

RONALD E. OSBORN

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2012 Ph.D., Politics and International Relations (concentrations: political theory, comparative politics), University of Southern California
- 2005 M.Sc., Violence, Conflict and Development, The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
- 2002 M.A., Liberal Arts, Graduate Institute of St. John's College, Annapolis
- 1999 B.A., English, B.A., History, Atlantic Union College

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019- Associate Professor of Ethics and Philosophy, La Sierra University
- 2019 Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, Society, and Ethics, La Sierra University
- 2018- Executive Director, The John Henry Weidner Foundation for Altruism
- 2017-18 Program Manager, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Sudan
- 2017 Visiting Assistant Professor, Peace Studies Program, Chapman University
- 2014-16 Teaching Fellow, Peace and Justice Studies Program, Wellesley College
- 2014 Lecturer, Honors Program, University of California Los Angeles
- 2013-14 Lecturer, Department of International Relations, University of Southern California
- 2002-04 Lecturer, English Department, Asia-Pacific International University, Thailand
- 1999 Project Assistant Coordinator, International Medical Corps, Kosovo

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

Humanism and the Death of God: Searching for the Good After Darwin, Marx, and Nietzsche (Oxford University Press, 2017).

Death Before the Fall: Biblical Literalism and the Problem of Animal Suffering (IVP Academic, 2014)

Anarchy and Apocalypse: Essays on Faith, Violence, and Theodicy (Wipf and Stock/Cascade Books, 2010).

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

“Does ‘Religious Violence’ Exist?: An Argument Against Essentialism With Particular Reference to the Conquest of the Americas,” *Politics and Religion* (Cambridge University), Vol.7, No.3, September 2014: 569-589.

“Seyla Benhabib, Wendell Berry, and the Question of Migrant and Refugee Rights,” *Humanitas* (National Humanities Institute), Vol.23, No.2, Fall 2010: 118-138.

“Correlates of Violence in Guinea’s Maison Centrale Prison: A Statistical Approach to Documenting Human Rights Abuses,” *Health and Human Rights* (Harvard University), Vol.12, No.2, 2010: 73-87.

“Noam Chomsky and the Realist Tradition,” *Review of International Studies* (Cambridge University), Vol.35, No.2, 2009: 351-370.

“William Lloyd Garrison and the United States Constitution: The Political Evolution of an American Radical,” *Journal of Law and Religion* (Hamline University) Vol.24, No.1, 2009: 65-88.

“Geometries of Force in Homer’s *Iliad*: Two Readings,” *Humanitas* (National Humanities Institute), Vol.21, No.1, 2008: 168-178.

“On the Path of Perpetual Revolution: From Marx’s Millenarianism to the Shining Path,” *Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions* (Routledge), Vol.8, No.1, 2007: 115-135.

Book Chapters

“Chomsky and Religion,” *Noam Chomsky: Critical Explorations in Contemporary Political Thought*, ed. Alison Edgley, series editor James Martin (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015): 11-32.

“A Death to Celebrate?: The Just-War Tradition and the Killing of Osama bin Laden,” *Moral Issues and Christian Responses*, Eighth Edition, eds. Patricia Beattie Jung and Shannon Jung (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2013, reprinted from *Commonweal Magazine*): 29-32.

Non-Peer Reviewed Articles and Reviews

“The President of Expressive Individualism,” *America Magazine*, Vol.220, No.2, January 21, 2019.

“Review: *For the Love of All Creatures* by William Greenway,” *Interpretation* (SAGE Publishing), Vol.7, No.2, April 2018: 220.

“Conservatism by Other Means: Samuel Moyn’s *Christian Human Rights*,” *The Hedgehog Review* (University of Virginia), Vol.18, No.1, Spring 2016: 126-131.

“The Great Subversion: The Scandalous Origins of Human Rights,” *The Hedgehog Review* (University of Virginia), Vol.17, No.2, Summer 2015: 91-100.

“Ronald Dworkin’s Onto-Theology,” *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Harvard University), Vol.43, Nos.1-2, Winter/Spring 2015: 80-84.

“The Overdetermined Universe: Fatalism, Divine Resentment and the Paradox of Freedom in Herodotus’ History,” *Modern Age*, Vol.57, No.1, Winter 2015: 33-43.

“Just-War Illusions: Shrouding Brutalities with Theological Euphemisms,” *Commonweal Magazine*, Vol.141, No.6, March 21, 2014: 8-11.

“‘Beauty Will Save the World’: Metaphysical Rebellion and the Theodicy Dilemma in Dostoevsky’s *Brothers Karamazov*,” *Modern Age*, Vol.54, Nos.1-4, Winter-Fall 2012: 99-108.

“Leaving Iraq: Immunity, Impunity and the End of the War,” *Commonweal Magazine*, Vol.139, No.5, March 12, 2012 (cover story): 16-19.

“A Death to Celebrate?: The Just War Tradition and the Killing of Bin Laden,” *Commonweal Magazine*, Vol.138, No.11, June 3, 2011 (cover story): 8-11.

“Who Counts?: Iraq’s Forgotten Casualties,” *Commonweal Magazine*, Vol.138, No.11, February 11, 2011 (cover story): 10-14.

“Nihilism’s Conscience: On Nietzsche’s Politics of Aristocratic Radicalism,” *Modern Age*, Vol.52, No.4, Fall 2010: 292-307.

“A Reckoning: The Price Tag for America’s Wars,” *Commonweal Magazine*, Vol. 137, No.13, July 16, 2010: 10-13.

“Obama’s Niebuhrian Moment,” *First Things* (online edition), January 11 and 12, 2010.

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

External

- 2015 U.S. Fulbright Scholarship, Burma/Myanmar (May-September)
- 2014-16 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Wellesley College
- 2011-12 Glovin Endowed Scholarship, Oskar Schindler Humanities Foundation
- 2011 Social Science Research Council Religion and International Affairs Dissertation Workshop Award (faculty mentor R. Scott Appleby)

Internal

- 2017 Chapman University Faculty Appreciation Award Nominee for outstanding teaching
- 2013 Dornsife Faculty Research Fellowship, Genocide Resistance Cluster, University of Southern California
- 2013 Order of Areté, University of Southern California
- 2011-12 Center for International Studies Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 2008 School of International Relations Summer Research Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 2006 Unruh Institute Summer Internship Grant, University of Southern California
- 2006-12 Elizabeth von Kleinsmid Bannerman Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 2005 Distinction, The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
- 1999 Summa cum laude, Atlantic Union College

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

La Sierra University

- Philosophy of Religion (Spring 2019)
- Topics in Ethics (Spring 2019)
- Christian Social Ethics (Winter 2019)
- Biblical Ethics (Winter 2019)

Peace Studies Program, Chapman University

Model United Nations (Spring 2017)
Research Methods in Peace Studies (Spring 2017)
Introduction to Peace Studies (Spring 2017)

Peace and Justice Studies Program, Wellesley College

Introduction to Peace and Justice Studies (Spring 2016)
Directed Study: Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age* (Spring 2016)
Conflict Transformation (Spring 2015, Spring 2016)
Senior Seminar: Grounding Human Rights (Fall 2015)

Honors Collegium, University of California Los Angeles

Literature and the Political Order: Homer, Shakespeare, Dostoevsky (Spring 2014)

Department of International Relations, University of Southern California

Theories of War (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)
Religion and Violence (Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014)
Terrorism and Liberal Democracy (Spring 2013, Fall 2013)

Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Asia-Pacific International University, Thailand

Composition, literature, and English as a second language (2002-04)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2013 Field research, religion and resistance to genocide, East Timor
- 2011 Field research, religion and resistance to the Shining Path insurgency, Peru
- 2008 Field research, Marxian ideology among Shining Path members in prison, Peru
- 2006 Field research, human rights violations inside Maison Centrale Prison, Guinea

INVITED TALKS & LECTURES

- 2019 "Violence in the Book of Joshua: A Canaanite Reading," Paul J. Landa Memorial Lecture, La Sierra University (April 25)
- 2018 "Was Darwin an Ultra-Darwinian?: The Limits of Darwinian Ethics," Herr Lecture Series, Burman University (November 4)

- 2016 “Nihilism in the Book of Job,” guest lecture, Honors Core, Andrews University (November 28)
- 2016 “Values After Darwin: Evolution, Ethics, and the New Naturalism,” Dalton Baldwin Memorial Lecture, Loma Linda University (May 7)
- 2012 “Ultimate Frisbee in North Korea,” guest lecture, Communism in a Post Communist World course, Occidental College (November 13)
- 2012 “‘Because We Give Life We Defend It’: Women’s Resistance to the Shining Path in Peru,” Center for International Studies, University of Southern California (April 18)

CONFERENCE & PANEL PARTICIPATION

- 2019 Respondent, “The Escape Line,” lecture by M. Koreman, Dalton Baldwin Lecture, Loma Linda University (May 25)
- 2016 “The Original Breakthrough: The Perils of Selective Memory and Samuel Moyn’s Genealogy of Human Rights,” paper presented at the Western Political Science Association, San Diego (March 26)
- 2016 Panel Chair, “Comparative Politics: Religion and Politics,” “Political Theory: Critical and Normative,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego (March 26)
- 2015 Panelist, “Civic Identity and Multiculturalism,” Diversity Conference, U.S. Embassy and Myanmar-United States Friendship Association, Jefferson Center, Mandalay, Burma/Myanmar (May 15)
- 2015 Moderator, “Can We Have MLK’s Dream Without His Faith?,” Veritas Forum, Wellesley College (April 2)
- 2014 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego (November 22-25)
- 2014 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (August 28-31)
- 2013 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore (November 23-26)
- 2013 Panelist, “No News from Harare,” documentary film screening and panel discussion, School of Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California (March 12)
- 2013 Respondent, “What Does it Mean to Be Peacemakers in a Divided World?,” lecture by Philip Clayton, Paul J. Landa Memorial Lecture, La Sierra University (February 23)

- 2012 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago (November 17-20)
- 2012 Panelist, “Reimagine Citizenship,” Levan Institute for Humanities and Ethics, Coffeehouse Conversations on Practical Ethics, University of Southern California (September 26)
- 2011 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco (November 19-22)
- 2008 Panelist, “IR Theory and Its Prospects,” European Consortium for Political Research Graduate Conference, Barcelona (August 25)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (intermediate reading and conversation), Thai (basic conversation)

OTHER ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

The John Henry Weidner Foundation for Altruism, 2016-present

Charitable Giving Campaign Committee, Wellesley College, 2015-16

Pyongyang Ultimate Frisbee Tournament for Peace, North Korea, 2012

American Academy of Religion, 2010-present

University of Southern California Marathon Team, 2007-08

American Political Science Association, 2006-present

Thai Society, The School of Oriental and African Studies, 2004-05

Physicians for Human Rights Conference on Medical Ethics, Kosovo, 1999

REFERENCES

J. Ann Tickner
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University of Southern California
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