

Overview of Schedule

Tuesday, August 7

12:00pm - 5:00pm: Graduate Student Pre-Conference

7:00pm - 9:00pm: Opening Reception, Koenig Alumni Center (for registrants only)

Wednesday, August 8

9:00am - 10:30am: Plenary with John Durham Peters

10:30am - 10:45am: Break

10:45am - 12:15pm: Panel 1

12:15pm - 2:00pm: Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm: Panel 2

3:30pm - 4:00pm: Break

5:00pm - 6:30pm: Keynote with Anthea Butler, Old Main Chapel (free & open to the public)

6:30pm - 8:00pm: Reception, Koenig Alumni Center (free & open to the public)

Thursday, August 9

9:00am - 10:30am: Panel 3

10:30am - 10:45am: Break

10:45am - 12:15pm: Panel 4

12:15pm - 2:00pm: Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm: Panel 5

3:30pm - 4:00pm: Break

4:00pm - 5:30pm: Plenary with Merlyna Lim

5:45pm - 7:15pm: Discussion on Re-Imagining Public and Activist Scholarship

Friday, August 10

All-day Field Experiences: Denver, Colorado Springs, and Red Feather Lakes

Saturday, August 11

9:00am - 10:30am: Panel 6

10:30am - 10:45am: Break

10:45am - 12:15pm: Panel 7

12:15pm - 2:00pm: Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm: Plenary Panel on Public Scholarship

3:30pm - 4:00pm: Break

4:00pm - 5:30pm: Business Meeting

7:00pm - 9:00pm: Banquet and Presidential Address, Glenn Miller Ballroom, UMC (for registrants only)

Sunday, August 12

10:00am - 6:00pm: Post-conference organized by the International Academy for the Study of Religion and Video Gaming (IASGAR), Best Western Plus Boulder Inn

**Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place in the University of Colorado Boulder Village Center Dining and Community Commons (3300 Baseline Road, Boulder, CO 80303). Specific rooms are listed in the detailed schedule; please note that on location, the Multipurpose Room is identified as VCMPR and the Breakout Rooms are identified as VCBR.*

Tuesday, August 7

Pre-Conference

Tuesday
12:00pm - 5:00pm
Breakout Room A

Graduate Student Pre-Conference

Workshop for doctoral students who have pre-registered

Opening Reception

7:00pm - 9:00pm

(for registrants only)

Tuesday
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Koenig Alumni Center
1202 University Avenue

Light refreshments, sponsored by the Iliff School of Theology in Denver and the Department of Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Early registration and check-in available

Shuttle pick up outside Williams Village main entrance, boarding begins at 6:30pm

Shuttle departs at 6:45pm and will return guests to Williams Village after the reception

Wednesday, August 8

Wednesday
8:00am - 5:00pm
Lobby

Registration Desk Open

Williams Village Center, Lobby outside Multipurpose Room

Plenary Session 1

9:00am-10:30am

Wednesday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room

Plenary Session: John Durham Peters, Yale University, USA

“Knowledge in a Time of Human Perplexity”

Chair: Johanna Sumiala, University of Helsinki, Finland

Break

10:30am - 10:45am

Panel Session 1

10:45am - 12:15pm

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room A

“There’s an app for that!” Social Media and Virtual Soteriology

Dheepa Sundaram, College of Wooster, USA: “Instagram your Durgā pūjā! A Social Media Experience of Durgā Pūjā in Bengal”

Andrea L Stanton, University of Denver, USA: “App’ing the Hajj: Keeping Count of Tawaf and Finding the Restrooms”

Tine Vekemans, Ghent University, Belgium: “From Self-Learning Pathshala to Tirth App: The Expanding World of Jain Religious Apps”

Owen Gottlieb, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA: “Mining Bar Mitzvah: A Digital Pathway of Inclusion, Self-Expression, and Justice in Jewish Worship”

Chair: Benedikt Kastner, University of Hamburg, Germany

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room B

Roundtable on Teaching Religion and Journalism in the Age of Trump

Participants:

Robert Jensen, University of Texas-Austin, USA

Joyce Smith, Ryerson University, Canada

Diane Winston, University of Southern California, USA

Moderator: Mia Lövhelm, Uppsala University, Sweden

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room C

Streaming the Word: A Roundtable Discussion on Religion Podcasting

Participants:

John Dehlin, *Mormon Stories*

Vincent Horn, *Buddhist Geeks*

Rev. Anne Dunlap, *The Word is Resistance*

Moderator: D. Ashley Campbell, (w)Holy Media podcast creator and host, and University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
The View

Pope Francis and the Media

Laurens de Rooij, University of Cape Town, South Africa: “Papal Narratives: The Discourse of Pope Francis, And His Media Representation”

Oren Golan and Michele Martini, University of Haifa, Israel: “The Making of Contemporary Papacy: Instagram Strategies and Manufactured Charisma”

Carlo Nardella, University of Milano, Italy: “Behind the Representation: Pope and Journalists”

Chair: Carlo Nardella, University of Milano, Italy

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room A

Islam, Media, Authority and Identity

Ibrahim N. Abusharif, Northwestern University in Qatar: “Digital Media, Religious Authority, and Salafism”

Jona Fras, The University of Edinburgh, UK: “Tuning In to God: Scripture and Authority in the Language of Islamic Advice Programmes on Jordanian Radio”

Samira Rajabi, University of Pennsylvania, USA: “The Making of ‘Persian’: Instagram and Cultural Identity Negotiation”

Narges Valibeigi, Carleton University, Canada: “Instagramming religion: How Shia Iranians visualize their religious experience”

Chair: Susanne Stadlbauer, University of Wyoming, USA

Wednesday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room B

Tithing, Fundraising and the Prosperity Gospel in Christian Churches

Chijioke Azuawusiefe, University of Pennsylvania, USA: “Tithing, New Media, and Contested Authority of Popular Religion in Africa”

Adam Copeland, Luther Seminary, USA: “Click to Give: Action Research with Christian Congregations Launching Crowdfunding Campaigns”

Julian M. Murchison, Eastern Michigan University, USA: “Virtual Realism: Cultivating the Prosperity Gospel of Freemasonry (and Christianity)”

Chair: J. Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Trinity Theological Seminary, Ghana

Lunch Break 12:15pm - 2:00pm

Panel Session 2 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room A

News Media and Religion

Michael Munnik, Cardiff University, UK: "Scholarly Interventions into Journalistic Practice as a Public Service: On Roles and Responsibilities in Reporting Religion"

Enqi Weng, RMIT University, Australia: "'Get your rosaries off my ovaries': Media discourses about religion in the Australian public sphere"

Antonio Chiaese, University of Naples, Italy: "The 'Sati' of Roop Kanwar: A Twentieth-Century Tale of Women, Violence and Journalism"

Joyce Smith, Ryerson University, Canada: "Healing and headlines: the reporting of Indigenous spiritual practices during Canadian reconciliation inquiries"

Chair: Henrik Reintoft Christensen, Aarhus University, Denmark

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room B

US Religious History and Frontier Mythology

Toma Peiu, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "Behind the red curtain: Twin Peaks, True Detective and the via negativa"

Kathleen M. Ryan, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "The Hidden Archive: Environmental Religiosity and Pre-World War II Female Landscape Photographers"

Arthur Bamford, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "New and Improved: Charles Grandison Finney and the Awakening of Modern Advertising"

Jenna Supp-Montgomerie, University of Iowa, USA: "Split Infrastructure, Fractured Publics"

Chair: Lynn Schofield Clark, University of Denver, USA

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room C

Body, Space and Materiality

Matthew Tan, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney/University of Notre Dame, Australia: "Spectacularly Divine: Augmented Bodies in the Mediatized City"

Emma Rifai, University of Iowa, USA: "Networked Anorexia: Pro-Ana Communities, Network Logic, and the Internet"

Stephen Garner, Laidlaw College, New Zealand: "Sacred pilgrimage in playful, digital spaces"

S. Brent Plate, Hamilton College, USA: "Museum as Medium: The Public Understanding of Religion on Display"

Chair: Susanna Wolf, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Germany

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Breakout Room A

Religious Practices on Apps and Mobile Phones

Wendi Bellar, University of Wisconsin La Crosse, USA: “Translating Texts, Micro Coordination, and Negotiated Practice: A UX Study of Catholic and Islamic Prayer App Users”

Míriam Díez Bosch, Josep Lluís Micó Sanz and Alba Sabaté Gauxachs, Observatory Blanquerna, Spain: “Religious Influencers and Apps for Youth: from Matt Maher to Muslim Pro”

Tim Karis, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: “Swipe left to Pray: Theoretical Perspectives on Authority and Transcendence in Prayer Apps”

Chair: Benedikt Kastner, University of Hamburg, Germany

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Breakout Room B

Public Scholarship and Interreligious Dialogue

Ruth Tsuria, Seton Hall University, USA: “The Space Between Us: Considering Online Media for Interreligious Dialogue”

Tamisha Tyler, Fuller Theological Seminary, USA: “‘Yes, and’: Theopoetics as a methodological tool for public scholarship”

Mona Abdel-Fadil, University of Oslo, Norway: “Religious Controversies: Blurring the Lines Between Comedy and Research Dissemination”

Chair: D. Ashley Campbell, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Break

3:30pm - 4:00pm

Keynote Address: Free & Open to the Public

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday
5:00pm - 6:30pm
Old Main Chapel
1600 Pleasant Street

Keynote Address: Anthea Butler, University of Pennsylvania, USA

“Religion and Public Scholarship in the Age of Anger”

Welcome: Professor Ann Schmiesing, Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs, University of Colorado Boulder

Chair: Stewart M. Hoover, Director, Center for Media, Religion and Culture

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Shuttle departs at 4:30pm and will return guests to Williams Village after the reception

Reception: Free & Open to the Public

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Wednesday
6:30pm - 8:00pm
Koenig Alumni Center
1202 University Avenue

Light refreshments, sponsored by the Center for Media, Religion and Culture and the Department of Media Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Thursday, August 9

Thursday
8:00am - 9:00am
Lobby

Registration Desk Open

Williams Village Center, Lobby outside Multipurpose Room

Panel Session 3

9:00am - 10:30am

Thursday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room A

Existential Media Studies: Probing Technologies of Life, Death and Beyond

Amanda Lagerkvist, Stockholm University, Sweden: "The Internet is Always Awake: Sensations, Sounds and Silences of the Digital Grave"

Tamara Kneese, University of San Francisco, and Ben Peters, University of Tulsa, USA: "Afterlife Imaginaries 1844/2044: Technologies for the Future in Silicon Valley and Mormon Theology"

Johanna Sumiala, University of Helsinki, Finland: "Digital Rituals and the Quest for Existential Security"

Charles Ess, University of Oslo, Norway: "An Existential Palette: Reflections on the Value of Existential Media Studies for the Field of Digital Religion"

Respondent: John Durham Peters, Yale University, USA

Thursday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room B

Roundtable: Global Perspectives on Religion, Media and Public Scholarship

Participants:

Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Trinity Theological Seminary, Ghana

Giulia Evolvi, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

Sam Han, University of Western Australia, Australia

Diane Winston, USC Annenberg, USA

Moderator: Tim Hutchings, Durham University, UK

Thursday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room C

Apocalypticism and the Media

Julie Ingersoll, University of North Florida, USA: "Popular Media and End Times Theology"

Rachel Wagner, Ithaca College, USA: "Excommunication: Material Apocalypticism and The End Of Mediation"

Megan L. Zahay, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA: "'Make America Great Again, In Jesus' Name': Apocalyptic Deliberation on YouTube in the 2016 Election"

Chair: Deborah Whitehead, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Thursday
9:00am - 10:30am
The View

Roundtable: Public Scholarship on LGBTQ Inclusion & Christianity in the U.S.

Participants:

Michael Hidalgo, Lead Pastor, Denver Community Church, USA

Mark Tidd, Co-Pastor, Highlands Church, USA

Rachael McClair, Co-Pastor, Highlands Church, USA

Moderator: Arthur Bamford, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Thursday
9:00am - 10:30am
Breakout Room A

Spiritual Expression in Digital Spaces

Mitsuhiro Hayashi, Cornell University, USA: "Animism, Media, Transduction: Ontology of the Spiritual Relationship between Humans and Technology"

Jed R. Brubaker, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "Secular by Design: Memorialization, technospirituality, and the reappropriation of secular social media"

Roland Shainidze, York University, Canada: "Cyberspace as Sacred Space: Canada's New Age on the Internet"

Robert Rozehnal, Lehigh University, USA: "Mapping Authority in Sufi Cyberscapes: A Transnational Turkish Tariqa in the American Virtual Landscape"

Chair: Rachel Lara van der Merwe, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Break

10:30am - 10:45am

Panel Session 4

10:45am - 12:15pm

Thursday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room A

Being religious in public in the era of Trump:

Promises and contradictions emerging from religious practices in digital media

Mary E. Hess, Luther Seminary, USA: "Religious digital storytelling as a ground for inhabiting public discourse"

Jeffrey Schein, Hebrew College Boston and Gratz College, USA: "Text Me: Ancient Jewish wisdom meets contemporary technology"

Kyle Oliver, Columbia University, USA: "Toward digital literacies as markers of professional competency for public-facing religious leadership in the new media age"

Respondent: Liron Lipinsky, Congregations Beth Shalom and Rodef Shalom

Chair: Yoel Cohen, Ariel University, Israel

Thursday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room B

Social Media and Religion in South Africa

Laurens de Rooij, University of Cape Town, South Africa: "Selfbeskikking Afrikaners on Facebook: Religious language and symbolism in Whites Only Activism in South Africa"

Sphesihle Khanyile, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa: "The Mediation of Prosperity Gospel: A Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis of social media and IsiZulu news media representations of two prominent Neo-Pentecostal churches in South Africa"

Abdulkhakim Nsobya, University of Cape Town, South Africa: "Social Media and Muslim Youths in South Africa"

Rachel Lara van der Merwe, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "The Shared Belief Systems of #RhodesMustFall & #FeesMustFall: Considering Recent South African Protest Movements as Religious Movements"

Chair: Robert A. White, Tangaza University, Kenya

Thursday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room C

Emerging US Evangelicals and the Creative Industries

Daniel Thornton, Alphacrucis College, Australia: "Worship in the Charts: How Contemporary Congregational Songs Engage the Secular Music Market"

Corrina Laughlin, University of Pennsylvania, USA: "The hybrid culture of the faith tech industry and the promise of 'redemptive entrepreneurship'"

Jessi Knippel, Claremont Graduate School, USA, and Steve Fekete, Fuller Theological Seminary, USA: "The Artist as Public Academic: Virtual Deconstruction"

Clare O'Connor, University of Southern California, USA: "Only Wanna Sing: Hillsong Church and the Creative Worship Economy"

Chair: Arthur Bamford, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Thursday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room A

Christianity and Media in East Asia

Jin Kyu Park, Seoul Women's University, South Korea: "Can Mediated Religion be an Agent of Social Change?: Secular Journalism's Discursive Construction of Pope Francis's Visit to Korea"

Seung Min Hong, University of Iowa, USA: "Rescuing the Text: Faithful Reading as Resistance by South Korean Protestant Critical Insiders"

April Makgoeng, University of Southern California, USA: "Visualizing Missions: The Foreign Mission Films of the Protestant Film Commission (1946-1950)"

Chair: Boyung Lee, Iliff School of Theology, USA

Thursday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room B

Refugees and Migrants in Europe

Susanne Stadlbauer, University of Wyoming, USA: "Reframing the Refugee Crisis in Germany: Religious Conflict, Media Representation and Public Opinion in Dialogue"

Miriam Díez Bosch, Josep Lluís Micó Sanz and Alba Sabaté Gauxachs, Observatory Blanquerna, Spain: "Refugees, Migrants, Asylum Seekers. Media representations and Religious Insights of Refugees in 8 European Countries"

Giulia Evolvi, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: "#NousSommesUnis: European Muslims' Hypermediated Discourses"

Chair: Mona Abdel-Fadil, University of Oslo, Norway

Lunch Break
12:15pm - 2:00pm

Panel Session 5

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room A

Religious Influencers: The Public Faces of Religion

Mara Einstein, Queens College (CUNY), USA: "Social Media Influencers for Religious Audiences"

Sarah McFarland Taylor, Northwestern University, USA: "Cussing, Praying, and Speaking Truth to Bullshit (with Civility): How Brené Brown's Media Ministry Makes Mainline Cool for the Masses"

Deborah Whitehead, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "How LDS Mommy Bloggers Balance Fashion and Faith"

Moderator: Mara Einstein, Queens College (CUNY), USA

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room B

Media and the Religious Right in the U.S.

D. Ashley Campbell, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "'Born-Again' Undert the Stars and Stripes: The Ritual Transformation of the Christian Right and American Nationalism"

Heidi A. Campbell, Katherine Arredondo, Katherine Dundas & Cody Wolf, Texas A&M University, USA: "The Dissonance of 'Civil' Religion in Religious-Political Memetic Discourse During the 2016 Presidential Elections"

Hannah Dick, Carleton University, Canada: "Neoliberal Religion: The Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) and the Christian Persecution Complex"

Joe Hatfield and T. Jake Dionne, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "From National Priest to Born Again Sinner: Evangelical Shifts in the Civil Religious Framing of the Special National Day of Prayer during the Bush and Trump Presidencies"

Chair: Stewart Hoover, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room C

Attempts to Overcome "Bad Religion": The Media Dynamics on Contested Islam in Scandinavia

Knut Lundby, University of Oslo, Norway: "Engaging with Conflicts in Mediatized Religious Environments"

Audun Toft, MF Norwegian School of Theology, Norway: "Media and Conflict in Religious Education about Islam"

Mattias Pape Rosenfeldt, Uppsala University, Sweden: "Beyond Entrenched Controversies about Islam"

Mona Abdel-Fadil, University of Oslo, Norway: "Empirically Grounding Theories of Mediatization of Religion"

Respondent: Lynn Schofield Clark, University of Denver, USA

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
The View

Religious Expression in TV and Film

Mariola Marczak, University of Warmia and Mazury, Poland: "Religious Inspirations in the Polish Contemporary TV Films and TV Series"

Leora Batnitzky, Princeton University, USA: "Terror on Television: Islam and Muslims in Israeli and American Primetime"

Stefanie Knauss, Villanova University, USA: "The Nun: Catholicism and Public Criticism from Book to Film to Film"

J. Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Trinity Theological Seminar, Ghana: "Televangelism Revisited: Prophetic Religion and the Changing Face of Mediated Christianity in Africa"

Chair: Grace Chiou, Gordon College, USA

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Breakout Room A

Media and Religious Authority

Yoel Cohen, Ariel University, Israel: "New Media and the Rabbinical Profession: A case study of Israeli Rabbis"

Adam Bajan, Texas A&M University, USA: "Pastoral Reflexivity & Decision Making: Religious Authority in the Digital Age"

Nakhi Mishol-Shauli, University of Haifa, Israel; Malka Shacham, Ben Gurion University, Israel; and Oren Golan, University of Haifa, Israel: "ICT's In Enclaved-Religious Societies: Generational Domestication among Jewish ultra-Orthodoxy in Israel"

Sofia Sjö, Åbo Akademi University, Finland: "A transnational perspective on young adults, religion and media use"

Chair: Carlo Nardella, University of Milano, Italy

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Breakout Room B

Contestation, Conflict and Violence

Sam Han, University of Western Australia, Australia: "Wear White: The mediatized politics of religious phobo-nationalism in Singapore"

Laura Krueger, Harvard University, USA: "Photojournalism and Public Narrative: Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar/Burma"

Juli L. Gittinger, Georgia College, USA: "A "Proper" Hindu woman: Hindu nationalism vs. feminist activism on social media"

Chair: Michela Ardizzoni, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Break
3:30pm - 4:00pm

Plenary Session 2

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Thursday
4:00pm - 5:30pm
Multipurpose Room

Plenary Session: Merlyna Lim, Carleton University, Canada “Rhythm & Algorithm: Collective Action in the Social Media Age” *Chair: Lynn Schofield Clark, University of Denver, USA*

Look, Taste, Tell: Re-Imagining Public and Activist Scholarship

5:45pm - 7:15pm

Thursday
5:45pm - 7:15pm
Multipurpose Room

Introductory Remarks: Lori Bergen, Dean, College of Media, Communication and Information, University of Colorado Boulder

This session will feature innovative projects that extend the boundaries of research and scholarship through creative collaborations, new learning environments, and engaging public outreach. Historians, media scholars, filmmakers and activists will describe the benefits and challenges of working across disciplines, professional contexts and publics.

Panelists and Projects:

David Shneer, Louis P. Singer Endowed Chair in Jewish History, Professor of History and Jewish Studies, and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, will speak about his project, *The Archive Transformed*, a first of its kind artist-scholar collaborative residency that brings together artists and scholars to take archival material, broadly conceived, and transform it or re-imagine it to create new knowledge.

Andrew Calabrese, Associate Dean of Graduate Programs and Research and Professor of Media Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, will talk about his project, *Bread Riot: The Movement to Revive Heritage Grains*, a research collaboration that engages farmers, millers, bakers, experts, activists and consumers who seek to revive heritage grains. The project is supported by video footage from a documentary Andrew is producing about this movement.

Kirsten Wilson, Founder and Artistic Director of Motus Theater, an organization whose mission is to use original theater to support community conversation on critical issues, and **Rita Valente-Quinn**, Producing Director of Motus Theater, will speak about their project, *UndocuAmerica*, a performance and media collaboration that chronicles the hardships and aspirations of 36 undocumented people currently living in sanctuary in the United States. The project features theatrical performances, photojournalistic essays, podcasts and film.

Kevin Sweet, a filmmaker and educator pursuing a PhD in Emergent Technology and Media Arts Practice at the University of Colorado Boulder, will talk about his *Guestbook Project*, an international non-profit promoting the power of digital storytelling as a means of healing divisions caused by religious and cultural beliefs, war, acute poverty or injustice.

Friday, August 10

All-day Field Experiences

*Shuttles depart from, and return to, the Williams Village main entrance.
Boarding and departure times vary by field trip.*

Following the tradition begun at the 2016 ISMRC conference in Seoul, South Korea, we have planned three different field experiences that will expose conference participants to the unique religious landscape of Colorado and the Mountain West region of North America.

Indigeneity and Representation in the American West

This field trip takes participants to two Denver locations to learn from and about the indigenous experience in the American West. The morning begins at the University of Denver, located on Southern Cheyenne and Arapahoe lands, with a short film about indigenous history and then a discussion with Mary Bowannie, an indigenous journalist who writes about Native issues. She will set the cultural and historical context for a panel discussion on the contemporary indigenous experience. In addition, faculty and staff from the University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology will discuss how the universities participate in and respond to indigenous issues. Following lunch, the group will travel to the Denver Art Museum, which has a world-renowned collection of Native American art and artifacts.

A “Pilgrimage” to Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs, the state’s second-largest city, is internationally known both as a religious tourism destination, and as the headquarters of major Evangelical Christian organizations, institutions, and ministries. Participants will begin in Boulder with a brief introduction to the history and location, followed by a trip by coach through the front range of the mountains to Colorado Springs. Participants will stop at the unique and world-famous “Garden of the Gods,” a large alpine park featuring fascinating natural rock formations, for lunch. Following lunch, participants will travel a short distance for a guided tour of the headquarters of Focus on the Family, one of the most politically and socially influential of the American evangelical organizations. The tour will also include a brief stop at the U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel.

The Great Stupa of Dharmakaya in Red Feather Lakes, CO

This field trip will visit the largest Stupa in North America, the Great Stupa of Dharmakaya at the Shambhala Mountain Center in Red Feather Lakes. This trip will give participants a sense of the influence of Tibetan Buddhist traditions in the Mountain West region—one of its most important locations in North America—and how these traditions have evolved and adapted with local cultures. Participants will have the chance to explore the grounds of the Shambhala Mountain Center before having a lunch in the dining hall. After lunch, participants will take a guided tour of the Great Stupa.

Saturday, August 11

Saturday
8:00am - 9:00am
Lobby

Registration Desk Open

Williams Village Center, Lobby outside Multipurpose Room

Panel Session 6 9:00am - 10:30am

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room A

Roundtable: Making Religious Scholarship Integral to the Public Conversation

Participants:

Mona Abdel-Fadil, University of Oslo, Norway

Miriam Diez Bosch, Observatory Blanquerna, Spain

S. Brent Rodriguez Plate, Hamilton College, USA

Mara Einstein, Queens College (CUNY), USA

Moderator: Mara Einstein, Queens College (CUNY), USA

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room B

Leveling Up: New Approaches to the Study of Religion and Video Gaming

Kathrin Trattner, University of Graz, Austria: "Playing with Power: Critical Discourse Analysis as a Method for Studying Religion and Video Games"

John W. Borchert, Syracuse University, USA: "A Portal Too: Approaching Video Games within Posthuman Networks"

Gregory Price Grieve, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA: "Sara is Missing: Evil, Smart Phones, and Digital Ethics"

Lisa Kienzl, University of Bremen, Germany: "Gamers, Spectators and Fans: An Ethnographic Approach Towards Religion and Participatory Culture in E-Sports"

Chair: Kristin Peterson, Boston College, USA

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
Multipurpose Room C

Memes and Hashtags as Spaces of Religious Meaning-Making

Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology, USA: "You Might Be a Lutheran If Your VBS Snack is Tostadas': Mediated Nostalgia and Counter-Aesthetics in 'Decolonize Lutheranism'"

Kathy Dobson, Carleton University, Canada: "Religiosity, Charity, and Poverty: Analyzing Memes and Social Media Conversations about Welfare"

Scott Craig, University of Ottawa, Canada: "#zen, cultural appropriation or simply adaptation: An analysis of #zen on Twitter"

Corrina Laughlin, University of Pennsylvania, USA: "#AmplifyWomen: The emergence of an evangelical feminist public on social media"

Chair: Seth Walker, University of Denver / Iliff School of Theology, USA

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
The View

Digital Religion

Ruth Tsuria, Seton Hall University, USA: "Shul Online and Congregations in the Cloud: The Jewish Conservative Movement use of Online Media"

Eduard Iricinski, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: "Decoding Facebook's Internal Desire Machines: Rhizomatic Principles, Mimetic Rivalry, and the Magician State"

Shengju Xu, Qinghai University, China: "The Development of Religion Online in China: An Investigation of multi-ethnic areas engagement with Digital Religion in the North-West China"

Jeffrey H. Mahan, Iliff School of Theology, USA: "Church in Digital Culture"

Chair: Heidi A. Campbell, Texas A&M University, USA

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
Breakout Room A

Journalism and Religion in Europe

Laurens de Rooij, University of Cape Town, South Africa: "Islamic 'civic journalism,' beyond Orientalism"

Henrik Reintoft Christensen, Aarhus University, Denmark: "Journalism, Media, Religion in Denmark"

Peter Hervik, Aalborg University, Denmark: "The Coverage of Racialization and Racism in the Danish Press"

Chair: Knut Lundby, University of Oslo, Norway

Saturday
9:00am - 10:30am
Breakout Room B

Islam, Politics and Public Spaces

Giulia Evolvi, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany and Mauro Gatti, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg: "Religious Symbols in Europe: How Courts Rule, How Media Report, What Scholars Can Do"

David E Herbert, Kingston University London, UK, and University of Agder, Norway: "'You are No Longer My Own Flesh and Blood': Danish and Norwegian Muslim Social Media Users' Negotiation of a Hostile Media Frame"

Maria Hardman, University of Arizona, USA: "Media apparatuses as a tool of political legitimization for opposition groups: The case of Hezbollah and Lebanon"

Chair: Nabil Echchaibi, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Break

10:30am - 10:45am

Panel Session 7

10:45am - 12:15pm

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room A

Religion 4.0?! Religion between Mediation, Medialization and Mediatization

Gregory Grieve, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA: "Those Who Are Here Physically, And Those Who Are Not: A Critical Buddhist Reconditioning Of Stig Hjarvard's Mediatization Theory"

Hannah Grüenthal, University of Bremen, Germany: "Mediatisation, De-Mediatisation, and Communicative Demarcation: Media related Narratives in the German Catholic Charismatic Renewal"

Kerstin Radde-Antweiler, University of Bremen, Germany: "Religion as Communicative Figurations: Analyzing Religion in Times of Deep mediatization"

Mia Lövheim, Uppsala University, Sweden, and Stig Hjarvard, University of Copenhagen, Denmark: "The mediatized conditions of contemporary religion. Critical status and future directions"

Moderator: Kerstin Radde-Antweiler, University of Bremen, Germany

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room B

Religion and Political Debates in the U.S.

Stewart M. Hoover, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "Public Scholarship and the Crisis of Contemporary Politics"

Annie Blazer, College of William and Mary, USA: "Religion, Media, and Racial Reconciliation in Richmond, Virginia"

Rachel Larsen, University of Colorado Boulder, USA: "There is More for Research: Political Theology and the Thirst for Belief"

Chair: Nathan Schneider, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Multipurpose Room C

The Sacred in Indigenous Digital Activism

Angel Hinzo and Lynn Schofield Clark, University of Denver, USA: "Mediatization and Religious Conflict: Framing the sacred in the tribal digital activism in the Dakota Access Pipeline and Bears Ears National Monument"

Cindy Tekkobe, University of Alabama, USA: "Identity resistance, commodification, and the sacred at Moundville (AL)"

Jaelyn de Maria, University of New Mexico, USA: "Healing Waters: Standing With Standing Rock"

Respondent: Nancy Wadsworth, University of Denver, USA

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
The View

Religion is Struggling with Media: Historical and contemporary conflicts about the use and role of media in religion

Jessie Pons, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: “From Iconism to Iconoclasm and back: the case of the Buddhas of Bāmiyān”

Thomas Jurczyk, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: “Struggling with the Use of Images before the 8th cent. CE: the example of an Armenian letter from the 7th cent. CE”

Steve Knowles, University of Chester, UK: “The Plymouth Brethren Christian Church, Media Engagement and Public Benefit”

Moderator: Giulia Evolvi, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room A

Public Theology and Media: Perspectives from Germany and Switzerland

Manfred L. Pirner, Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany: “Theology, religion education and the media – developments and perspectives from Germany”

Thomas Schlag, University of Zürich, Switzerland: “Theoretical Concepts of Public Theology and Public Church challenged by Digitalization”

Kristin Merle, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany: “Digitalization as a Challenge for Institutional Religious Communication in the Public”

Ilona Nord, University of Würzburg, Germany: “Public Theology in Mediatized Class- and Churchrooms”

Chair: Thomas Zeilinger, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Germany

Saturday
10:45am - 12:15pm
Breakout Room B

Islamophobia and Critical Discourse of Islam

Liyakat Takim, McMaster University, Canada: “American Islam and the Media”

Samira Tabti, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany: “Critical Discourses of Islam in Arabic Online Media”

Islam Aboualhuda, Jamie Matthews and Barry Richards, Bournemouth University, UK, and Samy el-Nagaar, Mansoura University, Egypt: “Media framing of Islam and Muslims in Egyptian and British Newspapers’ Websites post 25th January Revolution”

Chair: Kristin Peterson, Boston College, USA

Lunch Break
12:15pm - 2:00pm

Plenary Session 3

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Saturday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Multipurpose Room

A Roundtable on Religion, Media, and Public Scholarship

This panel will feature working group members from the project, “Public Religion and Public Scholarship in the Digital Age,” a three-year effort of the Center for Media, Religion and Culture. Panelists will provide brief reflections on emerging themes in that project, including the expectation of transparency; institutional demands for deliverables; the risks and vulnerabilities of public presence; targeted vs general publics; and the public tropes that define religion. Following formal presentations, there will be time for general discussion of the conference theme.

Chair: Deborah Whitehead, University of Colorado Boulder, USA

Break

3:30pm - 4:00pm

Business Meeting

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Saturday
4:00pm - 5:30pm
Multipurpose Room

All are welcome to attend

Details about the next ISMRC conference will be announced

Chair: Mia Lövheim, Uppsala University, Sweden

Closing Banquet

7:00pm - 9:00pm

(for registrants only)

Saturday
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Glenn Miller Ballroom,
University Memorial Center
1669 Euclid Avenue

Gathering reception and celebration of ISMRC history

Banquet: *Beverages provided by Brill Publishers*

Presidential Address: Mia Lövheim, University of Uppsala, Sweden, President of ISMRC

Chair: Johanna Sumiala, University of Helsinki, Finland, Vice President of ISMRC

Shuttle pick up outside Williams Village main entrance, boarding begins at 6:30pm

Shuttle departs at 6:45pm and will return guests to Williams Village after the reception

Sunday, August 12

Post-Conference

Sunday
10:00am - 6:00pm
Best Western Plus
Boulder Inn

Post-Conference on Religion and Video Gaming, organized by the International Academy for the Study of Religion and Video Gaming (IASGAR)

Applicants have already been selected to participate in this day-long event, but anyone is welcome to attend and observe the seminar-style meeting