

**Charles D. Thompson, Jr., Ph.D.**  
Curriculum and Education Director,  
Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University  
Lecturer in Cultural Anthropology  
Adjunct Professor of Religion  
1317 West Pettigrew Street  
Durham, North Carolina 27705

Phone: (919) 660-3657 · Email: cdthomps@duke.edu · Fax: (919) 681-7600

**EDUCATION:**

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina**  
**Ph.D. in Religious Studies (Religion and Culture Track), May 1998**

- Religion and Culture Specialization
- Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Cultural Studies
- Teaching competence in anthropology (18 graduate hours)

**Dissertation:** “Borders Bleed: Refugees, Repatriates, Religion and the Jacalteco Maya,” an ethnographic study. Professor Ruel W. Tyson, Jr., advisor. Three anthropologists and one political scientists on committee.

**M.A. in Religious Studies, 1994**

Thesis: “You Must Not Idle Stand: A Study of the Old German Baptist Brethren of the Pigg River District, Franklin County, Virginia.”

**North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, 1984**

**M.S. in Agricultural Education**

**Emory and Henry College, Emory, Virginia, 1979**

**B.A. in Sociology, Religion**

**ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS:**

**BOOKS:**

*Spirits of Just Men: Mountaineers, Liquor Bosses, and Lawmen In the Moonshine Capital of the World.* Forthcoming: University of Illinois Press, 2011.

*The Old German Baptist Brethren: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge.* Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2006.

*Indigenous Diasporas and Dislocations: Unsettling Western Fixations,* Anthology with Graham Harvey. Aldersgate, U.K.: Ashgate Press, 2005.

*The Human Cost of Food: Farmworker Lives, Labor, and Advocacy.* Edited volume with Melinda Wiggins. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002.

*Maya Identities and the Violence of Place: Borders Bleed.* Monograph. In edited series *Vitality of Indigenous Religions.* Aldersgate, U.K.: Ashgate Press, 2001.

### **DOCUMENTARY FILMS:**

“Brother Towns/ *Pueblos Hermanos*.” Directed by Charles Thompson and Michael Davey. Numerous university, film festival and community screenings, including Latin American Film Festival fall 2010.

“The Guestworker/ *Bienvenidos a Carolina del Norte*.” Produced and directed by Charles Thompson and Cynthia Hill. Premiered at Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham, NC, aired on PBS fall 2006, 2007, and has traveled internationally, including to the Berlin Film Festival and the Universidad de Guanajuato in Guanajuato, Mexico as well as dozens of venues in the US.

“We Shall Not Be Moved: A History of the Tillery Resettlement Farm.” Produced by the Concerned Citizens of Tillery. Directed by Charles Thompson and Chris Potter. Premiered Cucalorus Film Festival November 2007. Also screened at Langston Hughes Film Festival, Delta Film Festival, where it won the “Best Documentary” prize, and at numerous community and university events.

### **WEB SITES:**

“Who Cares About New Orleans and Why.” Documentary web production based on my students’ work on New Orleans during March 2006. Link: <http://aas.duke.edu/katrina/> August 2006. Includes documentary film and slide show.

DukeEngage on the Border/ “Encuentros de la Frontera.” Summer service/ documentary project directed by Charles Thompson on the US/Mexico border in cooperation with BorderLinks in Tucson, Arizona conducted by my students is featured on this link: [www.borderlinks.org](http://www.borderlinks.org)

Brother Towns/ Pueblos Hermanos film website. Extensive teaching tool regarding Latin America, immigration, day labor, and filmmaking. Link: [www.brothertowns.com](http://www.brothertowns.com)

### **RECENT ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND BOOK REVIEWS:**

Book Chapter: ““Guestworkers: Farmworkers, Filmmakers, Obligations in the Field,”180-197, in *Viewpoints: Visual Anthropologists at Work* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2009).

“Raising Citizens: The Old German Baptist Brethren and Community-Based Farming in the Virginia Blue Ridge.” 2005: *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, Volume 11.

“*Faces from the Flood: Hurricane Floyd Remembered*,” by Richard Moore and Jay Barnes. *The Oral History Review*, Volume 32, No. 2, Summer/Fall 2005. Pp. 119-122 {Book Review}.

“Harder than Hardscrabble: Oral Recollections of the Farming Life from the Edge of the Texas Hill Country,” by Thad Sitton, Ed. *Labor History* May 2005 (Vol. 46, No. 2) Pp. 258-9 {Book Review}.

“Natives of Bleeding Land: The Case of the Jacalteco Maya.” In Harvey and Thompson, eds. *Indigenous Diasporas*. Aldersgate, U.K: Ashgate, 2005.

**RECENT ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND BOOK REVIEWS:**

“They Go Quietly” in *The Journal of the Western Virginia Historical Society*,  
Roanoke, Virginia, Vol. 16, No. 1, 2004.

“Dream or Déjà Vu? The debate surrounding George W. Bush’s proposed  
immigration reform.” *Hemisphere*. October, 2004.

“Tom and Betsy’s Story: Tobacco People, Memory, and Vernacular History.”  
*North Carolina Literary Review*, August, 2004.

“Going Quietly: The Making of a Documentary Project among the Old German  
Baptist Brethren in the Virginia Blue Ridge.” *Crossroads: A Southern Culture  
Annual*, Mercer University Press, 2004.

“Who is my Neighbor? Parables of Survival from the Floyd Flood of 1999.”  
*North Carolina Literary Review*. 2002 (No. 11) Pp. 87-98.

Southern Voices: “The Great Deluge as told to Charles D. Thompson, Jr.”  
*Southern Cultures*. 2001, Volume 7.3.

**PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS:**

- *Journal of Latin American Lore*
- *Viewpoints: Visual Anthropologists at Work*
- *North Carolina Independent*
- *North Carolina Literary Review*
- *Journal of Appalachian Studies*
- *Crossroads: A Southern Cultural Annual*
- *History Museum and Historical Society of Western Virginia*
- *Indigenous Religions: A Companion (book)*
- *Indigenous Diasporas and Dislocations (book)*
- *The Old German Baptists: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge (book)*

Border Stories, An exhibit on the US/Mexico student delegation at Duke  
University and the Center for Documentary Studies, 2008.

Fieldwork: Farmworkers and Farms in North Carolina, An exhibit of student  
photography and writing, with gallery guide. Durham, NC: Duke University  
Faculty Commons, 2005 - 2006, Marketplace, Duke University, 2007, Divinity  
School Refectory – 2008- present.

*Sister Ora, Brother Goode*. Durham, NC: Center for Documentary Studies,  
2004, a community-based collaborative publication sponsored by the Virginia  
Foundation for the Humanities.

*They Go Quietly: Agricultural Change in Franklin County, Virginia*. Durham,  
NC: Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, a community-based  
collaborative publication, 2002.

*Thirteen Month Crop: One Year in the Life of a Piedmont Tobacco Farm*.

Durham, NC: Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, 2001.

**DOCUMENTARY EXHIBITS AND COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS, continued:**

“Remembering Tillery: Our Land, Our Community.” A permanent historical exhibit documenting the FSA/ New Deal Community of Tillery, NC. Opening: April 22 2005. Funding from the NC Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

**ACADEMIC PAPERS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

“The Making of Brother Towns.” Cornell University, Cook Center, April 2010.

“The Guestworker Today.” UNC School of Social Work, March 2010.

“McClure Lecture: Food, Farming, and Faith.” Mars Hill College, March 2010.

“Immigration, Labor, and Education,” Teachers Institute, World Vision at UNC-Chapel Hill, March 2010.

“Immigration, the Border, and U.S. Policy.” Statewide meeting of Witness for Peace, October 2008.

“Documentary Arts: The Case of the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University.” University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa, May 2008.

“The Making of ‘We Shall Not Be Moved.’” Globalizing South Conference, UNC Chapel Hill, April 2008.

“Visual Anthropology.” Chattanooga, Tennessee: Lee University, September 2007.

“Farmworkers and Immigration.” Boone, North Carolina: Appalachian State University, September 2007.

“History of the Old German Baptist Brethren.” Callaway, Virginia: Phoebe Needles Episcopal Conference Center, September 2007.

“The Old German Baptist Brethren: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge.” Blacksburg, Virginia: Virginia Tech, October, 2006.

“The Old German Baptist Brethren: Past and Present.” Rocky Mount, Virginia: Franklin County Historical Society, September 2006.

“Over the Farm: The New Deal Resettlement Program and its Legacies.” Boone, North Carolina: Appalachian State University, February 2006.

“*Bienvenidos a los Estados Unidos.*” Fund for Folk Culture; American Folklore Society. Atlanta, Georgia, October 2005.

“Guests or Workers? The H2A Program in the U.S.” Boston, Massachusetts: East Coast Migrant Stream Forum, October 2005.

“Making the Guestworker.” Lyceum Presentation. Emory, Virginia: Emory and Henry College, Forthcoming October, 2005.

**ACADEMIC PAPERS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS, continued:**

- “Working the H2A Circuit: Guestworkers in the U.S.” Chapel Hill, NC:  
Department of Folklore: Laborlore National Conference, September 2005.
- “We the People: Conversations on Identity, Culture, and History in North  
Carolina.” Chapel Hill, NC: NC Humanities Council, August 2005.
- “Documenting Farm Life in Eastern NC.” Sampson County Community College,  
Clinton, NC: NC Humanities Council, June 2005.
- “Farmworker Folklore and Social Change.” Student Action with Farmworkers  
Orientation. Swanannoa, NC: Warren Wilson College, June 2005.
- “Migrant Workers in North Carolina.” Duke University Medical Center Latino  
Health Forum, May 2005.
- Keynote address/ film presentation: “Farmworkers in North Carolina.”  
Globalizing South Conference Center for International Studies at UNC-  
Chapel Hill, April 2005.
- “The Guestworker: Negotiating the Filmmaking Process in a Divided  
Community of Farmers and Farmworkers.” Oral History Association,  
Portland, OR, October 2004.
- “Faith, Farming, and Change.” Virginians for Appropriate Roads Conference.  
Rocky Mount, VA, June 2004.
- “The Ancient Order and Change: The Old German Baptist Brethren in Virginia.”  
Appalachian Studies Association, Cherokee, NC. March 2004.
- “The Old German Baptist Brethren and Agricultural Change in the Virginia Blue  
Ridge.” American Folklife Society Annual Meeting. Albuquerque, NM,  
October 2003.
- “Anabaptism and Agricultural Change.” Appalachian Studies Association  
Annual Conference. Richmond, KY, March 2003.
- “North Carolina Meets Mesoamerica.” Bridges Between Cultures Workshop  
sponsored by the UNC-Duke Consortium in Latin American Studies and  
the North Carolina Museum of Art. April 2003.
- “They Go Quietly: Agricultural Change in Franklin County.” Public Forum  
sponsored by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public  
Policy, Rocky Mount, VA, April 2002.
- “The Chatham County Poultry Industry, Farmers, and Farmworkers.” Lecture  
sponsored by the Institute for Latin American Studies at UNC-Chapel  
Hill. Pittsboro, NC, March 2002.

**ACADEMIC PAPERS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS, continued:**

- “Farm Economics and North Carolina’s Future.” Week-long workshop for the North Carolina Humanities Council Teachers Institute, UNC-Chapel Hill, June 2001.
- “Latinos, Land, and Labor in North Carolina.” North Carolina English as a Second Language Teachers Training, Southern Pines, NC, May 2001.
- “Thirteen Month Crop: The Farmers Speak.” Public forum sponsored by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Chatham, VA, December 2001.
- “Religious Communities, Migration, and Change among Latinos.” N.C. Press Association, Chapel Hill, NC, March 2001.
- “Speaking the Future through Past Recollections: Floyd Flood Survivors and Community Identities.” Oral History Association, Durham, NC, October, 2000.
- “When Small isn’t Beautiful: Farmworkers and Agribusiness in the U.S.” Sowing Seeds of Change Conference. Guest Lecture. Frontier College, Toronto, Canada, October, 1999.
- “Cultural Grieving: Tobacco and Communities in North Carolina,” WGET and WGBY radio interview. Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, May 1999.
- “Masked Identities: Dance of the Conquest and Layered History of the Maya,” Indigenous Religious Traditions section of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, FL, November 1998.
- “Bloodletting: Reexamining Native Identities where Borders Bleed,” Native Traditions in the Americas section of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, FL, November 1998.
- “Sharecropping, Small Farmers, and Agribusiness: The Complexities of the Agricultural Economy,” Student Action with Farmworkers Orientation, Black Mountain, June 1998.
- “Following El Q’anil: ‘Traditional’ Maya Border Crossings *Hoy en dia*,” Duke Divinity School, Symposium on Latino/a Borderlands, Durham, NC, March 1998.
- “A Report on the First Year Anniversary of the Guatemalan Peace Accords,” Guatemala Support Network, Chapel Hill, NC, January 1998.
- “On Ethnography’s Cutting Edge: Refugees and Field Work,” North Carolina Association of Religious Studies Scholars, Cullowhee, NC, October 1997.
- “*De Carolina Me Despido*: Ethnography in Guatemala and North Carolina,” Colloquium: Department of Religious Studies, UNC-CH, February 1997.

**ACADEMIC PAPERS AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS, continued:**

“Borders Bleed: Repatriated Refugees in the Guatemalan Highlands,” Duke-UNC Working Group on Religion and Politics, September 1996.

“Looking in the Mirror of San Simón: A Reflection on the Politics of Representation,” NC Association of Religious Studies Scholars, Boone, NC, October 1994.

“Reflections on Máximón,” Southeastern Conference on Latin American Studies (SECOLAS), Chapel Hill, NC, March 1994.

“Food, Faith, and Farming,” Duke Divinity School: Keynote address, Land Stewardship Council of North Carolina, April 1994.

“German Baptist Labor of Difference: Cultural Boundary Maintenance in the Urbanizing NC Piedmont,” North Carolina History Conference, Greensboro, NC, March 1994.

**RESEARCH and TEACHING COMPETENCIES:**

- Collaborative Fieldwork in Communities
- Public Humanities
- Oral History and Non-fiction Writing
- Religion and Culture in Appalachia
- Religion and Culture in Latin America
- Farmworkers
- Immigration: Guatemala, Mexico, and the U.S
- Documentary Studies and New Media
- Visual Anthropology
- Latinos: Labor, Folklore, and Culture
- Culture and Politics of Native North and Central America
- Rural life: Agriculture, Culture, Economics, Place, and Identity
- Fieldwork Methodologies
- Theories of Religion and Culture
- Philosophy of Religion
- Anthropology of Religion
- Rural Communities in Transition
- Environmental and Farm Labor Ethics
- Old German Baptist Brethren and Anabaptists
- Cultural Studies
- Activism and Social Change

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

DUKE UNIVERSITY: Curriculum and Education Director, Center for Documentary Studies and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology, March 2000-present. Led development of undergraduate and continuing education curricula and certificate programs and field schools. DukeEngage faculty leader. Developed and taught courses at Duke University in the Certificate Program in Documentary Studies, the Department of Religion, and the Department of Cultural Anthropology including:

**Courses taught at Duke:**

- Politics of Food
- Traditions in Documentary Studies
- Community Collaborations: Representations and Ethics
- Fieldwork Practicum
- Final Project Seminar in Documentary Studies
- Social Activism and Its Motivations
- Native American Places
- Farmworkers in North Carolina
- Tobacco People, Places, and Predicaments
- Duke Engage on the Border
- Introductory Seminar in Documentary Studies

Note: All of my courses at CDS have included fieldwork or collaborative community work. In addition, I have supervised numerous student projects including films, oral histories and photography, and documentary writing projects.

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE: Assistant Professor, Department of Religion,  
1998.99. Taught the following courses (including fieldwork in each):

- Fieldwork in Religion and Culture
- Latin American Culture and Religion
- Social Activism Motivations
- Varieties of Religious Experience in the United States

Service and/or fieldwork included in each.

UNC-CHAPEL HILL Visiting Lecturer/Teaching Fellow, Departments of Religious Studies and Anthropology and the Program in Cultural Studies. Taught the following courses:

- Evolution of Moral Consciousness: An Anthropology of Morality in Colonial Zones, spring 1998 (lecture course).
- Unitas: A Living/Learning Experiment in Multiculturalism with 30 students chosen based on their differences, fall/spring 1997.
- Introduction to Religion and Culture, summer 1996.
- Psychology of Religion.
- World Religions (teaching assistant with recitation sections), fall 1994.

**AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

- Fellow, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2009
- Provost Common Fund Grant, 2008.
- Fledgling Fund, 2008.
- Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, 2008
- Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Fieldwork Grant.
- Duke Endowment 2008, 2009.
- Trent Foundation, “Brother Towns” project, 2007.
- Latino Public Broadcasting, Corp. for Public Broadcasting, 2006.



- Lilly Endowment, Pathways Program, New Orleans Relief Project, 2006.
  - National Endowment for the Arts, with Concerned Citizens of Tillery 2006.
  - North Carolina Humanities Council, with Concerned Citizens of Tillery 2006.
  - Duke Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, spring 2006.
  - Duke Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, summer 2005.
  - Duke Dining Services and Greening Initiative Duke University, Fall 2005.
  - Duke Kenan Institute for Ethics Research-Service Learning Grant, 2005
  - UNC-Duke Latin American Studies Working Group Grant 2004.
  - Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy project grant, 2004.
  - Duke-UNC Robertson Scholars Course Development Grant, 2004.
  - Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation Project Grant, 2004.
  - Duke Latino Studies Faculty Grant, 2004.
  - Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Project Grant, 2004.
  - North Carolina Humanities Council Project Grant, 2004.
  - Duke-UNC Latin American Studies Working Group Grant, 2003.
  - Duke Divinity School/ Lilly Foundation Course Development Grant, 2003.
  - North Carolina Humanities Council Project Grant, July 2002.
  - Andrew Mellon Faculty Travel Grant, May 2002.
  - Duke University Latin American Studies Research Grant, May 2002.
  - American Academy of Religion Individual Grant, 2001-2002.
  - Provost's Common Fund Award, Duke University, May 2001.
  - Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Research Grant, March 2001.
  - UNC-Chapel Hill Center for Public Service Research Grant, January 2000.
  - Gettysburg College Professional Development Grant, May 1999.
  - Ueltschi Service Learning Course Development Grant, April 1998 (declined).
  - UNC Teaching Technology Award, Spring 1997.
  - UNC Graduate School Merit Scholarship, 1996.
  - Duke-UNC Institute for Latin American Studies Tinker Awards 1994/5.

#### **UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

- DukeEngage faculty sponsor, 2008-present.
- South Africa Working Group, 2008.
- Robertson Scholars mentor, 2008.
- Sponsor, Immigration alternative spring break, 2007.
- Students of the World, faculty sponsor, 2004-present.
- Duke University Council on Civic Engagement, 2005-present.
- Selection Committee: Benenson Awards for the Arts at Duke, 2005.
- Humanities Scholar – Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Projects.
- Humanities Scholar – NC Humanities Council Projects.
- Duke Academic Council on Latin American Studies, 2002- present.
- Co-chair of Duke-UNC working group, “Citizenship across Borders.”
- Kenan Ethics Service Learning Advisory Board, 2001-present.
- Robertson Scholars (Duke-UNC scholars) host and mentor.
  - Lumbee River Fund Board of Directors, 2000-present. Oral history and photography work among Native Americans in North Carolina.
  - Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF) Advisor, 1996-present.
  - North Carolina Council of Churches Rural Life Committee, addressing needs of NC rural population, environment, and economy, 1989-present.
  - Planning Committee, Duke Divinity School and NC Council of Churches, a

Conference on tobacco, churches, and community for March 2000.

- Chair: Flood Floyd Hearing: NC Council of Churches, March 2000.
- Seeds of Hope Farmers' Markets, Director, non-profit organization, 1989-92.
- Organic Farmer/ Direct Marketer, Chatham County, NC., 1984-1993.
- President, Carrboro Farmers' Market, 1988-1992.
- Consultant, Farmer-to-Farmer Project of the University of Arizona, 1983.
- Rural Educator, Rural Advancement Foundation International, Pittsboro, NC.
- VISTA Volunteer, Frank Porter Graham Center, Wadesboro, NC, 1979-1980.

**LANGUAGES:**

- Spanish – fluent. have made a film in Spanish and English (I was lead translator) and continue to use Spanish in my fieldwork in Guatemala and Mexico
- Research knowledge of German
- Conversational Jacalteco Maya