boston, MA. November 2017.

“Reading the Sentences of Sextus During the Origenist Controversy: NHC XII,1 and the Wisdom Tradition in Late Antique Egypt.” Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Boston, MA. November 2017.

“Medicine and Polemic in Tertullian’s Version of the Valentinian Sophia Myth.” Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Antonio, TX. November 2016.

“A Body Pure and Innocent: Anthropology and Anti-Origenism in the Sentences of Sextus (NHC XII,1).” “The Monastic Production and Use of Christian Apocrypha,” a session of the Christian Apocrypha Section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Atlanta, GA. November 2015.

“Preliminary Report on the 'Willoughby Papyrus' of the Gospel of John and an Unidentified Christian Text.” “Papyrus Fragments of Apocryphal Writings: How Were They Used?” a joint session of the Christian Apocrypha section and the Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Atlanta, GA. November 2015.

“Contesting the Gift of Gnosis in 1 Corinthians.” “Paul and the Greco-Roman Context,” a session of the Pauline Epistles section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Diego, CA. November 2014.

“Ecclesiastical Politics and the Transmission of Early Christian Literature: Origenism and the Gospel of Truth.” “Papyrology and Textual Criticism,” a session of the Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Diego, CA. November 2014.

“The Status of the Coptic Manuscripts from Oxyrhynchus.” Presentation with Dr. Alexander Kocar in “Christian Papyri from Oxyrhynchus,” a session of the Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Baltimore, MD. November 2013.

“‘After my departure savage wolves will arise’: Paul the Apocalyptic Prophet in the Acts of the Apostles and the Pastoral Epistles.” Presentation in a session of the Disputed Paulines section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Chicago, IL. November 2012.

“Justin, the Syntagma, and the Formation of the Christian Heresiological Tradition.” Meeting of the North American Patristics Society. Chicago, IL. May 2012.

“A New Coptic Fragment of the Shepherd of Hermas.” Presentation in a session of the Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Francisco, CA. November 2011.

“‘When the totality went about searching...’ Cosmogony and the Johannine Prologue in the Gospel of Truth.” Late Antiquity Workshop, Department of Religion, Princeton University. Princeton, NJ. February 2010.

“Gospel Magic: A New Amulet of Mark 1:1-2 from Oxyrhynchus.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. New Orleans, LA. November 2009.

“The Words of Apollo as Speech and Text: The Transmission of the Oracle of the Lamé Kingship in Sparta.” Conference on Regional Dynamics in the Peloponnese, Oxford University. Oxford, England/UK. January 2009.

“1 Peter 5:14b in P72: The Relationship between Physical Codex and ‘Sacred’ Text.” Presentation in “New Testament Manuscripts,” a session of the New Testament Textual Criticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Boston, MA. November 2008.

“Diocletian’s First Edict and the Construction of the Christian Book in North Africa.” Conference on Secrecy and Social Practice from Antiquity to the Present, Department of Religious Studies, Brown University. Providence, RI. February 2008.

ADVISING AND STUDENT-RELATED SERVICE

Dissertation Advisor

Jordan Swanson, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2024- (Chair)
Caroline Crews, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2020-22 (Chair)
Adeline Harrington, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2019- (Co-Chair)

Dissertation Committees

Daniel Zimmerman, Ph.D. at University of California Santa Barbara 2024- (External Member)
Nathan Leach, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2018-2021 (Member)
Ryan Fitzgerald, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2018-2020 (Member)
Jay Henriques, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2017-2020 (Member)
Jin Kim, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2016-2019 (Member)
Brad King, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2016-2018 (Member)
Peter Johnson, Ph.D. at University of New England, NSW 2015-2016 (External Member)

Qualifying Exam Committees

Lara Boleslawsky, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2024 (Member)
Jordan Swanson, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2023 (Chair)
Hannah Lents, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2021 (Member)
Caroline Crews, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2020 (Chair)
Adeline Harrington, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2018 (Member)
Jaimie Gunderson, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2017 (Member)
Jay Henriques, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2016 (Member)
Jin Kim, in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2016 (Member)

Master’s Thesis Committees

Rikki Liu, M.A. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2023-2024
Adeline Harrington, M.A. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2016-2017

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Kristen Tibbetts, Plan II Honors Program and Religious Studies 2023-2024 (Advisor)
Caroline Crews, Classics and Religious Studies 2014-2015 (2nd reader)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins (ISAC), 2021-
Admissions and Fellowships Committee, 2023-2024
Chair of Search Committee (Religious Studies), 2022-2023
Member of Search Committee (Middle Eastern Studies), 2021-2022
Member of Search Committee (Religious Studies), 2021-2022
Graduate Program Standing Committee, 2021-2022
Admissions and Fellowship Committee Area Representative, 2020-21
Faculty Council, 2019-2021
Director of the Third-Year Seminar, 2020
Admissions and Fellowship Committee Area Representative, 2018-19
Coordinator, Ancient Mediterranean Religions Colloquium, 2018-19
Public Events Planning Committee, 2018-19
Diversity Task Force, 2018-2019
Undergraduate Honors Thesis Coordinator, 2016-17
Coordinator, Ancient Mediterranean Religions Colloquium, 2015-17
Coordinator, Department of Religious Studies Colloquium, 2016