

JOSEPH WINTERS
Department of Religious Studies
Duke University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Religion, Princeton University, 2009

- Dissertation title: *Remembering the Dismembered – The Work of Mourning and Hope in Theodor Adorno and Toni Morrison*
- Committee: Jeff Stout, Cornel West, Eddie Glaude

Freie University, Berlin, Introductory German Course, Summer 2006

Ph.D., Department of Religion, Duke University, August 2002-May 2004 (transferred)

Th.M., Duke Divinity School, August 2002

Thesis Title: *The Darkness of God: Schelling and Schopenhauer on the Divine Will*

MTS, Duke Divinity School, August 2001

Thesis Title: *Race, Religion, and Gender in Black Nationalist Discourses*

B.A., Economics, Harvard University, June 1999

Cum laude

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Duke University (Position begins in July 2015)

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, UNC-Charlotte (2009-2015)

Affiliate Faculty, Africana Studies, UNC-Charlotte (2009-2015)

Affiliate Faculty, Communication Studies, UNC-Charlotte (2013-2015)

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Religion and Critical Theory, African American Religious Thought, African American Literature, Continental Philosophy of Religion, Race and Film

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Books/Manuscripts in Progress

Hope Draped in Black: Race, Melancholy, and the Agony of Progress (Duke University Press, Spring 2016)

Book Chapters

“Down in the Hole: Melancholy, Vulnerability, and the Puncturing of Black Masculinity,” in *Corners in the City of God: Theology, Philosophy, and The Wire*, eds. Jonathan Tran and Myles Werntz (Cascade Books, 2013).

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“Constructing Constellations: Frankfurt School, Lupe Fiasco, and the Promise of Weak Redemption” in *Religion in Hip Hop: Mapping the New Terrain*, eds. Monica Miller, Anthony Pinn, Bernard Freeman (Bloomsbury, 2015)

“Rap and Hip Hop,” in *The Bloomsbury Companion to Religion and Popular Music* (Bloomsbury, Forthcoming)

Articles

“Unstrange Bedfellows: Religion and Hip Hop,” *Religion Compass* 5/6 (2011): 260-270

“The Audacity to Mourn: Obama, Pragmatism, and the Agony of Progress,” *Contemporary Pragmatism* 8.2 (December 2011): 43-55.

“Toward an Embodied Utopia: Marcuse, The Re-Ordering of Desire, and the Broken Promise of Post-Liberal Practices,” *Telos* (Winter, 2013)

“Contemporary Sorrow Songs: Traces of Mourning, Lament, and Vulnerability in Hip Hop,” *African American Review* 46.1 (Spring 2013): 9-20

“Dewey, Walker, and the Piety of the Uncommon,” *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* 35. 3 (September 2014): 242-262

“Theodor Adorno and the Unhopeless Work of the Negative,” *Journal of Cultural and Religious Theory* 14.1 (Fall 2014): 171-200

“Review of Ebony Utley’s *Rap and Religion*,” *African American Review* 46.1 (Spring 2013): 183-185.

“Review of Monica Miller’s *Religion and Hip Hop*,” *Journal of Cultural and Religious Theory* 13.2 (Summer 2014): 126-128.

“Review of William David Hart’s *Afro-Eccentricity: Beyond the Standard Narrative of Black Religion*,” *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* 35.3 (September 2014): 269-272

“Review of Jennifer Nash’s *The Black Body in Ecstasy*,” *Feminist Review* (Forthcoming)

“Review of Linda Williams’ *On the Wire*,” *African-American Review* 47. 4 (Winter 2014)

SSELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“More than Human: Bataille, Kanye, Eminem, and the Monstrous Quality of the Sacred.” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Conference. San Diego, CA. November 2014.

“Naturally Religious: James, Dewey, and the Piety of the Uncommon.” Paper presented at Atheism and Communities of Faith Conference. Morgan State University. Baltimore, MD. April 2014.

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“The Tragic Ambivalence of Hope.” Paper presented at the Moral Economies Conference. UNC Charlotte. March 2014.

“Constructing Constellations: Adorno, Lupe Fiasco, and the Labor of the Negative.” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Conference. Baltimore, MD. November 2013

“Dewey, Walker, and the Piety of the Uncommon.” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Conference. Baltimore, MD. November 2013.

“Dirt that Won’t Blow Away: Morrison, Girard and the Failed Success of Lynching.” Plenary paper presented at the Colloquium on Violence and Religion. University of Northern Iowa. July 2013.

“Du Bois, the Seduction of Optimism, and the Work of Sorrow.” Paper presented at University of Maryland Political Science Colloquium. College Park, Maryland. May 2013.

“The Pleasures of Reading Different Kinds of Texts.” Presentation for UNC Charlotte’s Honors Program. Charlotte, NC. March 2013.

“Ralph Ellison, Jazz, and the Tragedy of Democratic Life.” Lecture at Haverford College, Religious Studies Department and The Hurford Center for Arts and Humanities. Haverford, PA. March 2013

“Unhopeful But Not Hopeless: Obama, Morrison, and the Fantasy of a Post-Racial America.” Paper presented at SECSOR. Greenville, SC. March 2013.

“Utopia Draped in Black: Walter Benjamin, Race, and the Cries of Enslaved Ancestors.” Paper presented at South Atlantic Modern Language Association conference. Durham, NC. Nov 2012.

“I mourn, therefore I hope: Adorno and the Unhopeless Labor of the Negative.” Paper presented at University of Virginia, Political Theory Colloquium. Charlottesville, VA. Sept. 2010

SELECT HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS

Wabash Pre-tenure Religion Faculty of African Descent Award, 2015-2016

2014 Darwin Turner Honorable Mention Award for Best Essay, *African American Review*

UNC Charlotte College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Research Award (For Spring 2014)

The Fund for Theological Education Dissertation Fellowship, 2008-2009

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion, 2003-Present

Caribbean Philosophical Association, 2004-Present

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South Atlantic Modern Language Association, 2012-Present
Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, 2012-Present

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer for *Critical Philosophy of Race*, 2013.

Peer Reviewer for *Polity*, 2011

SECSOR Chair for Black Cultures and the Study of Religion, 2013-Present

Steering Committee, Pragmatism and Empiricism section of the American Academy of Religion, 2010-Present.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Proficient)

German (Reading ability)

French (Reading ability)

REFERENCES

Eddie Glaude

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Department of Religion, 1879 Hall
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