

RICHARD NEWTON

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
The University of Alabama
rnewton@ua.edu
<http://www.sowingtheseed.org>

Curriculum Vitae (8/27/18)

EDUCATION

2014 **PhD, Religion (Critical Comparative Scriptures)**
Claremont Graduate University

Comprehensive examinations: theories in comparative religion, the history and study of Christian scriptures (New Testament), and African American culture and religion

Dissertation: “Knowing One’s Roots: Alex Haley and the Anthropology of Scriptures,” under the advisement of Vincent L. Wimbush

2009 **MDiv, *cum laude***
Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

2005 **BA, Religion and Anthropology (double major)**
Texas Christian University

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

2018--- Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, The University of Alabama

2014-2018 Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Elizabethtown College

2012-2014 Instructor, Ethnic and Women’s Studies, California State Polytechnic University

2011-2013 Instructor, Academic Writing and Communications, Claremont University Consortium

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

Signifying Religion: An African American Worldview; Scoping Out Religion: Theories and Methods; The Bible and Race in the USA; Introduction to Islam; Ethnicity, Gender, and Religion; New Testament; Watching the *Watchmen*: A Study in Modern Mythology; Capstone in Religious Studies: Religion in Public Life

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

History of the Study of Religion; Field Research Methods in Cultural Studies; Academic Writing and Speaking

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Monographs

- 2018 *Identifying Roots: Alex Haley and the Anthropology of Scriptures* (Equinox Publishers, in review), <https://www.equinoxpub.com/home/identifying-roots/>.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2018 “Curating Religion in the Teacher-Scholar’s Study,” *Material Religion: The Journal of Objects, Art, and Belief*. (forthcoming).

“Reading Alex Haley’s Roots: Toward an Anthropology of Scriptures,” *Postscripts: The Journal of Sacred Texts and Contemporary Worlds* (in press).

- 2017 “Whither the Study of Religion and Culture,” *Implicit Religion* 20:4 (2017), 401-406.

“Locating Value in the Study of Religion,” *Method & Theory in the Study of Religion* 29: 4-5: (May 2017), 459-478.

“The African American Bible: Bound in a Promised Land,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136:1 (Winter 2017), 221-228.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.15699/jbl.1361.2017.1366>

- 2016 “Theory Throw Down,” *Teaching Theology and Religion* 19: 3 (July 2016).

- 2015 “Signifying on the World Religions Paradigm: My Version of RELIGION 101,” *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* 44:3 (September 2015), 35-37.

Book Chapters

- 2018 “Teaching in the Ideological State of Religious Studies: Notes Towards a Pedagogical Future,” *Constructing “Data” in Religious Studies: Examining the Architecture of the Academy*, ed. Leslie Dorrough Smith (Equinox, forthcoming).

“Third-Screen Teaching: Enhancing Classroom Learning with Mobile Devices,” *Teaching Religion Using Technology in Higher Education*, ed. John Hilton III (Routledge, 2018), 3-17

- 2017 “Purposeful Life Work: Stories in Process,” *Voices of Vocation*, ed. Tracy Wenger Sadd

(CIC-NetVUE, 2017), 13-20.

“Naaaaaw you show me YOUR ID,” *Fabricating Identities*, ed. Russell T. McCutcheon (Equinox Publishers, 2017), 99-104.

“Do scholars of religion study texts or do they study the religion firsthand, like an anthropologist might?” *Religion in Five Minutes: Scholars Answer Your Questions* (Equinox Publishers, 2017).

“Is it possible to study religion academically and still be religious?” *Religion in Five Minutes: Scholars Answer Your Questions* (Equinox Publishers, 2017).

“Richard Newton Responds to Blum,” in *Theory in a Time of Excess—The Case for the Academic Study of Religion* (Equinox Publishers, 2017).

2015 “Writing Basically,” in *Writing Theologically*, edited by Eric D. Barreto (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015), 5-20.

“An Exegetical Perspective on John 11:28-37,” in *Feasting on the Gospels*, eds. E. Elizabeth Johnson and Cynthia A. Jarvis (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015), 57, 59, 61.

“An Exegetical Perspective on John 11:17-27,” in *Feasting on the Gospels*, eds. by E. Elizabeth Johnson and Cynthia A. Jarvis (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015), 51, 53, 55.

“President Bartlet’s Bully Pulpit,” *In Media Res*, MediaCommons, June 28, 2011,
<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2011/06/28/president-bartlets-bully-pulpit>.

“Gleaning Alex Haley’s Scriptural Roots,” *In Media Res*, MediaCommons, March 21, 2011,
<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2011/03/21/gleaning-alex-haleys-scriptural-roots>.

Book Reviews

2018 Review of *Womanist Interpretations of the Bible: Expanding the Discourse*, eds. Gay L. Byron and Vanessa Lovelace. *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (in press, April 2018).

Review of *Iconic Books and Texts*, ed. James W. Watts. *The Abeng: A Journal of Transdisciplinary Criticism* 2.1 (2018), 69-70.

2016 Review of *A Child Shall Lead Them: Martin Luther King, Jr., Young People, and the*

Movement, Rufus Burrow, Jr. *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (in press, 2016).

- 2011 Review of *Transforming Scriptures: African American Women Writers and the Bible*, Katherine Clay Bassard, *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* 2 (2011): 1-7.
http://www.raceandreligion.com/JRER/Book_Reviews_files/Newton%20review%20of%20Brassard.pdf.
- 2011 Review of *Transforming Scriptures: African American Women Writers and the Bible*, Katherine Clay Bassard. *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* 2 (2011): 1-7.
http://www.raceandreligion.com/JRER/Book_Reviews_files/Newton%20review%20of%20Brassard.pdf.

Scholarly Web Essays

- 2018 “Insider Baseball: Sessions, the Bible, and Approaches to the Law,” *National Center for Institutional Diversity*, The University of Michigan, August 8, 2018.
<https://medium.com/national-center-for-institutional-diversity/insider-baseball-sessions-the-bible-and-approaches-to-the-law-e70739d0fb20>.

“Dealing with Detraction on the Fly,” *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, May 16, 2018.
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/05/dealing-with-detraction-on-the-fly/>.

“Inviting Comparison, Inviting Learning,” Teaching and Traumatic Events, *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, April 25, 2018.
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/04/inviting-comparison-inviting-learning/>.

“Maybe It’s Not Your Job to Deal with Trauma Drama,” Teaching and Traumatic Events, *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, April 10, 2018.
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/04/maybe-its-not-your-job-to-deal-with-trauma-drama/>.

“Building Your Squad,” Teaching and Traumatic Events, *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, April 4, 2018.
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/04/building-your-squad/>.

“A Man, A Tan, God’s Plan,” *Culture on the Edge*, March 5, 2018.
<https://edge.ua.edu/chapter-3/a-man-a-tan-gods-plan/>

“When Less is More: Using What You’ve Got to Deal with Trauma,” Teaching and Traumatic Events, *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, February 20, 2018.
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/02/less-using-youve-got-deal-trauma/>.

- “On Kings and Trump Cards,” *Culture on the Edge*, February 12, 2018. <https://edge.ua.edu/chapter-3/on-kings-and-trump-cards/>.
- “‘The More We Know’: A Trauma Protocol for Crisis Day One,” Teaching and Traumatic Events, *Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, January 23, 2018. <https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/01/know-trauma-protocol-crisis-day-one/>.
- “I Saw the Sign, Or Did I?” *Culture on the Edge*, January 8, 2018. <https://edge.ua.edu/chapter-3/i-saw-the-sign-or-did-i/>.
- 2017 Comments in “Explaining a Religious Studies Degree,” Practicum: Critical Theory, Religion, and Pedagogy, October 13, 2017. <http://practicumreligionblog.blogspot.com/2017/10/explaining-religious-studies-degree.html>.
- “Figuratively the Humanities,” *Culture on the Edge*, September 26, 2017. <https://edge.ua.edu/chapter-3/figuratively-the-humanities/>.
- “The Last Thesis Proposal Guide Your Students Will Ever Need,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, June 30, 2017. <http://seminariumblog.org/general/semclass/last-thesis-proposal-guide-students-will-ever-need/>
- [“Words and Things: Happily Ever After Religion.”](#) A Response to Brent Nognbri’s *Before Religion: A History of a Modern Concept* (Yale University Press: 2015), *Studying Religion in Culture Blog*, University of Alabama–Tuscaloosa, February 20, 2017. <https://religion.ua.edu/blog/2017/02/words-and-things-happily-ever-after-religion/>
- [“Better Know a Religion Blog: Sowing the Seed: Fruitful Conversations in Religion, Culture, and Teaching.”](#) *Religion Bulletin: The Blogging Portal of the Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, January 26, 2017. <http://bulletin.equinoxpub.com/2017/01/better-know-a-religion-blog-sowing-the-seed-fruitful-conversations-in-religion-culture-and-teaching/>
- 2016 “Revolutionary Love: Scholar’s Respond to the AAAR’s 2016: Conference Theme: Richard Newton, *Religion Bulletin: The Blogging Portal of the Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, February 22, 2016.
- “Learning Curve: The Confidence Game,” *Practicum: Critical Theory, Religion, and Pedagogy*, February 23, 2016. <http://practicumreligionblog.blogspot.com/2016/02/learning-curve-confidence-game.html>

“I am Richard Newton and This Was My Doctoral Defense,” *PhD Talk*, April 5, 2016. <https://phdtalk.blogspot.com/2016/04/phd-defenses-around-world-defense-in.html?show>

“*Realia* and the Teacher’s Toolbox in the Postmodern New Testament Classroom,” *Ancient Jew Review*, February, 2, 2016. <http://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2016/2/2/realia-and-the-teachers-toolbox-in-the-postmodern-new-testament-classroom>.

“Sorry About the Mess: *Star Wars* and the Virtue of Garbage,” *Killing the Buddha*, January 5, 2016. <http://killingthebuddha.com/ktblog/sorry-about-the-mess-star-wars-and-the-virtues-of-garbage/>.

2015 “Teaching the Bible with Tech at #AARSBL15,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, November 20, 2015, <http://seminariumblog.org/general/semrends/teaching-bible-with-tech-at-aarsbl15/>.

“Teaching the Bible and Race in the USA,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, June 22, 2015, <http://seminariumblog.org/general/semrends/teaching-the-bible-and-race-in-the-usa/>.

“Critical Comparative Scriptures at its Root” *Inscriptions*, The Institute for Signifying Scriptures, April 20, 2015. <http://signifyingscriptures.org/signify/inscriptions/richard-newton-reflections-on-the-iss-scriptures-at-its-root/>.

“Silence and Real Talk: On Teaching about the Bible and Race in the USA,” *Race Matters in the Classroom*, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, March 26, 2015. http://wabashcenter.typepad.com/antiracism_pedagogy/2015/03/silence-and-real-talk-on-teaching-about-the-bible-and-race-in-the-usa.html.

“Syllabus Project: Signifying Religion: An African American Worldview,” *Practicum: Critical Theory, Religion, and Pedagogy*, Equinox Publishers, January 2015. <http://practicumreligionblog.blogspot.com/2015/01/syllabus-project-signifying-religion.html>

2014 “AAR + SBL: Toward an Anthropological Study,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, Fortress Academic, November 14, 2014, <http://seminariumblog.org/author/richard-newton>.

“A Student’s Guide to Maximizing Your Time At SBL,” *SBL Students*, Society of Biblical Literature’s Student Advisory Board, <http://sblstudents.org>. November 3, 2014.

“Writing with a Point,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, Fortress Academic, a three-part series, Fortress Academic, September 8, 2014, <http://seminariumblog.org/author/richard-newton>.

“Flipping the Classroom: Don’t Sweat the Technique,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, Fortress Academic, May 12, 2014, <http://seminariumblog.org/author/richard-newton>.

2013 “The ACE Model for Critical Thinking and Critical Writing,” *Seminarium: The Elements of Great Teaching*, Fortress Academic, June 23, 2013, a four-part series, <http://seminariumblog.org/author/richard-newton>.

2011 “President Bartlet’s Bully Pulpit,” *In Media Res*, MediaCommons, June 28, 2011, <http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2011/06/28/president-bartlets-bully-pulpit>.

“Gleaning Alex Haley’s Scriptural Roots,” *In Media Res*, MediaCommons, March 21, 2011, <http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2011/03/21/gleaning-alex-haleys-scriptural-roots>.

Lectures, Paper Presentations and Panel Participation

2017 “Skin in the Game: Racing the Stakes of Student-Scholarship,” Teaching Religion, American Academy of Religion, November 2017.

“Teaching: The State of the Field,” North American Association for the Study of Religion, November 2017.

2016 “Digital Scholarship Reconsidered for the Graduate Student Pursuing the Tenure-Track,” Graduate Student Committee Panel, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 21, 2016.

“Sowing the Seed: Creating an Online Student-Scholar Magazine,” Digital Futures of Religious Studies, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 19, 2016.

“Demystifying the Teaching Philosophy: A Workshop,” Student Advisory Board, Society of Biblical Literature, November 19, 2016.

“The African American Bible: Bound in a Christian Nation,” 2016 Religion in Culture Lecture Series, University of Alabama—Tuscaloosa, April 18, 2016.

“Teaching on Social Difference in Your Racialized Classroom,” Guest Lecture for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning & Educational Technology, Lebanon Valley College, March 2, 2016.

2015 “Sculpting ‘Source-Places’: Alex Haley “Wroughts” a Scripture,” Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts, Annual Meetings of the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature, November 22, 2015.

“Signifying Theory: A Method Toward Mutually Assured Deconstruction,”
“Theory in a Time of Excess: Response to Jason N. Blum’s ‘On the Restraint of Theory,’” North American Association for the Study of Religion, Annual Meetings of the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature, November 20, 2015.

“Using “Third-Screen” Technologies in the Classroom,” Educator Development Day, Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences, Lancaster, PA June 11, 2015.

“Dinner Table Conversation After Ferguson,” Education in a Post-Ferguson Society, The Anna Reese Distinguished Lecture Series, Elizabethtown College, March 30, 2015.

“Third Screen Teaching: A Solution in Disguise,” Lancaster Learns: A Teaching and Technology Conference, Lancaster, PA, February 27, 2015.

“The African American Bible: Bound in a Christian Nation,” Days-Massolo Center Lecture Series, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY, February 16, 2015.

2014 “Motivation and Learning in Biblical Studies-A Panel Discussion,” Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA, November 23, 2014.

“Get Carded: Documenting Identity in a Christian Nation,” Arts & Culture at Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA, October 20, 2014.

2013 “Alex Haley’s *Roots*: A Scriptural Story,” Brown Bag Lunch Discussion Series, Institute for Signifying Scriptures, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, September 26, 2013.

2012 “Writing Like an A.C.E.: Teaching Critical Reasoning for the Last Time,” Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, IL, November 16-20, 2012.

2011 “When Texts Sell: The Scriptural Economies of ‘Macabre’ Religion and ‘Born-Again’ Relationships,” Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, CA, November 19-22, 2011.

“Excavating the Significance of Nazareth via the Church of the Nazarene,” Use and Impact of the Bible, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature,

San Francisco, CA, November 19-22, 2011.

“Excavating the Significance of Nazareth via the Church of the Nazarene,”
Western Commission on the Study of Religion, Whittier, CA, March 28, 2011.

“Nurturing the Next Generation of Scholars: A Consultation with the Fund for
Theological Education,” Western Commission for the Study of Religion, March
27, 2011.

2010 “Glimpses of Alex Haley’s Scriptural Roots,” African American Biblical
Hermeneutics, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, GA,
November 20-23, 2010.

“Excavating the Significance of Nazareth via the Church of the Nazarene,”
Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society, Azusa, CA, March 5,
2010.

Panels Moderated

2015 “Teaching with Technology,” Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies and Global
Education and Research Technology, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical
Literature, Atlanta, GA, November 21, 2015.

2014 “Teaching the Bible Visually or Geographically,” Academic Teaching and Biblical
Studies, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA,
November 23, 2014.

2013 “Teaching the Bible: Practical Strategies for Blended Learning and Linking Learning to
Assessment,” Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies, Annual Meeting of the Society
of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, MD, November 23-26, 2013.

2011 “Understanding Humans and Arousal” The Second Annual Southern California McNair
Scholars Program Conference: Dynamic Discourse: Representing Revolutionary
Research, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, October 1, 2011.

2010 “Economy of Space, Place, and Land,” The First Annual Southern California McNair
Scholars Program Conference: Changing the Face of Academia, Claremont Graduate
University, Claremont, CA, October 2, 2010.

“Ain’t I a Womanist Too?”: Third Wave Womanist Religious Thought
Conference, Claremont Lincoln University, Claremont, CA, February 25-26,
2010.

Scholarly Projects and Research

2018 **Project Supervisor, The William V. Puffenberger Digital Collection of Religious Artifacts, Elizabethtown College Scholarship and Creative Arts Research Program, Summer 2018**

Mentored two students in the development of a digital collection of artifacts using the Omeka environment. Students learned basic HTML, rudimentary Dublin Core catalog protocols, and various office enterprise programs.

<http://puffenberger.omeka.net>

Host, *The Outgrowth*

Launched a video series on pedagogy that provides a look into highlights from my classroom. Episodes showcase students engaged in high-impact practices while learning about religion and culture.

Boko Haram Violence in Nigeria Project, Elizabethtown College Spring and Summer 2016

Led eight students in a collaborative effort with the Church of the Brethren to create the most comprehensive documentation of abductions and casualties related to Boko Haram's violence in Nigeria (2009-2015). Students gathered demographic, historical, and discursive data and created a briefing report for distribution among government and NGO agencies.

<http://blog.brethren.org/2016/brethren-collaborate-on-nigeria-research/>

2016 **Seminar Participant, "Bodies of Christ: Visualizing Jesus Then & Now, Calvin College Summer Seminar, June 12-24, 2016.**

Investigated depictions of Christ and their effects on race, gender, and sexuality in church, state, and society. Worked with a select group of historians, religious studies scholars, artists, theologians, and pastors with funding from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship with funding by Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Boko Haram Violence in Nigeria Project,

Elizabethtown College Spring and Summer 2016

Led eight students in a collaborative effort with the Church of the Brethren to create the most comprehensive documentation of abductions and casualties related to Boko Haram's violence in Nigeria (2009-2015). Students gathered demographic, historical, and discursive data and created a briefing report for distribution among government and NGO agencies.

<http://blog.brethren.org/2016/brethren-collaborate-on-nigeria-research/>

2015 **Host, *Broadcast Seeding: Future Food For Thought***
SowingTheSeed.org/Podcast

Launched a podcast featuring some of the nation's most creative minds on religion, culture, and teaching. Interviews offer the listening public an opportunity to experience the richness of a humanities education.

Founder and Curator, *Sowing the Seed: Fruitful Conversation on Religion,*

Culture, and Teaching

SowingTheSeed.org

Established a unique digital space for students and scholars to exchange insights on social formation and pedagogy. Wrote guiding essays to initiate conversations. Published posts from undergraduate students and scholars from all over the nation.

2015-2017 Member, Community-Based Learning Faculty Learning Community

Elizabethtown College

Joined other faculty in developing our understanding of Community-Based Learning pedagogy and courses in support of the College's strategic plan. Sponsored by the Dean of Faculty, the Office of the Provost, and the Center for Community and Civic Engagement.

2009-2014 Research Assistant, Institute for Signifying Scriptures

Claremont Graduate University

Assisted with logistics and planning of program initiatives. Participated in on-going conversation around ethnological research projects. Worked under the direction of Vincent L. Wimbush.

Study Abroad, "The Bible in Global Context: Reading the Bible in Hong Kong and Taiwan"

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

Visited religious communities, religious studies programs, and seminaries in Hong Kong and Taiwan to investigate the Bible's emerging role in their social formation. Studied under Sze-Kar Wan.

2008 Summer Volunteer, Bethsaida Excavation Project

University of Nebraska at Omaha and Creighton University

Participated in an archaeological dig of a Galilean town. Received introductory knowledge of surveying, mapping, and pottery reading while serving as assistant square supervisor under Nicolae Roddy.

2004-2007 Research Assistant, Maya Research Program

Texas Christian University

Assisted with logistics needs of the MRP ethnographic field school at Yaxunah, Yucatan, Mexico. Led students in mapping a village. Served as a Spanish-English translator. Coded and tabulated medical and ecological data of the community. Served under the direction of Grace Bascope.

SERVICE BEYOND THE ACADEMY

2018 "Bible, Race, and Vocation," Invited Workshop, Shenandoah University Youth Theology Institute, July 15-27.

2017 "Bible, Race, and Vocation," Invited Workshop, Shenandoah University Youth

- Theology Institute, July 23-August 5.
- “How I Teach Islam to Undergraduates,” Invited Lecture, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, January 29, 2017.
- 2016 “Introduction to Islam,” Invited Lecture, J. P. McCaskey High School, December 15, 2016.
- “Interfaith Leadership: A Brethren Pursuit at Elizabethtown College,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, October 9, 2016.
- “The African American Bible: Bound in a Christian Nation?” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, November 6, 2016.
- “Do Black Lives Matter in the Church of the Brethren?,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, September 11, 2016.
- “Do Black Lives Matter in the Church of the Brethren?,” Invited Lecture, Lancaster Church of the Brethren, September 4, 2016.
- “Hearing Our Six-Word Stories: Racial Politics at LCOB,” Invited Lecture, Lancaster Church of the Brethren, September 4, 2016.
- “The Story Yet to Be Told: Race, Mass Incarceration, and the Christian Witness,” Invited Speaker, Church of the Brethren Office of Public Witness’s Christian Citizenship Seminar. April 23, 2016. <http://www.brethren.org/news/2016/ccs-participants-learn-about-mass-incarceration.html>.
- “Who is My Neighbor—Islam,” Invited Lecture, Church of the Apostles United Church of Christ (Lancaster), March 6 and March 13, 2016. http://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/who-is-your-neighbor-a-concert-and-a-trip-are/article_62032d8e-c6b8-11e5-bd86-8f3df720fe6f.html
- “Star Wars for a Peace Church,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, February 7, 2016.
- 2015 Samara: The Center for Individual and Family Growth, Consultation for Literature Review and Scholarship Development and Externship Supervisor, August 1- December 31, 2015.
- “Religious Studies: An Inquiry Seminar Field Research Project by Lauren Davidson, Elizabethtown Area High School,” Expert Interview, November 21, 2015.
- “Islam: Then and Now,” Invited Lecture, Mountville Church of the Brethren,

Mountville PA, November 8 and 15, 2015.

“African American History and Jackie Robinson: A National History Day Project by Michael Scaretti, Tampa Bay, FL,” Expert Interview, October 22, 2015.

“Cultural Christianity: Profane Texts and Sacred People,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, Elizabethtown, PA, June 14 and 21, 2015.

“The African American Bible: Bound in a Promised Land,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown College Alumni Luncheon, Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, Tampa, FL, July 12, 2015.

All God’s People Say Amen: Intercultural Ministries Retreat, Atlantic North East District of the Church of the Brethren, College Representative, May 2, 2015.

“The Gospel According to America: Black Demons and the Original Sin of Slavery,” Invited Lecture, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, Elizabethtown, PA, January 18, 2015.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

2018 Earle Cornelius, “Rapper Drake’s \$1M Giveaway: Academics Debate Ethics of Publicly Giving Away Money, *Lancaster Online (LNP)*,” Expert Commenter, March 10, 2018. https://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/rapper-drake-s-m-giveaway-academic-s-debate-ethics-of-publicly/article_356410b8-1e40-11e8-81ca-cb596386c64c.html.

2017 Clara Turnage, “More than a ‘Summer Slump’: How the Loss of Structure Affects Academics.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 15, 2017. <http://www.chronicle.com/article/More-Than-a-Summer/240357>.

2016 *Smart Talk with Scott LaMar: “Roots,”* Interview Guest, WITF, May 31, 2016. <https://soundcloud.com/witf/sets/smart-talk-53116-the-recovery-of-rust-belt-cities-roots>.

Earle Cornelius, “The Religious Landscape in America is Changing,” *Lancaster Online (LNP)*,” Expert Commenter, February 20, 2016. http://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/the-religious-landscape-in-america-is-changing/article_6105bd54-d683-11e5-b429-f36827e9bc82.html.

Earle Cornelius, “How Local Academicians View Wheaton College’s Decisions to Oust a Professor who Says Christians and Muslims Worship the Same God,” *LancasterOnline (LNP)*, Expert Commenter, January 23, 2016. http://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/how-local-academicians-view-wheaton-college-s-decision-to-oust/article_d8721388-c139-11e5-a4b2-3b

[9dd5087f87.html](#).

- 2015 Earle Cornelius, "The Spirituality of *Star Wars*," *Lancaster Online (LNP)*, Expert Commenter, December 12, 2015. http://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/the-spirituality-of-star-wars/article_7b01cc44-a027-11e5-acc4-a7765b7fb4ec.html.

Amanda Berg, "Elizabethtown College Takes on Challenge of Discussing Race on Campus," *PennLive/The Patriot*," Featured Subject, November 26, 2015. http://www.pennlive.com/news/2015/12/elizabethtown_college_takes_on.html.

Tim Stuhldreher, "Local College Campuses Re-examining Issues of Race, Diversity, and Inclusion," *Lancaster Online (LNP)*, Expert Commenter, November 27, 2015. http://lancasteronline.com/news/local/local-college-campuses-re-examining-issues-of-race-diversity-and/article_31db0f8a-93b6-11e5-9497-73a949533da3.html.

Earle Cornelius, "Just How Do We Measure Faith," *Lancaster Online (LNP)*, Expert Commenter, November 6, 2015. http://lancasteronline.com/features/faith_values/just-how-do-we-measure-faith-in-the-us/article_43b4e0fa-83fd-11e5-a657-db21618f5caa.html.

Tim Stuhldreher, "College Events Look at Post-Ferguson, Race, Justice Question," *Lancaster Online (LNP)*," Expert Commenter, January 9, 2015, http://lancasteronline.com/news/local/college-events-look-at-post-ferguson-race-justice-questions/article_237b9e6c-985f-11e4-bd45-6ff63a5f15ff.html.

- 2014 "Afraid of the Dark: A Black Professor's Reflections on Michael Brown's Killing," *Urban Cusp*, August 11, 2014, <http://www.urbancusp.com/2014/08/afraid-dark-black-professors-reflections-death-michael-brown/>.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & HONORS

- 2017 **National Center for Institutional Diversity, Diversity Scholars Network**, (Invited Membership, 2017—)
University of Michigan

- 2016 **Faculty Peer-Mentor Cluster (2016-2017)**
(stipend for focused professional development)
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning

Faculty Starter Grant
(funding for research assistant for Sowing the Seed online magazine)
Elizabethtown College

Interfaith Leadership Faculty Grant

(funding for research assistant for Sowing the Seed online magazine)
Elizabethtown College funded by Interfaith Youth Core/Teagle Foundation

- 2015 **Workshop for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty of African Descent** (2015-2016)
(retreats and stipend)
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning

Religious Life Interfaith Leadership Award

Elizabethtown College

- 2013 **Albert B. Friedman Grant** (research funding)
Claremont Graduate University

Selina Reed-Brown Fellowship Fund (continued full merit scholarship)

Claremont Graduate University

- 2011 **Maguire Intercollegiate Award** (teaching assistantship)
Claremont Colleges Consortium

- 2010 **John Dempster Doctoral Fellowship**
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church

- 2009 **FTE Doctoral Fellowship**
Fund for Theological Education

Paul K. Richter and Evalyn E. Cook Richter Memorial Fellowship

(full merit scholarship)
Claremont Graduate University

- 2008 **Nancy Underwood Graduate Student and Leadership and Achievement**
(scholarship)
Southern Methodist University

Jean Audrey Powers' Leadership for Change Award

(scholarship)
Pacific School of Religion

Special Seminary Scholarship

General Board of Higher Education & Ministry of the United Methodist Church

Archaeological Dig Fellowship

Biblical Archaeology Society

John Hicks Fellowship for Biblical Research

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

2006 **Charles and Elizabeth Perkins-Prothro Fellowship**

(full merit scholarship)

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

FTE Ministry Fellowship (research project funding)

Fund for Theological Education

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Anthropology of Scriptures
- Politics of Biblical Interpretation
- African American Culture and Politics
- Theory and Method in the Study of Religion
- History of Religion
- American Identity Politics

SCHOLARLY AFFILIATIONS

- Society of Biblical Literature
- American Academy of Religion
- Institute for Signifying Scriptures
- Society for Comparative Research on Iconographic and Performative Texts
- North American Association for the Study of Religion
- Sheffield Interdisciplinary Institute for Biblical Studies
- Culture on the Edge