

GEOFFREY S. SMITH

2505 University Ave. A3700 Austin, TX 78712-1090 | Department of Religious Studies

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Religions of Mediterranean Antiquity, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 2013
M.T.S., Early Christianity, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA 2008
B.A., Biblical Studies (*summa cum laude*), Biola University, La Mirada, CA 2005

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- Director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins (ISAC) 2021-
Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, The University of Texas at Austin. Interim Director of the Institute for the Study of Antiquity and Christian Origins (2021-2022). 2021-
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, The University of Texas at Austin 2015-2021
Lecturer and W.C. Nease Fellow in Biblical Greek, Department of Religious Studies, The University of Texas at Austin 2013-2015
Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN Summer 2014

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 (forthcoming 2022). 77,000 words

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, 2015. 191 pp.

Articles and Reviews

“First Apocalypse of James.” Coauthored with Brent Landau. In Nicholas Gonis et al. (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXXV.* London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society. (Forthcoming 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.” 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.” In Courtney Friesen (Ed.), *Envisioning God in the Humanities: Essays on Christianity, Judaism, and Ancient Religion in Honor of Melissa Harl Sellow*. 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.” In J. Brusuelas & C. Meccariello (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXXI*, The Graeco-Roman Memoirs Vol. 102 (1-3). London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society, 2016.

“Toward a Text-Market Approach to Early Christianity.” 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.” 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.” 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.” 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. In D. Colomo & J. Chapa (Eds.), *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri, Volume LXXVI*, The Graeco-Roman Memoirs Vol. 97 (19-23). London, UK: Egypt Exploration Society, 2011.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talks

“Unearthing Secret Revelations of Jesus in Egypt.” Department of Religious Studies, University of Texas. Austin, TX. Religion in Public Lecture Series. October 10, 2018.

“The Challenges and Prospects of Coptic Palaeography.” Workshop on Dating Early Papyri and Manuscripts, Green Scholars Initiative. Oklahoma City, OK. March 2014.

“A Valentinian Apostrophe at Oxyrhynchus? A Reevaluation of P. Oxy. 2074.” International Seminar on Valentinian Christianity, Norwegian School. Rome, Italy. October 2013.

“Writing in the Name of Paul: Pseudepigraphy, Polemics, and Emerging Early Christian Text Markets.” Department of Religious Studies, University of Texas. Austin, TX. February 2013.

“Current Research on the Gospel of Truth: The Fragments from Codex XII.” l'École pratique des hautes études. Paris, France. May 2011.

Conference Presentations

“‘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 Chrésiennes Éotériques.” 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 Lame 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.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 Online Course Conversion Award, Center for the Skills & Experience Flags,
University of Texas at Austin
- 2017 College Research Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at
Fall Austin
- 2016 Summer Research Assignment, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at
Austin
- 2012-13 Research travel grants from Judaic Studies and Program in the Ancient World,
Princeton University
- 2011 Dean’s Fund for Scholarly Travel, Princeton University
- 2011 Research travel grants from Judaic Studies and Program in the Ancient
World, Princeton University
- 2010 The Margaret Goheen Summer Research/Travel Fellowship. Princeton
University
- 2008-13 Stanley J. Seeger Fellowship, Program in Hellenic Studies, Princeton
University

Media appearances & Interviews

- “The 2,000-year-old papyrus that was almost sold on eBay.” BBC Newshour. London, United
Kingdom. November 21, 2015.
- “Greek New Testament Papyrus is Discovered on eBay.” New York Times. November 20, 2015.
- “Episode 3. Judas.” *Finding Jesus: Faith. Fact. Forgery.* CNN. Atlanta, Georgia. March 15,
2015.
- “Episode 4. Secret Brother of Jesus.” *Finding Jesus: Faith. Fact. Forgery.* CNN. Atlanta,
Georgia. March 22, 2015.

ADVISING AND STUDENT-RELATED SERVICE

Dissertation Advisor

- Caroline Crews, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2020-Present (Chair)
Adeline Harrington, Ph.D. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2019-Present (Chair)

Dissertation Committees

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)

Qualifying Exam Committees

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

Adeline Harrington, M.A. in Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, 2016-2017

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Caroline Crews, Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean 2015 (2nd reader)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Departmental Service

Admissions and Fellowship Committee Area Representative, 2020-21
Faculty Council, UT Austin 2019-2021
Director of the Third-Year Seminar, Fall 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 Advisor, 2016-17
Coordinator, Ancient Mediterranean Religions Colloquium, 2015-17
Coordinator, Department of Religious Studies Colloquium, 2016

Professional Service

Editorial Board, *The Journal of Theological Studies*, 2021-Present

Steering Committee, Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism, Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta 2017-Present.

Planning Committee, Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism Network, Atlanta 2015-Present.

Panel Presider, Special Review Session on “The Production, Use, and Rediscovery of the Nag Hammadi Codices,” Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Antonio, TX. November 2016.

Panelist, Panel on “The Prospects and Pitfalls of Students Participating in Academic Conferences,” Student Advisory section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. San Diego, CA. November 2014.

Panel Presider, Panel on “Coptic Gnostic Magic, Coptic Gnostic Texts,” Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism section, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Atlanta, GA. November 2015.

Languages

Reading only Greek, Latin, Coptic, Hebrew, German, and French