

## **Curriculum Vitae**

M. Gail Hamner

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### CURRENT POSITION

2013 Full Professor, Department of Religion, Syracuse University  
2008 Associated faculty for the Women and Gender Studies Program  
2005-present Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Syracuse University  
1998-2005 Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Syracuse University

### FORMER POSITION

1997-1998 Lecturer, Duke University, Religion Department

### EDUCATION

1997 Ph.D., Religion, Duke University  
1989 M.T.S., Philosophical Theology, Boston University School of Theology  
1985 B.S., Biology, Duke University

### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Faculty Senate, 2005-2007  
Religion, Science Health Symposium, invited participant (Fall 2008)  
University Curriculum Committee, 2005-2007  
University Classroom Committee, Fall 1998-Spring 2001

## COLLEGE SERVICE

Associated Faculty to the Women and Gender Studies Department, spring 2008

Advising:

Freshman Lower Division Advising, Fall 2000, Fall 2004

Summer Advising, 2004

Coronat Scholars Selection Committee, 2006-2009, 2012

ETS Thesis advisor, Spring 2008 (Snodgrass)

Faculty Council, 2014-2105

Freshman Forum Leader, Fall 2004

Freshman Forum Committee, Spring 2005 (Sue Wadley, Chair)

Honor's Capstone Prize: Committee for the Humanities (Spring 2008)

Honor's Thesis advisor:

Spring 2011-12 (Margaret Spinosa)

Spring 2010 (Lauren Stansbury)

Spring 2009 (Sally Waggoner)

Spring 2005 (Matt Gamara)

Spring 2002 (two undergraduates, co-advisor)

Spring 2001 (one undergraduate, co-advisor)

Honor's Thesis committee 2005 (Gareth Manwaring); 2010 (Meghan Rinn)

Humanities Center Faculty Advisory Board (Fall 2008-Spring 2010)

Humanities Center Planning Committee, 2003-2004

Humanities Council, Fall 2005, 20003-2004

Instructional Committee, 2004-2005 (Sue Wadley, Chair)

Outstanding TA selection committee, 2009

Mary Marshall Prize Selection Committee, Spring 2008

New Humanities Project, Co-Founder and Co-Organizer (with four other faculty members),  
grant awarded by the Vision Fund, 2000-2002

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc committees:

Review of Chair, Fall 2008

Personnel Relations, Spring 2004

Review of Chair, Fall 1998

Advisor to Ph.D. candidates:

Dissertation advisor (defense complete): J. Adams (2014), C. Martin (2007), A. Beall (2010)

Dissertation adviser (pre-defense):

- K. Geldmeier
- P. Morris
- H. White

Advisees (comprehensive exams and prospectus):

- A. Cake
- Wendy DeBoer
- R. Moody
- D. Newman
- C. O'Dell Chaib

Dissertation committee member:

2014: S. Doles (ENG)

2012: P. Prescott (PHL), F. Sanzaro

2011: D. Schaefer

2010: J. Jackson (Newhouse)

2009: D. Quigley, B. Stahlberg; D. Lausa (English)

2006: J. Clark

2005: M. Conroy, G. McVey; M. McKeon (Philosophy)

Advisor to MA students:

M.A. Thesis Advisor: D. Newman (2012-13), D. Finer (2010); Rebecca Moody (2009)

M.A. Thesis Committee: Dan Moseson (2011); Chris Grey (Rhetoric, 2010); Josh Snodgrass (ENG 2008)

Director of Graduate Studies, 2013-present

Executive Committee, 2004-2006; 2007- Spring 2010, Fall 2013-present

Future Professoriate Program, Director, Fall 2007-present

FPP Pilot c.v. review and mock interview process, Spring and Fall 2005

Graduate Committee (graduate admissions every other year), 2007-present  
Religion and Theory Reading Group for Faculty and Graduate Students:  
    Organizer and Facilitator, 1998-2008  
Religion Theory Group Facilitator (organized by graduate students), 2008-present  
Religion Majors and Minors Association (MAMA), co-organizer, 1998-1999, Fall 1999  
Search Committee for Assistant Professor, 2000-2001  
Search committee for Senior Professor, 2002-2003  
Search committee for Religion Dept. Chair (selected by the Dean), spring 2009  
Search committee for Junior position in Continental Philosophy of Religion, 2010  
Tenure review of undergraduate teaching for M. Robinson, Fall 2008  
Third-year review of undergraduate teaching for G. Fisher, Spring 2011  
Theta Chi Beta (Religion Honor Society), Secretary of the S.U. Chapter, 2002-2004  
Undergraduate Committee member, Fall 2000 and 1998-1999  
Undergraduate Studies, Coordinator, Fall 2004- Spring 2006

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

#### **American Academy of Religion:**

Co-Chair, "Religion and Media Workshop", an associated event with the American Academy of Religion's national meeting, Fall 2014-present.

Co-Chair, "Religion, Affect and Emotion Group" (with SU Alum, Donovan Schaefer). This Group was just approved by the AAR Program Committee in December 2012

Co-Chair, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group: 2001- 2004; 2006- 2009

Member, AAR Program Unit Steering Committees:

    Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group (Fall 2000);

    Pragmatism and Empiricism Group (2005-2008);

    Theology and Continental Philosophy (2011-present)

Member, Standing Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, American Academy of Religion, 2006-2009

Member, Religion Compass editorial board (Blackwell Publishing), 2007-2009

Member, the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Advisory Committee to the

## Program Committee

Organizing Committee member to bring the International Association of Philosophy and Literature (IAPL) to Syracuse University and LeMoyne College in May, 2004: Fall 2002-Fall 2003

Organized with T. Brockelman (PHL, Le Moyne College): “Encountering Religion After the Death of God (again): Lacan, Hegel, and Emergent Materialisms,” April 21, 2012. Plenary speakers: Marc de Kesel, Adrian Johnston, Joan Copjec. Half-funded by S.U. Humanities Center.

Organizing a “Foucault Gedankentag” with Ellen Armour, Nitzan Lebovitch and Saeed Khan for April 14, 2013.

Reviewed article for *Journal of Religion and Film* (2014)

Reviewed manuscript for Taylor and Francis Press (2014)

Reviewed two articles for *Hypatia* (2013)

Reviewed article for *Cinema and Philosophy* (2013)

Reviewed manuscript for Columbia University Press (2012)

Reviewed two articles for *Hypatia* (2012)

Reviewed article for *Journal of Religion* (2012)

Reviewed article for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2009)

Reviewed article for *Journal of Culture, Religion and Theory* (2009)

Reviewed book manuscript for Oxford University Press (2008)

Reviewed tenure and promotion case for Bowdoin College (2008)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Invited to consult with Syracuse’s Interfaith Works about using film to engage the community on interfaith dialogue, Fall 2009. Gave them a list of religion films, Spring 2010.

Invited participant in the Syracuse Stage’s panel discussion of “Doubt: A Parable” (chaired by Prof. Robert Van Gulick), March 2, 2008

Interviewed by Adam Graham of *Detroit News* and Chris Wagner of *Dallas*

*Morning News* about Mel Gibson’s film *The Passion of Christ*, February 2004.

Interviewed by Chris Wager of *Dallas Morning News* about “The Passion.”

February 16, 2004.

Interviewed by Tom Sime from the Dallas Morning News about nuns in film,

March 24, 2004.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Book:** *Imaging Religion in Film: The Politics of Nostalgia*, in “New Theories of Religion and Power.” Palgrave: December 2011.

**Book:** *American Pragmatism: A Religious Genealogy*, Oxford University Press, 2002.

**Book chapters:** Two chapters in Elijah Siegler, editor, *The Coen Brothers’ Religion: Mythology, Morality and the American Landscape*, **forthcoming** from Baylor University Press, fall 2015. (One of these is a hefty revision of the Coen brothers chapter of my book, *Imaging Religion in Film*.)

### **Articles:**

“Filming Reconciliation: Affect and Nostalgia in *The Tree of Life*,” in *The Journal of Religion and Film*, spring 2014.

“Work and Life in the Balance,” short ‘round-table’ contribution to *Religious Studies News*, **forthcoming**, spring 2015.

“Acting in Common: How the Flesh of Multitude can become Incarnate Words against Empire”, in *Evangelicals and Empire: Christian Alternatives to the Political Status Quo*, ed. B.E. Benson and P. Heltzel (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2008), pp. 43-53.

“What is an Act?: Reflexive Action in Pragmatism and Praxis Philosophy,” *PoLAR: The Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, November, 2003.

“The Work of Love”, in *Opting for the Margins: Postmodernity and Liberation in Christian Theology*, ed. Joerg Rieger, Oxford University Press, 2003.

### **Entry:**

“Cultural Saints” for The Encyclopedia of Religion and American Cultures, ed. Luis León and Gary Laderman (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2003). Revised, 2014.

### **Reviews**

Maurine Sabine, *Veiled Desires: Intimate Portrayals of Nuns in Postwar Anglo-American Film*, in *Theology and Sexuality*, **forthcoming**.

Gerard Loughlin, *Alien Sex: The Body and Desire in Cinema and Theology*, in *Journal of*

*Religion*, July 2005.

Book note on N.J. Allen, W.S.F. Pickering, and W. Watts Miller, ed.s, *On Durkheim's Elementary Forms of Religious Life* (New York: Routledge, 1998), for *The Religious Studies Review*, July, 2000.

## PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

2014

April “Mask and Materiality in Sembene’s *Black Girl*”, International Conference on Religion and Film, Omaha Nebraska, April 10-12.

Interviewed by Kristian Petersen for his New Books in Religion podcast on my book *Imaging Religion in Film*

September, “Light as Eternity: The Temporal Dynamics of *No Country for Old Men*”, International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture, Leuven Belgium, Sept 18-20.

November, *The American Academy of Religion*, National Meeting, San Diego, CA

1. “Mediated Affect”, for the Religion and Media Workshop, Nov. 21
2. “Foucault, Affect, and Social Power”, for the Critical Theories and Discourses on Religion Group, Nov. 22

2013

April Invited public lecture on Alfonso Cuarón’s *Children of Men* at Haverford College

November, *The American Academy of Religion*, National Meeting, Baltimore, MD

1. “Religion as anti-consumerism in the Coens’ *The Man Who Wasn’t There*” for the Religion, Film and Visual Culture Group
2. “Affect and Religion,” for the Theology and Religious Reflection Group

2012

June 7 “Eating from the Tree of Life: On Terrence Malick’s *Tree of Life*”, *Christian Scholars Conference*, Lipscomb University, Nashville TN (Conference June 7-9)

November, *The American Academy of Religion*, National Meeting, Chicago, IL

- “Religion in the Public Sphere: The Image-Flesh Assemblage of our National Imaginary” as part of a Wildcard session on Religion and Affect.
- “Aching for Redemption: Affect and Nostalgia in Malick’s *Tree of Life*”, for

the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group

2011

November, invited panelist for the Theology and Religious Reflection's panel, *Postcolonialism and Poststructuralism in the United States* during the American Academy of Religion's 2011 annual meeting in San Francisco.

April, "Bodies—Mediation—Knowing—Speciation," a response to Dr. Kimerer LaMothe, presented at "Anatomies of Affect: Perspectives on Embodied Emotion," a S.U. Humanities Center Symposium organized by Donovan Schaefer.

2010

April, "Looking for Religion in all the Wrong Places", REL Graduate Student conference at Linklaen House, Cazenovia.

"The Force of Religion", Humanities Center Conference on Religion in Scholarship.

Lecture on the Coen brothers' film, *The Man Who Wasn't There* for the mini-film series at Le Moyne College, "Thinking at the Movies"

July, "Witnessing Witness: The Relations of Space and Gaze in Ousmane Sembene's *Guelwaar*", 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Deleuze Conference, Amsterdam.

2008

March, "The Risks of Embodied Scholarship", invited paper given to the Syracuse Religion Graduate Student Organization's Spring conference on "Embodiment"

April, "Innocence and Agency: Negotiating the Sublime and the Grotesque in Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*", for the Le Moyne Religion and Literature Forum on the Sublime and the Grotesque.

July, "Images, Epigenetics, and Religious Affect", invited paper for a panel titled, "The Local and its Discontents" (chaired by Kenneth Surin, Duke University), IAPL, Melbourne, Australia.

2007

June, "Universality in Hegel and Irigaray: Prelude to a Work on Love", IAPL, Nicosia, Cyprus



2006

June 5-10, panel on “Art, Philosophy and Terror” for the IAPL, Freiburg, Germany.

2005

November, “Badiou, fidelity, and mother intellectuals”, invited panel, American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA.

April “Hobbes and Transcendence”, Sovereignty and Subjectivity Workgroup, Trieste, Italy

June 2-9, “Chiasmatic Invisibilities in Frears’ *Dirty Pretty Things*”, IAPL, Helsinki University, Helsinki Finland.

November, member with Creston Davis, Amy Hollywood, Graham Ward, and Slavoj Zizek of panel “Gender, Politics, and the Return to Religion” for joint session with Theology and Continental Philosophy Group and Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group of the American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA.

2004

October 6, “Stout, Hauerwas and the problem with Liberalism”, presented to the SU Fine Arts Colloquim.

November 20, “Whatever Happened on the Road to Belfast,” panel response to Jeffrey Stout’s *Democracy and Tradition*, Pragmatism and Empiricism Group of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX

2003

March 29, “What is an Act?”: Reflections on theory and practice in American Pragmatism and Continental praxis philosophy”, Ethnography in the Realm of the Pragmatic, A Conference Sponsored by the Clarke Program in East Asian Law and Culture and Political and Legal Anthropology Review, Cornell University (invited speaker).

November 7, “Subjectivity and theories of (religious) liberation in the films of Abbas Kiarostami”, Re-Thinking Marxism, University of Massachusetts, Amherst,

(invited presenter).

2002

April 11, "Akira Kurosawa and the Question of teaching Religion and Film", *Religion and Society* lecture series, Syracuse University

November 23, "The Test Case of Psychology: The Idea of the University in the Nineteenth Century", Nineteenth-Century Group of the American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Toronto, ONT

November 24, Respondent to the panel "Le Toucher: Derrida on Jean-Luc Nancy," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Toronto, ONT

2001

April 3, "Anger Disguised and Complex: On The Gladiator and Almost Famous," Religion Honor Society Annual Meeting, LeMoyne College, Syracuse

2000

September 21-24, "Singularity is Collectivity, Or: How the Labor of the Multitude is the Work of Love," Re-Thinking Marxism 2000, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

June 24, "The Work of Love in Luce Irigaray: Feminist Politics and the Strategy of Love," Gendering Ethics/The Ethics of Gender Conference, University of Leeds, UK

June 23, Invited respondent to the session, "Images of the Self: Contemporary Sci-Fi TV/Cinema and the Deployment of Subjectivity," The Third Annual Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, Birmingham University, UK

April 7, "Apocalyptic Fear and Scientific Commonsense: A Ghost (Spirit) in the Machine," AAR-EIR 2000, Syracuse University

February 19, Respondent to the session, "Why Religious Studies?," Religious Studies and Cultural Engagement: First Annual Alumni and Graduate Student Conference, Syracuse University

1999

November 22, "That Pesky 'And': Studying Religion and Popular Culture", American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA

February 25, "The Work of Love in Luce Irigaray," The Working Papers in

Gender Studies Lecture Series, Syracuse University

1998

October, "The Work of Love in Donna Haraway and Kaja Silverman," given as the new faculty lecture, Department of Religion, Syracuse University

1995

November, "The Sign of God in the Burning Bush: Peircean Pragmatism and Continental Postmodernism," American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA

1994

November, respondent to the Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion Group, American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL

February 18-19, respondent to Hayden White, guest speaker of the Graduate Program in Religion, Duke University

1993

April 29-30, respondent to Katie G. Cannon, guest speaker of the Graduate Program in Religion, Duke University

March, "The Twos and Threes of Pragmatics: Deleuzian Dualities, Peircean Triads, and the Politics of the Inbetween," The Second Interdisciplinary Colloquium: The Work of Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari, Duke University

TEACHING AREAS

Religion and Film

Religion and Popular Culture

Continental Philosophy

Feminist theory and Feminist theology

Marxian Theory

Pragmatism and North American Religious Thought

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP and ACTIVITIES

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Merleau-Ponty Circle

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)

AWARD FOR TEACHING

Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award (2008)