

Russell L. Almon, Ph.D.

Email: russell@thealmons.com

Education

Ph.D., Systematic Theology, New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2013-2018

Dissertation Title: *The Triune God and the Hermeneutics of Community: Church, Gender, and Mission in Stanley J. Grenz with reference to Paul Ricoeur*

Supervisors: Dr. David Grumett and Prof. David Fergusson | Examiners: Dr. Brian Harris and Dr. George Newlands

Clinical Pastoral Education, 4 units, Memorial Hermann Hospital - Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas, 2010-2011

Master of Divinity, Theology, Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary, Abilene, Texas, 2009

Post-Graduate Study, Theology and Religion, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, Texas, 2002-2005

Master of Arts, Religion, Christian Ministry, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, Texas, 2002

Master's Level Studies, Theology/Ministry, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, 1998-2000

Bachelor of Arts, Religion and Religious Education, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, Texas, 1998

Teaching Experience

Course Tutor/Instructor

Ethics and Society (undergraduate), New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Spring 2016, Dr. David Grumett (lecturer, course manager)

Christian Theology: Approaches and Themes (undergraduate), New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Fall 2015, Dr. Lydia Schumacher (lecturer, course manager)

God in Philosophy: Plato to Hume (undergraduate), New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Spring 2015, Dr. Nicholas Adams (lecturer, course manager)

Religion in Culture: Theory, History, and Interpretation (undergraduate), New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Fall 2014, Dr. Anthony Allison (lecturer, course manager)

Graduate Assistant/Co-Instructor

Advanced Systematic Theology (graduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary, Spring 2013, Dr. Dan R. Stiver (professor)

Christian Philosophy (graduate) - 2 sections, Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary, Spring 2013, Dr. Dan R. Stiver (professor)

Introduction to Christian Thought (undergraduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon School of Theology, Fall 2008 and Spring 2009, Dr. Rodney Taylor (professor)

Graduate Assistant/Substitute Instructor/Instructor–Moderator of Online Course Component

Introduction to Christian Theology (graduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009, Dr. Dan R. Stiver (professor)

Theological Thought in Historical Context I and II (graduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009, Dr. Dan R. Stiver (professor)

Graduate Assistant/Substitute Instructor

Introduction to Philosophy (undergraduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon School of Theology, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009, Dr. Dan R. Stiver (professor)

Graduate Assistant/Grader

New Testament Survey (undergraduate), Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon School of Theology, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009, Dr. Dan Stiver and Dr. Rodney Taylor (professors)

Research***Journal Articles and Conference/Seminar Presentations***

“The Postmodern Self in *Theological Perspective: A Communal, Narrative, and Ecclesial Approach*” in *Ecclesiology* 13.2 (May 2017), 179–96. (Peer reviewed article)

“The Church as an Economy of Desire.” A Response to Kathryn Tanner’s Gifford Lecture titled “Which World?” at the University of Edinburgh, 19-May-2016 (<https://goo.gl/1S6BMs>)

“Piety and Participation: The Role of *Theosis* in the Trinitarian Theological Anthropology of Stanley J. Grenz.” A paper presented at the annual Society for the Study of Theology meeting, “Redeeming Human Nature,” at St. John’s College, University of Durham, UK, 5-April-2016.

“Is God (still) Social: The Social Trinity and its Critics in Conversation with Stanley J. Grenz.” A paper presented at the Theology and Ethics Research Seminar, School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 27-January-2016.

“*Perichoresis*, Postmodernism, and Pietism: The Peril and Promise of Stanley J. Grenz’s Revisioning of Evangelical Ecclesiology.” A paper presented at the annual Society for the Study of Theology meeting, “Thinking the Church Today,” at the University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, 14-April-2015.

“Body Language and Ecclesial Identity: The Promise of Ricoeurian Hermeneutics for Theology and Church.” A paper presented at the New College Post-graduate conference at the School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 18-March-2015.

“Which Hermeneutics? Whose Ethics? A Ricoeurian Response to Graham Ward’s *Unbelievable*.” A response given at a discussion of Graham Ward’s *Unbelievable: Why We Believe and Why We Don’t* at the Theology and Ethics Research Seminar, School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 12-November-2014.

“Theology as Participation: A Trinitarian, Narrative, and Missional Proposal.” A paper presented at the annual Society for the Study of Theology meeting, “Speech and Silence,” at St. John’s College, University of Durham, Durham, UK, 9-April-2014. (A revised version of the NABPR paper below)

“Creation, Church, and Ecological Ethics.” A response given at a discussion of Dr. Michael Northcott’s *A Political Theology of Climate Change* at the Theology and Ethics Research Seminar, School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 26-March-2014.

“The ‘Self’ of Post-Modernity in *Theological Perspective: A Communal, Narrative, and Ecclesial Proposal.*” A paper presented at the New College Post-graduate Conference at the School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 29-January-2014.

“Linguistic Wisdom, Lament, and Ecclesial Witness.” A response to Rowan Williams’ “Making Representations: Religious Faith and the Habits of Language” Gifford Lecture Series presentation at the School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 14-November-2013.

Select Book Reviews

Review of Ephraim Radner, *A Time to Keep: Theology, Mortality, and the Shape of a Human Life* (Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2016) in *Pacific Journal of Theological Research* 14.2 (Nov 2019), 77–8.

Review of James M. Houston and Jens Zimmermann, eds., *Sources of the Christian Self: A Cultural History of Christian Identity* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2018) in *Pacific Journal of Theological Research* 14.2 (Nov 2019), 75–6.

Review of Marc Cortez, *Christological Anthropology in Historical Perspective: Ancient and Contemporary Approaches to Theological Anthropology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2016) in *Review and Expositor* 114.4 (Nov 2017), 610–11.

Review of Malcolm Jeeves, ed., *The Emergence of Personhood: A Quantum Leap?*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2015) in *Review and Expositor* 114.4 (Nov 2017), 613–14.

Review of Charles Twombly, *Perichoresis and Personhood: God, Christ, and Salvation in John of Damascus* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2015) in *Review and Expositor* 113.2 (May 2016), 258–9.

Review of Michael J. Gorman, *Becoming the Gospel: Paul, Participation, and Mission* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2015) in *Review and Expositor* 113.2 (May 2016), 259–60.

Review of Michael Welker, ed., *The Depth of the Human Person: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014) in *Expository Times* 127.2 (Nov 2015), 62.

Review of Stanley J. Grenz and Jay T. Smith, *Created for Community: Connecting Christian Belief with Christian Living* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014) in *Review and Expositor* 112.3 (August 2015), 489–90.

Review of Nicholas M. Healy, *Hauerwas: A (very) Critical Introduction* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014) in *Expository Times* 126.10 (July 2015), 509.

Review of Jason S. Sexton, *The Trinitarian Theology of Stanley J. Grenz* (London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2013) in *Review and Expositor* 112.2 (May 2015), 344–5.

Review of Christine D. Pohl, *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices that Sustain Us* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012) in *Expository Times* 126.7 (April 2015), 326.

Review of Myk Habets, ed., *Ecumenical Perspectives on the Filioque for the 21st Century* (London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2014) in *Review and Expositor* 112.1 (Feb 2015), 175–6.

Ministry/Education Experience

Case Manager, The Salvation Army, William Booth Center – Seattle, WA, September 2019 to present; Providing case management services and housing navigation for chronically homeless veterans and civilian a long term residential shelter.

Overnight Shelter Counselor, Coffee Oasis Hope Homes – Bremerton, WA, December 2017 to October 2018; Working with homeless and at-risk youth ages 16-21 to provide shelter, stability, and hope for the future.

Tutor, School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh – Edinburgh, Scotland, Fall 2014 to Spring 2016; Facilitation of weekly tutorial classes for 'Religion in Culture,' 'God in Philosophy,' 'Christian Theology,' and 'Ethics and Society'; Research and Preparation; Marking/Grading.

Teaching Assistant/Co-Instructor with Dr. Dan Stiver, Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary – Abilene, Texas, 2013; Moderation/instruction of online classes including Advanced Systematic Theology and Christian Philosophy; Research; Grading; Other duties as assigned.

Chaplain Resident, Memorial Hermann Hospital – Texas Medical Center – Houston, Texas, 2010 to 2011; Provided pastoral care to patients, families, and staff; Heavy 24 hour on-call rotation; Daily coverage of Heart and Vascular Institute, Transplant Surgical ICU, Transplant Unit, Emergency Center, Shock Trauma ICU, Surgical Intermediate Unit, Burn Unit, Orthopedic Trauma Unit; Documented ministry encounters via electronic patient charts.

Graduate Assistant to Dr. Dan Stiver and Dr. Rodney Taylor, Hardin-Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary/Logsdon School of Theology – Abilene, Texas, 2007 to 2009; Moderation/instruction of traditional and online classes including Old Testament, New Testament, Beginning Greek, Introduction to Theology, Theological Thought, Introduction to Philosophy, and Introduction to Ethics; Research; Grading; Other duties as assigned.

Houseparent, New Mexico Baptist Children's Home – Portales, New Mexico, 2006; Provided live-in parental supervision to junior high and high school boys.

Degree Evaluator, Wayland Baptist University – Plainview, Texas, 2000 to 2005; Degree preparation, auditing, and evaluation; General office work; Filing; Data entry; Assisting students; Communication with external campus centers, professors, and advisors.

Church Planter/Pastor, Journey Fellowship/Plainview Community Fellowship – Plainview, Texas, 2000 to 2005.

References

Dr. David Grumett (Primary PhD supervisor) • Senior Lecturer in Theology and Ethics • University of Edinburgh, School of Divinity • Edinburgh, Scotland • (UK #) +44 (0) 131 650 8970 • david.grumett@ed.ac.uk

Dr. Dan R. Stiver • Professor of Theology • Hardin Simmons University/Logsdon Seminary • Abilene, Texas • 325-670-1398 • dstiver@hsutx.edu

Dr. Fred Meeks • Director of the Logsdon Seminary Program, Lubbock, Texas Campus • Emeritus Professor of Religion • Wayland Baptist University • Plainview, Texas • 806-281-7514 • fmeeks@wbu.edu

Dr. Jeremy Kidwell • Lecturer in Theological Ethics • University of Birmingham, Department of Theology and Religion • Birmingham, United Kingdom • (UK #) +44 (0) 796 181 8034 • kidwellj@gmail.com