

**Dusty Hoesly**  
Curriculum vitae

hoesly@ucsb.edu

Department of Religious Studies  
Mail Code 3130  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Education

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- 2018                      Ph.D., Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara  
with Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Global Studies
- Dissertation: *A Religion of Convenience: The Universal Life Church,  
Religious Freedom, and Contemporary Weddings*
- 2006                      M.A.T., Language Arts, Lewis & Clark College Graduate School
- 2004                      M.A.R., *cum laude*, History of Christianity, Yale Divinity School
- 2002                      B.A., English, Philosophy (with honors), Lewis & Clark College

Academic Positions

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA (2020-2022)

*Postdoctoral Researcher*

- Meaning of Religion Project (part of \$2.8 million Templeton grant, "Spirituality and Prosocial Values in the Absence of Religion among Millennials and Their Families")
- Secular Communities Survey (largest-ever survey of U.S. nonbeliever groups)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI (2019-2020)

*Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor*

- "Comparative Religion," REL 131 (Fall 2019, Spring 2020)
- "The American Religious Experience," REL 338 (Spring 2020)
- "Issues in Religion: New Religious Movements," REL 490 (Fall 2019)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

*Lecturer*

- "Race, Law, and Asian American Religions," ASAM 161 (Fall 2018, Summer 2019)
- "Introduction to Asian American Literature," ASAM 5 (Summer 2019)
- "New Religious Movements," RGST 101A (Spring 2019)

*Teaching Associate (Instructor of Record)*

- "Asian American Religions," ASAM 161 (Summer 2016, Summer 2017)
- "Introduction to American Religion," RGST 7 (Summer 2017)

- "Spiritual but Not Religious in America," RGST 190SB (Spring 2016)
- "Introduction to the Study of Religion," RGST 1 (Summer 2015)
- "New Religious Movements," RGST 101A (Summer 2014)

#### *Teaching Assistant*

- "Modern Iran," RGST 81 (Spring 2017)
- "Introduction to American Religion," RGST 7 (Winter 2012, Winter 2017)
- "Introduction to Religion in Asian America," RGST 71/ASAM 71 (Spring 2014)
- "Introduction to the Study of Religion," RGST 1 (Winter 2014)
- "Religion and Psychology," RGST 15 (Fall 2011)
- "Asian American Popular Culture," ASAM 4 (Winter 2018)
- "Asian American Literature," ASAM 5 (Spring 2013, Winter 2015, Spring 2015, Winter 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
- "American Migration since 1965: Asians and Others in the United States," ASAM 2 (Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2015)
- "History of the American People, WWI-Present," HIST 17C (Spring 2012)

#### MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE (Gresham, OR)

##### *Instructor*

- "History of the Old Testament," REL 211 (Spring 2005, Spring 2006)
- "History of the New Testament," REL 212 (Spring 2005)

#### INZA R. WOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL (Wilsonville, OR)

##### *Teacher*

- 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science, 8<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History (2006-2010)

#### RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Writing Center Tutor, Santa Barbara City College (Fall 2011)
- Instructor, "Religion in America after 1865," Wilsonville Public Library (Fall 2009)
- Instructor, "Religion in America before 1865," Wilsonville Public Library (Spring 2009)
- Student Teacher, English, Wilsonville High School (2005-2006)

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles

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2019 "Organic Farming as Spiritual Practice and Practical Spirituality at Sunburst Farms." *Nova Religio* 23.1: 60-88.

2015 "'Need a Minister? How about Your Brother?': The Universal Life Church between Religion and Nonreligion," *Secularism & Nonreligion* 4.12: 1-13.

#### Peer-Reviewed Chapters in Edited Volumes

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2019 "Biodiversity and Spiritual Well-being" (with Katherine N. Irvine, Rebecca Bell-Williams, and Sara L. Warber). In *Biodiversity and Health in the Face of Climate Change*, edited by

Melissa R. Marselle, Jutta Stadler, Horst Korn, Katherine N. Irvine, and Aletta Bonn, 213-247. New York: Springer.

- 2017 "Your Wedding, Your Way: Personalized, Nonreligious Weddings through the Universal Life Church." In *Organized Secularism in the United States: New Directions in Research*, edited by Ryan T. Cragun, Lori L. Fazzino, and Christel Manning, 253-278. New York: De Gruyter.

#### Encyclopedia Entries

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- 2015 "Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (CSI)." In *Ghosts, Spirits, and Psychics: The Paranormal from Alchemy to Zombies*, edited by Matt Cardin, 49-51. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.
- 2015 "Randi, James." In *Ghosts, Spirits, and Psychics: The Paranormal from Alchemy to Zombies*, edited by Matt Cardin, 253-254. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.
- 2012 "Antigua and Barbuda." In *Encyclopedia of Global Religion, vol. 1*, edited by Mark Juergensmeyer and Wade Clark Roof, 44-45. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 2012 "Virgin Islands (British)." In *Encyclopedia of Global Religion, vol. 2*, edited by Mark Juergensmeyer and Wade Clark Roof, 1361-1362. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 2012 "Virgin Islands (U.S.)." In *Encyclopedia of Global Religion, vol. 2*, edited by Mark Juergensmeyer and Wade Clark Roof, 1362-1363. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

#### Conference Proceedings

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- 2013 "Thrasymachus: Diagnosis and Treatment" (with Nicholas D. Smith). In *Dialogues on Plato's "Politeia" ("Republic"): Selected Papers from the Ninth Symposium Platonicum* (International Plato Studies, Volume 31), edited by Noburu Notomi and Luc Brisson, 60-65. Sankt Augustin, Germany: Academia Verlag.

#### Book Reviews

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- 2020 Review of *Our Non-Christian Nation: How Atheists, Satanists, Pagans, and Others Are Demanding Their Rightful Place in Public Life*, by Jay Wexler, *Sociology of Religion* 81.3: 347-347.
- 2018 Review of *Inventing American Religion: Polls, Surveys, and the Tenuous Quest for a Nation's Faith*, by Robert Wuthnow, *Religion* 48.1: 132-135.
- 2016 Review of *Media Portrayals of Religion and the Secular Sacred: Representation and Change*, by Kim Knott, Elizabeth Poole, and Teemu Taira, *Religion* 46.3: 480-484.
- 2014 Review of *Religion and Hip Hop*, by Monica R. Miller, *Religion* 44.1: 186-189.

2012 Review of *Aimee Semple McPherson and the Making of Modern Pentecostalism, 1890-1926*, by Chas. H. Barfoot, *Religion* 42.4: 674-677.

Selected Online Academic Publications

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- 2020 "Universal Life Church Monastery," World Religions and Spirituality Project, July 28. <https://wrldrels.org/2020/07/26/universal-life-church-monastery/>
- 2020 Contribution to "Asian Americans and American Religion: Recommendations for Your Summer Reading and Fall Syllabi," *Anxious Bench* [Patheos], May 28. <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2020/05/asian-americans-and-american-religion-recommendations-for-your-summer-reading-and-fall-syllabi/>
- 2017 "On Reading Ralph Ellison Theologically," Religious Studies Project, June 16. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2017/06/16/on-reading-ralph-ellison-theologically/>
- 2016 Review of *Losing Our Religion: How Unaffiliated Parents Are Raising Their Children*, by Christel Manning, *Reading Religion*, July 8. <http://readingreligion.org/books/losing-our-religion>
- 2014 "Better Know an Archive: UCSB's American Religions Collection," *Religion in the American West*, June 16. <http://relwest.blogspot.com/2014/06/better-know-archive-ucsbs-american.html>
- 2013 Review of *Theater in a Crowded Fire: Ritual and Spirituality at Burning Man*, by Lee Gilmore, *Religion in the American West*, June 3. <http://relwest.blogspot.com/2013/06/book-of-month.html>
- 2013 Review of *What Matters? Ethnographies of Value in a Not So Secular Age*, edited by Courtney Bender and Ann Taves, *Practical Matters* 6, May 4. <http://www.practicalmattersjournal.org/issue/6/reviews/what-matters-ethnographies-of-value-in-a-not-so-secular-age>
- 2013 "Religion, Secularism, and the Chaplaincy," Religious Studies Project, April 24. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2013/04/24/religion-secularism-and-the-chaplaincy-by-dusty-hoesly/>
- 2013 Review of *Cascadia: The Elusive Utopia: Exploring the Spirit of the Pacific Northwest*, edited by Douglas Todd, *Religion in the American West*, April 8. <http://relwest.blogspot.com/2013/04/book-of-month.html>
- 2012 "James Sheerin's Search for the Holy Grail: Perceptions of Religion in the American

West,” Religion in the American West, September 24. <http://relwest.blogspot.com/2012/09/james-sheerins-search-for-holy-grail.html>

2012 “Approaches to Studying Irreligion and Secular Spirituality in the Pacific Northwest,” Religion in the American West, July 16. <http://relwest.blogspot.com/2012/07/approaches-to-studying-irreligion-and.html>

2012 “The Last Best Hope of Earth? Bron Taylor and the Limits of Dark Green Religion,” Religious Studies Project, April 25. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2012/04/25/dusty-hoesly-the-last-best-hope-of-earth-bron-taylor-and-the-limits-of-dark-green-religion/>

#### Other Publications

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2010 “My Oregon Territories.” In *Oregon Stories*, compiled by Ooligan Press, 171-172. Portland, OR: Ooligan Press [Portland State University].

#### Grants, Awards, and Honors

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2018 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)

2018 Walter Capps Memorial Award, Religious Studies Department, UCSB

2018 UCSB University Service Award

2018 UCSB Academic Senate Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award Nominee

2017 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)

2016 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)

2016 Fee Fellowship (Fall), Religious Studies Department, UCSB

2016 Certificate of Gratitude, CARE Advocate Office for Sexual Violence, UCSB

2015 UCSB Academic Senate Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award Nominee

2015 Dean’s Prize Teaching Fellowship, UCSB

2015 Cordano Catholic Studies Grant (\$360)

2015 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)

2015 UCSB Open Access Fund Award, UCSB Library (£200)

- 2014 Fee Fellowship (Fall), Religious Studies Department, UCSB
- 2014 UCSB Academic Senate Doctoral Student Travel Grant (\$650)
- 2014 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)
- 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Travel Award (\$300)
- 2014 UCSB Graduate Dean's Advancement Fellowship (\$6,750)
- 2013 UCSB Institute for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research (ISBER) Graduate Research Award for Social Science Surveys (GRASSS) Grant (\$600)
- 2013 Chair's Distinguished Service Award, Religious Studies Department, UCSB
- 2012 Professor Robert S. Michaelsen Memorial Award for Academic Achievement in The Study of American Religion, Religious Studies Department, UCSB
- 2012 Graduate Students Association Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee, UCSB
- 2010—2013 Rowny Research Fellowship, Religious Studies Department, UCSB
- 2010 National Council of Teachers of English Leadership Development Award
- 2003, 2004 Paul L. Holmer Scholar, Yale Divinity School
- 1998—2002 Dean's Scholar, Lewis & Clark College

Presentations and Conference Papers

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- 2020 "New Age Spirituality and Health Foods at Sunburst Farms," University of Southern Mississippi (February 27)
- 2020 "Instant Ministers: Religious Freedom, Wedding Personalization, and the Universal Life Church," University of Wyoming (February 19)
- 2019 "Orientalism, Brainwashing, and the Unification Church," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 23)
- 2019 "Spiritual Diplomacy: Esalen, Russia, and Geopolitics," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 27)
- 2019 "Spiritual Diplomacy: Esalen, Russia, and International Relationships" (with Marion Goldman), Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting (August 12)
- 2019 "Instant Ministers: Religious Freedom, Wedding Personalization, and the Universal Life Church," Bowdoin College (May 8)

- 2019 "Instant Ministers: Religious Freedom, Wedding Personalization, and the Universal Life Church," University of Southern Mississippi (April 4)
- 2018 "The IRS, Church Audits, and Religious Politics," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 27)
- 2017 "The IRS and the Universal Life Church: Regulating Religion in a Neoliberal Era," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 14)
- 2017 "Can Pragmatic Activity Be Religious? Some Examples and Theoretical Considerations," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 13)
- 2016 "The Universal Life Church, Same-Sex Weddings, and Religious-Secular Entanglements," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 22)
- 2016 "The Universal Life Church and Contemporary Weddings: The Changing Contours of American Rites of Passage," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (August 23)
- 2016 "Getting Married in the Pacific Northwest: Secularization and Liberalization in the None Zone and Beyond," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting (Joint Session with American Sociological Association) (August 20)
- 2016 "Culture Wars in the U.S.," U.S. State Department Study of the U.S. Institute: Religious Pluralism and Public Presence, University of California, Santa Barbara (June 28)
- 2015 "They Will Be 'Attracted to Us by Our Fruits': Organic Farming as Spiritual Practice and Practical Spirituality at Sunburst Farms," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 22)
- 2015 "The Brotherhood of the Sun and the Spiritual Roots of Commercial Organic Farming," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 24)
- 2015 "Avoiding Sincerity: The Universal Life Church and the Troublesome Turn to Defining Religion," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 23)
- 2015 "Sunburst Farms, the Source Restaurant, and Yogi Tea: The Spiritual Origins of America's Health Food Revolution," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting (August 21)
- 2015 "Culture Wars in the U.S.," U.S. State Department Study of the U.S. Institute: Religious Pluralism and Public Presence, University of California, Santa Barbara (July 1)
- 2015 "'Enough' of a Spiritual Leader?": The Universal Life Church and Evolving Judicial Interpretations of Religions and Ministers," Freedom of (and from) Religion Conference, University of California, Santa Barbara (May 1)
- 2015 "Healings, Weddings, and the Legal Limits of Ethical Practice," Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biennial Meeting (April 18)

- 2014 "I Did It to Perform Ceremonies": The Universal Life Church and Secular Religiosity," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 24)
- 2014 "Some Statutory Hoop: Nuptial Freedom and State Regulation of Wedding Officiants," Religion and American Law Discussion Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 23)
- 2014 "Your Wedding, Your Way: Personalized, Non-Religious Weddings through the Universal Life Church," Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference (November 20)
- 2014 "A Religion of Convenience: The Universal Life Church, Contemporary Weddings, and the Secular Sacred," Lewis & Clark College (November 4)
- 2014 "A Generation of Students: The Impact of Wade Clark Roof on Research and Teaching Today and Beyond," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (November 1)
- 2014 "For a Wedding or a Lark: The Universal Life Church between Religion and Non-Religion," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (October 31)
- 2014 "Need a Minister? How About Your Brother?": The Universal Life Church and Pragmatic Religious Practice," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting (August 15)
- 2014 "The Universal Life Church: Prospectus for Research," UCSB American Religions Study Group (February 24)
- 2013 "We Do Not Stand Between You and Your God': The Universal Life Church as a New Religious Movement," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 25)
- 2013 "Sacred and Secular: Is the Universal Life Church a New Religious Movement?" Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting (November 8)
- 2012 "The Historical Context of Alexander Campbell's Anti-Mormon Tract 'Delusions,'" American Academy of Religion Western Regional Annual Meeting (March 25)
- 2012 "Thrasymachus: Diagnosis and Treatment," Lewis & Clark College (March 19)
- 2002 "Socrates' Psychic Therapy of Thrasymachus in *Republic* Book I," 13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium of Philosophy, Pyrgos, Greece (July 27); 6th Annual Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (April 6)

#### Interviews Conducted: Podcasts

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- 2016 Interview with David Gordon White, "Historical, Popular, and Scholarly Constructions of Yoga," Religious Studies Project, June 22.  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/historical-popular-and-scholarly-constructions-of-yoga/>



- 2016 Interview with Joseph Blankholm, "Permutations of Secularism," Religious Studies Project, May 16. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/permutations-of-secularism/>
- 2016 Interview with Lynn Davidman, "Conversion and Deconversion as Concepts in the Sociology of Religion," Religious Studies Project, April 25. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/conversion-and-deconversion-as-concepts-in-the-sociology-of-religion/>
- 2015 Interview with Darren Sherkat, "Religious Demography in the U.S.," Religious Studies Project, November 25. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/religious-demography-in-the-us/>
- 2015 Interview with Rudy Busto, "Race and Religion: Intertwined Social Constructions," Religious Studies Project, June 1. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/race-and-religion-intertwined-social-constructions/>
- 2014 Interview with Wade Clark Roof, "Baby Boomers, Quest Culture, and Spiritual Seeking: An Interview with Wade Clark Roof," Religious Studies Project, December 15. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/baby-boomers-quest-culture-and-spiritual-seeking-an-interview-with-wade-clark-roof/>
- 2014 Interview with Michele Dillon, "Habermas, Religion, and the Post-Secular," Religious Studies Project, March 10. <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/michele-dillon-on-habermas-religion-and-the-post-secular/>

#### Research Experience

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- 2020—2022 Recruiting research participants, conducting interviews, coding interview data, supervising graduate researchers, providing clerical support, writing literature reviews, and writing research articles; UCSB; supervisor: Joseph Blankholm
- 2010—2013 Conducted interviews and created annotated bibliography about contemporary sexuality and spirituality; UCSB; director of research: Roger Friedland
- 2002—2004 Transcribed sermon manuscripts for The Works of Jonathan Edwards Project; Yale Divinity School; executive director: Ken Minkema

#### Selected Professional Service

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- 2021— Steering Committee, Asian North American Religion, Culture, & Society Unit, AAR
- 2020— Co-Chair, Sociology of Religion Unit, AAR
- 2020 Book Proposal Review, Bloomsbury
- 2019 Steering Committee, Sociology of Religion Unit, AAR

2016— Article Manuscript Reviewer, *Secularism & Nonreligion*  
2015— Scholar as Resource, Religion and Diversity Project (Canada)  
2014—2016 Interviewer, Religious Studies Project (<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com>)  
2014—2017 Smoke- and Tobacco-Free Campus Policy Steering Committee, UCSB  
2012—2014 Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison, Religious Studies Department, UCSB  
2011—2014 Vice President of Committees and Planning, Graduate Student Association, UCSB  
2008—2010 Oregon Council of Teachers of English Executive Board; Membership Committee  
2008—2010 Oregon Education Association Legislative Advisory Council; Contact Team  
2008—2009 West Linn-Wilsonville School District Professional Development Committee  
2007—2009 West Linn Education Association Insurance Committee

#### Teaching Areas/Courses Prepared to Teach

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Religion in America Today, American Religious History, New Religious Movements, Asian American Religions, Religion and Globalization, Religion and Food, Secularism and Secularity, Religion and Law, Religion and the American West, Sociology of Religion, Anthropology of Religion, Method and Theory in Religious Studies

#### Languages

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German Beginning reading, writing, speaking  
French Beginning reading

#### Professional Memberships/Affiliations

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American Academy of Religion  
North American Association for the Study of Religion  
The Study of Religion as an Analytic Discipline  
American Sociological Association  
American Anthropological Association  
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion  
Association for the Sociology of Religion  
Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network  
American Society for Church History

#### References

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Mark Juergensmeyer  
Professor of Global Studies and Professor of Sociology  
Global & International Studies Program  
University of California, Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, CA 93106-7065  
juergens@global.ucsb.edu  
(805) 893-7898

Rudy V. Busto  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
Department of Religious Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130  
rude@religion.ucsb.edu  
(415) 519-0257

Phil Zuckerman  
Professor of Sociology  
Sociology Field Group  
Pitzer College  
Scott Hall 211  
1050 North Mills Avenue  
Claremont, CA 91711  
phil\_zuckerman@pitzer.edu  
(909) 607-4495

Catherine L. Albanese  
J. F. Rowny Professor Emerita in Comparative Religions  
Department of Religious Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130  
albanese@religion.ucsb.edu

Kathleen M. Moore  
Professor of Religious Studies  
Department of Religious Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130  
kmoore@religion.ucsb.edu

John S. W. Park  
Professor of Asian American Studies  
Department of Asian American Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4090  
jswpark@asamst.ucsb.edu  
(805) 893-8573

Fabio Rambelli  
Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Cultures

International Shinto Foundation Chair in Shinto Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4090  
rambelli@ucsb.edu  
(805) 893-2744

Marion Goldman  
Professor Emeritus of Sociology  
Department of Sociology  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403  
mgoldman@uoregon.edu  
(541) 346-5002

Amy Slagle  
Associate Professor of Religion  
School of Humanities  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
a.slagle@usm.edu  
(601) 266-4103

Matt Casey  
Director of the School of Humanities  
Associate Professor of History  
School of Humanities  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
matthew.casey@usm.edu  
(601) 266-4333

Joseph Blankholm  
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies  
Department of Religious Studies  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-7065  
blankholm@ucsb.edu  
(612) 226-8712