



Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference
Thursday, March 8th, 2018

Conference Schedule

8-9am – Registration

9am-12pm – Presentations:

9-10:15am

Room A: Lived Religion and Modern Society

1. Elizabeth Bickley, *“The Sacred Oath of Office” - Use of Sacred Symbols and Performance in the 2017 Presidential Inauguration.*
2. Ana de Souza, *Decisive Ambiguity: Mixing Religious and Secular in Supreme Court of India's Hindutva Decisions.*
3. Taran Jeet Singh, *Sikh Impact on Social Change in Canada.*

Room D: The Meaning of Social Justice

1. Julia Itel, « *Se changer soi pour changer le monde* », *entre spiritualité et innovations sociales : l'exemple des créatifs culturels.*
2. Galen Watts, *Activism as Religion: Insights from the Cultural Sociology of the Sacred.*
3. Keira Mecheri, *Les enjeux d'une clinique psychospirituelle à l'âge du séculier. L'étude de cas du sujet ultraorthodoxe.*

10:30-12pm

Room A: Reading Against the Grain: Textual Interpretation

1. Donghyun Jeong, *Reading Paul against Paul: The Acts of the Scillitan Martyrs as Reinterpretation of Romans 13:1–7.*
2. Lucas Cober, *"The Blind and Lame Shall Not Enter:" Disability, the Bible and Interpretation.*
3. Claire English, *Bodies that Bless.*
4. Jesse Toufexis, *The Revelation of Tim LaHaye: Unsealing the Tim LaHaye Prophecy Study Bible.*

Room D: Reforms, Revolutions, and Resistances in Islam

1. Andy Rajnak, *A Case Study in the Discourse of “Reform” in Islam: Maajid Nawaz and the “Regressive Left.”*
2. Maryam Amirdust, *Religion in Iran after the 1979 Revolution: An Effective Mass Movement Source that is Losing its Appeal in Social Activism.*
3. Alexander McCrae, *The Future of the Druze in Syria.*
4. Moulay Hicham Mouatadid, *Facteurs explicatifs du processus de radicalisation islamiste menant à la violence.*

12-1:15pm - Lunch (vegan and kosher)

Room B: Roundtable Discussion, “Navigating Privilege: A Workshop and Discussion on Being a Better Ally” (12:30-1pm).

1:15-4:15pm – Presentations:

1:15-2:45

Room A: Reconstituting the State and Religious Ideals

1. Lauren Strumos, *The Spirit and the Secular: An Examination of Charismatic Christianity in Western Nigeria*.
2. Haohao Chang, *Response to the Society and Melting into Modern Culture-Revival of Chinese Buddhism in 12 Years*.
3. Hleziphi Mawande Mzongwana, *Singing the Future: A Practical Theology Reflection On Liturgy as Resistance in Apartheid South Africa*.
4. James Quinn, *Kingdoms of Dharma: Tantra and the Possibilities of Change*.

Room B: Migration, Displacement, and Attachment

1. David Villeneuve, *Christians of the Nineveh Plain: Which Situation and Future?*
2. Neil Matthews, *Against the Moral Framework: A Consideration of Aspects of Genocidal Perpetration*.
3. Amanda Mormina, *Tikkun Olam: Sponsoring Syrian Refugees as One Jewish Community's Approach to Healing the World*.

Room D: Women's Voices and Roles in Enacting Change

1. Lori Noel, *The Films of Deepa Mehta: Women's Voices through Art*.
2. Austin Simoes-Gomes, *Newar Female Faith Healers: Agents of Social Change*.
3. Hugh Gwyn, *Dorothy Day – Disturber of Apple Carts: Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement*.
4. Faizat Badmus-Busari, *Rethinking the Role of International Law & Religion (Sharia) in Achieving Gender Equality and Justice in Africa*.

3-4:15pm

Room A: Religious Relationships with Food and the Environment

1. Ashely Crouch, *21st Century Kosher: How Vegetarian Became Jewish*.
2. Nicola Morry, *The Stylitism of Saint Symeon and Julia Butterfly Hill*.

Room B: Religious and Community Resistance in the United States

1. Alisa Dunovant, *Radical Pedagogy: How a Priest Transformed a City*.
2. Marcelitte Failla, *Black Femmes Black Gods: Magic as Justice*.
3. Jennifer B. Campbell, Johnie Jones, Evan Parke, *The Prevailing Church: Pursuing Human Rights?*

Room D: Activism in the Academy

1. Joshua Narcisse, *At the Heart of the Mecca: Howard University and the Negotiation of Race, Denomination, and Student Protest*.
2. Lindsey Jackson, *"This would be considered sexual harassment if it were anywhere else": Gender, Power, and the Fallacy of Authority in the Interview Space*.

4:30-6pm – Closing and keynote address

6-9pm – Reception Wine and Cheese