

PAUL CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

History and Afroamerican & African Studies

University of Michigan

paulcjoh@umich.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2010- Professor, Department of History, and Department of Afroamerican and African Studies
University of Michigan
- 2005 Associate Professor, Department of History, and Center for Afroamerican and African Studies.
University of Michigan
- 2003 Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies
University of Missouri
- 1997-2002 Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies
University of Missouri

ADMINISTRATIVE and EDITORIAL POSITIONS

- 2015- Co-Editor, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*
- 2008-2014 Director, Doctoral Program in Anthropology and History
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

EDUCATION

- 1997 Ph.D. History of Religions (Awarded with Distinction)
University of Chicago
- 1990 M.A. Religious Studies
University of Chicago
- 1986 B.A. Psychology, German, Religion (three majors completed)
Hope College, Holland, Michigan

RESEARCH and TEACHING AREAS

Anthropology of Religions	Afro-Atlantic Religions	Diasporic Forms
History of Religions	History of Brazil	Ritual and Materiality
Theory of Religion	Caribbean Religions	Spirit Possession
		Religious Secrecy and Publics

PUBLICATIONS

Books

In process *Automatic Religion: Near-Human Agency in France and Brazil* (manuscript to be submitted on November 1, 2017).

In press, 2018 *Ekklesia: Three Inquiries on Church and State in the Americas*. With Winnifred Fallers Sullivan and Pamela E. Klassen. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Expected publication date March 1, 2018)

2014 *Spirited Things: The Work of "Possession" in Afro-Atlantic Religions*. Edited by Paul Christopher Johnson. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

2007 *Diaspora Conversions: Black Carib Religion and the Recovery of Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

**Awarded the Wesley-Logan Prize by the American Historical Association, 2008.

2002 *Secrets, Gossip and Gods: The Transformation of Brazilian Candomblé*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Awarded the Prize for Excellence (Analytical-Descriptive category) by the American Academy of Religion, 2003.

Articles

[An asterisk (*) indicates a publication in a peer-reviewed journal or volume]

*In press "Material Modes and Moods of 'Slave Anastácia,' Afro-Brazilian Saint." *Journal de la société des américanistes*.

*In press "Religions." Co-authored with Stephan Palmié. In *The Cambridge Handbook of Afro-Latin American Studies*, edited by Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews.

*In press "Photographe, esprit, esprit-photographe." *Archives de Sciences Sociales des Religions*.

In press "Spirit Incorporation in Candomblé," in *Companion to Material Religion*. Edited by Manuel A. Vasquez and Vasudha Narayanan. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

In press "The Dead Don't Come Back like the Migrant Comes Back: Many Returns in the Garifuna Dügü." In *Passages & Afterworlds: Anthropological Perspectives on Death and Mortuary Rituals in the Caribbean*. Edited by Maarit Forde and Yanique Hume. Duke University Press.

- *2017 “Possessed Persons and Legal Persons in Brazil.” *Maryland Journal of International Law* 29: 180-216.
- *2017 “L’automatisme: mécanismes de la religion en France et au Brésil.” *Asdival: Revue genevoise d’anthropologie et d’histoire des religions* 11: 79-103.
- *2016 “Scholars Possessed! On Writing Africana Religions with the Left Hand.” *Journal of Africana Religions* 4/2: 154-185.
- 2016 “Criticisms, Debates, and Futures: The Anthropology of Religion in Hybrid-Human and Non-Human Worlds.” In *Social Religion*, edited by Jeff Kripal. New York: Macmillan, 273-290.
- 2016 “Syncretism and Hybridisation.” *Oxford Handbook of the Study of Religion*. Edited by Steven Engler and Michael Stausberg. New York: Oxford University Press, 754-772.
- 2015 “Preface.” Préface à la seconde édition de Stefania Capone, *La quête de l’Afrique dans le Candomblé: pouvoir et tradition au Brésil*. Paris: Karthala.
- 2015 “Uma genealogia atlântica da ‘possessão de espíritos.’” *Translating the Americas*. On-line journal, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 2015 Invited contributions, *Vocabulary for the Study of Religion*. Edited by Robert Segal and Kocku von Stuckrad. Leiden: Brill.
 -“Possession” (3000 words).
 -“Diaspora” (3000 words).
- 2014 “Les marronages Garifuna: L’ethnogenèse d’un ‘tribu colonial.’ In *Les marronages: mémoires, patrimoines, identités, histoire*. Edited by Jean Moomou. Guyane, Guadeloupe, Martinique: Editions Ibis Rouge, pp. 233-246.
- 2014 “Objects of Possession: Spirits, Photography and the Entangled Arts of Appearance.” In *Sensational Religion: Sense and Contention in Material Practice*, edited by Sally Promey. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 25-46.
- 2014 “Introduction: Spirits and Things in the Making of the Afro-Atlantic World,” in *Spirited Things: The Work of “Possession” in Afro-Atlantic Religions*. Edited by Paul Christopher Johnson. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 2014 “Toward an Atlantic Genealogy of ‘Spirit Possession.’” In *Spirited Things: The Work of “Possession” in Afro-Atlantic Religions*. Edited by Paul Christopher Johnson. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- 2014 “Theorizing Africana Religions.” *Journal of Africana Religions* 2 (1): 135-39.
- 2013 Response essay on Stephan Palmié’s “Mixed Blessings and Sorrowful Mysteries: Second Thoughts on Hybridity.” *Current Anthropology* 53 (4).
- 2013 “Whence ‘Spirit Possession?’” In *The Handbook of Contemporary Animism*, edited by Graham Harvey. London: Routledge, pp. 325-41.
- 2013 “Religions of the African Diaspora: ‘Religion,’ ‘Africa,’ ‘Diaspora.’” In *A Companion to Diaspora and Transnationalism*, edited by Girish Daswani and Ato Quayson. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 509-24.
- 2013 “History-Machines! Featuring the Pequod, the Nautilus, the Secularism Book, the Harrow, Mr. Spear’s Penetrator, and Other Astonishing Inventions.” *Religion in American History*. <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/>
- *2012 “Religion and Diaspora.” *Religion and Society* 3 (1): 95-114.
- 2012 “Bodies and Things in the Forest of Symbols.” *Religion* 42 (4): 633-643.
- *2011 “An Atlantic Genealogy of ‘Spirit Possession.’” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 53/2: 393-425.
- 2011 “Espresso and Other Technologies of Spirit.” In *Frequencies: A Collaborative Genealogy of Spirituality*. SSRC project. (<http://frequenci.es/>)
- 2011 Invited encyclopedia articles, *Encyclopedia of Global Religion*. Edited by Mark Juergensmeyer and Wade Clark Roof, Sage Publishers.
 -“Candomblé” (3000 words)
 -“Diaspora” (3000 words)
 “Karl Marx” (1000 words)
- World Book Encyclopedia*: “Candomblé” (500 words)
- 2008 “Vodou Purchase: The Louisiana Purchase in a Caribbean Perspective.” In *New Territories, New Perspectives: The Religious Impact of the Louisiana Purchase*. Edited by Richard J. Callahan. University of Missouri Press, pp. 146-67.
- *2007 “On Leaving and Joining Africanness Through Religion: The “Black Caribs” Across Multiple Diasporic Horizons.” *Journal of Religion in Africa* (37/2): 174-211.
- 2006 “Introduction,” in special issue of *Culture and Religion* (guest editors Paul Christopher Johnson and Mary Keller), “The Work of Possession(s).” 7/2: 111 – 122.

- *2006 “Secretism and the Apotheosis of Duvalier.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 74.2 (2006) 420-445.
- 2006 “Joining the African Diaspora: Dynamics of Migration and Urban Religion.” In *Women and Religion in the African Diaspora: Knowledge, Power, and Performance*. Edited by R. Marie Griffith and Barbara D. Savage. Johns Hopkins Press, pp. 37-58.
- *2005 “Savage Civil Religion.” *Numen* 52: 289-324.
- 2004 Invited long encyclopedia article, “Religion and Transculturation: The Caribbean.” *Encyclopedia of Religion, 2nd Edition* (New York: Macmillan).
- 2004 Invited long encyclopedia article, “Garifuna Religion.” *Encyclopedia of Religion, 2nd Edition*. New York: Macmillan.
- *2005 “Three Paths to Legitimacy: African Diaspora Religions and the State.” *Culture and Religion* 6 (1): 79-105.
- 2003 “Misrecognition and Rituals.” In *Encyclopedia of Religious Rituals*. New York: Routledge, pp. 249-52.
- *2002 “Migrating Bodies, Circulating Signs: Brazilian Candomblé, the Garifuna of the Caribbean, and the Category of ‘Indigenous Religions,’” *History of Religions* 41 (4): 301-27.
- *2002 “Models of the Body in the Ethnographic Study of Religion: The Cases of Brazilian Candomblé and the Garifuna of the Caribbean,” *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion* 14:170-95.
- 2002 “Death and Memory at Ground Zero: A Historian of Religion’s Report,” *Council of Societies for the Study of Religion Bulletin* 31 (1): 3-7.
- *2001 “Law, Religion and ‘Public Health’ in the Republic of Brazil,” *Law and Social Inquiry* 26 (1): 9-33.
- *1999 “The Fetish and McGwire’s Balls,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 68 (2): 243-264.
- *1998 “Naming and ‘African-ness’ in Brazilian Umbanda,” *Palara: Publication of the Afro-Latin Research Association* 3: 47-64.
- *1998 “The Knife,” *Anthropology and Humanism*, 23 (2):1-5.
(awarded honorable mention in the 1997 fiction competition)
- *1997 “The ‘Rationality’ of a Buddhist King: Mongkut, King of Siam, 1852-1868,” in *Sacred Biography in South and Southeastern Asian Buddhism* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, pp. 232-259.)

- *1997 “Kicking, Stripping and Re-dressing a Saint in Black: Visions of Public Space in Brazil’s Recent Holy War,” *History of Religions* 37 (2): 122-141.
- *1996 “Notes (and Problems) on ‘Participant-Observation’ from Urban Brazil,” *Religion* 26 (2): 183-196.
- *1995 “Shamanism From Ecuador to Oak Park: A Case Study in New Age Ritual Appropriation,” *Religion* 25 (2): 163-178.

Articles Reprinted in Edited Volumes

- 2013 “Whence ‘Spirit Possession?’” In *The Handbook of Contemporary Animism*, edited by Graham Harvey. London: Routledge, pp. 325-41.
- 2013 “Death and Memory at Ground Zero: A Historian of Religion’s Report,” in *Reinventing Religious Studies: Key Writings in the History of a Discipline*. Edited by Scott S. Elliott. London: Acumen
- 2008 “On Leaving and Joining Africanness Through Religion: The “Black Caribs” Across Multiple Diasporic Horizons,” in *Africas of the Americas: Beyond the Search for Origins in the Study of Afro-Atlantic Religions*. Edited by Stephan Palmié. Brill.
- 2008 “Savage Civil Religion,” in *Religion, Terror and Violence: Religious Studies Perspectives*. Edited by Philip L. Tite and Bryan Rennie. Routledge.
- 2004 “Migrating Bodies, Circulating Signs: Brazilian Candomblé, the Garifuna of the Caribbean, and the Category of Indigenous Religions,” in *Indigenous Diasporas and Dislocations: Unsettling Western Fixations*, Graham Harvey and Charles D Thompson Jr. (eds.). London: Ashgate. 37-52
- 2002 “Shamanism from Ecuador to Oak Park: A Case Study in New Age Ritual Appropriation,” in *Shamanism: A Reader*, Graham Harvey (ed). New York: Routledge. 334-54.
- 2001 “The Fetish and McGwire’s Balls,” in *From Season to Season: Sports as American Religion*, ed. Joseph L. Price. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press. 77-98.

Book Reviews

- In press Marilyn McKillop Wells, *Among the Garifuna: Family Tales and Ethnography from the Caribbean Coast*. *New West Indian Guide*.

- 2013 Keith McNeal, Trance and Modernity in the Southern Caribbean. *New West Indian Guide*.
- 2013 Kelly Hayes, Holy Harlots: Femininity, Sexuality and Black Magic in Brazil. *History of Religions*.
- 2012 Manuel Vásquez, More Than Belief: A Materialist Theory of Religion. *Religion*.
- 2011 Stefania Capone, Searching for Africa in Brazil: Power and Tradition in Candomblé. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*.
- 2011 Beatriz Gois Dantas, Nagô Grandma and White Papa: Candomblé and the Creation of Afro-Brazilian Identity. *Nova Religio*.
- 2009 Thomas A. Tweed, Crossing and Dwelling: A New Theory of Religion. *History of Religions: An International Journal for Comparative Historical Studies*
- 2009 Anna L. Peterson and Manuel A. Vásquez, editors, Latin American Religions: Histories and Documents in Context. *Catholic Historical Review*.
- 2008 Nicole Von Germeten, Black Blood Brothers: Confraternities and Social Mobility for Afro-Mexicans. *Religious Studies Review*.
- 2008 Emma Cohen, The Mind Possessed: The Cognition of Spirit Possession in an Afro-Brazilian Religious Tradition. *Journal of Religion*,
- 2008 Kristina Wirtz, Ritual, Discourse, and Community in Cuban Santería: Speaking a Sacred World. *Journal of Anthropological Research* 64 (4).
- 2008 Joseph A. Palacio, editor. The Garifuna, A Nation Across Borders: Essays in Social Anthropology. *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*.
- 2005 Jacob K. Olupona, editor. Beyond Primitivism: Indigenous Religious Traditions and Modernity. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*.
- 2005 Patricia R. Pessar, From Fanatics to Folk: Brazilian Millenarianism and Popular Culture. *Journal of Religion*.
- 2004 Margarite Fernández Olmos and Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert, Creole Religions of the Caribbean: An Introduction from Vodou and Santería to Obeah and Espiritismo. *Journal of Haitian Studies*.
- 2004 Neil L. Whitehead, Dark Shamans: Kanaimà and the Poetics of Violent Death. *Journal of Religion*.

- 2004 James V. Spickard, J. Shawn Landres and Meredith B. McGuire, Personal Knowledge and Beyond: Reshaping the Ethnography of Religion. *Journal of Religion*.
- 2002 Rachel E. Harding, A Refuge in Thunder: Candomblé and Alternative Spaces of Blackness. *History of Religions*.
- 2002 André Corten and Ruth Marshall-Fratani, eds. Between Babel and Pentecost: Transnational Pentecostalism in Africa and Latin America. *American Journal of Sociology*.
- 2000 John Burdick, Blessed Anastácia: Women, Race and Popular Christianity in Brazil. *Journal of Religion*.
- 2000 Thomas M. Cohen, The Fire of Tongues: Antônio Vieira and the Missionary Church in Brazil and Portugal. *Journal of Religion*.
- 1999 Anthony Gill, Rendering Unto Caesar: The Catholic Church and the State in Latin America. *American Journal of Sociology*.
- 1995 Joseph M. Murphy, Working the Spirit: Ceremonies of the African Diaspora and Karen McCarthy Brown, Mama Lola: A Vodou Priestess in Brooklyn. *Journal of Religion*.
- 1993 Todd A. Diacon, Millenarian Vision, Capitalist Reality: Brazil's Contestado Rebellion, 1912-1916. *Journal of Religion*.
- 1993 David Parkin, Sacred Void. *Journal of Religion*.
- 1993 David J. Hess, Spirits and Scientists: Ideology, Spiritism and Brazilian Culture. *Journal of Religion*.

HONORS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2017-2021 Fellow, "Material Economies of Religion in the Americas: Arts, Objects, Spaces, Mediations." Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion, Yale University. Henry Luce Foundation funded five-year collaborative project. Yearly conferences and publishing project.
- 2014-17 Senior Fellow, Society of Fellows, University of Michigan.
- 2009-11 Yale Initiative for the Study of Religion and Visual Culture, Fellow. Funded three-year conference and publishing project with 15 invited scholars, resulting in the volume, *Sensational Religions* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014).

- 2009 Wesley-Logan Prize for *Diaspora Conversions: Black Carib Religion and the Recovery of Africa* (University of California Press, 2007), American Historical Association. For best book on the history of the African diaspora.
- 2008 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship (Deferred to 2011).
- 2008 Institute for the Humanities Fellowship, University of Michigan.
- 2008 Nominated for President, Society for the Anthropology of Religion.
- 2005 American Society for the Study of Religion. Nominated and elected honorary society of senior scholars.
- 2003 AAR Award for Excellence, for *Secrets, Gossip and Gods: The Transformation of Brazilian Candomblé*, (Oxford University Press, 2002), *American Academy of Religion*. Given to best book in the analytic-descriptive category.
- 2003 Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University. *Program on Women and Religions of the African Diaspora*.
- 2003 NEH Fellowship Award—full-year fellowship (deferred to 2004) *National Endowment for the Humanities*
- 2001 NEH Fellowship Award—full-year fellowship *National Endowment for the Humanities*
- 1998 Susan Colver Rosenberger Dissertation Prize, University of Chicago
Awarded to best dissertation on religion over a three-year period.
- 1998 Honorable Mention for “The Knife”
Anthropology and Humanism
Competition for best short story related to ethnography.
- 1997 Ph.D. Awarded with Distinction
University of Chicago
- 1995 Dissertation Fellowship
Fulbright-Hays
- 1991-1993 Junior Fellow
Divinity School, The University of Chicago
- 1992 Latin American Studies Travel Grant
University of Chicago

- 1991 FLAS Grant, Brazil
- 1986 Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED LECTURES

- 2017 “Possessed Persons and Legal Persons in Brazil.” Northwestern University. May 6.
- 2017 Invited response paper, “Conjuring Time and the Spirits of Capitalism.” American Historical Association. Denver, CO. January 7.
- 2016 “O automatismo: as mecânicas da religião na França e no Brasil.” Universidade Federal da Bahia. Salvador da Bahia, Brazil. June 3.
- 2015 “Automatic: Mechanics of Religion in France and Brazil.” Keynote address, Annual Conference of the Swiss Society for the Study of Religion. Geneva. November 7.
- 2015 “Spirit Photography and the Spirit of Photography.” Les techniques du (faire) croire. EHESS, Paris. May 27-29.
- 2015 Invited response paper, “Ghosts of Modernity: Spiritism and History in Catalonia, Puerto Rico, and Cuba.” American Historical Association. New York, NY. January 4.
- 2014 Invited response, “What Possessed You?” American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC. December 4.
- 2014 Invited response, “Rethinking Church, State, and Sovereignty: Comparative Historical Contexts in the Americas.” San Diego, CA. November 23.
- 2014 “Comparison and Reconceptualizing ‘Black Atlantic Religions.’” American Academy of Religion. San Diego, CA. November 22.
- 2014 Invited response, “Bahia and the Afro-Atlantic World.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Chicago, IL. May 24.
- 2013 “Spirit-Children, Climbing: ‘Children’ in Afro-Brazilian Religions.” American Society for the Study of Religion. Chapel Hill, NC. April 26.
- 2013 “Objects of Possession: Photography and the Case of Juca Rosa, Rio de Janeiro, 1871.” Socio-Cultural Anthropology Workshop, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. February 21.

- 2013 "Crepuscular Secularism: The Post-secular Intellectual in Europe and the Middle East." International Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. March 18.
- 2012 "Objects of Possession: Photography, Spirits, and the Entangled Arts of Appearance. University of Toronto. October 12.
- 2012 "In the Laboratory of 'Possession.'" CUNY Graduate Center, New York. May 2.
- 2012 "In the Laboratory of 'Possession.'" University of Texas, Austin. January 17.
- 2011 "In the Laboratory of 'Possession.'" University of Chicago. October 27.
- 2011 "A Visible Invisibility: The (Photographic) Look of Possession." Yale University. November 2.
- 2011 "Sacred Spaces, Texts, and Languages." Eisenberg Institute of Historical Studies, University of Michigan. September 26.
- 2011 "The Dead Don't Come Back like the Migrant Comes Back: Many Returns in the Garifuna Dügü." University of the West Indies, Barbados. June 6.
- 2011 "An Atlantic Genealogy of 'Spirit Possession,'" École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris, March 17.
- 2010 "'Spirit Possession' and the Uses of Africa in the work of Michel Leiris and the Collège de Sociologie." *American Academy of Religion*, Atlanta, October 31.
- 2010 "The Look of Possession: Juca Rosa and Abolition in Brazil." *Anthrohistory Symposium: Crisis at Work*, University of Michigan, September 30.
- 2009 Invited Respondent, "Religion, Brazil and the Public Sphere." *Latin American Studies Association*. Rio de Janeiro, June 12.
- 2009 "Repo Men (and Women): Fakery, Performance, and Repossessing Possession in Afro-Atlantic Religions". *American Society for the Study of Religion*, University of Chicago, April 25.
- 2009 "To Be Possessed: 'Religion' and the Purification of Spirits." Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, April 16.

- 2009 “Sources of ‘Spirit Possession.’” *Society for the Anthropology of Religion*, Asilomar, California, March 28.
- 2009 “Spirit Possession aujourd’hui”. Invited lecture, UCLA, February 12.
--Diaspora Conversions book seminar, *Mellon Center in Black Atlantic Studies*, UCLA, February 11.
- 2008 “Joining the African Diaspora: Caribbean Religion ‘At Home’ and in New York.” Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, October 14.
- 2008 “To Be Possessed: ‘Religion’ and the Purification of Spirits,” *American Academy of Religion*, Chicago, November 1.
- 2007 “What’s Different About Diasporic Religion?” *Fifth International Colloquium on Socio-Religious Studies*. Havana, Cuba, July 7.
- 2007 “Mapping Spirit-Geographies in Black Atlantic Worlds: Syncretism, Encompassment and the “Problem” of Pentecostal Christianities.” *American Anthropological Association*, Washington, D.C., December 1.
- 2006 “On Leaving and Joining Africanness Through Religion: The “Black Caribs” Across Multiple Diasporic Horizons.” University of Michigan, *CAAS 25th Anniversary Conference*, March.
- 2005 Guest speaker, *American Society for the Study of Religion*. “Who Can Speak for “Tradition”? Diasporic Religion and Dual Authorities.” Atlanta, April 29-May 1.
- 2005 Keynote, Distinguished Speaker Series, *Program on Immigration, Politics, and Religion in a Hemispheric Perspective*. University of Florida-Gainesville, February 7-9.
- 2004 Invited response, “Selling the Law: Consultation on Religion and Law.” *American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings*, San Antonio, Texas, November 20.
- 2004 “Joining the African Diaspora: Dynamics of Migration and Urban Religion.” *Women and Religions of the African Diaspora*, Princeton University, April 22-4.
- 2004 “The Apotheosis of Duvalier, Loa Os-22.” Ohio State University, Columbus, April 16-18.
- 2004 “Vodou Purchase: The Louisiana Purchase in Caribbean Perspective.” University of Missouri-Columbia, February 19-21.

- 2004 "Joining the African Diaspora: Dynamics of Migration and Urban Religion." Department of Religious Studies, DePaul University, February 13-14.
- 2004 "Joining the African Diaspora: Dynamics of Migration and Urban Religion." Department of African-American Studies, Northwestern University, January 16.
- 2003 "The Migrations of Garifuna Religion and the Problem of 'Authenticity.'" University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Feb 27-28.
- 2002 "Diaspora versus Homeland Versions of Authenticity and the Question of 'Ritual Failure,'" *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, Toronto (November).
- 2002 "Pedagogy and Critical Theory in the Study of Religion." *North American Association for the Study of Religion*, Toronto (November).
- 2002 "Teaching Globalization and Religion," *Washington and Lee University*, Lexington, VA (July).
- 2001 "The Indigenized Migrations of 'Time/Space Compression': The Garifuna of Honduras and the Bronx," *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, Denver (November).
- 2001 "Migrating Bodies, Circulating Signs: Brazilian Candomblé, the Garifuna of the Caribbean, and the Category of 'Indigenous Religions'." *University of Chicago* (May).
- 2001 "Thinking Differently with Comparative Categories: 'Indigenous Religions,' Brazilian Candomblé, and the Garifuna of the Caribbean." *University of California-Santa Barbara* (March).
- 2000 "Ethnic Reconstructions, Migration and Indigenous Versions of 'Globalization'." *Washington and Lee University*, Lexington, VA (April).
- 1999 "Past the Gods Terminus: The Necessary Risks of Theoretical Fixation," *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, Boston (November).
- 1999 "The Garifuna of Honduras and Article 107: Belief and Practice, Utopia and Location," *Law and Society Association National Meeting*, Chicago (May).
- 1999 "The Fetish and McGwire's Balls," *Missouri Society for the Study of Religion* (November).

- 1998 “Law, Religion and ‘Public Health’ in the Republic of Brazil,” *Law and Society Association National Meeting*, Aspen, CO (May).
- 1998 “Garifuna Religion and the ‘Feel’ of the Field,” *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, Orlando (November).
- 1997 “Shamanism from Ecuador to Chicago: The Routes of ‘New Age’ Ritual Appropriation,” *Missouri Society for the Study of Religion*, November.
- 1996 “The Secret and the Scholar’s Whisper: Making ‘Tradition’ in Brazilian Candomblé,” *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, New Orleans (November).
- 1994 “The Names of Umbanda: Naming and Social Location in an Urban Brazilian Religion,” *American Academy of Religion National Conference*, Chicago (November).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2013, 2012, 2010 Jury Member, Clifford Geertz Book Prize for Best Book in the Anthropology of Religion.
- 2011 Program Director, Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biannual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM.
- 2009-2014 Executive Board, American Society for the Study of Religion
- 2009-2013 Executive Board, Society for the Anthropology of Religion
- 2009-2013 Executive Board, North American Association for the Study of Religion
- 2008-2012 Steering Committee, Critical Theory Group, American Academy of Religion
- 2012-15 Editorial Board Member, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*
- 2011-present Editorial Board Member, *Journal of African Religions*
- 2002-present Editorial Board Member, *Culture and Religion*
- 2000-2005 Steering Committee for the Comparative Studies Section
American Academy of Religion
- 1999-present Referee
University of Chicago Press, University of California Press, Duke University Press, Oxford University Press, Berghahn Press, New York University Press; Comparative Studies in Society and History; History of Religions; American Ethnologist;

American Journal of Sociology; Journal of American Folklore; Journal of the Royal Anthropological Association; Journal for the American Academy of Religion; Numen; Religion; New West Indies Review, and many others.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Courses Taught at Michigan

- Introduction to Religion: From Rastafari to the Sun Dance (Hist 105)
- Religions of the African Diaspora (DAAS/Hist/LACS 421)
- Writing Religious Experience (DAAS 495)
- History of Brazil (History 358/LACS 455/LACS 655)
- Religions of Latin America (Hist/LACS 208)
- Theorizing Religion (Hist 675)
- Anthropology and History Core Seminar I (Anthro/Hist 648)
- Anthropology and History Core Seminar II (Anthro/Hist 748)
- Raça e cultura em brasil (DAAS 478/LACS 400, in Portuguese)
- Key Terms in the Study of Religion (Hist 698/796)
- Introduction to African and its Diaspora (DAAS 111)

LANGUAGES

Portuguese, French, Spanish, German (reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Academy of Religion
- North American Association for the Study of Religion
- American Society for the Study of Religion
- American Anthropological Association
- Society for the Anthropology of Religion
- Latin American Studies Association
- American Historical Association