

Christopher D.L. Johnson
Curriculum Vitae

University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac
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EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D. in Religious Studies, University of Edinburgh
2005 M.Sc. with Distinction in Religious Studies, University of Edinburgh
2003 B.A. in Philosophy, Rhodes College

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2014-2015 Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac / University of Wisconsin Colleges Online (tenure-track)
2013-2014 Visiting Assistant Professor of Global Christianity, University of North Dakota
2012-2013 Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, College of the Bahamas (contract)
2010-2012 Instructor of Religious Studies, University of Alabama

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2010 *The Globalization of Hesychasm and the Jesus Prayer: Contesting Contemplation*, Continuum Advances in Religious Studies (Continuum)

Journal Articles and Essays

- 2015 “The Way of an English Pilgrim: Gerald Palmer’s Lifelong Athlonite Pilgrimage,” *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook*, 30/31 (University of Minnesota Press)
- 2015 “Tradition and the Appropriation of the Jesus Prayer,” *Diogenes’ Lantern: The Human Being and the Diversity of Practices*, 1. (Познание, Moscow)
- 2014 “‘He Has Made the Dry Bones Live’: Orientalism’s Attempted Resuscitation of Eastern Christianity,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 82:3 (Oxford University Press)
- 2014 “‘Base, but Nevertheless Holy’: Lessons in Liminality from Symeon the Holy Fool,” *Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses*, 43:4 (Sage Publications)
- 2012 “The Samaritan’s Inn: Preliminary Reflections on the Critique of Religion as Therapy,” *LOGOS: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies*, 53:3-4 (Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute)

Book Chapters

- 2015 “Eastern Christianity as ‘Survival’ and ‘Oriental Other’ in the *Lectures* of Arthur Penrhyn Stanley,” in *Antecedents and Subsequents of Iosif Volotsky: Issues in Eastern Christian Studies 500 Years Later* (Eerdmans)

Conference Proceedings

- 2014 “The ‘Mystical Mundane’ in Fr. Nikon of Karoulia’s Letters to Gerald Palmer,” Papers of the 2013 Sophia Institute Academic Conference (Theotokos Press)
- 2013 “Between Madness and Holiness: Symeon of Emesa and ‘the Pedagogics of Liminality’,” *Studia Patristica*, 68 (Peeters)
- 2012 “The Beauty of Nonsense: Apophatic Theology and Byzantine Chant,” in *Beauty and the Beautiful in Eastern Orthodox Thought and Culture*, Papers of the 2011 Sophia Institute Academic Conference (Theotokos Press)

Book Reviews

- 2015 Sebastian Elsässer, *The Coptic Question in the Mubarak Era* (Oxford University Press, 2014) in *Religion* (Routledge)
- 2014 Victor Roudometof, *Globalization and Orthodox Christianity: The Transformations of a Religious Tradition* (Routledge, 2013) in *LOGOS: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies* (Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute)
- 2014 Jacalyn Duffin, *Medical Saints: Cosmas and Damian in a Postmodern World* (Oxford University Press, 2013) in *Religion* (Routledge)
- 2013 Torstein Theodor Tollefsen, *Activity and Participation in Late Antique and Early Christian Thought* (Oxford University Press, 2012) in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 81:2 (Oxford University Press)
- 2013 Priscilla Hunt and Svitlana Kobets (eds.), *Holy Foolishness in Russia: New Perspectives* (Slavica Publishers, 2012) in *The Russian Review* (University of Kansas Press)
- 2012 Veronica della Dora, *Imagining Mount Athos: Visions of a Holy Place from Homer to World War II* (University of Virginia Press, 2011) in *LOGOS: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies*, 53:3-4 (Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute)
- 2012 Irina Paert, *Spiritual Elders: Charisma and Tradition in Russian Orthodoxy* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2010) in *Numen: International Review for the History of Religions*, 59:2-3 (Brill)
- 2012 Irina Papkova, *The Orthodox Church and Russian Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2011) in *Religion*, 42: 2 (Routledge)
- 2010 Paul Heelas, *Spiritualities of Life: New Age Romanticism and Consumerist Capitalism* (Blackwell, 2008) in *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, 17:1 (Wiley-Blackwell)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lectures and Seminars

Introduction to the Study of Religion
Honors Introduction to Religious Studies

World Faiths
Global Christianity
The Development of Christian Doctrine
Religion and Cultural Conflict
Death and Dying
Understanding the Bible
Introduction to the New Testament
Asian Philosophy
The Spirituality of the Christian East
Mad, Holy, or Both?: The Cultural Significance of the Holy Fool
Culture and Human Experience

Independent Studies

The Patristic Era
The Reformation
Christianity in the Modern Era
Christology through the Centuries

Graduate Assistant

Religion and Society: Social Scientific Approaches to the Study of Religion
Making Sense of Religion: Historical, Phenomenological and Cultural Approaches to the Study of Religion
Religion in the Contemporary World: Indigenous Religions and the Religions of Asia
Religion in the Contemporary World: Judaism, Christianity and Islam

INVITED TALKS

2014 “The Eastern Orthodox Church: Unity in Diversity,” Ripon College
2014 “The Pilgrim and the Hermit: How One Encounter Helped bring Orthodox Spirituality to the West,” St. Mary’s University of Minnesota

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2015 “Corresponding World-views: Gifts and Spiritual Paternity in the Letters of Gerald Palmer and Fr. Nikon Strandtman,” Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture Biennial Convention
- 2015 “The Monk Behind the English *Philokalia*,” Association for the Study of Christian History Spring Meeting
- 2014 “The Role of Spiritual Direction in Mediating a Contemplative Classic: Fr. Nikon Strandtman, Gerald Palmer, and the English *Philokalia*,” Christian Spirituality Group/Contemplative Studies Group, AAR Annual Meeting
- 2014 “Pilgrimage as Spiritual Time Bomb: Gerald Palmer’s Athonite Journeys to Fr. Nikon of Karoulia,” Panel on ‘Orthodox Wandering and Pilgrimage in the Modern Era: Russia and Abroad’, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention
- 2014 “Fr. Nikon of Karoulia: The Inspiration for the English *Philokalia*,” North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting
- 2014 “Pilgrimage and transformation in the letters of Fr. Nikon of Karoulia and Gerald Palmer,” Upper Midwest AAR/SBL Annual Meeting
- 2013 “The Mystical Mundane in Fr. Nikon’s letters to Gerald Palmer,” Sophia Institute for International Orthodox Thought and Culture Annual Conference
- 2013 “A Strangely Familiar East: Orientalism in Depictions of Orthodox Christianity,” Orthodox Theological Society of America Annual Meeting
- 2013 “‘In the Shadow of the Orient’: Orthodox Christianity and Orientalism,” Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture Biennial Convention
- 2012 “The Role of Boundaries in *Iurodstvo* Tales,” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention
- 2011 “The Beauty of Nonsense: Apophatic Theology and Byzantine Chant,” Sophia Institute for International Orthodox Thought and Culture Annual Conference
- 2011 “‘Base, but Nevertheless Holy’: Lessons in Liminality from Symeon of Emesa,” Eastern Orthodox Studies Group, AAR Annual Meeting

- 2011 “A ‘Complete Inversion of Values’?: Questioning the Scandalousness of St. Symeon of Emesa,” Orthodox Theological Society of America Annual Meeting
- 2011 “Between Madness and Holiness: Symeon of Emesa and ‘the Pedagogics of Liminality’,” International Conference on Patristic Studies
- 2010 “The Aesthetics of Nonsense: Compositional and Interpretive Creativity in the Meaningless Syllables of Byzantine Chant,” Music and Religion Consultation, AAR Annual Meeting
- 2009 “Turning East(ward): The Appeal of Eastern Christianity and the Dialogue of the Familiar and Unfamiliar,” Southeastern AAR/SBL Annual Meeting
- 2007 “Far From Monastery Walls: The Global Journey of Orthodox Monastic Spirituality,” BASR Annual Conference, University of Edinburgh

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2015 “Reflections on Spiritual Direction and Gift-Exchange,” Department of Philosophy Annual Meeting, University of Wisconsin Fox Valley
- 2014 “The Pilgrim and the Hermit: How One Encounter Brought Eastern Christian Spirituality to the West,” University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac
- 2014 “Why Christianity is not a ‘Western Religion’,” Campus Ministries, University of North Dakota
- 2008 “Orthodoxy as Therapy: Reflections of an Orthodox Christian Therapeutic Theology in the Light of Carrette and King’s *Selling Spirituality*,” University of Edinburgh
- 2006 “Views on Hesychasm and the Jesus Prayer as Contemporary Practices,” University of Edinburgh

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2015-2016

-Campus Representative for Higher Education Diversity Initiative Team, Fond du Lac County Cross-Campus Committee

- Co-Chair, Fine Arts and Lecture Committee, University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac
- Faculty Evaluations Committee, University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac
- Service Learning Institute Participant (also gave presentation on institute at campus opening meeting)
- Redesign of REL 101 Online
- Reviewed article for *Religion* (Taylor & Francis): “The trouble with mysticism: contemplative prayer, religious authority, and the social significance of failure in an English Benedictine monastery”

2014-2015

- Campus Representative for Higher Education Diversity Initiative Team, Fond du Lac County Cross-Campus Committee
- Fine Arts and Lecture Committee, University of Wisconsin Fond du Lac
- Religious Studies Committee, University of Wisconsin Colleges
- Philosophy Online Teaching Committee, University of Wisconsin Colleges
- Reviewed article for *Religion and Literature* (University of Notre Dame Press): “Internal Liturgy: the Transmission of the Jesus Prayer in the *Philokalia* and *The Way of a Pilgrim*”

2013-2014

- Faculty Board, College of the Bahamas
- Panel Chair for “The Bahamas as Imagined Community,” The Bahamas at 40 Conference, College of the Bahamas
- Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, College of the Bahamas
- Academic Advisor for Religious Studies and Theology, College of the Bahamas
- Awards Committee for Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture

2012-2013

- Reviewed article for *LOGOS: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies*
- Proofreader for Anthony E. Clark’s *Heaven and Conflict: Franciscans and the Boxer Uprising in Shanxi* (University of Washington Press, 2014)

2011-2012

- Review Board of Theta Alpha Kappa Albert Clark Award
- Project Manager of Syriac Research Portal, University of Alabama
- Online Course Revision Committee for “Introduction to New Testament,” University of Alabama
- Faculty Advisor for Theta Alpha Kappa, University of Alabama

2010-2011

- Proofreader for Mark W. Muesse’s *The Hindu Traditions: A Concise Introduction* (Fortress Press, 2011)
- Faculty Advisor for NSEP Boren Scholarships, University of Alabama

2009-2010

- Faculty Advisor for RAGE SGA Scholarships, University of Alabama

2006-2007

- Graduate Student Representative, University of Edinburgh Chaplaincy Centre
- Editorial Board of *ZjR (Zeitschrift fuer junge Religionswissenschaft)*
- Assistant Director of Mylne’s Court Graduate Student Halls of Residence, University of Edinburgh

LANGUAGES

Intermediate reading proficiency in Greek (Ancient, Koine, Modern)

Intermediate reading proficiency in Spanish

Basic reading proficiency in Syriac

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture

Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies

Byzantine Studies Association of North America
Fellowship of St. Alban & St. Sergius
International Association for the History of Religions
North American Patristics Society
Orthodox Theological Society of America
Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality