

John E. Anderson, Ph.D.
Curriculum Vitae
rev. 2/1/16

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Biblical Studies (Hebrew Bible / Old Testament emphasis) 2010
Baylor University (Waco, TX)
Dissertation: “Jacob and the Divine Trickster: A Theology of Deception and YHWH’s Fidelity to the Ancestral Promise in the Jacob Cycle”
Committee: W. H. Bellinger, Jr. (Advisor), James Nogalski
Outside (unofficial) reader: Walter Brueggemann
Minor: Jewish Studies
- MTS (Master of Theological Studies) 2006
Duke Divinity School (Durham, NC)
Thesis: “Wrestling for Identity: The Unity of Deception and Blessing in the Jacob Cycle”
Advisor: Anatheia Portier-Young
- BA in Religion (summa cum laude) 2004
Augustana College (Sioux Falls, SD)
Thesis: “From the Shadows: Israel, Jesus, and the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 53”
Advisor: Murray Haar
Major: Religion Minor: Classics (Greek and Latin)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Adjunct Professor, Religious Studies 2013 –
Presentation College (Aberdeen, SD)
- Adjunct Professor, Religion and Philosophy 2011, 2013 –
Dakota Wesleyan University (Mitchell, SD)
- Adjunct Professor of Hebrew Bible 2012 – 2013
Sioux Falls Seminary (Sioux Falls, SD)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Religion, Philosophy, & Classics 2011 – 2012
Augustana College (Sioux Falls, SD)
- Adjunct Professor, Religion, Philosophy, & Classics 2010 – 2011
Augustana College (Sioux Falls, SD)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Jacob and the Divine Trickster: A Theology of Deception and YHWH's Fidelity to the Ancestral Promise in the Jacob Cycle. Siphrut: Literature and Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures 5. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2011.

An Untamable God: Reading the Old Testament's Troubling Texts Theologically
In process and under contract with Eerdmans.

Circling the Fire: A Jew and Christian Debate the Holocaust
Co-writing with Murray Haar, Augustana College. Under contract with Wipf & Stock.

Articles

“Awaiting an Answered Prayer: The Development and Reinterpretation of Habakkuk 3 in its Contexts,” *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 123 (2011): 53-71.

“Jacob, Laban, and a Divine Trickster? The Covenantal Framework of God's Deception in the Theology of the Jacob Cycle,” *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 36 (2009): 3-23.

Edited Volumes

Under contract is a volume I am co-editing (with Christopher Heard, Pepperdine University) on the book of Genesis.

Book Chapters

“Divine Deception in Genesis: What and Whose Theology?” in the edited Genesis volume to be published with Eisenbrauns (in process).

Book Reviews

John Goldingay, *Key Questions About Biblical Interpretation: Old Testament Answers*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2012).

Seth D. Postell, *Adam as Israel: Genesis 1-3 as the Introduction to the Torah and Tanakh*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2012).

Joseph Blenkinsopp, *Creation, Un-Creation, Re-Creation: A Discursive Commentary on Genesis 1-11*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2011).

Eric A. Seibert, *Disturbing Divine Behavior: Troubling Old Testament Images of God*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2011).

Howard Wallace, *Psalms (Readings)*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2011).

Jerome Walsh, *Old Testament Narrative: A Guide to Interpretation*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2011).

Athalya Brenner, Archie Chi Chung Lee, and Gale Yee (eds.), *Genesis: Texts @ Contexts*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2010).

Matthew R. Schlimm, *From Fratricide to Forgiveness: The Language and Ethics of Anger in Genesis*, *Theologische Literaturzeitung* (2012).

Miguel de la Torre, *Genesis: Belief Commentary*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (2013).

Rolf A. Jacobson and Karl N. Jacobson, *Invitation to the Psalms: A Reader's Guide for Discovery and Engagement*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (forthcoming 2016).

Thomas Römer, *Dark God: Cruelty, Sex, and Violence in the Old Testament*, *Review of Biblical Literature* [<http://www.bookreviews.org>] (forthcoming 2016).

Anthony Rees, *(Re)Reading Again: A Mosaic Reading of Numbers 25*, *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (forthcoming 2016).

Dictionary Articles

Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception (De Gruyter, forthcoming 2016)

“Issachar, Son of Jacob”

“Ithamar”

Lexham Bible Dictionary (Logos, 2012-2013) – included in the Faith Life Study Bible

“Creation”

“Rachel”

“Samuel, First and Second Books of”

“Genesis, Book of”

Popular Level Articles

“Why Leviticus is Central to Christian Theology,” *Bible Study Magazine* (Logos, Sept/Oct 2013)

“Why Can’t I Eat a Rock Badger? The Mystery of Clean and Unclean Animals in Lev 11,” *Bible Study Magazine* (Logos, Sept/Oct 2013)

“When God is the Problem, Not the Solution: Wrestling with the Book of Job,” *Bible Study Magazine* (Logos, Nov/Dec 2013)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Divine Deception in Genesis: What and Whose Theology?” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Genesis. San Francisco, CA (November 2011).

“A Theology of Deception: Toward Understanding YHWH’s Use of Deception in the Hebrew Bible.” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures. Atlanta, GA (November 2010).

“Replaying the Fool: Esau vs. Jacob and YHWH in Gen 32 and 33.” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Pentateuch. Atlanta, GA (November 2010).

“Replaying the Fool: Esau vs. Jacob and YHWH in Gen 32 and 33.” Southwest regional meeting of the SBL. Irving, TX (March 2009).

“A Trickster Oracle in Gen 25:23: Reading Jacob and Esau between *Beten* and Bethel.” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Bible Translation. New Orleans, LA (November 2009).

“A Trickster Oracle: Reading Jacob and Esau between *Beten* and Bethel.” Southwest regional meeting of the SBL. Irving, TX (March 2008).

“The Ancestral Covenant in Psalms 105 and 106: Their Function as the Conclusion to Book Four of the Psalter.” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Book of Psalms. Boston, MA (November 21-25, 2008).

“Jesus and the Patriarchs: The Imminent Fulfillment of the Ancestral Promise in Matt 8:5-13.” Annual meeting of the SBL. Program Unit: Matthew. Boston, MA (November 21-25, 2008).

“A Divine Trickster? The Covenantal Framework of God’s Deception in the Theology of the Jacob Narratives.” Southwest regional meeting of the SBL. Irving, TX (March 15, 2008).

“Jesus and the Patriarchs: The Imminent Fulfillment of the Ancestral Promise in Matt 8:5-13.” Southwest regional meeting of the SBL. Irving, TX (March 15, 2008).

“From the Shadows: Israel, Jesus, and the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53.” Augustana College Religion Department Colloquium. Sioux Falls, SD (March 2004).

“The Identity Project: A Study on the Motivations for Religious Conversion.” Upper Midwest regional meeting of the SBL. St. Paul, MN (April 2003).

“Conversion and Subversion: The Effect of Conversion on Religious Communities and the Self.” Augustana College Symposium. Sioux Falls, SD (April 2002).

GUEST LECTURES

“Living or Dying for God? Sanctification, Life, and Martyrdom During the Holocaust.” Invited for Dr. Marc Ellis’ ‘Hitler and the Holocaust’ class, Baylor University (2007).

MEDIA APPEARANCES

“Jacob the Trickster and Jacob the Blessed” for the library of micro-lectures at Pepperdine University. Available via iTunes U (forthcoming).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

Sioux Falls Seminary

Old Testament Literature

Biblical Hebrew Exegesis

Genesis

Job

Augustana College

Exploring the Christian Faith

After Auschwitz: The Shoah and the Christian Faith

Dakota Wesleyan University

Understanding the Old Testament

Biblical Interpretation and Proclamation

The Eclipse of God? Suffering and the Problem of Evil (traditional and online)

Pop Culture and Theology (traditional and online)

Service and Justice in the 21st Century (online)

Exploring History and Culture (online)

Presentation College

Christian Tradition (online)
Christian Ethics (traditional and online)
World Religions (online)
Old Testament overview (online)
Islam and the Muslim World (online)

Baylor University

Introduction to Christian Scriptures

Teaching Colloquy

2009

Baylor University, Department of Religion

Seminar focusing on pedagogy and method (undergraduate and graduate students), intellectual development of students, teacher/student relationships, modern theories of teaching and learning, practical and legal issues associated with the classroom, and teaching diverse areas of religion (world religions, biblical studies, theology/ethics).

Graduate Assistant

2006 – 2010

Baylor University, Department of Religion

Teaching Experience

“Lament Psalms” – Psalms and Wisdom Literature Course

“Introduction to Proverbs” – Psalms and Wisdom Literature Course

“Wisdom Psalms” – Psalms and Wisdom Literature Course

Intermediate Hebrew II

Research and teaching assistant for chair of religion department

Developed weekly quizzes, evaluated and graded all assignments, review sessions

Teaching Assistant (Greek)

2001 – 2004

Augustana College, Department of Religion, Philosophy, & Classics

Grade and provide feedback on student homework and quizzes

Research assistant

Occasional teaching

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Society of Biblical Literature

2007 –

Catholic Biblical Association

2010 –

Chair, Society of Biblical Literature Program Unit: Genesis

Founding and current steering committee member (chair). I wrote the initial proposal and solicited presenters, panelists, and committee members. I also successfully led the unit toward renewal for an extended term due to its initial success. In my capacity as chair I

am involved in the selection of papers to be presented at the annual SBL meeting for the unit, as well as serving as a representative at annual program unit chairs meetings. I have also secured a contract to publish the first two years of papers in an edited volume. Renewed to full program unit status in 2014.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary Teaching Competence

Hebrew Bible / Old Testament
Hebrew and Aramaic Languages
Old Testament Theology
Judaism / Jewish studies

Secondary Teaching Competence

New Testament
Greek
Jewish Philosophy and Theology
Holocaust and Post-Holocaust Theology

Research Interests

Old Testament Theology
Genesis and Pentateuch
Jacob
Psalms
Theodicy and Troubling Portrayals of God in the Bible
Literary Approaches to the Biblical Text

COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Dakota Wesleyan University

Majors and minors fair – represented religion and philosophy department at university-wide fair, soliciting potential majors / minors and sharing program information
Attend, participate, and vote at monthly meetings of the College of Arts and Humanities
Advising and mentoring of current students
Guest preacher at university chapel. Sermon title: “The Dance of Daring Prayer”
Chapel prayer
Lead group of students to religiously themed movies and hosted discussion forum after

Baylor University

Graduate Student Preview Weekend 2010
Organized and planned weekend events for prospective religion graduate students.
I arranged all travel, meals, lodging, events, and faculty conversations, served as a

representative for the Graduate Department in Religion to prospective students, and also coordinated at various levels with the graduate admissions committee. I also had to manage a budget for this task.

Graduate Theological Fellowship Committee 2007 – 2010

In this capacity I planned, organized, and implemented informational and community-oriented events for the graduate department in religion. Tasks included serving as a liaison between graduate students and graduate faculty, new graduate student orientation, brown bag lunches on publishing, getting a job, and dissertation matters, and organizing Fall and Spring faculty / student picnics.

Augustana College

Residence Life Staff 2002 – 2004

In addition to serving as a representative between students and the dean of students office, I served on the college's Central Planning Committee, which involved planning and implementing training sessions and monthly meetings for fellow staff members, as well as hiring new residence life staff members annually.

LANGUAGES

Hebrew
Aramaic
Ugaritic
Greek
Syriac
Latin
German
French
Spanish

HONORS AND AWARDS

Community Based Learning Award Recipient	2016
Honorarium, Baylor University	2011
SBL Regional Scholar Nominee (Southwest Region)	2010
Phi Beta Kappa	2010
Research and Travel Awards, Baylor University	2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
Academic Fellowship, Baylor University	2006 – 2010
Dean's Scholarship, Baylor University	2006 – 2010
Presidential Regents Scholar, Augustana College	2000 – 2004
Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities	2009
Who's Who Among American College Students	2001

Blue Key National Honor Society	2003 –
All American Collegiate Scholar	2002 – 2003
Brandaleone Family Scholarship, Duke Divinity	2005 – 2006
Fritz Rusch Memorial Scholarship, Augustana College	2003 – 2004
Oliver and Emma Swanson Scholarship, Augustana College	2002 – 2003
Paralyzed Veterans of America Scholarship	2001 – 2002
Clara and Milt Harvey Memorial Scholarship, Augustana College	2000 – 2001

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT / MINISTRY / SERVICE

Teaching / Education

First Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD

Taught six week adult education class on Prophets	2015
Taught six week adult education class on Megillot	2014
Taught six week adult education class on Exodus	2014
Taught six week adult education class on Psalms	2014
Taught six week adult education class on (Re-)thinking Jesus	2014
Taught six week adult education class on Job	2013
Taught six week adult education class on Nehemiah	2013
Invited to teach multi-week class on the Holocaust	2012
Taught three month adult education class on Genesis	2011
Youth education on the Old Testament prophets	2011

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD

Invited to teach two week adult education class on Job	2013
Invited to teach three week adult education class on Jacob / Genesis	2012

Ministry

Rostered Lay Pulpit Supply, South Dakota Synod, ELCA

I have lead worship and preached in a number of churches in southeastern South Dakota.

Church Service

Executive Committee	2014 – 2016
Staff Relations Committee	2014 – 2016
Board of Deacons	2012 – 2016
Elected chair	2014 – 2016
Worship and Music Committee	2012 – 2013
Altar Guild Committee	2012 – 2016
Narrator for Easter Cantata	2012
Worship Leader (Lent)	2011

Student Outreach Ministries, Augustana College

Plan group and fellowship activities	2000 – 2002
--------------------------------------	-------------

Organize Bible study for use at youth lock-ins at area churches

Volunteer Service Activity

Volunteer at Salvation Army, Mitchell, SD

Volunteer at the Banquet, Sioux Falls, SD

Serve meals and provide community to those less fortunate in the Sioux Falls community

Volunteer at Bowden Youth Center, Sioux Falls, SD

Landscaping and deck construction for youth to use for concert viewing and family visits

Volunteer at Children's Care Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD

Volunteer at Meals on Wheels, Mitchell, SD

REFERENCES

William H. Bellinger, Jr.
Chair of the Department of Religion
Baylor University
One Bear Place #97284
Waco, TX 76798-7284
(254) 710-6310
Bill_Bellinger@baylor.edu

Murray Haar
Professor of Religion
Augustana College
2001 S. Summit Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57197
(605) 274-5484
Murray.Haar@augie.edu

Anathea Portier-Young
Associate Professor of Old Testament
Duke Divinity School
Box 90968
Durham, NC 27708
(919) 660-3404
apyoung@div.duke.edu

Walter Brueggemann
McPheeters Professor of Old Testament
Emeritus, Columbia Theological Seminary
(513) 376-8795
brueggemann33@cinci.rr.com

James D. Nogalski
Professor of Old Testament
Baylor University
Tidwell Bible Building
Waco, TX 76798
(254) 710-1592
James_Nogalski@baylor.edu

Richard Swanson
Professor of Religion
Chair, Humanities Division
Augustana College
2001 S. Summit Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57197
(605) 274-5487
Richard.Swanson@augie.edu

Stephen Chapman
Associate Professor of Old Testament
Duke Divinity School
Box 90967
Durham, NC 27708
(919) 660-3408
schapman@div.duke.edu

Terence E. Fretheim
Elva B. Lovell Professor Emeritus of Old
Testament
Luther Seminary
2481 Como Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 641-3247
tfrethei@luthersem.edu