

GTU DEAN'S NEWSLETTER



A Season of Celebration

As we enter the month of November, I am keenly aware of how much celebrating we will be doing this month. But I'm not thinking about holidays here. Instead, I am thinking of the people we will celebrate this month as a GTU community.

On Tuesday, November 15 at 6:00 PM we will celebrate Dr. Richard Payne at our 47th Annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture. A member of the Core Doctoral Faculty and Director of the Buddhism and Contemporary Psychology Certificate Program at the Institute for Buddhist Studies, Dr. Payne will present a lecture titled, "From Ritual to Religion: The Consequences of Taking Nondualism Seriously." ([Register for this Zoom event here.](#))

At the GTU Reception on Saturday evening, November 19, we will do more celebrating at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature in Denver, Colorado. That night we will celebrate our Alum of the Year, Dr. David Batstone (PhD, 1989). As an activist-scholar and entrepreneur who is engaged in multiple local and global initiatives, Dr. Batstone's career touches on several of the GTU's core values. His work offers an expansive vision of justice, compassion, and innovation as it bridges the areas of theology, technology, and social activism. [Read more about our Alum of the Year here,](#) along with his interview at [GTU Voices.](#)

That night at the reception, as is now customary, we will also announce our Borsch-Rast Book Prize award recipient and honorable mention. The Borsch-Rast Book Prize and Lectureship was established to encourage the writing and publication of theological scholarship by GTU graduates and current faculty.

But be sure to come early to the GTU reception in Denver because we will have a lively PechaKucha-inspired event in connection to the celebration of the [GTU's 60th Anniversary.](#) Presenters will highlight the exciting and impactful research currently being conducted by GTU students (Leonard McMahon and Hye Hyun Han), faculty (Kate Barush and Sam Shonkoff), and alums (names to be announced). The first 60 attendees will receive a free drink ticket at this event.

If you will be in Denver, join us for the PechaKucha event (6:00 PM) and the reception (7:00 PM). We will be in the Colorado Convention Center, Room 607.

Oh, and I expect we will have a good crowd because we also celebrate that we have 80 students, faculty, and alum presenting at AAR/SBL this year!

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2022 Distinguished Faculty Lecture: Dr. Richard Payne

Tuesday, November 15 | 6 pm (Pacific) | Online Event



Dr. Richard Payne will present the 47th Annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture titled, “From Ritual to Religion: The Consequences of Taking Nondualism Seriously” on November 15, 2022, at 6:00 PM PST.

Each November, the GTU faculty honors a distinguished professor who embodies the scholarly standards, teaching excellence and commitment to ecumenism that defines the GTU. Nominations are made by GTU faculty and are then considered by the Council of Deans, which selects the lecturer.

Dr. Richard K. Payne is the Chair of IBS Publications Committee and is also the Buddhism and Contemporary Psychology Certificate Program Director at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) and is a member of the Core Doctoral Faculty.

During his dissertation research into tantric fire ritual (Skt. *homa*, Jpn. *goma*) on Mt. Kōya in Japan, Payne also completed training as a Shingon priest (*ajari*). Clustering around his core research program on tantric ritual are broader theoretical concerns about the conduct of such research. This includes the study of ritual across cultural boundaries and over long durations, and the use of language in tantric Buddhist ritual. He is co-editor with Georgios Halkias of the Oxford Research Encyclopedia/Religion/Buddhism, and with Glen Hayes is co-editing The Oxford Handbook of Tantric Studies.

[Register here](#)

Dr. Deidre N. Green welcome lecture

Tuesday, November 29 | 5 pm (Pacific) | Hybrid Event



We are pleased to welcome Dr. Deidre N. Green as Assistant Professor of Latter-day Saints/Mormon Studies at the GTU. Mark your calendars to join us on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, for Dr. Green's welcome lecture.

This event will be a hybrid lecture with a limited in-person audience located in the GTU Dinner Board Room, Flora Lamson Hewlett Library. Contact Sabrina Kennedy at skennedy@gtu.edu if you would like to attend in person.

Please RSVP for in-person attendance by November 21 by 5pm.

[Register here for remote attendance](#)

Announcements



*FALL
FORUM*

ALL GTU STUDENTS WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Hybrid Meet-Up 5-6 PM

Pizza & Beverages 6-7 PM

..... 

HYBRID FORMAT | GTU HEWLETT BUILDING & ZOOM

ZOOM MEETING ID: 933 3970 7986



**REGISTRATION
INFO AND Q & A**
WITH WENDY, JOHN, AND CHAI

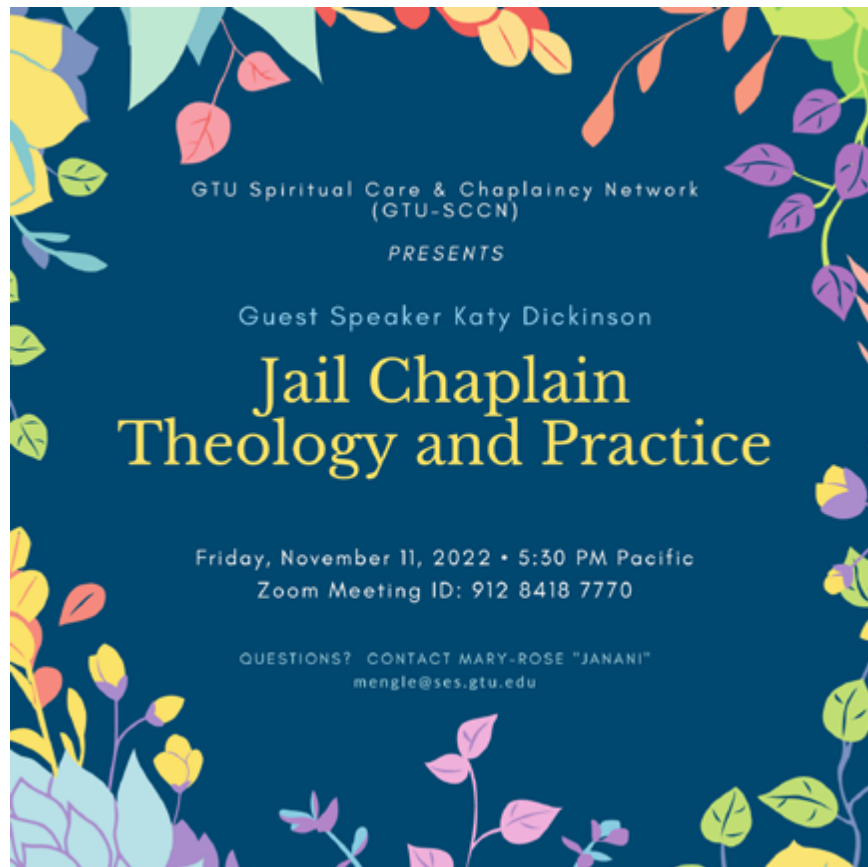
FRI, NOV 4, 2 - 4 PM

- We have policy changes regarding registrations and incompletes
- Special session for International Students at 3 pm
- Please bring your questions

Zoom ID: 373 761 4847



The deadline for
**Newhall
Fellowship
Applications**
is Friday, 11 Nov 2022,
5 pm.



GTU Spiritual Care & Chaplaincy Network
(GTU-SCCN)
PRESENTS

Guest Speaker Katy Dickinson

**Jail Chaplain
Theology and Practice**

Friday, November 11, 2022 • 5:30 PM Pacific
Zoom Meeting ID: 912 8418 7770

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MARY-ROSE "JANANI"
mengle@ses.gtu.edu

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

WORKSHOPS

HOW TO PREPARE CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS?

Facilitated by:

Dr. Scott MacDougall

Wed, 2 November, 2022
10.00 AM - 11.00 AM

NETWORKING

Facilitated by:

Payson Johnston
CEO Crowdz

Wed, 16 November, 2022
10.00 AM - 11.00 AM

Zoom Details: **999 1525 1254**

Questions? cmotupalli@gtu.edu



International Students' Get-Together

THANKSGIVING



2606
Dwight Way
(BST
Karpe Hall)

16
NOV
2022
5 pm

FOOD. FUN. FRIENDS
Optional: Bring your traditional
food or dessert to share.

GATHERING

RSVP link: <https://forms.gle/V4CxjfoXBqSM2oae7>
- RSVP by Nov 11

Academic Achievements & Deadlines

Oral Comprehensive Examination Passed

Matthew D. Beach, THET, Distinction
Sanghyun Park, THET, Distinction



Deadline for Submitting Dissertation Proposals

submit by **(Noon)** for December's Doctoral Council Meeting is Monday
November 28th, 2022

AAR-SBL conference

If you are attending this year's AAR / SBL event in Denver, please plan to visit the GTU Booth (#331) to say hello! We will be hosting two consecutive events on November 19 at the Denver Convention Center (Room 607)

Celebrating 60 Years of GTU Scholarship

Celebrating the GTU's 60th anniversary with a lightning round of short talks from alums, faculty, and students showing the range of GTU scholarship. This celebratory, Pecha-Kucha style event will be fun! The first 60 people to arrive will receive a free drink coupon.

Please join us for GTU's Alum Reception following this event.

Location: Colorado Convention Center

Room number: 607

Date: 11/19/22

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

GTU's Alum Reception

Our first in-person alum reception since 2019 will feature brief remarks from Sephora Markson, Chief Strategy Officer and Vice President of Institutional Advancement; Uriah Kim, President; Jennifer Davidson, Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and this year's GTU Alum of the Year, David Batsone. Additionally, the 2022 Borsch-Rast Prize will be announced.

Location: Colorado Convention Center

Room number: 607

Date: 11/19/22

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Digital Learning Department

The Digital Learning Department provides workshops to help instructors teach in hybrid and remote formats, **please see below for a list of the workshops taking place in November and December.**

Each workshop will be provided remotely through Zoom, and some workshops will have an in-person option (indicated below). For in-person workshops, you are encouraged to bring your laptop to experience a hands-on training session. All in-person workshops will take place in the Collaborative Learning Space in the Hewlett Building.

Please RSVP for each workshop by emailing derickson@gtu.edu and indicate if you would like to attend in-person or remotely. If you are attending remotely, you will receive a Zoom link. If you cannot attend these workshops but still want to receive help with hybrid and/or remote learning, please reach out to Diandra Erickson, Associate Dean for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, to schedule an appointment.

Overview of Panopto

Wednesday, November 9th, 1 pm (in-person, Collaborative Learning Space)
Thursday, November 10th at 1 pm (via Zoom)

Panopto is a robust, user-friendly video platform that provides extensive recording and editing features. Both instructors and students can use Panopto to create high-quality videos, presentations, and lectures. This workshop will cover the basics of Panopto, including creating and editing videos, adding quizzes to videos, and using Panopto for student presentations and assignments.

Effectively Blending Synchronous and Asynchronous Course Formats

Wednesday, November 30th, 1 pm (via Zoom)
Thursday, December 1st at 1 pm (via Zoom)

Educational studies on remote learning show that combining asynchronous and synchronous modalities provides students with more effective learning experiences. Utilizing synchronous modalities alone for a remote course can lead to counterproductive learning and “Zoom fatigue.” Additionally, only employing asynchronous modalities can lead to student isolation and a lack of cohesive community building. This workshop will discuss how a blend of asynchronous and synchronous remote teaching can provide a more equitable, engaging, and well-rounded learning experience for your students.

Overview of using Assignments and Grading Methods in Moodle

Wednesday, December 7th at 1 pm (in-person, Collaborative Learning Space)
Thursday, December 8th at 1 pm (via Zoom)

Moodle offers several grading methods that can help instructors find effective and efficient ways to systematically grade students and provide more transparency to students regarding grading methods. This workshop will provide an overview of these various assessment options and how they can be beneficial for tracking student performance in the course and providing student feedback. This workshop will also demonstrate how to set up the Moodle Gradebook and discuss ways that the Gradebook can save time while grading.

Fall 2022 Student Awards

Newhall Fellowship

Applications due Friday, November 11 | by 5pm

Newhall Fellowships are competitive awards for GTU Doctoral students to collaboratively teach or conduct research with faculty mentors. Newhall awards offer an opportunity to work closely with professors whose interests and approaches parallel the student's on projects that often would not be possible under other circumstances. The awards are designed to support both students (through grants) and faculty (through offering assistance to their research and teaching). Applications must come from both the student and the professor for a project involving both of them. Applications for the Newhall Fellowship must be submitted to the GTU Dean's Office.

[Learn more and apply now!](#)

Student Spotlights

Every month, the Dean's Newsletter will feature a selection of incoming students representing a range of GTU departments. Welcome to all!



Will Klein

MA Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion

Hey scholars! My name is Will and I'm here to study cults! Im fascinated by how they develop and why some cults survive while others do not. In my spare time I do improv and teach at my synagogue.



Athena Lalitā

PhD Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion

I studied Indian Buddhism and medicine. I created an Interreligious community at my Buddhist center and Taoist temple; and applied modern applications to those with psychiatric disease in Taipei Prison of Ministry of Justice. I hope to bring discoveries of philosophy and medical traditions into creative dialogue across multi-religious traditions.



Mark Levin

PhD Theology and Ethics

My research seeks to interpret life (as we live it) to be one type of divine revelation. Though, I have found intriguing examples from many religious traditions, currently I am attracted to using phenomenology to look at ideas in Judaism (Hashgachah Praettit, "divine providence").



Hermina Nedeleescu

MA Theology and Ethics

I am neuroscientist interested in understanding the human mind. My research work is concerned with the neurobiological basis of maladaptive behaviors relevant to human psychopathology. A theological-neuroscientific approach would provide a more comprehensive understanding of being in the context of human relationships with the perceived environment and relationships with others.



Brandon Peck

PhD Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion

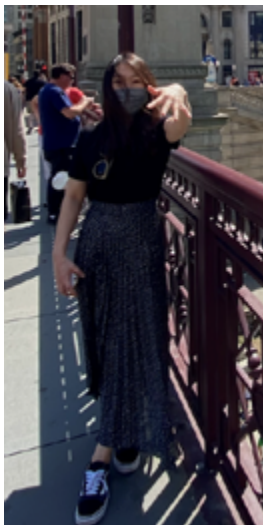
I am a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and am a life long Lutheran. My studies encompass the role of sound in creating theology and in expressing one's spirituality, specifically looking at the role of music and spoken language. Originally from Minnesota, my husband and I live in the East Bay.



Amy Tobin

MA Sacred Texts and Their Interpretation

Amy is a musician, writer, and the creator of two musicals inspired by biblical women and ritual (Esther/ Purim and Lilith). A nonprofit consultant focused on leadership, equity, and relationships, Amy served as CEO of the Jewish Community Center of the East Bay and founding Executive Director of the David Brower Center in Berkeley. She is on the path toward becoming a rabbi.



Mina Yi

PhD Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion

Hello, this is Mina, and I love coffee, yoga, and art galleries. Before getting here, I studied at Chicago Theological Seminary. Currently, my concentration is Art and Religion, focusing on aesthetic experience. I hope to have a chance to listen to your encounter with artworks.

Center for the Arts and Religion



Call for
student & alumni artists!

To celebrate the re-opening of the GTU Library, CARE is excited to present an exhibition of artwork by GTU students and alumni!

- Artwork must be:
- Framed and/or ready to hang
- Two dimensional

Able to be transported to 2400 Ridge Rd. in Berkeley between December 1-12, 2022

To submit your work for this group show, please send us images, titles, and your affiliation with the GTU by **Monday, November 14**. We will notify you shortly thereafter if your work has been accepted.

Please send all submissions to CARE Curator
Lydia Webster at lwebster@gtu.edu



Graduate
Theological
Union

Center for the Arts & Religion
Doug Adams Gallery.

Composing Ourselves: Approaching Harmony through the Art Methods of Arthur Wesley Dow

Saturday, November 5 and Saturday, November 12 | 10am-12pm (Pacific)

Instructed by recent GTU alumna Dr. Colette Walker

In the early years of the twentieth century, an art teacher named Arthur Wesley Dow published an art manual, *Composition*, that was to revolutionize American art education. In *Composition*, Dow departs from earlier European and American academic art models to draw on design principles from cultures around the world and throughout human history.

Dow believed that incorporating beauty into everyday life could have a healing and elevating effect on the human soul. In this workshop, we will explore Dow's ideas about the therapeutic potential of art practice and field-test several of his practices to see whether they prove as restorative for us today as they were for Dow 100 years ago.

Learn more and sign up: www.gtu.edu/careworkshops

Creatives' Cove November Meeting

Tuesday, November 8 | 5:15-6:30pm (Pacific)

3rd floor conference room, Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Road Berkeley, CA



Join us for the second meeting of the student-led group Creatives' Cove! We share and create art in a judgment-free setting, while getting to know other creative academics and enjoying light refreshments. If you have an interest in creativity of any kind, please feel free to join us!

Art & Religion AAR/SBL presentations

Check out some of the great presentations being offered by GTU Art and Religion faculty and students at this year's American Academy of Religion/Society for Biblical Literature Conference:

Dr. Elizabeth S. Peña | Panel discussion for the Society for the Arts in Religious and Theological Studies (SARTS) | Sunday, November 20 | 4:00-6:30pm

Emily Pothast | The Poetics of Apocalyptic Violence | Saturday, November 19 | 9:00-11:30am

Dr. Kathryn Barush | Sacred Geography, Narrativity, and Imagination in Recent Pilgrimage Studies, Sunday, November 20 | 12:30-2:30pm AND Art as Pilgrimage in a Time of Pandemic Monday, November 21 | 12:30-2:30pm

Dessi Vendova | Unequaled Manliness: Bodily Representations of the Bodhisattva Siddhārtha as a Renunciant in Early Buddhist Texts and Art | Saturday, November 19 | 3:00- 4:30 PM

Look up all these talks and more on the [aarweb](#).

Madrasa-Midrasha Program

Mystical Reading in Islamic and Jewish Traditions

Monday, November 14 | 12:00pm (Pacific) | Hybrid Event



The poster is divided into several sections. At the top left, it features the GTU logo and the text 'The Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies & the Center for Islamic Studies Madrasa-Midrasha Program'. The main title 'MYSTICAL READING IN ISLAMIC AND JEWISH TRADITIONS' is centered in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, there are two circular portraits: one of Dr. Sam S.B. Shonkoff, a man with dark hair and a beard, and one of Dr. Fateme Montazeri, a woman wearing a red and pink headscarf. To the right of the portraits, there is a section with event details: a calendar icon followed by 'NOVEMBER 14, 2022 Monday 12:00pm (PT)', a location pin icon followed by 'HYBRID EVENT: GTU Library, 3rd Floor 2400 Ridge Rd, Berkeley, CA', and a laptop icon followed by 'ZOOM REGISTRATION: gtu.edu/events/madrasa-midrasha-mystical-reading-islamic-jewish-traditions'. At the bottom right, there is a small italicized note: 'The Madrasa-Midrasha Program is made possible by the generous support of the Walter & Elise Haas Fund'.

GTU The Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies & the Center for Islamic Studies
Madrasa-Midrasha Program

**MYSTICAL READING
IN ISLAMIC AND
JEWISH TRADITIONS**

DR. FATEME MONTAZERI
University of California, Berkeley

DR. SAM S.B. SHONKOFF
GTU Richard S. Dinner
Center for Jewish Studies

 **NOVEMBER 14, 2022**
Monday 12:00pm (PT)

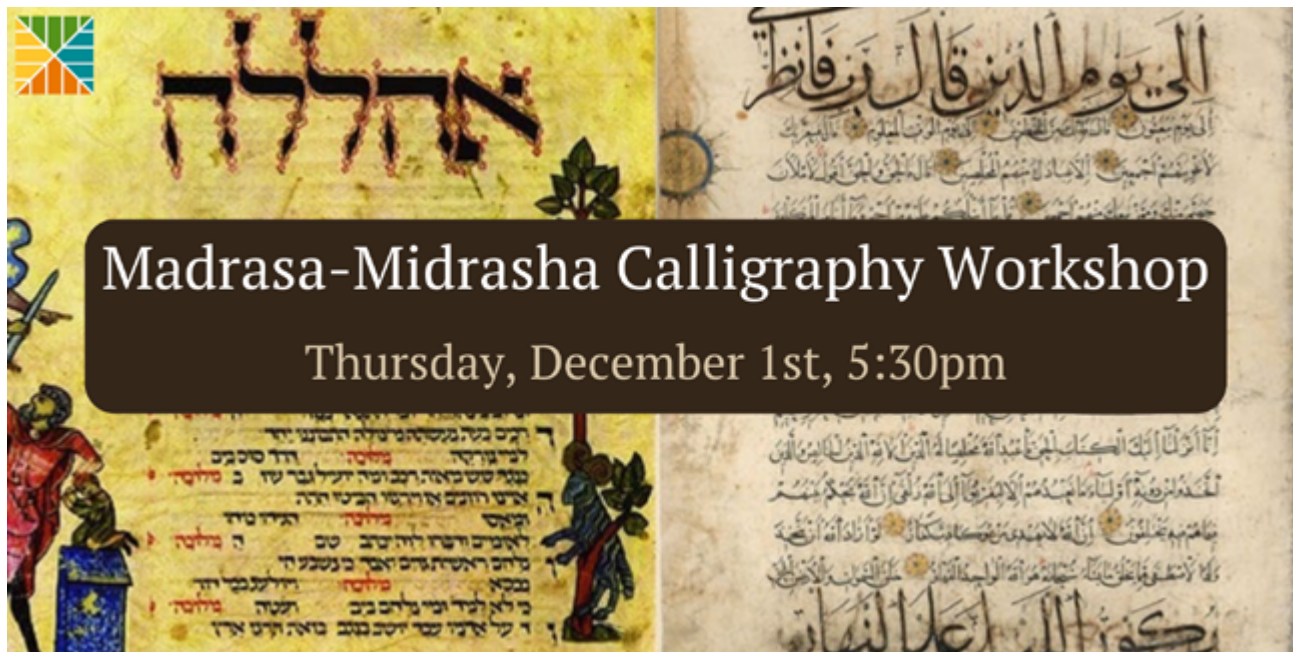
 **HYBRID EVENT:**
GTU Library, 3rd Floor
2400 Ridge Rd, Berkeley, CA

 **ZOOM REGISTRATION:**
[gtu.edu/events/madrasa-midrasha-
mystical-reading-islamic-jewish-
traditions](https://gtu.edu/events/madrasa-midrasha-mystical-reading-islamic-jewish-traditions)

The Madrasa-Midrasha Program is made possible by the generous support of the [Walter & Elise Haas Fund](#)

The event will feature Sam S.B. Shonkoff of CJS and Fateme Montazeri of UC Berkeley. The in-person portion in the GTU Library Dinner Boardroom.

[Please visit the event page for more info.](#)



Thursday, December 1 | 5:30pm (Pacific)

The Madrasa-Midrasha Program at the GTU is delighted to welcome you to an evening of interactive Hebrew and Arabic calligraphy. The event will feature presentations by Peretz Wolf-Prusan and Arash Shirinbab moderated by Carol Bier. The workshop will be in-person with limited space, so please register at the link below. Snacks and socializing to follow.

[Please visit the event page for more info and to register.](#)

Center for Islamic Studies

Congratulations to doctoral student Nosizwe Breaux-Abdur-Rahman on participating in the Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion’s working group on race, religion and belonging.

Congratulations to Dr. Mahjabeen Dhala for her contribution to a blog post led by Ted Peters on Public Theology published on Patheos: [“To Eat No Kill Cultivated Meat. Part Five: Muslims?”](#) and also for her papers at the AAR/SBL, “Faith, Climate, and Justice,” Panelist, Institute of Religion in an Age of Science, and “Transformative Interfaith Engagement: Centering Minority Perspectives,” Interreligious and Interfaith Studies Unit.

Congratulations to CIS Director, Munir Jiwa, who has been invited to co-lead a New Directions graduate students seminar on Religion and Health, through the Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion. He will also be facilitating a series of discussions at the AAR through the Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (which he chaired 2019-2021) on religion, race, health, justice, and belonging. On Nov 17, Dr. Jiwa will present on spiritual care at the chaplaincy program at Stanford hospital. See the [CIS webpage](#) for more info.

The CIS invites the GTU community to attend our monthly Zoom gatherings

Islamic Studies @ GTU, to learn more about the research and work of our students, alums, visiting scholars and faculty. We are delighted that Dr. Eby Shabudin will share his research on values based leadership from an Islamic perspective on November 11th at 4:30pm. Please see the GTU calendar for more info and contact mjiwa@gtu.edu for Zoom info.

Center for Jewish Studies

The Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies



Thank you to everyone who helped build the Sukkah, used it for studying, and made it a meaningful space once again on the GTU campus!

Please join CJS for the following upcoming events:

Mystical Reading in Islamic & Jewish Traditions

Monday, November 14 | 12:00 pm | Hybrid Event

The event will feature Sam S.B. Shonkoff of CJS and Fateme Montazeri of UC Berkeley. The in-person portion in the GTU Library Dinner Boardroom.

[Register Here](#)

Futures of Jewish Theology:

Thursday, December 1 | 12:30 pm | Hybrid Event

The event will feature Joy Ladin (Yeshiva University), Mara Benjamin (Mount Holyoke College), and Ariel Mayse (Stanford University), moderated by Sam S.B. Shonkoff (GTU). The in-person location will be held in the GTU Library's Dinner Boardroom.

[Register Here](#)

Panelists



Moderator



Berkeley Art and Interreligious Pilgrimage Project

October brought two new art-infused pilgrimages, available to explore via the [BAIPP website!](#)

Water Drawing/Rituals of Return: A Pilgrimage for Sukkot:

Your guides are artist [SaraNoa Mark](#) and [Dr. Akiva Sanders](#), Dan David Society of Fellows, Tel Aviv University. The title, “water drawing” is a play on words translating the ancient practice of the Simchat Beit Hashoevah roughly translated as ‘house of the water drawing’ which was the one time a year, over Sukkot, where the priests performed a water libation. This pilgrimage invites a practice of returning to a body of water daily for a week, mirroring the week-long festival of Sukkot, deepening our relationship with this place through repeated rituals.



Hare Krishna! A San Francisco Śrīla Prabhupāda Pilgrimage:

His Divine Grace, Śrīla A.C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda, is the Founder Ācārya of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), otherwise known as the “Hare Krishna Movement”. Although this tradition has very ancient roots in India (namely, as the Gaudiya Vaisnava tradition), due to the counterculture of the 1960s and 1970s, it became incredibly popular in the Western world. His arrival in San Francisco coincided with the famous Summer of Love (1967), and truly rocked the worlds, as H.G. Gurudas dāsa would later write. This parikrama - pilgrimage - is an invitation to enter into that story, told through image, song, oral history, and scripture.

Follow Us:

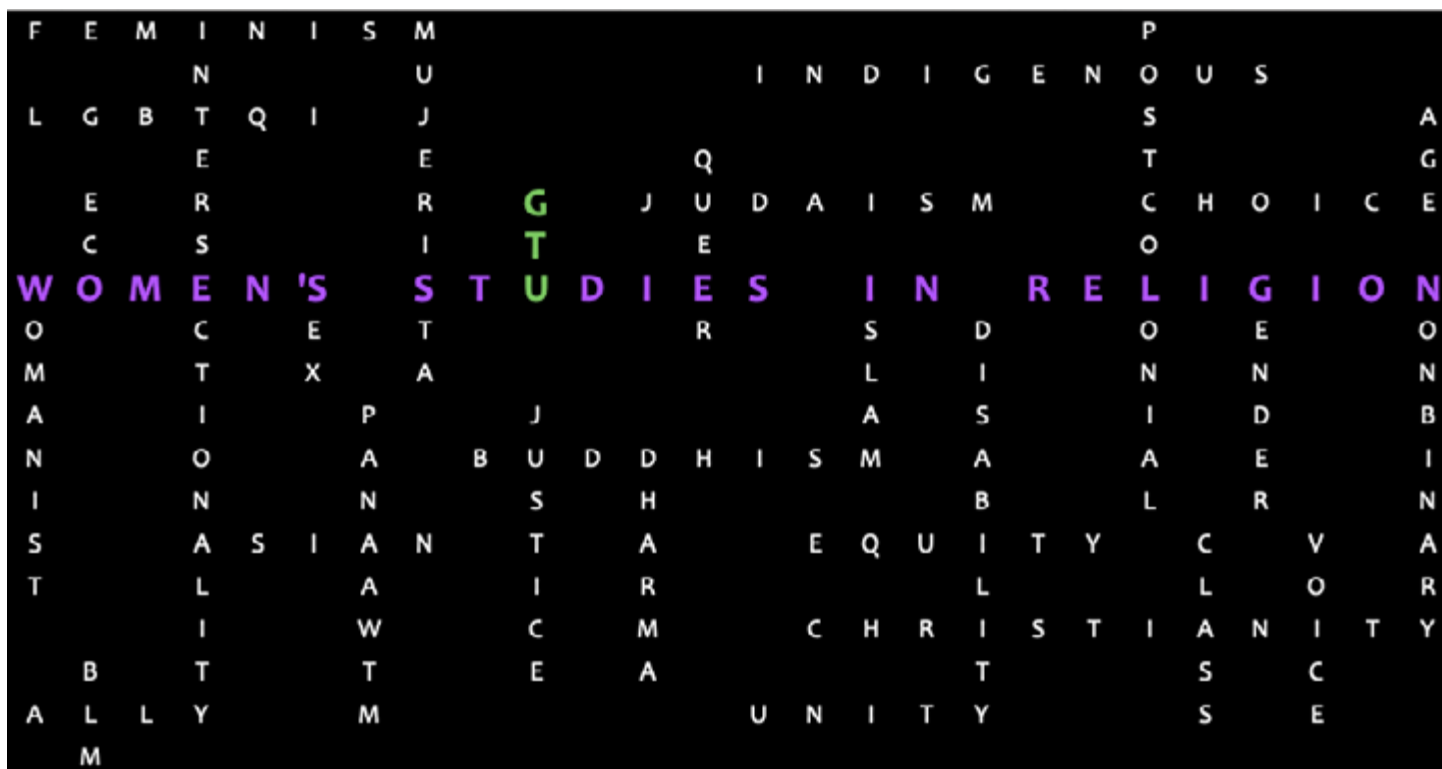
For updates about launches and events, subscribe to our mailing list!

Subscribe

Get Involved:

We are always looking for route guides, curators, and mappers! We welcome your thoughts and ideas. Email us at pilgrimage_project@gtu.edu

Women's Studies in Religion



WSR SPEAKS WITH DR. DIANDRA ERICKSON

hosted by Keyona Saquile Lazenby

A CONVERSATION ON ENGAGED PEDAGOGIES: WOMANIST AND FEMINISTS PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, December 8 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm

WSR Speaks is a lunchtime program offered regularly to engage women scholars and their work in a relaxed and personal way. Scholars' presentations involve sharing on recent research, passionate areas, and publications. Students engage through a question-and-answer period.

Watch lectures from the 2021/22 WSR Speaks Series [here](#).

Explore the Women's Studies in Religion Certificate Program on the [GTU Website](#)

For More Information: Contact the WSR Program Coordinator, also to be added to the WSR email list. Diane Saunders at wsr@ses.gtu.edu

Introducing the GTUx Content Review Panel for Academic Year 2022/23

With gratitude for your service and support.



**SHAUNA
HANNAN**

Professor of Homiletics
Core Doctoral Faculty
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
of California Lutheran University



**SCOTT
MACDOUGALL**

Associate Professor of Theology
Core Doctoral Faculty
Church Divinity School of the
Pacific



**DEVIN
ZUBER**

Associate Professor of American
Studies, Religion, and Literature
Core Doctoral Faculty
GTU Center for Swedenborgian Studies



**REBECCA
ESTERSON**

Dean, Center for Swedenborgian
Studies
Core Doctoral Faculty
GTU Center for Swedenborgian Studies

*The GTUx Content Review Panel
provides academic oversight of GTUx
content development for GTUx Originals.*



**DIANDRA
ERICKSON**

Associate Dean of Teaching,
Learning, and Assessment
Consortial Faculty
GTU

Joined by members of the GTUx team:
Sephora Markson, CSO & VP For Institutional Advancement
Neelanjana Mazumder, Director of GTUx

San Francisco Theological Seminary



UNIVERSITY OF
Redlands
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

SAN FRANCISCO
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

**EMBODIMENT,
INCARNATION, AND
HUMAN PLURALITY:
A WORKSHOP**

—

NOVEMBER 11, 2022


Wendy Farley, Ph.D.
Director, Program in Christian Spirituality,
Rice Family Professor of Spirituality


Rev. Jon L. Berquist, Ph.D.
Distinguished Visiting Professor of Hebrew Bible

“Embodiment, Incarnation, and Human Plurality: A Workshop,” with Professors Wendy Farley and Jon Berquist. JOIN US for an informal lunch, a panel discussion with Farley and Berquist and the faculty of San Francisco Theological Seminary, and a “Incarnational Spirituality Lab,” in which participants will together reimagine how theology can be embodied in liturgy, practice, and social justice. We will conclude with an Embodiment of Prayer led by Marcia McFee.

[Register Here](#)

Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

PLTS Founders' Day

November 3, 2022. 6:00 pm



Larry L. Rasmussen
Keynote Speaker

"The Planet You Inherit: A Re-founding Catalyst?"

Join us for our Founders' Day Lecture where ethicist Larry L. Rasmussen will look at climate, governance, and religion to ask whether today's planetary emergency requires re-founding our way of life.

Scan here for more
information and to register





The PLTS Center for Climate Justice and Faith empowers leaders to cultivate moral, spiritual, and practical power for the work of climate justice in communities of faith. Through a Concentration for seminarians at PLTS, Certificate program (English and Spanish), and Community Organizing training, we help leaders develop the skills, community, and spiritual strength to address the climate crisis in ways that build racial, economic, and gender justice.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING TRAINING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AS LOVE IN ACTION

Learn how to be an effective advocate for climate justice in your community. Join this online, one-semester training in the art of faith-rooted community organizing to build skills, knowledge, spiritual grounding, and a community of support.

After a 3-day training with your cohort, you will be mentored by a seasoned community organizer for 12 weeks while you design and begin to implement a project that addresses the climate crisis in a way that builds racial and economic equity. At the end of the program you will reconnect with a final 2-day training to share your projects and reflect on what you've learned.

This program is designed for leaders (clergy, lay leaders, board members, staff, seminarians, interns, etc.) in Christian traditions and other faith traditions who appreciate the contributions of critically engaged Christian theologies.

Applications due November 11, 2022. [LEARN MORE.](#)

SPANISH-LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE IN CLIMATE JUSTICE AND FAITH

This certificate program offers a cohort-based, contextually-rooted online curriculum in Spanish for Spanish-speaking people in Latin American, the Caribbean, and North America. The curriculum equips participants with moral, spiritual, and practical power for leadership in the work of climate justice in communities of faith and in collaboration with others. Topics covered include theology, ethics, and spirituality related to climate justice; climate change knowledge; and social change practices that connect ecological well-being with racial, economic, and gender justice.

Participants should expect to spend 2-3 hours per week on the program including monthly zoom meetings, readings, and implementing a practical project aimed at climate justice. Long-term collaboration and relationships within the cohort are expected to endure well beyond certificate completion.

Applications due November 17, 2022 [LEARN MORE](#)

The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion (CLGS) at Pacific School of Religion



A CLGS Lavender Lunch with Dwayne Rattleff and William Martin

Queer Autobiography: We Were Gender Fluid Before We Even Knew What It Was

Tuesday, November 8 | 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm (Pacific Time)|ONLINE

[Join via Zoom](#)



A CLGS Jewish Queeries Series event with Nancy Otto, Joan Lefkowitz, and Kate Stilley Steiner

Prognosis: A Jewish Lesbian Video About Cancer

Thursday, November 10 | 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm (Pacific Time)|ONLINE

[Join via Zoom](#)



The Dean's Newsletter

The Dean's Newsletter is for official notices from the Graduate Theological Union Dean's Office regarding academic affairs and for announcements of educational events focusing on academic research and thus of particular interest to faculty and MA and PhD students.

Send submissions by the second-to-last Friday of the month to skennedy@gtu.edu
Sabrina Kennedy, Executive Assistant to the Dean

Graduate Theological Union Office of the Dean

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