

BENJAMIN TRAVIS HOLLENBACH

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Anthropology
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

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EDUCATION

- 2022 Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Michigan
Doctoral Committee: Gayle Rubin (co-chair), Andrew Shryock (co-chair),
Webb Keane, Paul Christopher Johnson
- 2020 Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Michigan
- 2020 Graduate Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
University of Michigan
- 2017 M.A., Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2013 B.A. (Summa Cum Laude), Anthropology and Classics
Franklin & Marshall College

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2022 - Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

RESEARCH AND WRITING FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 The OpEd Project “Write to Change the World” participant,
sponsored by the American Anthropological Association
- 2020 Holstein Dissertation Fellowship, University of California, Riverside
- 2020 Marshall Weinberg Award, University of Michigan
- 2019 Sweetland Center for Writing Junior Fellowship, University of Michigan
- 2017 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Research Grant
- 2017 Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship, University of Michigan

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Hollenbach, Benjamin. “Pastors, Preaching, and Parking Lot Conversations:
Clergy’s Tactics of LGBTQ+ Inclusion in Mainline Protestant Churches.”
Anthropological Forum. (In Preparation)

Hollenbach, Benjamin. “Becoming ‘Open and Affirming:’ Debating LGBTQ+
Welcoming Designations and Navigating “Politics” in Mainline Protestantism.”
Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation. (In Preparation)

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2021 Hollenbach, Benjamin. Book Review: *Black, Gay, British, Christian, Queer: The
Church and the Famine of Grace*. Jarel Robinson-Brown. *Reading Religion: A
Publication of the American Academy of Religion*.

- 2018 Hollenbach, Benjamin. Book Review: *Our Witness: The Unheard Stories of LGBT+ Christians*. ed. Brandan Robertson. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*.

GRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 Instructor of Record, "Interfaith Organizing and Social Justice." Residential College, University of Michigan.
- 2020 Instructor of Record, "DRAG! Gender, Race, Performance, Resistance." Department of English, University of Michigan.
- 2020 Instructor of Record, "Faith, Politics, Sex: Community and Conflict in American Christianity." Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2019 Head Graduate Student Instructor for "Introduction to Anthropology" with Thomas Chivens. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2019 Head Graduate Student Instructor for "Introduction to Anthropology" with Thomas Chivens. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2017 Head Graduate Student Instructor for "Introduction to Anthropology" with Thomas Chivens. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2016 Graduate Student Instructor for "Childbirth and Culture" with Elisha Renne. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2016 Graduate Student Instructor for "Introduction to Anthropology" with Thomas Chivens. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2015 Graduate Student Instructor for "Childbirth and Culture" with Elisha Renne. Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

INVITED TALKS

- 2021 "All Are Welcome: Queer Inclusion and Mainline Protestantism in the United States." Creating Connections Consortium (C3) Summit, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT.
- 2020 "Have You Ever Prayed to Saint Cher? Reflections of a Queer Anthropologist of Religion." "Anthropological Methods" with Misty Bastian, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 "God Adores All of Me: Queerness and Reconciliation in U.S. Mainline Protestantism." UCR-QTSR IV. UCR Conference on Queer and Trans Studies in Religion. Riverside, CA.
- 2021 "Avoiding Parking Lot Conversations: Preaching on Controversial Topics in U.S. Mainline Protestantism." Truth and Responsibility. The 2021 Annual

- 2021 Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Baltimore, MD.
 “Politics is a Dirty Word! Welcoming Queer Congregants in U.S. Mainline Protestantism.” From Ethics To Politics. Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biennial Conference.
- 2021 “Contested Reinterpretations: Queer Inclusion, ‘Clobber Passages, and Mainline Protestantism in the United States.” Palimpsest in Practice: Reimagining Time, Narrative, Movement. 13th Annual Anthropology in Transit Graduate Student Conference, University of California, Irvine. Irvine, CA.
- 2021 “What Does It Mean To Welcome? Ritual, Liturgy, and Queer Inclusion in Mainline Protestantism.” UCR-QTSR III. UCR Conference on Queer and Trans Studies in Religion. Riverside, CA.
- 2020 “What is Religion? Anthropology, Faith, and a Complicated Legacy.” Interfaith Roundtable of Washtenaw County Transformative Conversations Series, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2020 “I do not think it means what you think it means: Rejecting Anti-LGBTQ+ Biblical Interpretations.” Washtenaw County Conference, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2020 “Forging New Paths: Cultivating LGBTQ+ Welcoming Spaces Beyond Reconciling in Christ Designations.” Washtenaw County Conference, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2019 “The Politics of Non-Confrontation: LGBTQ+ Inclusion and Sermonizing in Mainline Protestantism.” Diversifying the Social Scientific Study of Religion: The Next Seventy Years. Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. St. Louis, MO.
- 2019 “We Are Called to Build Heaven on Earth: Representing LGBTQ+ Inclusion in the United Church of Christ.” Voices of Representation. Andean Circle and Religion in the Early Modern Atlantic Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop Conference. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2018 “Silent Faith: Mainline Protestants, LGBTQ Inclusion, and Religious Devotion.” Cartographies of Silence: A Conference for Readers and Writers. 23rd Annual Comparative Literature Intra-Student Faculty Forum (CLIFF) Conference. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2018 “Partitioning Space, Politicizing Welcome: Presbyterian Debates Around LGBTQ Inclusion.” Resistance, Resilience, Adaptation. The 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA.
- 2018 “Leading By Example: Cultivating Inclusivity in Progressive Congregations.” Faith, TBLGQ Inclusion, and Human Rights: An Interfaith Conference. Inclusive Justice Michigan Fall Conference. Clawson, MI.
- 2017 “Meaning Well: Negotiating ‘Sincerity’ and LGBTQ Inclusion in Mainline Protestantism.” Anthropology Matters! The 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C.
- 2017 “Holy Journeys, Holy Referendums: ‘Evolving’ on LGBTQ Equity in American Open and Affirming Congregations.” Ways of Knowing 2017: Fifth Annual Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School. Cambridge, MA.

- 2016 “Mary Magdalene Meets the Supreme Court Plaintiffs: Christian Art and LGBTQ Inclusion in the United States.” Ways of Knowing 2016: Fifth Annual Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School. Cambridge, MA.

CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENT TALKS

- 2021 “Inclusive Graduate Teaching.” “First-Year Graduate Proseminar in Anthropology” with Laura MacLatchy, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “Liturgy and Welcome: Queer Inclusion in Protestantism.” “Language and Religion: From Word to World” with Yeon-Ju Bae, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “Dinner Table No-No’s: Interpreting *Religion* and *Politics* Anthropologically.” “Introduction to Anthropology” with Leigh Stuckey, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “Religious Refusals and Queer Healthcare.” “Medical Anthropology” with Holly Peters-Golden, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “Ethnographic Methods” with Leigh Stuckey, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “English Language Institute Winter Course” with Karishma Collette, University of Michigan.
- 2021 “Designing Writing-Intensive Seminars and Assignment Sequences.” I Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Teaching Online Discussion Sections: Strategies and Best Practices.” Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Matching Sneakers and Rock Star Wannabes: What is a ‘Cult?’” “Introduction to Anthropology” with Leigh Stuckey, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Inclusive Graduate Teaching.” “First-Year Graduate Proseminar in Anthropology” with Laura MacLatchy, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Wellness, Organization, and Graduate Education.” “First-Year Graduate Proseminar in Anthropology” with Laura MacLatchy, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Religion, Anthropology, and the Flying Spaghetti Monster.” “Introduction to Anthropology” with Thomas Chivens, University of Michigan.
- 2020 “Don’t Drink the Kool-Aid! Cult, Religion, Anthropology.” “Introduction to Anthropology” with Leigh Stuckey, University of Michigan.

SERVICE

- 2021 Internship Fellow, The Edward Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning, University of Michigan.
- 2021 Jury Member, Clifford Geertz Prize in the Anthropology of Religion. Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SAR).
- 2021 Editorial Assistant, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.
- 2020-2021 Graduate Student Instructor Consultant, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan.
- 2020-2021 Mentor, Anthropology Undergraduate-Graduate Mentoring Program (AUGMENT), University of Michigan.

- 2020 Research Associate II, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2020 Instructional Aid, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 2019 Center for Research on Learning and Teaching Race and Ethnicity Learning Community for Graduate Student Instructors, University of Michigan.
- 2019 Partnership with the Program on Intergroup Relations for Anthropology Course Development, University of Michigan.
- 2019-2020 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Anthropology Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, University of Michigan.
- 2019-2020 Graduate Student Coordinator, “Religion in the Premodern Atlantic Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop,” University of Michigan.
- 2016-2017 Graduate Student Coordinator, “Religion in the Premodern Atlantic Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop,” University of Michigan.
- 2015-2016 Co-chair, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Students Organization.

AWARDS

- 2020 “Rackham Graduate School Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award.” “Introduction to Anthropology” with Thomas Chivens.
- 2019 “Honored Instructor,” University of Michigan Housing. “Introduction to Anthropology” with Thomas Chivens.
- 2019 “Outstanding GSI Award” Department of Anthropology. “Introduction to Anthropology” with Thomas Chivens.
- 2016 “Outstanding GSI Award” Department of Anthropology. “Introduction to Anthropology” with Thomas Chivens.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Invited Talks to Congregations:

- 2022 “All Are Welcome In This Place: Community, Debate, and LGBTQ+ Inclusion.”
- 2021 “Me and My Holy Doubts.”
- 2021 “LGBTQIA Identity and Social Justice in Small Congregations.”
- 2021 “Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: Supporting and Affirming LGBTQ+ Christians in an Age of Division.”
- 2021 “Overturning the Tables: Resistance, Empire, and the Church.”
- 2021 “Race and Sexuality in Christian Art.”
- 2020 “Forging a New Path: Cultivating Queer-Welcoming Spaces.”
- 2018 “To Have Life Abundant: Accomplishing LGBTQ Inclusion in the Church.”
- 2018 “What is an LGBT-Inclusive Christian?”
- 2017 “Go and Do Likewise: Putting LGBT+ Inclusion into Practice.”

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SAR)

Phi Beta Kappa

Pi Gamma Mu