

Curriculum Vitae

Robert F. Shedinger, Ph.D
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Education

Ph.D. (2000) Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Area of Study: Religious Studies

Dissertation: *Tatian and the Jewish Scriptures: A Textual and Philological Analysis of the Old Testament Citations in Tatian's Diatessaron* (accepted with distinction)

M.A. (1997) Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

M.Div.(1994) Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Philadelphia, PA

B.S. (1982) Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Area of Study: Civil Engineering Technology
Graduated *Magna Cum Laude*

Professional Experience

2006- Luther College, Decorah, IA
Associate Professor of Religion

2000-2006 Luther College, Decorah, IA
Assistant Professor of Religion

Courses taught: The Bible and Imperial Politics
Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
The Dead Sea Scrolls
Introduction to Islamic Thought
Contemporary Islamic Movements
Biodiversity (co-taught)
Making Decisions for U.S. Schools (co-taught)
Constructing Islam: The Ethics of Representation in
Post-9/11 America (co-taught)

Professional Service: Chair of the Department of Religion (2008-)
Institutional Assessment Committee (2008-)
Faculty Interests Committee (2003-06)
Healthcare Council (2003-06)
Faculty advisor to Muslim Student Assoc.
Regular chapel speaker

1996-2000 **Temple University**, Philadelphia, PA
Graduate Teaching Assistant

Courses taught: Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
Introduction to the New Testament
Introduction to Western Religions
Introduction to Academic Discourse
College Composition: Writing on Race and Racism
Intellectual Heritage I

Publications

Books and Monographs

Robert F. Shedinger, *Was Jesus a Muslim? Questioning Categories in the Study of Religion*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.

Robert F. Shedinger. *Tatian and the Jewish Scriptures: A Textual and Philological Analysis of the Old Testament Citations in Tatian's Diatessaron*. Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium 591, subs. 109. Leuven: Peeters, 2001.

Robert F. Shedinger and Deborah J. Spink, eds. *Who Killed Goliath? Reading the Bible with Heart and Mind*. Valley Forge: Judson, 2001.

Articles and Book Chapters

Robert F. Shedinger, "Roger Williams Meets Sayyid Qutb: When the Quest for Religious Liberty becomes a Source for Global Injustice" *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 32 (2005), 149-165.

_____ "Putting it all Together: New Historicism and Teaching the Hebrew Bible at a Church-related College," *SBL Forum* (Feb. 2005), (online journal) [co-authored with Kristin A. Swanson].

_____ "Must the Greek Text Always be Preferred? Versional and Patristic Witnesses to the Text of Matthew 4:16," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 123 (2004), 447-464.

_____ “The Gospels and the Text of the Hebrew Bible: Micah 5:1 (Matt. 2:6) in Tatian’s Diatessaron,” in C. A. Evans, ed. *From Prophecy to Testament: The Function of the Old Testament in the New*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2004), 114-125.

_____ “Kuhnian Paradigms and Biblical Scholarship: Is Biblical Studies a Science?” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 119 (2000), 453-471.

_____ “A Note on the Variant Form of the Shema in the Writings of Justin Martyr,” *Harvard Theological Review* 93 (2000), 161-163.

_____ “Did Tatian Use the Old Testament Peshitta? A Response to Jan Joosten,” *Novum Testamentum* 41 (1999), 265-279.

_____ “A Further Consideration of the Textual Nature of Shem-Tob’s Hebrew Matthew,” *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 61 (1999), 686-694.

_____ “The Textual Relationship between P⁴⁵ and Shem-Tob’s Hebrew Matthew,” *New Testament Studies* 43 (1997), 58-71.

Book Reviews

Review of Irene Oh, *The Rights of God: Islam, Human Rights, and Comparative Ethics* (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2007) for *Journal of Church and State* 50 (2008).

Review of P.J. Williams, *Early Syriac Translation Technique and the Textual Criticism of the Greek Gospels* (Piscataway:Gorgias Press, 2004) for *Text Criticism* 9-10 (2004-05).

Review of David L. Washburn, *A Catalogue of Biblical Passages in the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Atlanta: SBL, 2002) for *Text Criticism* 8 (2003).

Review of Nicholas Perrin, *Thomas and Tatian: the Relationship between the Gospel of Thomas and the Diatessaron* (Atlanta: SBL, 2002) for *Journal of Biblical Literature* 122 (2003).

Review of W. M. Thackston, *Introduction to Syriac* (Bethesda: IBEX, 1999) for *Text Criticism* 7 (2002).

Review of M. P. Weitzman, *The Syriac Version of the Old Testament* (UCOP 56; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999) for *Review of Biblical Literature* (Nov. 2000).

Presentations

“Resisting Religionization: The Academic Study of Religion and Islamic Revivalism in America” at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Atlanta, GA.

Invited by the Islamic Foundation of Toronto to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim?” in Toronto, Canada (June 18-19, 2010).

Invited by the Islamic Society of East Bay and the Islamic Society of Sacramento to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim?” in Fremont and Sacramento, CA (March 20, 2010).

Invited by the Muslim Community Association of South Bay to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim?” In San Jose, CA (March 19, 2010).

Invited by the Muslim Student Association of San Jose State University to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim?” in San Jose, CA (March 18, 2010).

Invited by the Islamic Association of Raleigh to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim?” in Raleigh, NC (Jan. 23, 2010).

Invited by the Islamic Society of Milwaukee to speak on “Was Jesus a Muslim? A Christian Perspective” in Milwaukee, WI (Nov. 14, 2009).

Invited by the Islamic Organization of North America to speak on “Christian and Muslim Views of Social Justice” in Detroit, MI (Oct. 24, 2009).

“Interreligious or Metareligious: The “Problem” of Religion in Christian-Muslim Dialogue” at the Iowa Dialogue Conference held at the University of Northern Iowa (Oct. 22, 2009).

“Interreligious or Metareligious? Reframing Christian-Muslim Dialogue in a World of Global Injustice” at the 2008 Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the AAR/SBL in St. Paul, MN.

“Wall of Separation or Barrier to Justice? Valuing an Islamic Approach to Church-State Separation” at the 2007 Annual meeting of the AAR/SBL in San Diego, CA.

“Reading the Text, not the Textbook: Teaching the Hebrew Bible with a New Historicist Framework” at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL in Philadelphia, PA (with Kristin A. Swanson).

“Silencing the Syriac Tradition: Evidence and Rhetoric in the *Early Versions* of Bruce Metzger and Arthur Vööbus” at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL in Philadelphia, PA.

“Islam, Development, and the Social Construction of Religion” at the 6th Annual Meeting of the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy, April 22-23, 2005, Washington, DC.

“Putting it all Together: New Historicism and Teaching the Hebrew Bible at a Church-Related College” at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL in San Antonio, TX, (with Kristin Swanson).

“Teaching about Islam, Valuing the Islamic Perspective: A Challenge to the Concept of Religious Freedom” at the conference entitled “Diversity and Learning: Democracy’s Compelling Interest” sponsored by *The American Association of Colleges and Universities*, Oct. 21-23, 2004, Nashville, TN.

“America Through the Eyes of Islam” at the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Forum, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN.

“Are we at War with Islam? Traditional Islamic Resistance to the American Democratic Ideal.” Luther College Paideia Texts and Lecture Series, October 14, 2003.

“Disturbing the Canon: The Use of New Historicism in Teaching the Bible at a Church-related College” at the 2003 Upper-Midwest Meeting of the AAR/SBL, St. Paul, MN (with Kristin Swanson).

“Who were the Israelites? The Academic Study of the Bible and the Search for Peace in Contemporary Palestine” at the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Forum, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN (with Kristin Swanson).

“Jewish Exegesis and the Text of Matthean Scriptural Citations: The Case of Matt. 4:16,” 2002 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL, Toronto, Canada.

“Defending the Ummah: The Historical Roots of Islamic Fundamentalism” at the conference “Terrorism: Psychoanalytic and Religious Perspectives” sponsored by the Minneapolis Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, Jan. 4-5, 2002.

“Thomas Kuhn, Robert Funk, and the Historical Jesus: Scientific Revolution or Conservative Reaction?” 2001 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL, Denver, CO.

“Scripture, Community, and Identity: The Human Side of Divine Revelation.” Luther College Paideia Texts and Lecture Series, October 2, 2001.

“The Gospels and the Text of the Hebrew Bible: Micah 5:1(Matt. 2:6) in Tatian’s Diatessaron,” 2000 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL, Nashville, TN.

“The Purpose of the Parables: The Masoretic Form of Matt. 13:14-15 (Is. 6: 9-10) in Tatian, Ephrem, and Irenaeus,” 1999 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the AAR/SBL, Arlington, VA.

“Did Tatian Use the Old Testament Peshitta?: A Textual and Philological Analysis of The Old Testament Quotations in Tatian’s Diatessaron,” 1998 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the AAR/SBL, New Brunswick, NJ.

“The Nicolaitans and the Revelation Community: Early Jewish/Christian Conflict in Asia Minor,” 1997 Annual Meeting of the AAR/SBL, San Francisco, CA.

Other Professional Activity

Elected to Editorial Board of the academic journal *Perspectives in Religious Studies* published by the National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion (2005-09).

Participated in travel course to Turkey during June 2004 sponsored by The Council on Intercultural Educational Exchange.

Made numerous community presentations about Islam following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Assisted Dr. Robert B. Wright with production of the CD-ROM *The Psalms of Solomon: Color Images of Greek and Syriac Manuscripts* (Temple University, 2000).

Honors and Awards

Received a 2004 Luther College Faculty Development grant (\$2000) for study in Turkey.

Received a 2004 Ylvisaker Faculty Development award (\$2000) for study in Turkey.

Received a 2003 Lilly Vocations reading Grant (\$500) to read the Harvard series on World Religions and Ecology.

Granted a four-year Teaching Assistantship at Temple University, 1996-2000. Full teaching responsibilities for eight semesters.

Selected for inclusion in the Millennium Edition of Marquis "Who's Who in America?"

Received the American Bible Society Award for excellence in Biblical Studies during my seminary education (1994).

Languages

Native: English

Reading Knowledge: German, French, Biblical and Patristic Greek,
Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac

Working Knowledge: Arabic

Affiliations

Society of Biblical Literature

American Academy of Religion

