

Curriculum Vitae
Gary Michael Laderman
Goodrich C. White Professor
American Religious History and Cultures

Emory University
Department of Religion
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Education

- Ph.D. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1994 (History of Religions, Religions in America, Religion and Culture, American Intellectual and Cultural History)
Dissertation: *Managing and Imagining the Dead: A Cultural History of Death in Nineteenth-Century America*
Education Abroad Program, Paris, France (Center for Critical Studies and the Sorbonne), 1989-90
- M.A. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1988 (History of Religions)
- B.A. California State University, Northridge, 1986 (Psychology)

Professional and Research Positions

- 1994-present Department of Religion, Emory University
- 2013-present Founder and Editor, *Sacred Matters: Religious Currents in Culture*
- 2008-2019 Chair, Department of Religion
- 2008-2010 Director, Graduate Division of Religion
- 2006-2012 Co-Founder and Director, *Religion Dispatches*
- 2002-2005 Director, Graduate Division of Religion
- 1991-94 Managing Editor, *Camera Obscura: A Journal of Feminism and Film Theory*
- 1992-94 Instructor, Interdisciplinary Writing Program, UCSB
- 1990-91 Assistant Coordinator and Instructional Consultant, Campus-Wide Teaching Assistant Development Program, Office of Instructional Consultation, UCSB
- 1988 Research Assistant, R. Majercik and W. Richard Comstock, UCSB

Publications

Authored Books

Sacred Drugs: How Psychoactive Substances Mix with Religious Life, Routledge, 2025

Don't Think About Death: A Memoir on Mortality, Deeds, 2020

American Civil Religion, ebook, Fortress Press, 2012

Sacred Matters: Celebrity Worship, Sexual Ecstasies, the Living Dead, and Other Signs of Religious Life in the US, The New Press, 2009

Rest in Peace: A Cultural History of Death and the Funeral Home in Twentieth-Century America, Oxford University Press, 2003

The Sacred Remains: American Attitudes Toward Death, 1799-1883, Yale University Press, 1996

Edited Books and Encyclopedias

Co-Editor, *Science, Religion, Societies: Histories, Cultures, Controversies* (Foreword by His Holiness the Dalai Lama) with Arri Eisen, Biology, Emory University, 2 vols. ME Sharpe, Fall 2006

Co-Editor, *Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity, and Popular Expression*, revised and expanded ed., 4 vols., co-edited with Luis Leon (ABC-Clio, 2003)

Co-Editor, *Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity and Popular Expressions*, with Luis Leon, 3 vols. ABC-Clio, 2003 (Awarded Best Reference Source from *Library Journal* in 2003)

Editor, *Religions of Atlanta: Religious Diversity in the Centennial Olympic City*, Foreword by Jimmy Carter, Scholars Press, 1996

Refereed Articles and Chapters

"Pharmaceuticals," *The Routledge Handbook of Religion and American Culture*, ed. Chad E. Seales, 2025

"The Disney Way of Death" (reprint), *Religion and Culture: Contemporary Practices and Perspectives*, Ed. Richard D. Hecht and Vincent F. Biondo, eds. Fortress Press, 2012

"Spiritual Well-Being and Health-Related Quality of Life Among African-American Women with HIV/AIDS," co-author with Dalmida, Safiya George; Holstad, Marcia McDonnell; and Diiorio, Colleen, in *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, forthcoming 2010

"Spiritual Well-Being, Depressive Symptoms, and Immune Status Among Women Living with HIV/AIDS," co-author with Dalmida, Safiya George; Holstad, Marcia McDonnell; and Diiorio, Colleen, in *Women and Health*, 49:2, July, 2009: 119-143

"Violence and Religious Life: Politics, Culture, and the Sacred in the US," *Journal of the Center for American Studies*, Nanzan University, 29, 2007

"The Cult of Doctors: Harvey William Cushing and the Religious Culture of Modern Medicine," *Journal of Religion and Health*, Winter 2006

"Contesting Religions and Religions Contested: The Study of Religion in a Global Context," co-authored with Sheila Davaney, special issue of *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, December 2005, 979-985

"Bridging the 'Two Cultures': A Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Approach to Teaching and Learning Science in Societal Context," co-authored with Arri Eisen, *The Journal of College Science Teaching*, September 2005, 26-30

"Rites and Remembrance: Living with the Dead of September 11," *Roads to Reconciliation: Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to Conflict after 9/11*, ed. Amy Benson Brown and Karen Poremski, M.

- E. Sharpe, 2004, 17-34
- "Shamanism in the New Age," *The Religions of the United States in Practice*, ed. Colleen McDannell, Princeton University Press, 2001, 268-283
- "The Disney Way of Death," *The Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, March, 2000, 27-46
- "The Body Politic and the Politics of Two Bodies: Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln in Death," *Prospects: An Annual Journal of American Cultural Studies*, Fall 1998, 161-206
- "Locating the Dead: A Cultural History of Death in the Antebellum, Anglo-Protestant Communities of the Northeast," *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 63: 1, Spring 1995, 27-52
- "Purgatory and the Powerful Dead: A Case Study of Native American Repatriation," co-authored with Johnny P. Flynn, *Religion and American Culture*, 4, 1, Winter 1994, 52-70

Encyclopedia entries and other essays

- "The Dead Are With Us," *Lantern Floating Hawaii: 2018*. Tokyo: Center for Information on Religion.
- "Death in Early America," in Stacey C. Hollander's *Securing the Shadow: Posthumous Portraiture in America*, New York, American Folk Art Museum Press, 2017
- "Global Religious Realities in the United States," *The Cambridge History of Religions in America*, vol. III, ed Stephen J. Stein, Cambridge UP, 2012
- "LSD," *Frequencies: A Collaborative Genealogy of Spirituality*, online publication, 2011 (<http://freq.uenci.es/2011/11/01/lsd/>)
- "Death," *Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity and Popular Expressions*, ed. Gary Laderman and Luis Leon, ABC-CLIO, 2003
- "Evil in Twentieth-Century America," *Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity and Popular Expressions*, ed. Gary Laderman and Luis Leon, ABC-CLIO, 2003
- "Las Vegas," *Religion and American Cultures: An Encyclopedia of Traditions, Diversity and Popular Expressions*, ed. Gary Laderman and Luis Leon, ABC-CLIO, 2003
- "George Washington," *Encyclopedia of Death and Dying*, ed. Robert Kastenbaum, Macmillan, 2003
- "John Brown," *Encyclopedia of Death and Dying*, ed. Robert Kastenbaum, Macmillan, 2003
- "Funeral Industry," *Encyclopedia of Death and Dying*, ed. Robert Kastenbaum, Macmillan, 2003
- "9/11 On Our Minds," *Religion in the News*, 5,3, Fall 2002: 2-4
- "Shrines and Sacred Places," *Encyclopedia of New England Culture*, Burt Feintuch and David H. Watters, Editors, Yale University Press, 2000
- "Death's Head," *The Oxford Companion to the Body*, Colin Blakemore, Editor-in-Chief, Oxford University Press, 2001
- "Southern Religion," *Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Religion*, Wade Clark Roof, Editor in Chief, Macmillan, 2000

Book Reviews

- Science, Race, and Religion in the American South: John Bachman and the Charleston Circle of Naturalists, 1815-1895* (University of North Carolina Press, 2000), Lester D. Stephens. *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, Summer 2001, 307-308
- The American Way of Death Revisited* (Knopf, 1998), Jessica Mitford. *Journal of American Academy of Religion*, September, 1999, 689-692
- Into the Arms of Others: A Cultural History of the Right-to-Die in America* (University of North Carolina Press, 1999), Peter Filene. *Reviews in American History*, 1999
- Being Religious, American Style: A History of Popular Religiosity in the US* (Greenwood, 1994), Charles Lippy. *American Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Fall, 1998, 180-181

Awards and Grants

- 2011 Ford Foundation, Religion and Reproductive Health and Rights Grant for Religion Dispatches, \$145,000
- 2011 Social Scientific Research Council Collaborative Grant, Religion Dispatches and the American Academy of Religion, Islamic Traditions and Muslim Societies in World Contexts, \$100,000
- 2011 The Arcus Foundation, Grant for Religion, Sexuality and LGBT Concerns, Religion Dispatches, \$100,000
- 2009 Winship Distinguished Professor Research Scholar, three-year term, Emory University
- 2009 Ford Foundation Re-grant, Religion Dispatches: An Online Magazine, \$870,100
- 2009 Crystal Apple Award, Excellence in Graduate Education/Instruction, Residence Hall Association, Emory University
- 2008 Arcus Foundation Grant, Religion Dispatches: An Online Magazine, \$50,000
- 2007 Fulbright Distinguished Lecturer, American Studies Summer Seminar, Nanzan University, Japan, \$3,000
- 2006 Ford Foundation Grant, Religion Dispatches: An Online Magazine, with Sheila Davaney, Director, Iliff School of Theology, \$750,000
- 2006 Visiting Fellow, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, University of Victoria, Fall
- 2006 Ford Foundation Planning Grant, Progressive Think Tank Project on Religion and Public Issues (with Sheila Davaney; \$200,000)
- 2004 Religious Practices and Practical Theology Course Development Grant (\$2,500)
- 2003 Ford Foundation, “Contesting Religion and Religions Contested” Conference (Co-Director with Sheila Davaney; \$361,000)
- 2002 Ford Foundation, Support for international planning meeting, “Contesting Religion and Religions Contested” (with Sheila Davaney, \$20,000)
- 2002 The Center for Theology and Natural Sciences Fellowship (with Arri Eisen, Biology Department, \$70,000)
- 2002 On-Line Summer Workshop, Emory University (\$2,500)
- 2002 ICIS Curriculum Development Award, “Religion and Film” (with Paul Courtright, \$2,000)
- 2001 Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Grant (Teaching

- Mentor Program, Graduate Division of Religion, Fall; \$50,000)
- 2000 University Research Committee, Emory University (\$4,000)
- 2000 The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences, Science and Religion Course Award (with P. V. Rao, Physics Department; \$10,000)
- 1999 Emory University (Provost's Office, Graduate School, Hightower Funds, Candler School of Theology, African American Studies, American Studies, Graduate Division of Religion, Department of Religion; support for *Journal of Southern Religion* conference, "Religion in the American South: Towards a Renewed Scholarship," Fall 1999)
- 1999 Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Grant (*Journal of Southern Religion* conference, "Religion in the American South: Towards a Renewed Scholarship," Fall 1999; \$11,000)
- 1999 American Academy of Religion Collaborative Grant (*Journal of Southern Religion* conference, "Religion in the American South: Towards a Renewed Scholarship," Fall 1999)
- 1998 Junior Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (\$20,000)
- 1998 Summer Stipend, Louisville Institute (\$8,000)
- 1998 Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, Columbia University
- 1998 Religious Diversity in Atlanta Research Grant, Pluralism Project, Harvard University
- 1998 University Teaching Fund, Emory University (with Rebecca Stone-Miller, Art History Dept., to teach a course on Shamanism in the Americas)
- 1996 University Travel Grant, Emory University
- 1996 University Teaching Fund, Emory University (with Joyce Flueckiger, Department of Religion, to co-teach a course on Asian American Religions)
- 1996 Lilly Endowment Grant (Religious Diversity in Atlanta Conference, Fall 1996; (\$36,000)
- 1996 Georgia Humanities Council Grant (Religious Diversity in Atlanta Conference, Fall 1996; \$11,000)
- 1996 Masee-Martin/NEH Departmental Grant
- 1995-96 Workshop on Teaching Religion in the South, American Academy of Religion, Lilly Foundation, NEH
- 1995 Writing Across the Curriculum Grant, Emory University
- 1993 Graduate Research Travel Grant, Committee on Research, Academic Senate, UCSB

1992 Predoctoral Fellowship, Resident Fellow, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, UCSB
1991-92 Humanities Research Assistantship, Graduate Division, UCSB
1989 Humanities Research Grant, UCSB

Public Scholarship

Lots

Courses Taught

Undergraduate: Introduction to Religion; Interpreting Religion; American Religious History; Native American Religions; Asian American Religions (with Joyce Flueckiger, Religion); Religions in the South; Death and Dying; Shamanism in the Americas (with Rebecca Stone-Miller, Art History); Religion and Sexuality; Science and Religion (with P. V. Rao, Physics); Religion and Film (with Paul Courtright, Religion); Mind, Medicine, and Healing (with Arri Eisen, Biology); Religion and Music; Evidence in Religion and Science (Freshman Seminar); Sacred Drugs; Entertaining Religion

Graduate: Religion and Urbanization (with Nancy Eiesland, Candler School of Theology); Religion and Popular Culture; Topics in the History of Religions: Death, Ritual, Power; Mapping the Landscape of Religious Studies; Topics in American Religious History: Health and Healing; American Religious Cultures; American Religious Diversity; Global Religious Realities in US History; Theory and Method; Topics in American Religious History: Popular Cultures

Student Committees

Dissertation Advisor: Kim Boykin (American Religious Cultures, co-director with Wendy Farley); Leah Rosenberg (Institute of Liberal Arts); Donna Mote (American Religious Cultures); Samira Mehta (American Religious Cultures); Lerone Martin (American Religious Cultures); Katy Shrout (Ethics and Society); Kenny Smith (American Religious Cultures); Ben Brazil (American Religious Cultures); Dennis LoRusso (American Religious Cultures); Michael Altman (American Religious Cultures); Jamil Drake (American Religious Cultures); Sean Suarez (American Religious Cultures); Kelly Gannon (American Religious Cultures)

Dissertation Committees: LeRhonda Manigault (American Religious Cultures); Safiya George (School of Nursing); Jennifer Saunders (West and South Asian Religions); Michael Hill (Institute of Liberal Arts); Graham Reside (Ethics and Society); Kristin Hanson (Person, Community, Religious Life); Amy Wood (Institute of Liberal Arts); Edward Gray (Ethics and Society); Claire Clark (Institute of Liberal Arts); Katherine Armstrong (History); Scott Lisbon (History); Alphonso Seville (American Religious Cultures); Alexis Wells (American Religious Cultures); Michael Karlin (American Religious Cultures); Howell Belser (American Religious Cultures); Elaine Penagos (American Religious Cultures); Marcelitte Failla (American Religious Cultures)

Undergraduate Honors

Committees: Majors in Religion, Biology, Economics, Political Science, and Psychology

Emory Service

Chairperson, Department of Religion

Co-Director, Graduate Division of Religion

Director, Graduate Division of Religion

Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee

Tenure and Promotion Committee

Executive Committee of the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry

Planning Committee, Digital Humanities at Emory

Steering Committee, Information Technology

Religion and Human Spirit Strategic Planning Committee

Associate Director, Graduate Division of Religion

Committee Member, University Strategic Themes Committee

Lilly Planning and Implementation Committee, Religious Practices Initiative

American Studies Executive Committee

Nominating Committee, Strategic Planning Group, Emory Arts and Sciences

Chair, Historical Studies, GDR

Policy and Curriculum Committee, GDR

Admissions Committee, GDR

Executive Council, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Planning and Development Committee, Department of Religion

Intellectual Life Committee, Department of Religion

Curriculum Committee, Emory College

General Education Implementation Subcommittee

Curriculum Committee, Department of Religion

Faculty Liaison, Interfaith Health, Carter Center

Native American Month Committee

Search Committee, Candler School of Theology

Previous Professional Affiliations and Activities

Director, *Religion Dispatches*, an online religion magazine

Editorial Board, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*

Associate Editor, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (2000-2006)

Editorial Board, *Journal of Southern Religion*

Editorial Board, *Academic Exchange* (Emory publication)

Teaching Fellow, Lilly Endowment

Chair and Co-Chair, Religion and Popular Culture, American Academy of Religion

External Reviewer, Arizona State University, Religious Studies Program, 2015

External Reviewer, Religious Studies Department, University of South Florida, Fall 2011

Manuscript, Book Proposal, and Grant Reviewer, National Science Foundation, Princeton University Press, Oxford University Press, Yale University Press, University of Virginia, among others

Chair, Religion in America Session, Southeastern Region, AAR

Co-Director, with Sheila Davaney, "Contesting Religion and Religions Contested" Project, 2003-2007

Co-Director, with Beth Barton Schweiger, "Religion in the American South: Toward a Renewed" *Scholarship*, Emory University and Emory Conference Center, October, 1999

Co-Director, with Nancy Eiesland, "Religious Diversity in Metropolitan Atlanta"

Carter Center, Emory University, October, 1996
Program Committee: “Religious Forces in the New World [Dis]Order,”
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, UCSB, February 1995

Papers Delivered and Public Lectures

Speaker, PsyCon, “Sacred Drugs and a New American ‘Great Awakening,’” Las Vegas, Spring, 2024

Invited Speaker, Chautauqua Institute, Interfaith Lecture Series, “Faith in Drugs: America’s Religious Future,” Chautauqua Institute, Summer, 2021

Invited Speaker, Harry and Ada Lamon Distinguished Speaker, “How Universities Can Help Their Students Ask the Big Questions,” Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Fall 2017

Invited Speaker, “Death in Early America,” Securing the Shadow: Posthumous Portraiture in American, Opening Exhibition Panel, Fall 2016

Invited Speaker, “The Histories and Futures of Death in America,” University of California, Santa Barbara, Spring 2016

Invited Speaker, “Celebrity Worship, Sexual Ecstasies, and Religious Life in the United States,” Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education Annual Conference, Fall 2015

Invited Panelist, “The 1960s and the Future of Religion in America,” The Future of Religion in American Conference, Christopher Newport University, Fall 2014

Respondent, “The Gothic,” panel at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Fall 2013

Panelist, “Zombie Ethics and Popular Culture,” Walker Stalker Convention, Atlanta, Fall 2013

Seminar Presenter and Workshop Leader, “Researching Popular Religions,” Graduate Center, City University of New York, Spring 2012

“Influence of Religion in World Today,” invited panelist, Culture Summit V: Practitioners Guide to Culture Education and Training, Department of Defense, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Fall 2010

“Forget Secularism: Religion (Still) Rules,” Hamilton College, Spring 2010

“Godless in America,” Public Lecture, University of Victoria, Fall 2006

“Go With God” But Keep the Corpse in Sight: A Pope on Display,” North American Association for the Study of Religion, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Fall 2005

Invited Don Yoder Lecturer in Religious Life, “Religious Cultures and the Cult of Doctors,” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Fall 2005

Panelist, Emory University Campus Forum, “Evolution: Three Emory College Faculty Perspectives,” Spring, 2005

Invited Workshop Leader, “Reviewing the Past to Consider the Future of Funerals,” Order of the Golden

Rule, San Francisco, Ca, Spring 2005

Invited Participant, Death in Modern Society Colloquium, Fall 2004, Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, Austria

“Harvey William Cushing, Brain Surgeon, 1869-1939: The Cult of Doctors and the Modern Culture of Healing,” American Academy of Religion Conference, San Antonio, Texas, Fall 2004

Invited Workshop Leader, Speaker, “Death and Funerals In Twentieth-Century America: Past, Present, and Future” Jewish Funeral Directors Association, Scottsdale, Arizona, Fall 2004

Invited Participant/Speaker, Renaissance Weekend, Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, California, Summer 2004

“New Spiritual Frontiers: California and The Future of American Religion,” Emory Sojourn Lecture, Association of Emory Alumni, Napa Valley, California, Fall 2003

“The History of Funerals and Funeral Homes in Twentieth-Century America,” Keynote Speaker, New Jersey Funeral Directors Association, Atlantic City, New Jersey, Fall 2003

“Cultures of Death in America,” Association of Emory Alumni Distinguished Speaker Series, Jacksonville, Florida, Fall 2003

“*Rest in Peace*: Reflections on the Funeral Industry, Past and Present,” International Cemetery and Funeral Association, Michigan Funeral Directors Association Meeting, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Spring 2003

“*Rest in Peace*: Reflections on the Funeral Industry, Past and Present,” International Cemetery and Funeral Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, Spring 2003

“Teaching Mentor Program at Emory University,” American Academy of Religion Conference, Toronto Canada, Fall 2002.

“*Rest in Peace*: An Exploration of Funeral Homes in Twentieth-Century America,” Religious Studies Colloquium, Georgia State University, Fall 2002

“Doctoring Death in Twentieth-Century America: The Rise of Mortuary Science in the Shadow of Medical Science,” History of Medicine Group, Emory University, Fall 2000

“The Embalming Century,” American Studies Association Annual Conference, Detroit, MI, Fall 2000

“Disney, Death, and American Culture,” Maryville College, Knoxville, TN, Fall 2000

“Death and ‘Lived Religion’ in Twentieth-Century America,” Plenary Address, Annual Convention, College Theology Society, DePere, WI, Summer 1999

“Death in Modern America,” Invited Lecture, Perimeter College, Atlanta, GA, Spring 1999

“The American Way of Death: Perspectives on Religion and Popular Culture in the Twentieth Century,” Carleton College, Northfield, MN, Spring 1999

"Death and Dying in America: A Cultural Experience," Northside Hospital Education Center Auditorium, Atlanta, GA, Spring 1999

"The Disney Way of Death," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Orlando, FL, Fall 1998

"The Holocaust in the American Imagination: Negations, Fixations, Mediations," American Academy of Religion National Meeting, Orlando, FL, Fall 1998

"Betwixt and Between: Shamanism in Cultural Contexts," Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University, Fall 1998

Invited Lecture, "Interreligious Dialogue and Religious Diversity," National Conference of Christians and Jews, Atlanta, Spring 1998

Invited Lecture, "The Holocaust in the American Imagination: Denials, Fixations, and Mediations," Beardslee Lecture, Hollins College, Spring, 1998

Respondent, "Mummies, Corpses, and Suicides: Death and the Public Sphere," American Studies Association Meeting, Washington, DC, Fall 1997

Guest Speaker, "Religious Life in Atlanta," Parents' Day, Emory University, Fall 1997

"The World is Coming To Atlanta': Religious Worlds Collide and Coalesce in the Centennial Olympic City," International Society for the Sociology of Religion, Toulouse, France, Summer, 1997

Public Lecture on *The Sacred Remains*, and Workshop Leader, Death and Dying in America, Bellarmine College, Louisville, KY, Spring, 1997

"The World is Coming To Atlanta': Religious Worlds Collide and Coalesce in the Centennial Olympic City," American Society of Church History, Nashville, TN, Spring, 1997

Moderator, "Religious Cultures in the US," Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Spring, 1997

Panel Member, "Death and Memory," Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University, Spring, 1997

"Postmortem Migrations: Union Dead and the Spiritual Rebirth of the Nation," American Studies Association, Fall, 1996

Moderator, "Interfaith Efforts in Atlanta," Religious Diversity in Metropolitan Atlanta," Fall, 1996

"Religions of Atlanta," Columbia Theological Seminary, Fall 1996

"Religions of Atlanta: The Book," Rotary Club, Atlanta, Georgia, Spring 1996

"Religious Pluralism in Atlanta," Urban Studies Group, Emory, Fall 1995

Moderator, "Disturbing the Peace of the Dead: A Look at the Desecration and Protection of Native American Burial Sites in Georgia," Native American Month at Emory, Spring 1995

"1994 Election and the Religious Right," Scholars Tea with the Chaplain, Emory University, Spring 1995

Respondent, "Popular Culture and Strategies of Conversion." Religious Forces in the New World
[Dis]Order Conference, UCSB, Winter 1995

Discussion Leader for the film *The Rapture*, Consultation on Religion and Film, American Academy of
Religion, Chicago, IL, Fall 1994

"Inventing the Nation: Bodily Destruction in the Civil War and Union Religious
Nationalism," North American Religions Section, American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL,
Fall 1994

"The Body in the Soul of the Nation: Death, Violence, Memory, and National Identity," Organization of
American Historians, Atlanta, GA, Spring 1994

"Abraham Lincoln's Hollowed and Hallowed Body: The Anatomy of a Transitional Symbol in the History
of Attitudes Toward Death in America," American Studies Association, Boston, MA, Fall 1993
also presented at the Civil War Round Table Association, Gettysburg, PA)

"Art Spiegelman's *Maus* and the Crisis of Representing the Holocaust," Arts, Literature, and Religion
Section, American Academy of Religion, Washington, D.C., Spring 1993

"When Death knocks at the door, bid him walk in . . . ': Responding to the Corpse in the White
Protestant Northeast Before the Civil War," North American Religions Section, American
Academy of Religion, San Francisco, CA, Fall 1992

"I just want to be a part of it, that's all': Alterity, Identity, and Memory in David Mamet's *Homicide*"
(presented with Richard D. Hecht), Jewish Faculty Luncheon, UCSB, Fall 1992

Panel member, "The Ethics of Capital Punishment," UCSB, Summer 1992