

CURRICULUM VITA
Sharon L. Coggan, Ph.D.
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Education:

1992: Ph.D. Syracuse University
Religious Studies

1978: M.A. (Master of Arts) Stanford University
Religious Studies

1976: M.T.S. (Master of Theological Studies) Harvard University
History of Religion **The Divinity School**

1974: B. A. Summa Cum Laude, University of Denver
Majors in Religion, Philosophy and French
Honors in Philosophy

AREAS OF STUDY: Within the discipline of Religious Studies, I have a broad-based background in the History of Religions and the Psychology of Religion. My more specialized expertise is in late antique Greek religion and early Christianity, as evidenced in my dissertation, entitled: *Pandaemonia: A Study of Eusebius' Recasting of Plutarch's Story of the 'Death of Great Pan.'* Prior to my dissertation work, I developed a specialization in Asian Religions, especially the Hindu, Buddhist and Taoist traditions.

LANGUAGES: Fluency: French,
Reading ability: German, Classical Chinese, Classical Greek

Fields of Study:

History of Religions

World Religions

Greek Religion

Early Christianity

Indian Philosophy and
Religion

Chinese Philosophy and
Religion

Ancient Mythic Studies

Religion of Ancient Near East,
Israel and Classical Judaism

Biblical Studies:
Old and New Testaments

Philosophy of Religion

Mysticism

Shamanism

Thanatology (Studies in
Concepts of Death)

Psychology of Religion

Freudian Theories of
Religion

Maslowan Theories of
Religious Experience

Jungian (Archetypal)
Thought

Alchemical Studies

Theories of Symbolism

Professional and Teaching Experience:

I have taught at the University of Colorado Denver since 1978, first as a Lecturer, later as a Senior Instructor and then as an Associate Professor on the Clinical Teaching Track.

January, 2012-Current: Assumed my new position as Associate Professor, Clinical Teaching Track, to begin a three-year term. This appointment was thoroughly vetted in a review process at each level, my Department, Philosophy, the Dean's Advisory Committee on the CTT, the Dean of CLAS, the Provost and Chancellor of the University. Nine Sr. Instructors were appointed in the inaugural cohort of the new track. Out of those nine, I was one of three appointed at the middle rank, Associate Professor, the remainder entering the Track at the Assistant level.

January, 2015: I was reappointed to my position as Associate Professor, Clinical Teaching Track, to begin another three-year term.

2008-Current: Joined the Distance Faculty for the Holmes Institute of Consciousness Studies, an accredited graduate institute, teaching World Religions each Fall semester.

1999-2011: Appointed at the University of Colorado Denver as a Senior Instructor.

1998: I was awarded an Award for Excellence in Teaching by the University of Colorado Denver, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

1978-1999: Taught a wide variety of courses at the University of Colorado Denver's Philosophy Department as a Lecturer.

1978-2011: Gained a wide range of teaching experience at many institutions of higher learning across the cities of Denver and Boulder, including: the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of Colorado Denver, Division of Extended Studies, the University of Denver, Colorado Women's College, the Denver Institute of Jewish Studies, the Ernest Holmes College at the Mile Hi Church, Archetypus, The Jung Society of Colorado and the Jungian Circle, and the Holmes Institute of Consciousness Studies, United Center for Spiritual Living.

1979-2010: Joined the Department of Philosophy at Metropolitan State College of Denver as a Lecturer to teach courses in Religious Studies, Philosophy and the Telecourses, "Transformations of Myth Through Time," and "Beliefs and Believers."

1991-1992: Earned a one-year Full Time appointment at Teikyo Loretto Heights College in Denver, teaching courses in Religious Studies to Japanese student body.

Peer Reviewed Book Reviews: 2014: Book review of William Irwin Thompson's *Beyond Religion: From Shamanism to Religion to Post-Religious Spirituality*, in *Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory* Vol. 13 No. 2 (Spring 2014): 129-131.

1996: Book Review of: *The Archetype of Pilgrimage: Outer Action with Inner Meaning*, by Jean Dalby Clift and Wallace B. Clift. Jung and Spirituality Series. Paulist Press (New York, 1996); reviewed in: *Journal of Ritual Studies*, Vol. 10, No. 2.

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications:

2012: Contribution to the *Encyclopedia for Sciences and Religions*, edited by Daniel Quinones, Ph.D. Springer Publications; Entry on: "Religious Studies."

2004: Contributions to the *Encyclopedia Of Religious and Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence*, Tufts University, Sage Publications, (Thousand Oaks, CA.)

1999: Contribution to a two-volume illustrated Encyclopedia, *Contemporary American Religion*, Ed. Wade Clark Roof. Macmillan Reference, (New York); Articles on: "Dream Analysis," "Rites of Passage," "Journeys and Journeying," and "Archetype."

1982: "Did Jesus Really Say What He Meant? The Parables Tradition," *Holon*, Ed. Carl Raschke.

Peer Reviewed Presentations at Meetings/Conferences:

May 16, 2014: Jung Society of Colorado Springs: "Exploring The Archetypes: Divine Doorways into the Unconscious: Hermes", Colorado Springs, Colorado. (All Jung Society presentations: peer reviewed, but not submitted blindly.)

December 6, 2013: Jung Society of Colorado: "Exploring The Archetypes: Divine Doorways into the Unconscious: Artemis" 14th & Williams, Denver, Colorado.

April 6, 2013: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Jungian Perspective on the Christ Mythos: Hero, Redeemer, Risen Lord and Other Universal Forms" (All AAR presentations: peer reviewed, submitted blindly.)

December 7, 2012: Jung Society of Colorado: "Exploring The Archetypes: Divine Doorways into the Unconscious: Hermes" 14th & Williams, Denver, Colorado.

December 7, 2007: Jung Society of Colorado: "The Archetypal Christ," 14th & Williams, Denver, Colorado.

April 8, 2005: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Demonization of the Goat: An Alchemical History."

November 5, 2004: Jung Society of Colorado: "Pan and the Devil: Demonization of the Goat God" 14th & Williams, Denver, Colorado.

April 6, 1999: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "The Trajectory Method: An Alchemical History of Currents in Late Antiquity's Religion and Philosophy."

April 7, 1996: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Jesus' Parables and Zen Koan Practice: A Comparative Study."

April 6, 1990: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Pan: Ancient Beast God of Power and Transformation: The Male Role in Women's Mysteries."

April, 1980: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Apocalyptic Judaism, Its Origins, Growth and Decline."

April, 1979: American Academy of Religion (Regional), "Axial Age Theory: The Significance of the Simultaneity in Religious Innovations across the World in the Sixth Century B.C.E."

Non-Peer Reviewed Presentations at Meetings/Conferences:

November 8, 2014: Presented a paper: "Perspectives from World Religions on Spiritual Dimensions in Psychology and Counseling," at a Workshop on Spirituality in Counseling, sponsored by Chi Sigma Iota, Member, Association of College Honor Societies, University of Colorado Denver, Tivoli student Union, Senate Chambers, Room 329.

September 30, 2014: Participant in Panel Discussion on Human Remains, Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, Colorado.

March 8, 2014: Chaired a session and participated in discussion: Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Session on American and Eastern Philosophy, Westin Hotel, Denver, Colorado.

February 28, 2013: University of Denver: Member of Symposium Panel critically reviewing recent book by Dr. Carl Raschke: "Postmodernism and the Revolution in Religious Theory: Toward a Semiotics of the Event Symposium."

April 25, 2008: Conference at the University of Denver on: "Teaching Religion in the Secular University"; "The Shredded Sacred Canopy and the Post-Kantian Era: What is the Role of Religious Studies in Academia?"

Feb. 16, 2007: For Pinion Health Care Group on UCD campus, Administration Bldg. "Core Concepts in World Religions."

June 27, 2006: Organized and presented: Colloquium on Creation, Evolution and Intelligent Design, University of Colorado Denver, St. Cajetan's Church

February 11-13, 1987: The Center for Applied Biomedical Ethics at Rose Medical Center: “The Value of Many Voices”, Conference on Ethics on the Frontlines of Medical Care, February 11-13, 1987; moderated the panel discussion: “What Would You Want A Caregiver to Know About You? Presentation on Three Cultures,” and delivered two addresses: “An Analysis of Cultural Attitudes Toward Western Medicine,” and “Concepts of Death and Afterlife.”

Lectures:

In addition, I have presented lectures at public venues on topics involving religion, philosophy, history and culture every year since 1978, at times up to five presentations per year. Venues have included Denver’s Temple Emmanuel, Temple Sinai, The Hebrew Educational Alliance, The Mile Hi Church, The Church of Divine Science, The First Congregational Church, and other area churches, the Jung Society of Colorado, the Jung Society of Colorado Springs. I have also been a regular guest lecturer for graduate classes in CLAS’s Master of Humanities and Master of Social Science Programs at the University of Colorado Denver, and the School of Education and Human Development’s Counseling Psychology and Education Program. A recent sampling follows:

December 3, 2015: Presented to the Office of Student Life, Series on Hot Topics: “Religion is the Opium of the Masses.” Tivoli, Multicultural Lounge.

October 8, 2015: Guest Lectured in Dr. Celeste Rossmiller’s class in World Religions on Jungian Thought as applied to Religion.

March 11, 2015: At Temple Sinai, Hampden & Glencoe, Denver, Colorado, “The Modern State of the World, Where is God?: Perspectives on the Perennial Problem of Evil.”

February 24, 2014: Guest Lectured in Dr. Edward Cannon’s class in Spiritual Dimensions in Counseling Education, through the graduate program in UCD’s School of Education and Human Development.

October 16, 2013: Guest Lectured in Dr. Rachel Harding’s Indigenous Traditions course, on the Indigenous Europeans, Paleolithic and Neolithic Religions.

June 21, 2013: At the Mile Hi Church, Alameda & Garrison, Denver: “Embracing the Shadow.”

October 7, 2012: At the First Divine Science Church, 14th & Williams, “On the Divine Feminine.”

April 5, 2012: At VI Retirement Community, Highlands Ranch: also, “Themes in World Religions.”

March 26, 2012: At the Mile Hi Church, W. Alameda Ave., “Themes in World Religions.”

February 10, 2010: At the Hebrew Educational Alliance, Ivanhoe and Jefferson, “Judaism and Islam, Affinity and Difference.”

November 18, 2009: At the Hebrew Educational Alliance, Ivanhoe and Jefferson, “Judaism and Christianity, Affinity and Difference.”

March 10, 2009: For the Colorado Genealogical Society, at Temple Emanuel, 2nd & Grape: “Genealogical Roots: The Distribution of Peoples Across the Ancient World.”

March 9, 2008: At St. Paul’s Church, 9th & Marion, “The Archetypal Christ.”

March 12, 2007: At Temple Sinai, Hampden & Glencoe, Denver, Colorado, on “Death and Concepts of Afterlife.”

March 9, 2006: Presented to the University of Colorado Denver’s Philosophy Club on “Jungian Perspectives on Mythology.”

2005-2012: Frequently guest lecture in Dr. Marsha Wiggins’ (later Dr. Beth Barnes’) class in Spiritual Dimensions in Counseling Education, through the graduate program in UCD’s School of Education and Human Development.

2005-2007: Guest Lectured in Dr. Margaret Woodhull’s Master of Humanities class in Texts and Methods, on: “The Parable Tradition and Early Christianity.”

2003-2011: Guest Lecture in Dr. Myra Bookman’s Master of Humanities class Texts and Method, on: “Classical Theories of the Origin and Nature of Religion.”

Professional Organizations:

1975 – Current: I have been a participating member of the American Academy of Religion, and attend almost every Regional Conference.

Publications/Creative Works in Preparation:

Currently preparing manuscript, adapted from my dissertation. Working title: *Pan Spirit Rising: the Demonization and Resacralization of the Goat God*. I plan to submit this book blindly to peer reviewed academic presses. On October 9, 2015, I completed the writing, and now have a working draft.

Courses Taught:

Archaeological Discoveries Relating to the Bible	RLST 3770
Asian Philosophies and Religions	RLST 3400/PHIL 3666
Biblical Traditions: New Testament	RLST 3740
Biblical Traditions: Old Testament	RLST 3760
Chinese Philosophy and Culture	RLST 3660/PHIL 3981
Concepts of the Soul	RLST 4440/5440/PHIL 4470/5470
Death and Concepts of Afterlife	RLST 4460/5460
Differing Concepts of God	RLST 4400/5400/PHIL 4650/5655
Freudian and Jungian Perspectives in Dream Analysis	RLST 4360
Goddess Traditions	RLST 4420/5420/WGST 4420
The Hero's Journey	RLST 4340/ENGL 3530
Introduction to Religious Studies	RLST 1610
Judaism, Christianity, Islam: Affinity and Difference	RLST 3000
Mysticism	RLST 4160/5160
Myth and Symbol	RLST 4300/5300
Perspectives on Good and Evil	RLST 4480/5480/PHIL 4480/5480
Philosophy of Religion	RLST 4060/5060/PHIL 4600/5600
Psychology of Religion	RLST 4040/5040
Religion and Cultural Diversity	RLST 4000
Religions of India	RLST 350i0
Shamanic Traditions	RLST 3300/ETST 3630
Special Topics in Religion	RLST 4100
Spirituality in the Modern World	RLST 4320

Theses and Defenses:

I have served on examination committees for graduate students, most of them in the Master of Humanities and Master of Social Sciences Programs, University of Colorado Denver. The following is a sampling:

Spring 2010: Walter Barton, (MH): "The Blue Lion Bestiary"

Racquel Guerrero, (MH): "Danza Azteca: Urban Resistance Movements"

Fall 2009: Josh Brandt, (MH): "Mind of Light: The Background of Kurtz from Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*"

Spring 2009: Lisa Neale (MH): "Curriculum: A Survey of the Depiction of Women in Western Art: Interpretations and Meanings"

Fall 2008: Stephanie Garcia, (MH): "The Shaman's Journey into the Unknown, The Quest for Vision"

Sandra Hegwood, (MSS): "Domestic Violence and Clergy Interventions in Rural Congregations"

Spring 2008: Jayde Theobald, (MH): "Exploring the Efficacy of Healing Touch"

Spring 2007: Kimberly Boshart Mahoney, (MH): "Irreconcilable Differences: Faith and Morality in Four Stories from the Hebrew Bible"

Fall 2006: David Morelos, (MH): "The Morning Watch Project: A Transpersonal Approach to the Contemporary Correctional System"

Summer 2005: Rhiannon Wenning, (MH): On Goddess Religion & Women in Religion

Spring 2005: Brenda Weissman, (MH): "Freud and the Freudians on Religion"

Spring 2002: Allison Steed, (MSS): "A Complete Profile of Homicidal Doomsday Religious Cults: Are They Predictable and Presentable? Case Example: The Movement for the Restoration"

Summer 2001: Nursing Student at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center's School of Nursing: on Eastern & Western Perspectives in Nursing

Service:

From 1997 to 2000, I worked to create a new Religious Studies Program to offer the Minor at UCD. This effort involved networking with other faculty, conferences with Administration officials, submitting proposals to Administration and College committees. The Program was approved and began functioning in 2000. I was appointed as Director, an office that I still hold. In its first five years, the Program grew in student enrollment at a recorded rate of 600%, and a steady rate of some 20% each semester over an additional four years before leveling off. I handle all administrative duties for the Religious Studies Program, including scheduling courses every semester, hire and supervise Lecturers, conduct and submit annual assessment reports on the Program and for the courses we have in the Core Requirements for the CLAS, submit whatever other reports come up, represent Religious Studies at all Open House and Pre-Collegiate events, all in addition to my teaching load of what was 10-12 courses per year until that load was reduced to eight in 2012, currently seven.

2009-Current: Have functioned as the point person in advising the Auraria Library's acquisitions staff in building up a comprehensive collection in religion-related materials, working closely with Library Bibliographer Ellen Metter in this on-going effort.

2009: invited to join the panel of peer reviewers for the *International Journal of Jungian Studies*, Routledge Press.

2013: represented Religious Studies in April at the University of Colorado Denver's Diversity Summit, held at the Double Tree Hotel near Stapleton.

2000-Current: represent Religious Studies once every semester at the University of Colorado Denver's Open House, and Pre-Collegiate events for prospective students.

Committee Work:

2000-Current: as Director of Religious Studies at UCD I serve on CLAS's Council of Chairs, which meets at least monthly with the Dean of the CLAS, University of Colorado Denver. Beginning in Fall 2014, I have been appointed to this Council to represent the Undergraduate Minor Programs in the Interdisciplinary Program.

2014-Current: as a Director of an Undergraduate Minor, I serve on the University of Colorado Denver's CLAS Interdisciplinary Directors Council, which meets monthly to discuss and determine the course of the Interdisciplinary Programs.

2013-2015: elected to serve on the campus-wide Faculty Assembly Women's Issues Committee, now called the Committee on the Status of Women, at the University of

Colorado Denver, which meets at least six times a year, monitors campus issues involving women and reports to the Faculty Assembly.

2011-2015: serve on the campus-wide Task Force for developing policies and procedures for the University of Colorado CLAS' Core Assessment program, in the Cultural Diversity division.

2011-2015 serve on the University of Colorado Denver's CLAS Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee (EPCC) which meets six times a year or more, to vote on and author policies on course and program proposals for CLAS.

2015-2018: elected to serve on the Dean's Advisory Council: Clinical Teaching Track, to advise the Dean on potential appointments to this Track.

2015- Current: Asked to serve on the Planning Committee for the Holocaust, Genocides and Contemporary Bioethics Program to develop an annual series of programs, in association with the Center for Bioethics and Humanities, based on the Anschutz Campus.

1991-1992: at Teikyo Loretto Heights, served on two system-wide committees: the Japan Studies Committee and the Affirmative Action Committee.

1991: at the University of Colorado Denver, elected to a one-year appointment to represent Adjunct faculty on the CLAS Council.

Service on Boards:

2005-Current: serve on the Advisory Board of the Masters Program in Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UCD.

2000-Current: serve as participating faculty and on Advisory Board of CLAS's Chinese Studies Program.

2005-Current: Outside of UCD: serve on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Jung Society. This Society operates in Denver, and is not officially affiliated with the Jung Society of Colorado Springs, or the Boulder Friends of Jung.

2007-2013: serve on the Advisory Board of the Signature Area for the Center for Public Humanities, CLAS at UCD, representing Religious Studies.

2008-2010: Served on the Board of Directors of "Elephant Talk" a non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating dialogue and promoting understanding between people of different religious/spiritual persuasions and perspectives.

Newspaper, Film and Television Appearances:

On August 28-29, 2009 my course, World Religions was filmed and recorded at the United Center for Spiritual Living, 573 Park Point Dr., Golden, CO. A set of DVD's/CD's was professionally made of these recordings, and later were made available to stream online for the course that I teach as a Distance Instructor at Holmes Institute.

February 28, 2009: Featured in a five-page article in *L'Chaim*, insert magazine for the newspaper, *The Intermountain Jewish News*.

November 19-25, 2008: Featured in an article in The Advocate, UCD student newspaper, Vol. 26 Issue 16; and again, quoted in an article entitled: "Can We Really Coexist? Prognosis for Religious Tolerance" Vol. 26, Issue 26, April 7-13, 2010.

2004-2005: Appeared on television as a commentator on issues involving religion, including on Channel 8 Aurora News.

January 13, 2004: Appeared on Channel 58, Public Access TV as part of a panel discussion on Martin Luther King's impact on society.

Awards/Honors:

1998: received an Award for Excellence in Teaching by the University of Colorado Denver, CLAS.

1976-1978: attended Stanford on a full fellowship; assumed teaching assistantship duties at Syracuse University (1980-1982).

1974-1976: Awarded grants to pursue graduate study at Harvard Divinity School.

1970-1974: as an undergraduate: Member of Scholar's Program at the University of Denver, including scholarship; Dean's Honor List; Dean's Student Advisory Committee; Alpha Lambda Delta, Freshman Honor Society; Senior Book Award; Phi Beta Kappa, elected as a junior, 1972; graduated in 1974 among top five students, GPA: 3.947; Degree awarded Summa Cum Laude; Departmental honors in Philosophy.

1972-1973 I attended the French Université de Strasbourg, on a full scholarship as part of the Junior Year Abroad program at the University of Denver. I was awarded a Certificate at the Premier Étage in French Studies.

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