

Avalon Jade Theisen

525 W. Lakeside Drive, Unit #140
Tempe, AZ 85281
(813) 469-3700
ATheise2@asu.edu
LinkedIn: AvalonJadeTheisen

Education

Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, Arizona
PhD Student, Religious Studies, Anthropology of Religion track, 2021-Present

Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, Arizona
Master of Nonprofit Leadership and Management Student, 2024-Present

Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, Arizona
Master of Arts in Religious Studies, In-Passing, May 2023
Graduated With Distinction

University of Florida (UF), Gainesville, Florida
Post-baccalaureate 2021
Religion and Nature in North America

University of South Florida (USF), Tampa, Florida
Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, Certificate in Food Studies, December 2020
Honors Thesis: "Religious Impact on Diet & Agriculture: How 16 Faith Traditions Consider Food"
Graduated *summa cum laude*

St. Petersburg College (SPC), Tarpon Springs, Florida
Associate of Arts in General Studies, May 2018
Graduated *summa cum laude*

Academic Positions

Book Reviews Coordinator, *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, September 2021 to present.

Duties include: Coordinating reviewers for new review titles; ensuring reviewer timeliness with submissions; communicating with publishers to secure review copies; finding new titles for review; effectively communicating with other Book Review Team members.

Arizona Student Representative, American Academy of Religion, Western Region, 2024-2025.

Duties include: Outreach to professors and students to encourage involvement in the 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region. Helped coordinate volunteers. Presented on time management skills as part of a graduate student professional development panel.

Co-Chair, Ecology and Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion, Western Region. 2024-2025.

Internship & Practicum

Research Internship, U.S. Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom, September 2022-May 2025 (3 annual terms). Effective Methods and Theories in Advancing Religious Freedom.

Practicum, Project Green Schools, May 2025-August 2025. Nonprofit Leadership and Management in Environmental Education.

Journal Articles (Peer Reviewed)

"Adamah: A Jewish Environmental Nonprofit Organization." *The International Journal of Literary Humanities*, Vol. 23, Issue 3. 2024.

"Avatar & Religious Justification for & Against Mining." *Thrive: Undergraduate Research Journal*: Vol. 1, No. 1, Article 7. 2021. [University of South Florida]

"Religious Implications for Agriculture, Diet, and Social Issues." *The Macksey Journal*: Vol. 1, Article 30. 2020. [Johns Hopkins University]

Publications (Public-Facing)

"Accountability for Violations of Religious Freedom." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. Forthcoming May 2025.

"Religious Engagement in Democratization." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. April 2024.

"Democracy, Parties, and Religion: Political Institutions Literature." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. March 2024.

"Religious Freedom Advocacy Literature Review Guidebook: Causes of Religious Conflict and Effective Lobbying of Religious Freedom." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. August 2023.

"Social Inclusion Advocacy Literature Review Guidebook: Social Causes of Religious Conflict and Promotion of Religious Freedom at the Community Level." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. May 2023

"Intergroup Contact Theory Issue Brief Infographic: How Segregation Furthers Religious Conflict, While Formal and Informal Means of Interacting with People of Other Religions Further Religious Freedom." Department of State, Office of International Religious Freedom. January 2023

Book Reviews

Theisen, Avalon Jade. "Review of *Water Beings: From Nature Worship to the Environmental Crisis* by Veronica Strang." *Nova Religio*, vol. 28 no. 1, p. 105-106, 2024.

Teaching Experience – Curricula Created and Independently Taught

Nature, Sustainability and Religion (REL 349), Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2025 (scheduled).

World Religions and Avatar, Athena's Advanced Academy, Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Fall 2025 (scheduled).

World Religions and Nature, Athena's Advanced Academy, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024.
Scheduled late Spring 2025.

World Religions and Food, Athena's Advanced Academy, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025.

World Religions and Sustainable Development, Athena's Advanced Academy, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Fall 2025 (scheduled).

Peacemakers: Taking Action for Positive Change, Athena's Advanced Academy, Fall 2017, Fall 2019, Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Fall 2025 (scheduled).

Teaching Experience – Graduate Teaching Assistantships

Religion and Pop Culture (REL 202), TA for Devin Burns, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2025, session C.

Religion in America (REL 321), TA for Devin Burns, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2025, session C.

Religion in America (REL 321), TA for Devin Burns, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2024, session C.

Religion and Pop Culture (REL 202), *Online*, TA for Devin Burns, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2024, session B.

Religion and Pop Culture (REL 202), *Online*, TA for Terry Shoemaker, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2024, session A.

Hinduism (REL 350), *Online*, TA for Alexander Henn, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2024, session B.

Jewish Philosophy (REL 314), TA for Hava Tirosh-Samuels, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2024, session C.

Buddhism (REL 351), *Online*, TA for Juliane Schober, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2023, session B.

Religion in America (REL 321), *Online*, TA for Leah Sarat, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2023, session A.

Nature, Sustainability and Religion (REL 349), TA for Hava Tirosh-Samuels, PhD., Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2023, session C.

Witchcraft and Heresy in Europe (REL 374), *Online*, TA for Doe Daughtrey, PhD, MSW, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2023, session B.

Life, Sex and Death (REL 205), *Online*, TA for Doe Daughtrey, PhD, MSW, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2023, session B.

Religion, Culture and Public Life (REL 101), *Online*, TA for Evan Berry, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2023, session A.

Ritual, Symbol, & Myth (REL 207), *Online*, TA for Huaiyu Chen, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2022, session B.

Buddhism (REL 351), *Online*, TA for Juliane Schober, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2022, session B.

Buddhism (REL 351), *Online*, TA for Huaiyu Chen, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2022, session A.

Religion in America (REL 321), *Online*, TA for Leah Sarat, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2022, session A.

Religion, Culture and Public Life (REL 101), *Online*, Grader for Terry Shoemaker, PhD and Lenora Ott, Sr. Instructional Designer, Learning Enterprise at Arizona State University. Summer 2022.

Religion and Moral Issues (REL 381), *Online*, TA for Han Hsien Liew, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2022, session B.

Religion and Popular Culture (REL 202), *Online*, TA for Evan Berry, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Spring 2022, session A.

Life, Sex and Death (REL 205), *Online*, TA for Doe Daughtrey, PhD, MSW, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2021, session B.

Religion, Ethics & International Politics (REL 388), *Online*, TA for Evan Berry, PhD, Arizona State University School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Fall 2021, session A.

Honors, Awards, and Grants

2024-2025 P.E.O. Scholar Award. \$25,000 research award by the International Chapter of the P.E.O. and special designation as the 2024-2025 Jane B. Smith Endowed Scholar

2024-2025 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2025 American Academy of Religion, Western Region (March 2025)

2024-2025 ASU Graduate College Travel Award Q3 for the 2025 American Academy of Religion, Western Region (March 2025)

2024-2025 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2025 American Academy of Religion, Western Region (March 2025)

2024-2025 ASU Graduate Student Government (previously GPSA) Travel Grant, for an Individual Travel award for the 2024 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (October 2024)

2024-2025 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2024 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (September 2024)

2024-2025 ASU Graduate College Travel Award Q2 for the 2024 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (September 2024)

University Graduate Fellowship/ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies (SHPRS) Research Grant Award for Fall 2024, for multiple conferences (September 2024)

2024-2025 ASU 2024-2025 ASU Graduate Student Government Individual Travel Award Grant (June 2024)

2024-2025 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2024 European Association for the Study of Religions (June 2024)

2024-2025 ASU Graduate College Travel Award for the 2024 European Association for the Study of Religions (June 2024)

2024 Emerging Scholar, 8th Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture (June 2024)

2023-2024 ASU Individual Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Travel Grant for the Eighth Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture (May 2024)

2023-2024 Graduate Excellence Award, Arizona State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (March 2024)

University Graduate Fellowship/ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies (SHPRS) Research Grant Award for Spring 2024, for the 2024 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (January 2024)

2023-2024 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2024 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (January 2024)

2023-2024 ASU Graduate College Travel Award for the 2024 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (January 2024)

2023-2024 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2023 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion (October 2023)

2023-2024 ASU Graduate College Travel Award for the 2023 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion (October 2023)

University Graduate Fellowship/ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies (SHPRS) Research Grant Award for Fall 2024, for multiple conferences (September 2023)

2023-2024 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2023 Parliament of the World's Religions (June 2023)

2023-2024 ASU Graduate College Travel Award for the 2023 Parliament of the World's Religions (June 2023)

2023 Emerging Scholar Award for outstanding early-career scholars & graduate students, Twenty-first International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities (June 2023)

2022-2023 Graduate Excellence Award, Arizona State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (April 2023)

1st Place, Student Paper Competition, 2023 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (March 2023)

United Nations 8th International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly. Representing Project Green Schools, by invitation. United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY (February 2023)

University Graduate Fellowship/ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies (SHPRS) Research Grant Award for Spring 2023, for multiple conferences

ASU Individual Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Travel Grant for the 2023 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (AARWR)

2022-23 ASU Graduate College Travel Award Grant for the 2023 International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture Conference

2022-23 ASU Graduate College Travel Award Grant for the 2023 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region

The College Student Leader 2021-2022, ASU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (The College); nominated by and representing the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. November 2022

2022-2023 ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Travel Award Grant for the 2022 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR)

2022-23 ASU Graduate College Travel Award Grant for the 2022 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR)

University Graduate Fellowship/ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies (SHPRS) Research Grant Award for Fall 2022

2021-2022 Graduate Excellence Award, Arizona State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

3rd Place, Student Paper Competition, 2022 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (AAR/WR)

ASU Individual Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Travel Grant for the 2022 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region (AAR/WR)

ASU Individual Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Travel Grant for the 2021 Annual Meeting/Conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Success in Graduate Writing Camp Funding Award Grant, Arizona State University Graduate & Professional Student Association. Summer 2021

2020 Judy Genshaft Honors College Research Grant, University of South Florida

2019 Global Citizen Program Study Abroad Scholar Award, University of South Florida

Research Panels Organized

Co-organizer. “Environmental Performance and Social Justice.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region. Joint session co-organized by the Religion, Science, and Technology Unit, the Indigenous Religions Unit, and the Ecology and Religion Unit. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. March 2025.

Co-organizer. “Ecological and Spiritual Approaches to Peacebuilding in a Fractured World.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Ecology and Religion Unit. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. March 2025.

Co-convener Dr. Yael Dansac, Discussant Dr. Bron Taylor. “Eco-Spiritual Climate Action: Innovations and Contradictions in Environmental Activism.” 2024 European Association for the Study of Religions Conference. University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden. August 2024.

Research Presentations (Oral)

“EcoSikh: Peace Through Planting Trees.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Ecology and Religion Unit. Conference theme: Performing Religions, Faith & Spirituality. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. March 2025.

“Green Muslims and Climate-Friendly Food During Ramadan.” 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) pre-conference event, "Higher Education & Creating a Climate Friendly Food System: The Role of Ethical & Religious Values," through The Center for Food Systems Transformation at University of San Diego, co-sponsored by the Animals and Religion Unit and Religion and Ecology Unit of the AAR. November 2024.

“The Portland Japanese Garden as a Model of Manageable Eco-Spiritual Climate Action.” 2024 European Association for the Study of Religions Conference, Eco-Spiritual Climate Action: Innovations and Contradictions in Environmental Activism. August 2024.

“Jewish Ecofeminism as Tikkun Olam.” 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Women And Religion Unit And Jewish Feminisms Unit (Joint Session). Conference theme: Envisioning Our Future: Religion, Spirituality, and Scholarship in Shifting Times. University of Nevada, Las Vegas. March 2024.

“The Christian Environmentalism of Catholic Climate Covenant.” 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Religion and Ecology Unit. Presidential Theme: La Labor de Nuestras Manos. San Antonio, TX, November 2023.

“Religions, Environmentalism, and Human Rights.” 2023 Parliament of the World’s Religions. Conference theme: A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom & Human Rights. Chicago, Illinois. August 2023.

“Jewish Environmentalism: Hazon.” Twenty-First International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities. Panel: Probing Religious Perspectives. Sorbonne Université, Paris, France, June 2023.

“The Environmentalism of EcoSikh.” 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Sikh Studies Unit. Conference theme: Civil Rights, Religion and Responsibility: What is the Role Religion Plays in Civil Rights Discourses in 2022 and Beyond? University of California, Davis. March 2023.

“Avatar, Mining, and Religion,” International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (ISSRNC) 2023 Conference, February 2023.

“Greening Ramadan: The Islamic Environmentalism of Green Muslims,” International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability, February 2023.

“Intersection of Religions, Sustainability, and Human Rights,” ASU SHPRS Religious Studies Presentation Workshop, November 2022.

“Cultural Interactions Formed Environmentalism: Religion, Race, and the Environment,” International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, June 2022.

“A Co-History of Religion, Race, and Conservation in the United States,” ASU Graduate Association of Religious Studies Student Conference, April 2022.

"Interfaith Climate Action," American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Ecology & Religion unit, panel presentation, March 2022.

“*Avatar* and Religious Justification for and against Mining,” USF Humanities Institute Undergraduate Humanities Research Conference, January 2021.

"Religious Food Ethics: Categorizing Religious Perceptions of Diet and Agriculture" (2020). *2020 JHU Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium*. 94. Reformatted from in-person presentation to inclusion in national database due to COVID-19. April 2020.

"Religious Motivations in Consumption Patterns and Agriculture,” USF Humanities Institute Undergraduate Humanities Research Conference (panel), November 2019.

"Food and Religion," USF Undergraduate Research Society Fall Research Expo, October 2019.

"Urban Food Sovereignty: Student Perspective," USF Urban Food Sovereignty Summit, September 2019.

"Food Labeling of Carbon Emissions," University of Exeter's Grand Challenges, United Kingdom, June 2019. Product creation and group presentation.

Research Presentations (Poster)

"Religious Environmental Non-Profit Organizations," Environmental Professionals of Arizona Conference, poster presentation, March 2022.

“The Buddhist Environmentalism of Earth Sangha,” 2022 ASU Graduate College Research Symposium, October 2022.

“17 Religions and 17 Sustainable Development Goals,” USF Office of Undergraduate Research Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2021.

“Religious Impact on Diet & Agriculture: How 11 Faith Traditions Consider Food,” USF Office of Undergraduate Research Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2020.

"Religious Impact on Diet & Agriculture: How 9 Faith Traditions Consider Food," USF Urban Food Sovereignty Summit (poster presentation), September 2019.

Community Presentations

Youth Changemakers Panelist. Hope in Action: Youth Environment Summit with keynote by Dr. Jane Goodall, presented by Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots and the Roots & Shoots Alliance, St. Petersburg, Florida. September 2024. Invited speaker. (9/14/24)

“Religious Communities and Political Institutions for Religious Freedom and Democratization,” U.S. Department of State - Office of International Religious Freedom, May 2024. Invited speaker.

“Lettuce Eggs-amine the Journey of Food: Religious Food Ethics,” U.S. Department of State - Office of International Religious Freedom, Leadership and Professional Development Series, May 2023. Invited speaker.

“Advocacy for Religious Freedom,” U.S. Department of State - Office of International Religious Freedom. Presentation of internship product (10-page guidebook for foreign aid personnel). May 2023.

“Tree-mendous Religions: Nonprofits You Shouldn’t Take for Planted,” U.S. Department of State - Office of International Religious Freedom, Leadership and Professional Development Series, April 2023. Invited speaker.

“Social Inclusion of Diverse Religions,” U.S. Department of State - Office of International Religious Freedom. Presentation of internship product (10-page guidebook for foreign aid personnel). December 2022.

"Youth and Sustainability," Indiana University Kokomo Environmental Speakers Series 2022, April 2022. Invited speaker.

“Buddhism and Gender Equality,” USF Religious Studies Club, Empowerment Through the Divine Feminine Panel, March 2021. Invited speaker.

Service Through Sigma Kappa (Spring 2021). Invited speaker.

Compassion and Connecting with Our World, Indi-ED School (2021). Invited speaker.

USF Office of Undergraduate Research Week of Welcome panel (Fall 2020). Invited speaker.

Sustainability: Food & Water at St. Leo University (Spring 2020). Invited speaker.

Urban Food Sovereignty Summit at USF; speaker (Fall 2019)

Brooker Creek Preserve: Frogs and the Environment (annually 2013-2025). Invited speaker.

Brooker Creek Preserve ECO Teacher Training (multiple years). Invited speaker.

2018 JCI (Junior Chamber International) Conference of the Americas, Miami, FL. Invited speaker.

Project Green Schools Green Difference Awards, Boston, MA. Invited speaker.

COP21/United Nations Climate Change Conference related events, Marymount International, Paris, France, keynote speaker (“Our Common Home: The World I Want to Inherit”). Invited speaker.

White House Climate Change event, Washington DC, featured. Invited speaker.

Ashoka Future Forum, Washington DC, panelist on behalf of Peace First. Invited speaker.

Kids’ Community College Charter School Riverview South Graduation, keynote. Invited speaker.

Think eARTH Climate Change Exhibit opening, keynote speaker (“Think eARTH: The Tampa Bay I Want to Inherit”). Invited speaker.

Association of Science Technology Centers Annual Conference: 6 Award-Winning Youth Conservationists; attendees included people from 40 countries. Invited speaker.

Tampa Bay VegFest, 2 years of creating and leading a children's workshop

TEDxYouth@TampaBay ("How the Croak of the Wild Empowered This Child")

Action for Nature, San Francisco, CA (“Action for Nature Eco Hero”)

Green Builders Conference, West Palm Beach, FL. Invited speaker.

Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, media tour, New York City, NY

Academic, Professional & Community Service

Moderator, “Environmental Performance and Social Justice.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region. Joint session co-organized by the Religion, Science, and Technology Unit, the Indigenous Religions Unit, and the Ecology and Religion Unit. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

Presenter, “Time Management.” 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, Professional Development Roundtable by AARWR Student Representatives. Conference theme: Performing Religions, Faith & Spirituality. Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. March 2025.

Judging Committee Member, 2025 Outdoor Classroom Challenge. Project Green Schools (Spring 2025).

Peer Reviewer, *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Educational Studies*, 2024 (1 article).

Peer Reviewer, *The International Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Society*, 2023 (2 articles).

Workshop Moderator, "Learning, Mindset, and Mindfulness: How Regulated States of the Nervous System Affect Knowledge Integration." 2023. 21st International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France.

Moderator, "Fragments of Knowledge." 2023. 21st International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France.

Moderator, "Finding Space." 2023. 21st International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France.

Moderator, "Conceptual Considerations." 2023. 21st International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France.

Moderator, "Making Memories." 2023. 21st International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France.

Review Committee Member, 2023 Sigma Kappa 35 Under 35: Honoring women who live Sigma Kappa values every day in their careers, campuses and communities.

Judging Committee Member, 2021 Climate Narrative Prize. Part of an interdisciplinary grant project at ASU called "Apocalyptic Narratives and Climate Change: Religion, Journalism, and the Challenge of Public Engagement." (Fall 2021).

Sigma Kappa. Alumna (December 2020-present), Vice President of Programming (VPP) (September 2018-December 2020). Volunteering and fundraising for Alzheimer's Association, Sigma Kappa Foundation, Inherit the Earth, Maine Seacoast Mission, and memory care centers. April 2023 Coordinator for activities and donations at Friendship Village Memory Care Unit.

Religious Studies Club at USF, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Yoga Instructor (May 2018-December 2020)

Miss University of South Florida 2019 (February 2019-February 2020)
2019 Miss America Academic Award + Scholarship, 2019 Miss Florida Top 15 + Scholarship, 2019 Miss Florida Preliminary Talent Winner + Scholarship (June 2019)

Peace First, Fellow (March 2017-present). Youth peacemaking, including authoring an Environmental Issue Guide, participation in a video montage for the Carnegie Foundation, the Peace First Challenge, and presenting in a series of mentoring videos.

Peace First, Design Team member (2016). Youth engagement in peace-based community change.

Project Green Schools, Advisory Board (2020-present), Student Advisory Board (2015-2017) *Citation from The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The House of Representatives, 2016 National Green Schools Society Honoree For Outstanding Goldleaf to the Environment*

Conserve It Forward, Inc., Founder (2010-Present). Nature and kindness focused programming with a message that together, even our small actions can make big, positive change.

Certifications & Trainings

Certificate in Inclusive Pedagogy. American Academy of Religion (completed November 2022).

- Beyond Pity: How to Incorporate Activist Learning in the Classroom (November 2022)
- Beyond Stereotyping: How to Meaningfully Integrate Non-Dominant Voices into our Syllabi (September 2022)
- Choosing Our Words Carefully: Using Language in the Classroom (July 2022)
- Universal Design for Learning in Theological Education (March 2022)

Power Up: A Climate Reality Training on Advocacy in Action (October 2022). Focus on environmental and racial justice, Gulf Coast states, and adopting climate solutions to support all community members.

ASU Seeds of Sustainability Training (September 2022)

Climate Reality Leadership Corps Latin America. The Climate Reality Project (July 2021). The Climate Reality Leadership Corps is a community of changemakers leading the fight for just climate solutions around the world. Training held primarily in Spanish.

Climate and Food Policy Certificate. The Cleo Institute (July 2021). 5-week course providing tools and knowledge in Food and Agriculture, Civic Engagement, Equitable Food Policy, and Extreme Heat and Agriculture. Topics included food and agriculture, civic engagement, equitable food policy, and extreme heat and agriculture.

Food Studies Certificate. University of South Florida (December 2020). Program included multiple courses with topics addressing livestock, agriculture, farmworker treatment, animal welfare, nutrition, and cultural analyses of food.

Peace Corps Prep Certificate. University of South Florida (January 2020). Peace Corps Prep prepares students for service in the Peace Corps and other volunteer opportunities. Personal focus was on the environment sector, including related classes, engagement in community service, and attendance of cultural events.

Academic Distinctions

2023 ASU With Distinction for cumulative 4.0 GPA at master's graduation
2020 King O'Neal Scholar Award for cumulative 4.0 GPA at undergraduate graduation
USF College of Arts & Sciences Dean's List
2020 USF Fraternity & Sorority Life Scholar Award
2019 USF Fraternity & Sorority Life New Member Academic Achievement Award
2019 Davis Islands Garden Club Scholar
2018 USF Fraternity & Sorority Life Outstanding New Member GPA Award
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
Golden Key International Honour Society
2018-2020 Florida Academic Scholar
2018-2020 USF Directors Award
P.E.O. Star Scholarship
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at SPC
President's Honor List at SPC

Undergraduate Awards and Recognition (not previously listed)

USF Judy Genshaft Honors College Dean's Circle of Merit Award for Service
USF Provost's Scholar
2020 USF Homecoming Royalty
2020 Golden Bull Award
2020 USF Hero
2020 USF Global Spotlight
2019 Panhellenic USF Involvement Award
USF Global Citizen Award

USF Tradition Keeper (Green & Gold)
USF Involvement Challenge
Order of Omega
2019 USF Bulls for Kids for Shriners Hospital for Children Dancer Core Value Award

Community Awards and Recognition (not previously listed)

Nominee, Virtual Student Federal Service 2023-2024 Intern of the Year. Effective Methods and Approaches in Advancing Religious Freedom. Department of State.

People's Choice, ASU School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies Humanities Week Photo Contest. Subject: How ASU's food garden aids nutritional, mental, and environmental health. (2022)

Finalist, 2022 ASU MLK Student Servant-Leadership Award

2019 Sigma Kappa 35 Under 35: Honoring women who live Sigma Kappa values every day in their careers, campuses and communities

2014 Florida Achievement Award by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women

2014 WEDU Be More Inspiring Rising Star Award

Commendation by the Hillsborough County Commissioners (2013)

2013 Radio Disney Heroes for Change Award

2013 Earth Savers Club Award by Greening Forward

2013 Youth Excellence and Achievement (YEA!) Award for Volunteer Community Service by Hillsborough County Commissioners

Roosevelt-Ashe Conservation Award for Outstanding Youth in Conservation

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

Get to Know Contest Grand Prize winner, video category

Save the Frogs! Day Award

International Young Eco-Hero Award by Action for Nature

Everything is Possible Award by Friendly Water for the World

Nate the Newt Award for amphibian conservation by Save the Frogs!

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion. 2021-present

International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. 2018-present

Other

Yoga, Competitive and Performance (2017-2020)

- 2018 International Yoga Sports Federation World Champion/Gold Medalist, Youth Division, Beijing, China.
- 2018 USA Yoga National Youth Champion/Gold Medalist, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Choreographed and performed artistic yoga routines with a focus on entertaining, fundraising, and contributing to charitable events throughout Florida and the USA.

Languages

English native speaker

Spanish reading proficiency and conversational speaking facility. Graduate Foreign Language Exam passed Fall 2021.

Portuguese reading proficiency, self-taught. Graduate Foreign Language Exam passed Fall 2022.

French reading proficiency, self-taught.

References

Associate Professor Evan Berry, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. Email: evan.berry@asu.edu

Associate Professor Joel Gereboff, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. Email: joel.gereboff@asu.edu

Professor Huaiyu Chen, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. Email: huaiyu.chen@asu.edu