

COLE BRENT CLOYD

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Education

- **Arizona State University**
 - In progress
 - Tempe, Arizona
 - PhD-Religious Studies
 - Areas of focus: Religion, politics, violence and extremism in the U.S.
 - Committee members: John D. Carlson, Jason Bruner, & Terry D. Shoemaker
- **Harvard Divinity School**
 - 2023
 - Cambridge, Massachusetts
 - Master of Theological Studies-Religion, Ethics, & Politics
 - Advisor: Kevin J. Madigan
- **The University of Oklahoma**
 - 2020
 - Norman, Oklahoma
 - Bachelor of Arts-Religious Studies (with distinction)
 - Minors in Psychology and Sociology

Pere-Reviewed Journal Articles

- **“Bright Fiery Cross: The Role of Hostile Rituals for the Second Ku Klux Klan”**
 - The Graduate Journal of Harvard Divinity School XXII (2025-2026): 134-159.
 - <https://dash.harvard.edu/handle/1/42737669>
- **“Bringing Back God: Goldenberg and the Vestigial State in American Religion”**
 - *Religions* 15:8 (2024) 1-11.
 - <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15080999>

Conference Presentations

- **“Face the Pain: Christian Nationalist Masculinity, Violence, and Mixed Martial Arts”**
 - American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting
 - Religion, Sport, and Play Unit
 - November 2026

- **“What the Gods Made for Fun: Representations of Religion in Historical Strategy Games”**
 - American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting.
 - Religion and the Arts Unit
 - University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
 - March 13-15, 2026
- **“What the Gods Made for Fun: Representations of Religion in Historical Strategy Games”**
 - Gamevironments Research Day
 - University of Bremen, Germany
 - October 22, 2025
- **“The Bright Fiery Cross: The Role of Hostile Rituals for the Second Ku Klux Klan.”**
 - American Academy of Religion Western Region Annual Meeting.
 - Christianity Unit
 - University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
 - March 15-17, 2024.

Teaching Experience

- **Teaching Assistant**
 - Spring 2026
 - REL 321-Religion in America
 - Devin Burns
 - Guest lecture: Religion and Social Media
 - Fall 2025
 - REL 321-Religion in America
 - Devin Burns
 - Guest lecture: Religion and Social Media
 - Spring 2025
 - REL 202-Religion and Popular Culture
 - Miguel Aguilera
 - REL 287-Topics in Film, Media, and Religion
 - Miguel Aguilera
 - HIST 361-Witchcraft & Heresy in Europe (Online)
 - Doe Daughtrey
 - REL 201-Religion & the Modern World (Online)
 - Devin Burns

- Spring 2025
 - REL 202-Religion and Popular Culture
 - Miguel Aguilera
 - REL 287-Topics in Film, Media, and Religion
 - Miguel Aguilera
 - HIST 361-Witchcraft & Heresy in Europe (Online)
 - Doe Daughtrey
 - REL 201-Religion & the Modern World (Online)
 - Devin Burns
- Fall 2024
 - REL 101-Religion, Culture, Public Life (Online)
 - Terry Shoemaker
 - REL 202-Religion and Popular Culture (Online)
 - Terry Shoemaker
- Spring 2024
 - REL 321-Religion in America
 - Leah Sarat
 - Guest lecture: Themes in Religion & American Culture – The Ku Klux Klan
 - REL 320-American Religious Tradition (Online)
 - Leah Sarat
- Fall 2023
 - REL 321-Religion in America
 - Eric Berry

Awards & Honors

- **American Academy of Religion, Western Region Student Paper Award**
 - “What the Gods Made for Fun: Representations of Religion in Historical Strategy Games”
 - University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
 - March 13-15, 2026
- **Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Fellowship**
 - “Introduction to Web Archiving”
 - June 2026
- **Mercatus Center Elinor Ostrom Fellowship**
 - October 2025-June 2026

- **Arizona State University Graduate Student Government Support Award**
 - May 2025
- **Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Fellowship**
 - “Introduction to Computational Text Analysis”
 - June 2025
- **Arizona State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences College Leader Award**
 - November 2024
- **Arizona State University Graduate College University Grant**
 - May 2024
- **American Academy of Religion, Western Region Student Paper Award**
 - “The Bright Fiery Cross: The Role of Hostile Rituals for the Second Ku Klux Klan.”
 - University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
 - March 2024.
- **Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Fellowship**
 - “Podcasting from Scratch”
 - June 2024
- **Harvard Divinity School Dean’s Fellow**
 - August 2021-May 2023
- **University of Oklahoma President’s Honor Roll**
 - 2019-2020
- **University of Oklahoma Dean’s Honor Roll**
 - 2018
- **University of Oklahoma Distinguished Merit Scholar**
 - 2017-2021
- **University of Oklahoma Angus Family Religious Studies Scholarship**
 - 2019
- **University of Oklahoma Tom W. Boyd Scholarship in Religion & Education**
 - 2019
- **University of Oklahoma David C. Steed College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship**
 - 2018

Academic Service

- **Arizona State University Barrett Honors College Thesis Committee**
 - Anna Davis

- “Moral Majority to Christian Nationalism: Religion, Politics, and White Evangelical Identity in the Digital Age”
- Spring 2026-Spring2027
- **Men, Masculinities, and Religion Unit Steering Committee**
 - American Academy of Religion
 - 2025-2030
 - 2026 Annual Meeting Presider – “Beyond Hegemonic Masculinity” session
- **American Academy of Religion Western Region Student Worker**
 - AAR WR Annual Meeting
 - Tempe, Arizona
 - March 2025

Public Presentations

- **“ASU Experiences at DHSI”**
 - Arizona State University’s Lincoln Center for Applied Ethics and Digital Humanities Initiative
 - September 11, 2025
- **“Life After OU with Religious Studies Alumni”**
 - University of Oklahoma Religious Studies Program
 - March 27, 2025

Professional Experience

- **Harvard Divinity School Diversity and Exploration (DivEx) Program**
 - DivEx Alumni Mentor
 - August 2022-April 2023
- **Harvard Divinity School Office of Admissions**
 - Admissions Ambassador
 - August 2021-April 2023
- **University of Oklahoma Office of Admissions and Recruitment**
 - Diversity Enrichment Program Intern
 - August 2019-December 2020

Extra-Curricular and Community Service

- **Arizona State University Graduate Student Government**
 - Assembly Speaker
 - September 2025-Present
 - 2 terms

- **Arizona State University Graduate Student Government**
 - Assembly Member and Representative for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
 - May 2025-Present
 - 2 terms
- **Old Cambridge Baptist Church**
 - Discussion Group Leader on White Christian Nationalism
 - January-March 2023

Research Projects

- **Black Church Burning Library Exhibit with Todne Thomas**
 - Harvard Divinity School Library
 - Spring 2022

Languages

- English: Native
- Spanish: Intermediate
- Modern Hebrew: Intermediate