

## **CHRISTINE HOFF KRAEMER**

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS HISTORY, CHERRY HILL SEMINARY  
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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. 2008, Boston University, Religious & Theological Studies

“The Erotic Fringe: Sexual Minorities and Religion in Contemporary American Literature and Film”

B.A. 2000, University of Texas at Austin, English / Plan II (liberal arts honors)

### **HONORS**

Media, Religion, and Culture Fellowship, School of Journalism and Mass Communication,  
University of Colorado at Boulder, 2006-2007

Graduate Writing Fellowship, Boston University, 2006

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2002-2006

Special Honors in English from the University of Texas at Austin, 2000

High honors from the University of Texas at Austin, 2000

Phi Beta Kappa, 1998

Sigma Tau Delta, 1998

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Areas of Specialization: Contemporary Pagan Studies, Religion & Literature, Religion & Popular Culture, Graphic Novels, Body Theology, Religion & Sexuality since 1800 (US & UK)

Areas of Competence: Gender & Queer Studies, First-year Writing, The Bible, World Religions & Literature, American Literature & Religious History

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### Instructor, Graduate

C5141 – Introduction to Pagan Theology, Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Spring 2010, 2011; Fall 2012)

T5940 – Research & Writing for Pagan Scholarship, Cherry Hill Seminary [online, with Grant Potts] (Spring 2011)

N6650 – Paganism and the Body, Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Fall 2010)

C5121 – Contemporary Global Paganisms, Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Fall 2009, 2010)

#### Instructor, Undergraduate

WR 100-D2 – Writing Seminar: Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in Literature, Boston University (Fall 2006)

#### Teaching Fellow

RN 101 -- The Bible with Prof. Peter Hawkins, Boston University (Fall 2005)

*Selected presentations:* “Women in Luke,” “Jesus in Film,” “The Gospels of John and Thomas”

- RN 103 -- World Religions: East with Prof. Daniel Lusthaus, Boston University (Spring 2005)  
*Selected presentations:* "Definitions of Religion," "A Brief History of Indian Religion," "Tat Tvam Asi"
- RN 103 -- World Religions: East with Prof. M. David Eckel, Boston University (Fall 2004)  
*Selected presentations:* "Translation," "Buddhist Parables"
- RN 106 -- Death & Immortality with Prof. Stephen Prothero, Boston University (Spring 2004)  
*Selected presentations:* "Flatliners," "Death and Afterlife in Poetry," "The American Way of Death in BTVS's 'The Body'"
- RN 104 -- World Religions: West with Prof. Merlin Swartz, Boston University (Fall 2003)  
*Selected presentations:* "Jewish Festivals," "Jewish Rites of Passage"

#### Invited Guest Lectures

- "Contemporary Paganism and *Promethea*" for EXP-0004-F: Religion and the Graphic Novel, taught by Instructor A. Davis Lewis at Tufts University Experimental College, Somerville, MA (22 Nov 2010)
- "Recent Trends in Literary Studies" for Junior Seminar in English, taught by Assistant Professor Emily Merriman at San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA (13 Sept 2007)
- "History and Rhetoric of Contemporary Paganism" for Rhetoric B: The Rhetoric of Religion, taught by instructor Emily Merriman at Babson College, Wellesley, MA (12 Feb 2007)
- "History of the Goddess Movement" for WR 100-BA: Women and Religion, taught by instructor Kate Holbrook at Boston University, MA (16 Nov 2005)

#### Community Classes and Presentations

- "Teaching Pagan Traditions" (pedagogy), Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Spring 2013)
- "Pagan Ancestors and Elders: Victor and Cora Anderson," Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Summer 2012)
- "Preventing Witch Wars: Managing Overlapping Roles in Pagan Communities," Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Spring 2012)
- "Transforming Our World: Cherry Hill Seminary Leadership Institute," Cherry Hill Seminary conference, Austin, TX (23-24 Mar 2012) [with Holli Emore]
- "Preventing Witch Wars: Managing Overlapping Roles in Pagan Communities," Changing Times, Changing Worlds Conference, Northampton, MA (12 Nov 2010); PantheaCon, San Jose, CA (20 Feb 2012)
- "Pagan Ancestors and Elders: Doreen Valiente," Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Spring 2011)
- "Graceful Transitions: Dual and Multiple Roles in Pagan Community," Cherry Hill Seminary conference, Middlefield, MA (24-27 Mar 2010)
- "Writing for Pagan Scholarship," Cherry Hill Seminary [online] (Summer 2009)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

#### Peer-reviewed

- Eros and Touch from a Pagan Perspective: Divided for Love's Sake*. New York: Routledge [forthcoming].
- "Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Paganism." *Religion Compass* 6 (2012): 390-401.

- “The Undying Fire: Divine Love and the Erotic in *Promethea*.” *Lost Loves: Sexual Ideology in the Works of Alan Moore*. Eds. Todd Comer and Joseph Sommers. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2012. 150-162.
- “Contemporary Paganism, Utopian Reading Communities, and Sacred Nonmonogamy: The Religious Impact of Heinlein's and Starhawk's Fiction.” *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies*, 13:1 (2011): 52-76.
- “Film as Religion.” *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Film*. Ed. Eric Mazur. Westport, CT: ABC-CLIO, 2011. 187-92.
- “PantheaCon 2011 Report.” *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies* 12:2 (2010): 276-80.
- Graven Images: Religion in Comics and Graphic Novels*. Eds. A. David Lewis and Christine Hoff Kraemer. New York: Continuum, 2010.
- “‘The Magic Circus of the Mind’: Alan Moore’s *Promethea* and the Transformation of Consciousness through Comics” with J. Lawton Winslade. *Graven Images: Religion in Comics and Graphic Novels*. Eds. A. David Lewis and Christine Hoff Kraemer. New York: Continuum, 2010. 274-91.
- “Gender Essentialism in Matriarchalist Utopian Fantasies: Are popular novels vehicles of sacred stories, or purely propaganda?” *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies* 11:2 (2009): 240-59.
- “Culture jamming,” “Kushner, Tony,” and “New Age Movement.” *Encyclopedia of the Culture Wars*. Ed. Roger Chapman. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2009.
- Review of *Henry Miller and Religion*, by Thomas Nesbit. *Religious Studies Review* 34:4 (Dec 2008): 284.
- Review of *Gospel of the Living Dead: George Romero's Visions of Hell on Earth*, by Kim Paffenroth. *Religious Studies Review* 34:4 (Dec 2008): 284.
- Review of *Reframing Theology and Film: New Focus for an Emerging Discipline*, edited by Robert K. Johnston. *Religious Studies Review* 34:4 (Dec 2008): 284.
- Review of *Mel Gibson's Bible: Religion, Popular Culture, and The Passion of the Christ*, edited by Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt. *Religious Studies Review* 32:4 (Oct 2006): 252.
- Review of *Mel Gibson's Passion: The Film, the Controversy, and the Implications*, edited by Zev Garber. *Religious Studies Review* 32:4 (Oct 2006): 251-2.
- Review of *Cinema and Sentiment: Film's Challenge to Theology*, by Clive Marsh. *Religious Studies Review* 32:3 (July 2006): 187.
- Review of *Alien Sex: The Body and Desire in Theology and Cinema*, by Gerard Loughlin. *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 9 (Spring 2005). <<http://www.usask.ca/relst/jrpc/br9-aliensex.html>>.
- “From Theological to Cinematic Criticism: Extricating the Study of Religion and Film from Theology.” *Religious Studies Review* 30:4 (October 2004): 243-50.
- “Wrestling with Flesh, Wrestling with Spirit: The Painful Consequences of Dualism in *The Last Temptation of Christ*.” *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 8 (Fall 2004). <<http://www.usask.ca/relst/jrpc/art8-lasttemptation.html>>.
- “Between the Worlds: Liminality and Self-Sacrifice in *Princess Mononoke*.” *The Journal of Religion and Film* 8:1 (April 2004). <<http://avalon.unomaha.edu/jrf/Vol8No1/BetweenWorlds.htm>>.
- “The Brake of Time: Corso's Bomb as Postmodern God(dess).” *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 44:2 (Summer 2002): 211-28. Rpt. in *The Beat Generation: A Gale Critical Companion*. Ed. Lynn M. Zott. Vol. 2. Detroit: Gale, 2003: 203-213.

## General Audience

*Sermons from the Mound: Pagan Theology and Scholarship*, with Yvonne Aburrow. Patheos.com, 2012-present. <<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/sermonsfromthemound/>>.

“Paganism” (editor/contributor). *On Common Ground: World Religions in America*. Cambridge, MA: The Pluralism Project at Harvard University, 2013. <<http://pluralism.org/religion/paganism>>.

*Seeking the Mystery: An Introduction to Pagan Theologies*. Englewood, CO: Patheos Press, 2012.

“The Teacher Will Appear,” with Sierra Black. *Witches and Pagans* #25 (Sept 2012): 40-44.

“The Greatest Super-Story Ever Told: A Review of *Mutants and Mystics* (by Jeffrey Kripal).” *Patheos.com* 1 Nov 2011. <<http://www.patheos.com/Resources/Additional-Resources/Greatest-Super-Story-Ever-Told-Christine-Hoff-Kraemer-11-01-2011.html>>.

“Cultural Borrowing/Cultural Appropriation: A Relationship Model for Respectful Borrowing.” *Thorn Magazine* 2 (Mar 2009): 36-39.

Review of *Talking about the Elephant*, edited by Lupa. *Thorn Magazine* 2 (Mar 2009): 50-51.

“‘Story’ Is Only Part of ‘History’: Re-evaluating the Work of Marija Gimbutas.” *Thorn Magazine* 1 (Dec 2008): 48-52.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“Perceptions of Scholarship in Contemporary Paganism.” Contemporary Pagan Studies Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 19-22 Nov 2011.

“Contemporary Paganism, Utopian Reading Communities, and Sacred Nonmonogamy: The Religious Impact of Heinlein and Starhawk’s Fiction.” Pagan Studies Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 3-7 Nov 2009.

“*Angels in America*’s ‘Sentimental’ Ending: Can activist art still be great art?” AAR: Religion, Literature, and the Arts. Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, Irving, TX, 7-8 Mar 2009.

“Alan Moore’s *Promethea*: Comics as Neo-Pagan Primer and Missionary Tool.” God and the Graphic Novel. Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Baltimore, MD, 1-3 Mar 2007.

“The Spectator, Gender Performance, and Gnosis in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*.” Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 18-21 Nov 2006.

“Beyond the Fringe: Alternative Religion and Sexuality in American Media since 1960, with introduction to Craig Thompson’s *Blankets*.” Media, Religion, and Culture Fellows Seminar. Sponsored by the University of Colorado at Boulder’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 16 Nov 2006.

“Alan Moore’s *Promethea*: Comics as Neo-Pagan Primer and Missionary Tool.” Charming and Crafty: Witchcraft and Paganism in Contemporary Media, Harvard University, Cambridge, 18-21 May 2006.

“From Het Polarity to Queer Eros: The Development of Ritual Sex in the Twentieth-century Novel.” Panel: Erotic ritual in literature and film/Literature and film as erotic ritual. God & Sexuality Conference on Religion and Issues of Sexuality and Gender, New York City, 9-10 Apr 2006.

“Gender Essentialism in Matriarchalist Utopian Fantasies: Are popular novels vehicles of sacred stories, or only sacred propaganda?” New Religious Movements Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, 19-22 Nov 2005.

“Most Her Own, Yet Most Taken Away: Sexuality and Desire in Phoebe Gloeckner’s *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*.” Comic Books and Graphic Novels: Feminist Approaches. Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Coeur D’Alene, 20-22 Oct 2005.

“Self and (M)other: Apocalypse as Return to the Womb in *Neon Genesis Evangelion*.” Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, 22 Nov 2004.

“Wrestling with Flesh, Wrestling with Spirit: The Painful Consequences of Dualism in *The Last Temptation of Christ*.” From Jesus to Donnie Darko: Six Critical Inquiries of Religion and Cinema. Luce Program Colloquium on Religion and Film. Boston University, 15 Nov 2003.

“Between the Worlds: Liminality and Self-Sacrifice in *Princess Mononoke*.” Celluloid Saints. Boston Faith & Film Festival, Brattle Theatre/Harvard Divinity School, Boston, 6 Feb 2003.

## **ACADEMIC EVENTS AND SERVICE**

Facilitator for “Envisioning Alternative Academic Careers,” a workshop by Amy Hale. Sponsored by the American Academy of Religion at their Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, 15 Nov 2012.

Coordinator and Advisor for “Envisioning Alternative Academic Careers,” a workshop by Amy Hale. Sponsored by the New England-Maritimes region of the American Academy of Religion and the Boston University Department of Religious and Theological Studies. Boston University, 7 & 8 Oct 2012.

Department Chair for Cherry Hill Seminary, providing graduate-level distance education in professional Pagan ministry. Assisted in development of Master’s program, designed curricula, created teaching manual, hired faculty, served on student admissions committee (2010-2012).

Peer Reviewer for Palgrave MacMillan (2013), *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* (2005, 2009), and *Practical Matters: A Transdisciplinary Multimedia Journal of Religious Practices and Practical Theology* (2008).

Conference Co-Organizer for *Graven Images: Religion in Comics and Graphic Novels*. Sponsored by the Luce Program in Scripture and Literary Arts. Boston University, 12-14 Apr 2008.

Discussion Moderator for the American Academy of Religion’s Arts Series. Film: *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 20 Nov 2006.

Research Assistant for the Luce Program in Scripture and Literary Arts at Boston University. Organized graduate student symposia on professional topics, including conference presentations, academic job searches, and entering life as a new faculty member. (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)

Panel Moderator for the God & Sexuality Conference on Religion and Issues of Gender and Sexuality in New York City, 9-10 Apr 2006. Organized and presented as part of a panel entitled “Erotic ritual in literature and film/Literature and film as erotic ritual.”

Festival Co-Organizer for the Fourth Annual Boston Faith & Film Festival, *Images of Evil*. Brattle Theatre/Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, 10-11 Feb 2006. Assisted Prof. Bryan Stone and committee with film selection, panelist selection, publicity, panel moderation, and paper selection for the Scholar’s Symposium.

Colloquium Organizer for the first Luce Program Colloquium on Religion and Film, entitled *From Jesus to Donnie Darko: Six Critical Inquiries of Religion and Cinema*. The colloquium showcased the work of Boston University Religion and Literature graduate students and was sponsored by the Luce Program in Scripture and Literary Arts at Boston University. (Fall 2003)

## **SELECTED ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

Managing Editor for the Pagan Channel at Patheos.com. Edited columns, recruited writers, acted as content specialist, managed social media communities, trained bloggers in website technology and marketing techniques. (2012-present)

Consultant for UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee). Managed revision of employee handbook, including interviewing management and staff, drafting policies, and facilitating review process. Conducted midterm evaluation of Strategic Plan, including interviewing management and staff, reviewing documents, analyzing data, and making recommendations. Facilitated Board of Trustees Self-Assessment and prepared summary report with recommendations. (2012-present)

Editor/Proofreader Freelance editing, copyediting, proofreading, and formatting of dissertations and book manuscripts for both academic and general audiences. (2008-present)

Temporary Executive Assistant/Departmental Coordinator for UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee). Managed executive calendars, facilitating internal and external events, prepared minutes and other documents, communicated with Board of Trustees and constituents, managed constituent data, processed departmental expenses, and acknowledged donations. (2011-2012)

Office Administrator for Trinity United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas. Performed all administrative functions for a church with a membership of approximately 400, including mailings, maintaining databases, basic accounting, and preparing worship materials. (2001-2002; 2007-2009)

Copyeditor Copyedited academic and general audience materials on Greek language usage in the New Testament for the New Testament Language Project in Cambridge, MA. Freelance. Supervisor: Richard Harley. (2007-2009)

Interim Youth Director Provided religious education for high school youth at Trinity United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas. Supervisor: Sid Hall. (Aug-Oct 2008)

World Religions Instructor Co-taught a World Religions curriculum to high school students as part of the Genesis Program at Brandeis University. Supervisor: Bradley Solmsen. (July 2007)

Research Assistant for Prof. Gauvin Bailey, Department of Religious and Theological Studies, Boston University. Scanned slides, made PDFs of course materials, and updated the course websites for RN 204: Western Art and Its Relationship with Christianity and RN 504: Impact of Sacred European Art in a Global Context. (Spring 2006)

Research Assistant for Prof. Peter Hawkins, Department of Religious and Theological Studies, Boston University. Performed fact-checking on manuscripts in the publication process. (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)

Writer for Kamico Instructional Media in Austin, Texas. Wrote stories and essays with accompanying questions for first- and second-grade level TAAS (standardized test) practice booklets. Supervisor: Kathy Miller. (1996-1997)