

Terry D Shoemaker

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Arizona State University
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EDUCATION

PhD, Religious Studies, August 2018

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Dissertation: "Competing Christianities: Social Dynamics of Religious Change in the Upper South"

Committee: Profs. Linell Cady, Joel Gereboff, and Gaymon Bennett

MA, *summa cum laude*, Religious Studies, May 2013

Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

BA, *summa cum laude*, Religious Studies and History, May 2001

Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Current Associate Teaching Professor, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies,
Arizona State University

Co-Director, Sports @ Humanities Institute, Arizona State University

Associate Teaching Professor, American Studies (Affiliate)

Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Arizona State University

Co-Editor/Creator, *International Journal of Sport and Religion*

President-Elect, Society for the Future of Higher Education

Co-Chair, AAR Religion, Sport, Play Unit

2018-2023 Lecturer/Assistant Teaching Professor, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious
Studies, Arizona State University

2016-2018 Adjunct Faculty, Chandler Gilbert College and Western Kentucky University

2015-2018 Faculty Associate, Arizona State University

2014-2015 Research Assistant, Center for the Study of Religion & Conflict
Arizona State University

2013-2014 Adjunct Instructor, Honor's College and Diversity & Community Studies,
Western Kentucky University

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Religion and Sport, Race and Religion, Religion and Popular Culture, Spiritual but Not Religious,
Religious Trends in the United States, Exvangelicalism and Evangelicalism

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Shoemaker, Terry. *Ordered Attention: Sacred Practices for a Digital World*. Under Contract.

Shoemaker, Terry. *The Spiritual Resurgence: Cultural Transformations and the Spiritual but Not Religious*. Fortress Press. Available August 2026.

Shoemaker, Terry. *Religion and Sports: The Basics*. Routledge. 2024.

Terry Shoemaker, Rachel Schneider Vlachos, and Xochitl Alvizo. *The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion, Vol. 2: Curations and Durations*, Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2022.

Shoemaker, Terry. *The Prophetic Dimension of Sport*. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing, 2018.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Shoemaker, Terry D. 2026. "Is Sport Really Religion? Critical Assessments" *Religions* 17, no. 2: 148. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel17020148>.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Five Typologies of Religious Approaches to Recreational Sport," *International Journal of Sport and Religion* 3:1 (2025), 27-47.

Shoemaker, Terry. "The Sport and Religion Connection." *International Journal of Sport and Religion* 2:2 (2024): 31-38.

Shoemaker, Terry and Ciara Bernal. "Skateboarding and Embodied Subjective-Life Spirituality," *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 39:2(2024), 209-228.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Skateboarding and Pickleball as Spirituality? Methodologies and Considerations," *International Journal of Sport and Religion* 1:2 (2023).

Shoemaker, Terry. "Current Issues: Religion and Professional Football, A Conversation with Retired Football Players Matt Ware and Hamza Abdullah," *International Journal of Sport and Religion* 1:2 (2023).

Shoemaker, Terry. "Religion and Sport: Future Directions for the Field," *International Journal of Sport and Religion* 1:1 (2023).

Shoemaker, Terry. "World Religion and 'Fake News': A Pedagogical Response in an Age of Post-Truth," *Teaching Theology and Religion* 22 (2019), 280-290.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Deconversion, Sport, and Rehabilitative Hope," *Religions* 10 (2019), 1-13.

Book Chapters

Shoemaker, Terry. "Sport, Religion, and Absence: The Subfield of Religion and Sport as an Explanatory Tool for the Moment," *Religion and Sports in North America*, Edited by Jeffrey Scholes and Randall Balmer. Routledge: 2023.

Shoemaker, Terry, Rachel Schneider Vlachos, and Xochitl Alvizo. "The Emerging Church Movement: Possible Futures and Trajectories," in *The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion, Vol. 2*, Edited by Terry Shoemaker, Rachel Schneider Vlachos, and Xochitl Alvizo. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2022.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Crafting Subversive Church: The Ecclesiological Life of Emerging Christians in the Upper South," in *The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion, Vol. 2*, Edited by Terry Shoemaker, Rachel Schneider Vlachos, and Xochitl Alvizo. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2022.

Shoemaker, Terry. "God, Guts, and Glory: An Investigation of Relational Support Mechanisms for War Veterans Provided by Religious Communities," in *Objective Religion II* edited by Byron R. Johnson. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2022.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Running the Prophetic Point: The NBA, Black Lives Matter and Prophetic Imagination," in *The Prophetic Dimension of Sport*, Edited by Terry Shoemaker, Springer International Publishing, 2018, 37-49.

Shoemaker, Terry. "Deconstructing Westphalia: The Emerging Church, Citizen Pilgrims, and Globalization," in *The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion, Vol. 1*, Edited by Randall Reed and Michael Zbaraschuk, Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2018, 66-83.

Public Work

"The French Baron Who Revived the Olympics Believed They Were More Than Sport – They Were a Religion of Perfection and Peace," with Dr. Jeff Scholes, *The Conversation*, August 2, 2024.

“Why the Olympic Games Are a ‘Civil Religious’ Ceremony with a Global Congregation,” *The Conversation*, July 6, 2024.

“Gen Z Is Moving Away from Traditional Religion, but That Doesn’t Mean They Aren’t Spiritual,” *KJZZ*, November 16, 2023.

“Where I Go: Praying to the Pickleball Gods,” *Zócalo Public Square*, November 10, 2022.

“Skateboarding’s Spiritual Side – Skaters Find Meaning in Falls and Breaking the Monotony of Urban Life,” *The Conversation*, March 3, 2022.

“God Save the Capitol,” *Zócalo Public Square*, January 5, 2022.

“Understanding Evangelicalism in America Today,” *The Conversation*, August 4,

“Why Younger Evangelicals Are Leaving the Faith,” *The Conversation*, July 15, 2021.

“White Gen X and Millennial Evangelicals are Losing Faith in the Conservative Culture Wars,” *The Conversation*, June 22, 2021.

“Our Need for Sports During the Pandemic Is Far Deeper Than Just Entertainment,” *Religion Dispatches*. May 6, 2020.

“A Journal of the Plague Year: An Archive of COVID-19,” Religion Curator. Arizona State University, 2020.

The Podcast of the Plague Year – Curator and Host, 2020-2021.

“Why We Miss Sports,” *KJZZ Phoenix, AZ (Interview)*, April 2020.

“The Religious Mourning of ‘Saint’ Kobe Bryant Continues,” *Religion Dispatches*. February 25, 2020.

“To Be Welcoming: Religion,” (Religious Bias and Discrimination Training) Starbucks and Arizona State University Collaboration, 2019.

Book Reviews

Pitt, Richard N. *Church Planters: Inside the World of Religion Entrepreneurs*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022. In *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 61(2), 2022.

Corrina Laughlin, *Redeem All. How Digital Life is Changing Evangelical Culture*, UC Press, 2021. In *California History*, 2023.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2026 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies

REL 101 – Religion and Public Life
REL 294 – Religious Freedom
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
REL 492 – Honors Directed Study
REL 502 – The Study of Religion II (Graduate Course)

- Fall 2025 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 101 – Religion and Public Life
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
REL 493 – Honors Thesis
REL 499 – Individualized Instruction
REL 593 – Applied Project
REL 598/HST 598 – Religion in the United States (Graduate Course)
- Spring 2025 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
- Fall 2024 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture (2 Sections)
REL 101 – Religion and Public Life (2 Sections)
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 493 – Honors Thesis Project
- Spring 2024 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 383/ASB 383 – Religion and Sport
REL 502 – The Study of Religion II (Graduate Course)
REL 101 – Religion and Public Life
REL 394 – Spirituality in America
REL 493 – Honors Thesis
- Fall 2023 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 101 – Religion and Public Life
- Spring 2023 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
REL 394 – Spirituality in America
REL 101 – Religion and Public Life
- Fall 2022 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, Public Life

REL 383 – Religion and Sports

- Spring 2022 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, Public Life
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
REL 394 – Spirituality in America
REL 499 – Individualized Instruction – Topic: White Christian Nationalism
- Fall 2021 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, Public Life
REL 383 – Religion and Sports
- Spring 2021 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, and Public Life
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 383/ABS 383 – Religion and Sports
REL 690 – Graduate Independent Study Topic: Religion & Pop Culture Theory
- Fall 2020 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, and Public Life
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
- Spring 2020 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 101 – Religion, Culture, and Public Life
- Fall 2019 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 307 – Religion: Theory and Practice
REL 394 – Special Topics Seminar: Bible Belt Religion
REL 321 – Religion in America
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
- Spring 2019 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 321 - Religion in America
REL 202 – Religion and Popular Culture
REL 107/SGS 107 – Religion and Globalization
REL 201 – Religion and the Modern World
- Fall 2018 Arizona State University, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
REL 321 - Religion in America
REL 321 - Religion in America

REL 100 - Religion, Culture, and Public Life
REL 202 - Religion and Popular Culture

INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES

- 2026 “Are Sport the New Religion?” The Symposium, Scottsdale, Arizona.
- 2024 “Are Sport Really the New Religion?: Some Considerations,” Sport and Religion Research Alliance, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2023 “Public Facing Scholarship,” Graduate Society for Public Access to the Humanities, Arizona State University and University of California, Irvine, April, Tempe, Arizona.
- 2022 “The Future of Religion,” Rice University Center for Religion and Public Life, December, Houston, Texas
- 2021 “Expanding the Voices,” Inclusive Teaching Strategy Series, February, Arizona State University
- 2019 “Running the Prophetic Point: Sports and Prophetic Activity in America,” Western Kentucky University, October, Bowling Green, Kentucky

PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 Spiritual Warfare: Boxing, Religion, Art, ASU’s Humanities Institute, Tempe, AZ
- 2025 Mary Jo Small Mentoring Program, Society for the Future of Higher Education, Summer Conference, July, Lead Designer of program and lead facilitator, La Roche University, Pennsylvania
- “Learning Is a Journey: Developing Effective and Impactful Learning Offerings,” ASU Learning Summit, August.
- “Religious Studies Workshop: Graduate Presentations,” ASU Religious Studies, Moderator and Respondent, October.
- 2024 “Engaging Spirituality: A Conversation on Methods and Stakes,” American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA. Panel.
- “Religion and Sport Fandom,” American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA. Panel Moderator.
- “Religious Protections and Politics in a Secular America,” Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. Moderator and Organizer.

“The Sport and Religion Connection: A Conversation Between Scholars,” ASU Sport @ Humanities Institute Event with Professors Randall Balmer, Tracy Fessenden and Terry Shoemaker, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

“Online Accessibility Workshop,” Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

“Exploring the Future of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Higher Education,” Conference on Higher Education, Values, Identity, Belonging, and Purpose, University of Missouri-Kansas City with Dr. Vivienne Felix.

2023 “Religious Interventions: Religion and Power Dynamics in the Bible Belt,” British Sociological Association, Bristol University, Bristol, UK, July, paper.

“Sports as Spiritual Practice? Debating the Usefulness of ‘Spiritual’ in Studies on Sport,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November, paper.

2022 “Virtual Mentoring Conference,” Society for the Future of Higher Education, February, virtual – moderator and organizer.

“Religion and Sport Under Duress,” American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO, November, Moderator

2021 “Skateboarding, Violence, Spirituality,” American Academy of Religion, November, San Antonio, TX

“Back to the Future: Public Demonstrations of Possessive Whiteness and the 6th of January,” British Association for American Studies, April, Virtual

2020 “Gallery of Wicked Provocations,” (presider), Society for Values in Higher Education, Virtual, July

“Religion and Popular Culture – Bootlegging Religion,” (response) Arizona State University Graduate Association of Religious Studies Symposium, April, Tempe, AZ

2019 “The Emerging Church Movement: Possible Futures and Trajectories,” (paper) American Academy of Religion, November, San Diego, CA

“What We Talk About When We Talk About War: The Humanities and the Moral Costs of Conflict,” (panel) School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

“Orange is the New Black, Religion and Rehabilitation: The Continued Utility of Religion in American Popular Culture,” Religion in American Life Symposium, July, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England

“Critiques of Higher Education,” (response) Society for Values in Higher Education, July,

Chicago, IL

“Liberal Arts and the World of Work,” (presider) Society for Values in Higher Education, July, Chicago, IL

“Political and Religious Rehabilitation: Emerging Christianities, Complicity and Resistance,” (paper) Western Region American Academy of Religion, March, Tempe, AZ

2018 “Authors Meet Critics: Millennials, *The Emerging Church and Religion, Vol. 1: Problems and Prospects* (Wipf and Stock, 2018)” (panel) American Academy of Religion, November, Denver, CO

“‘God Armour’ and Meaning Making,” (paper) ASU Graduate Student Symposium Arizona State University, April, Tempe, AZ

GRANTS

2019 Mary Jo Small Fellowship, Society for the Future of Higher Education

2018 Arizona State University Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict – Friends of the Center Summer Research Grant

Arizona State University CLAS Doctoral Fellowship for First Generation Graduate Students

2017 Dissertation Research Grant, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies

2016 Arizona State University Graduate Education Student Support Services Travel Award

Arizona State University Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict – Friends of the Center Summer Research Grant

ACADEMIC SERVICE

National

Co-editor – *International Journal of Sport and Religion* – Catholic University of America Press

American Academy of Religion

- Steering Committee Member Research Track – The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion (2015-2020)
- Steering Committee Member Unit – Religion, Sport, Play Unit (2017-2025)
- Co-chair – Religion, Sport, Play Unit (2026-Present)

Public - A Journal of Imagining America, Peer Reviewer (2015-2016)

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography – Peer Reviewer (2016-2017)
Soundings – Peer Reviewer (2016-Present)
Religions – Peer Reviewer (2019-Present)

Arizona State University

- Co-Director Sports at Humanities Institute
- ASU College Senate Representative 2023-25
- Career Track Faculty Search Committee
- Graduate Student Association Professional Consultant
- Sport, Society, and the Human Experience undergraduate/graduate degree development program 2022-2025
- Spirituality and Public Life Project with Center for the Study of Religion & Conflict 2022-Present
- Religion and Professional Life Graduate Certificate Development Committee 2022
- Learning Enterprise REL 101 Course Development Lead 2021-22
- Dissertation Committee Member – Heather Wetherholt
- Honors Thesis Committees Member
- Faculty Forum Planning Committee 2021/2022/2023
- Journal of the Plague Year - religion curator
- Podcast of the Plague Year - creator, curator, and host
- Committee for Undergraduate Education 2019/20
- ASU/Starbucks Anti-Bias Training Development Team 2019/20
- Lead Planner/Organizer – Graduate Symposium on Religion (Theme – “Intersections and Resistances”) April 6 and 7, 2017

Society for the Future of Higher Education:

- President-Elect, 2026
- Vice-President 2020-23, 2024-Present
- Program Committee Lead
- Virtual Mentoring Conference Co-Organizer and Moderator

REFERENCES

Dr. Randall Balmer, Professor
Dartmouth College
Randall.Balmer@dartmouth.edu

Dr. Eric Bain-Selbo, Dean
Southeast Missouri State University
ebainselbo@semo.edu

Dr. Xochitl Alvizo, Associate Professor
California State University, Northridge
Xochitl.alvizo@csun.edu

Dr. Rachel C. Schneider, Assistant Professor
University of Tennessee
rschnel1@utk.edu

Dr. Joel Cunningham, Chancellor
jcunning@sewanee.edu

Dr. Evan Berry, Associate Professor, Religious Studies
Arizona State University
Evan.Berry@asu.edu

Dr. Tracy Fessenden, Professor, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict
Arizona State University
tracy.fessenden@asu.edu