

ROBERT K. PEACH, PHD

robertkpeach@gmail.com | www.robertkpeach.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Arcata House Partnership (Arcata, CA) Street Outreach Team Member	2022
Arcata House Partnership (Arcata, CA) Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator	2019-2020
College of the Redwoods (Eureka, CA) Instructional Aide	2019
Times-Standard Newspaper (Eureka, CA) Night Editor, columnist, newsroom	2018-2019
Orange Coast College (Costa Mesa, CA) Adjunct Instructor English	2016-2018
Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA) Teaching Fellow Critical Whiteness Studies	2015
Pacific School of Religion (Berkeley, CA) Teaching Fellow African American Studies	2014
Pacific School of Religion (Berkeley, CA) Teaching Assistant Systematic and Philosophical Theology	2014
Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School (Pittsburgh, PA) Instructor English and Religion	2007-2009
La Salle College High School (Philadelphia, PA) Instructor English	2006-2007

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Systematic and Philosophical Theology, Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA), May 2018

Master of Arts, Systematic and Philosophical Theology, Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA), May 2012

Master of Arts, English, Arcadia University (Philadelphia, PA), August 2008

Bachelor of Arts, English and Religion, La Salle University (Philadelphia, PA), May 2005

AREAS OF TEACHING & RESEARCH SPECIALIZATION

- Theory and Method in the Study of Religion and Theology
- North American & African American Religion
- Critical Whiteness Discourses
- Hip Hop Studies
- Homelessness
- Trauma-informed care
- Sociology of Religion
- African American Studies
- African Diaspora Theory and Method
- Queer Theory and Method
- African American Literary Theory and Method
- Theory and Method in the Study of Comparative Religion
- Writing Composition

HONORS AND AWARDS

Newhall Fellowship, Graduate Theological Union, 2015

Newhall Fellowship, Pacific School of Religion, 2014

The Center for Arts, Religion and Education (CARE) writing prize for best graduate student essay, Graduate Theological Union, 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Orange Coast College , Costa Mesa, CA	
Instructor: Freshman Composition	2016-2018
Instructor: Critical Thinking	Spring 2018
Graduate Theological Union , Berkeley, CA	
Instructor: Critical Whiteness, White Theology, and Pop Culture	Fall 2015
Instructor: Reflect Black: African American Cultural Criticism	Fall 2014
Pacific School of Religion , Berkeley, CA	
Lecturer/TA: Introduction to Theology	Fall 2014
Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School , Pittsburgh, PA	
Instructor: Old Testament, British Literature, Writing the Essay	2007-2009
Moderator: Campus newspaper, <i>The Viking</i>	
Moderator: Campus human rights group, Central Catholic Human Rights Initiative for Societal Transformation (CCHRIST)	
Moderator: Cross country team	
La Salle College High School , Philadelphia, PA	
Instructor: American Literature/English Composition	2006-2007

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

“‘Real is Responsibility’: Revelations in White through the Filter of Black Realness on *good kid, m.A.A.d. City—An Autoethnography*,” in *Kendrick Lamar and the Making of Black Meaning* (Routledge, Routledge Studies in Hip Hop and Religion, 2020).

“Theology and the Han of Hip Hop: A Short Note on Han, Hip Hop, and South Asian Americans Performing Blackness,” in *Asian American Theological Forum* 2.3 (Fall 2015).

“Playing Bongos with Merton,” in *Messengers of Hope: Reflections in Honor of Thomas Merton* (Fons Vitae, Winter 2015).

“Etching the Blues: the Sunday Spirit of Benny Andrews,” prize-winning graduate student essay in the Center for Arts and Religion (CARE) writing contest, online (Graduate Theological Union, 2012).

Review of *Thomas Merton—The Secret of The Seven Storey Mountain: the Author and Prophet* by Vera Obbàg, in *The Merton Seasonal* (Spring 2011).

“A Mertonian Critique of the Iraq War: An Offshoot of Fear and a Chasm in the ‘Hidden Ground of Love,’” in *The Merton Seasonal* (Winter 2005).

Poetry

“Merton’s Madhyamika,” in *The Merton Seasonal* (Summer 2008).

Popular

“Queerly Visible in Love and Mercy: Finding Gay Pride in Forgiveness,” in *An Injustice!* (*Medium*) (June 2, 2021).

“Care of the ‘Soul’: Raising a Betta as Spiritual Practice,” *Medium* (Feb. 8, 2021).

“Playing with ‘Sexual Nostalgia’ to Heal Karmic Wounds,” *Medium* (Jan. 26, 2021).

“Whiteness Killed Ashli Babbitt: A Note on White Vulnerability,” *Medium* (Jan. 8, 2021).

“‘Stealing Happy Hours’: A Fan’s Retrospective on 30 Years of 311,” *Medium* (Nov. 26, 2020).

“Loving Older Men—and Learning to Accept It,” in *The Gay and Lesbian Review* “Here’s My Story” blog (July 15, 2020).

“People Experiencing Homelessness Are COVID’s Invisible Victims,” *Medium* (April 12, 2020).

“White Men Under Attack: What ‘Trumper’ Republicanism Says About Whiteness in an Age of ‘Aggrieved Entitlement,’” *Medium* (October 25, 2019).

“‘God’s Commands’ Are No Match for Being Queer in Public,” *Medium* (October 17, 2019).

“Intergenerational Gay Male Love: It Doesn’t Have to be (a) Complex,” *Medium* (October 3, 2019).

50+ articles, *Times-Standard* newspaper, see [author page](#).

Blogs

Coming Out Twice: Reflections on Intergenerational Gay Relationship,

<https://robertkpeach.wixsite.com/comingouttwice>

The Neoabolitionist: Interrogating Whiteness, <https://theneoabolitionist.wordpress.com/>.

Rapmatrix: Re-mapping the world one rap at a time, <https://hiphopmatrix.wordpress.com/>.

Reflect Black: African American Cultural Criticism, <https://reflectblack.wordpress.com/>.

Uplyfted: Rideshare Reflections, <https://uplyfted.wordpress.com/>.

Course content

See “Pedagogical,” www.robertkpeach.com.

ACADEMIC PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“‘Losing Whiteness’ by Finding ‘The Way’ Underground: White Engagement of the Hip-Hop Underground at Berkeley’s The Way Christian Center,” Religion and the Arts, American Academy of Religion Western Region, University of the West, Rosemead, CA, March 17-19, 2017.

“‘We Against the World’: White Engagement of ‘Thug Life’ as ‘Thug Luv,’” Critical Approaches to Hip Hop and Religion, American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November 19, 2016.

“White Rap, ‘White Rage,’ and White Chocolate Sole: Approaching Blackness Through Appropriation,” *Approaching Blackness: Beyond the Limits of Representation*, 13th Annual Students and Graduates Conference, Humboldt-Universität, Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, American Studies, Germany, 2014 – **declined to attend**.

“The Madness in Hip Hop’s Anti-Methodology,” Osnabrück Summer Institute on the Cultural Study of the Law, Osnabrück University, Osnabrück, Germany, 2014.

“‘Reality Behind the Veil’: The Psychology of Mystical Consciousness in the Desert Monasticism of Evagrius and the Dzokchen Teaching of Vajrayana Buddhism,” Engaging Particularities IX, Boston College, Boston, MA, 2012.

“Through the Desert of Anxiety into the Oasis of Love: A Collective Vision of the *Pleroma* in Watts, Teilhard, and Merton,” International Thomas Merton Society, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, 2011.

“‘Into the Cavern’: The Psychology of Consciousness and Thomas Merton’s Mystical Poetics,” International Thomas Merton Society, Nazareth College, Rochester, NY, 2009.

“A Mertonian Critique of the Iraq War: An Offshoot of Fear and a Chasm in the ‘Hidden Ground of Love,’” International Thomas Merton Society, University of San Diego, San Diego, CA, 2004.

COMMUNITY LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“The Sin of Racism.” Guest Lecture. Episcopal Diaconal Formation Program. Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA. December 2015.

“The Sin of Racism.” Guest Lecture. Episcopal Diaconal Formation Program. Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA. September 2013.

“Unleashing the Within: Spoken-Word Poetry as Urban Arts Ministry.” Co-workshop facilitator. Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA. July 2013.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Berkeley Journal of Religion and Theology

Area and Production Editor 2015-2019

La Salle Collegian newspaper

News co-editor 2004-2005

Advertising manager 2003-2004

Staff writer 2002-2005

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion 2012-2013

CAMPUS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA

Area Assistant, to Dr. Judith Berling 2013-2015

Student Advisory Committee 2013-2015

Research Assistant, to Dr. Devin Zuber 2014

Racial Justice Task Force 2014

Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, CA

Research Assistant, to Dr. George Griener, S.J. 2011

Research Assistant, to Dr. Thomas Cattoi 2011

La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA

Founder/coordinator, Lasallian Youth Network of Collegians 2002-2005

Student senator, Student Government Association 2003-2004

LANGUAGES

French: read/write with proficiency

REFERENCES

Academia

Dr. Thomas Cattoi, Associate Professor of Christology and Cultures and Dwan Family Endowed Chair in Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue | Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, Berkeley, Ca | tcattoi@scu.edu | (510) 549-5005

Dr. Christopher Driscoll, Assistant Professor of Religion Studies, American Studies and Africana Studies | Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA | cmd413@lehigh.edu | (610) 758-3409 | @whiteliesbook on Twitter

Dr. Inese Radzins, Assistant Professor of Philosophy | University of California, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA | iradzins@csustan.edu | (209) 664-6706

Dr. Terrance Wiley, Assistant Professor of Religion and Coordinator of African and Africana Studies | Haverford College, Haverford, PA | twiley@haverford.edu | (610) 795-7090

Dr. Devin Zuber (Dissertation Chair), Associate Professor of American Studies, Religion and Literature and Core Doctoral Faculty | Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA | dzuber@gtu.edu | (510) 849- 8280 | @DevinZuber on Twitter

Community Outreach

Dr. Anjali Browning, Manager of Client Services | Arcata House Partnership, Arcata, CA | abrowning@arcatahouse.org | (707) 798-0581

Lindsay Demello Johnson, Medical Social Work Case Manager | Open Door Community Health Centers, Humboldt County, CA | Lyndzanator@me.com | (707) 496-6865

Rev. Michael McBride, M.Div., Pastor | The Way Christian Center, Berkeley, CA | pastormike@thewayberkeley.com | (408) 314-6584 | @impastormike_ on Twitter

Higher Education

Dr. Amra Pepic, Instructional Associate for Disabled Students Programs and Services | Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA | aepic@occ.cccd.edu | (714) 496-9353

Journalism

Shomik Mukherjee, Reporter | *East Bay Times*, Contra Costa County, CA | shomik@bayareanewsgroup.com | (909) 643-3483 | @ShomikMukherjee on Twitter

Ruth Schneider, Managing Editor | *Times-Standard* newspaper, Eureka, CA | rschneider@times-standard.com | (707) 441-0520 | @RuthOUTspoken on Twitter

Marc Valles, Copy Editor | *The Press Democrat*, Sonoma County, CA | marc.valles@gmail.com | (707) 601-9664 | @MarcJValles on Twitter