

DEVIN D. BURNS

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EMPLOYMENT:

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 8/2024-Present
Assistant Teaching Professor, Religious Studies

EDUCATION:

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 5/2024
Doctor of Philosophy, Religion (American Religious History)

“In Christian Bonds”: The Confederate Episcopal Church and the Making of a
Lost Cause Historiography, 1850-1915.

Doctoral Dissertation, Defended February 2024.

Committee: John Corrigan (advisor), Sonia Hazard, Laura McTighe, Katherine
Mooney.

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 5/2019
Master of Arts, Religious Studies (Historical Studies)

“I had a visit from Bishop Quintard”: The Life of Kate Cumming and the
Creation of the ‘Episcopal Woman’ Archetype.

Master’s Thesis, Defended March 2019.

Adviser: Alexis Wells-Oghoghomeh.

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 5/2017
Bachelor of Arts with Honors, History and Religion

Magna Cum Laude

“As a Member of the Body of Christ”: The Effect of the Chapel of the Resurrection
on the Tallahassee Sit-ins of March 12, 1960.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Defended April 2017.

Adviser: Katherine Mooney.

RESEARCH SPECIALIZATIONS:

- 19th Century American Religion
- Religion in the American South
- Religion and Social Media
- Religion and Music

PUBLICATIONS:

Book Chapters:

- Burns, Devin. "I read some hymns to him': The Life of Episcopal Hymnbooks in Confederate War Camps During the American Civil War." In *Music and Material Religion in America*, edited by Chase Castle. University of Illinois Press, (under contract).
- Burns, Devin. "raising maidens & a knight up in Christ': Tradwives, White Motherhood, and Christian Nationalism on Instagram." In *Social Media, Religion, and Culture*, edited by Dheepa Sundaram and Cindy Tekobbe. Routledge Press, (under contract).
- Burns, Devin. "From Wayfair to the White House: QAnon and the Aesthetics of Conspiracy on Instagram." In *Tonics to Tradwives: The Violence at the Heart of White Women's Wellness Culture*, edited by Beth Marshall and Anna Mae Duane. Fordham University Press, (under contract, manuscript due May 15th, 2026).

Peer-Refereed Articles:

- Devin Burns and Emily Olsen. "The Classroom's on Fire: Rethinking the Twenty-first Century Religious Studies Classroom." *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, (accepted, forthcoming).
- Devin Burns, Laura McTighe, Rebekah Gordon, Gabriela Rosario, Lauren Dominguez, and Lydia Moss. "The Ground on Which We Stand: Making Abolition." *Journal of Anthropology in North America*, 23, no. 2: 98-120.

Reviews:

- Burns, Devin. "Review of *Mission, Race and Empire: The Episcopal Church in Global Context*, by Jennifer C. Snow." *Reading Religion*, (June 3, 2024). <https://readingreligion.org/9780197598948/mission-race-and-empire/>
- Burns, Devin. "Review of *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: Religion and the Politics of Race in the Civil War Era and Beyond*, by Stephen L. Dundas." *Reading Religion*, (July 30, 2023). <https://readingreligion.org/9781640124882/mine-eyes-have-seen-the-glory/>

Encyclopedia and Digital Humanities Databases:

- Burns, Devin. "Religion and Social Media." *Encyclopedia of Religion and Popular Culture*.
- Burns, Devin. "Religion, Secession, and the Civil War." *The Palace of Thundering Gods: An Open History of American Religion*.
- Burns, Devin. "War" and "Reconstruction." *Sounding Spirit Collaborative*, (in progress).

PRESENTATIONS:

Panels Organized:

- Burns, Devin.** **“ASU Religious Studies Undergraduate Research Panel.”** Panel Organized for the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies at Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, April 6th, 2026.
- Burns, Devin.** **“‘Truth is History’: The Lost Cause, Education, and Religion.”** Panel Organized for the Southern Historical Association, St. Petersburg, FL, November 5-8th, 2025.

Conference Presentations:

- Burns, Devin.** **“So what was the cause of the Civil War?: Teaching the Religion of the Lost Cause in 21st Century Florida Classrooms.”** Paper Presented at the Southern Historical Association, St. Petersburg, FL, November 5-8th, 2025.
- Burns, Devin.** **“‘Upon the Outskirts of a Camp’: The Sacred Music of the Confederate Episcopal Church During the Civil War.”** Paper Presented at The Southern Historical Association, Charlotte, N.C., November 9-12th, 2023.
- Burns, Devin.** **“From Wayfair to the White House: The Proliferation of QAnon on Instagram and the Aesthetics of Conspiracy.”** Paper Presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 3-6th, 2022.
- Burns, Devin.** **“‘It is not a charity to care for them, but a sacred duty’: The Role of Nursing Within the Understanding of Southern Episcopal Womanhood During the Civil War.”** Paper Presented at the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion (SECSOR), Athens, GA, March 1st, 2020.
- Burns, Devin.** **“‘happiest life with my little fam’: Mormon Mom Influencers and the Intersection of Religion, Motherhood, and Social Media.”** Paper Presented at the Florida State University Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium, Tallahassee, FL, February 15th, 2020.

Invited Lectures:

- Burns, Devin.** **“Slavery, White Supremacy, and the Episcopal Church.”** Peace Lecture, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Palm Beach Gardens, FL, April 18th, 2024.
- Burns, Devin.** **“Transforming the World, Not Hiding From It”: The Episcopal Church and the Civil Rights Movement in Tallahassee.”** Lecture, St. John’s Episcopal Church, Tallahassee FL, March 29th, 2017.

TEACHING:

Courses Developed:

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

REL 287: Religion and Social Media

REL 225: God and Hip Hop (in conjunction with Timothy Langille)

Courses Taught:

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

8/2024-Present

Assistant Teaching Professor:

REL 499: Religion and Social Media, individualized instruction.

REL 405: Problems in Religious Studies, on ground.

REL 321: Religion in America, online, on ground.

REL 287: Religion and Social Media, on ground.

REL 225: God and Hip Hop, on ground.

REL 205: Life, Sex, and Death, on ground.

REL 202: Religion and Popular Culture, online, on ground.

REL 201: Religion and the Modern World, online.

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

1/2020-5/2024

Instructor of Record:

REL 3128: Religion in the American Civil War, on ground.

REL 3152: Religion, Race, and Ethnicity, on ground.

REL 2121: Religion in the United States, online, on ground.

Teaching Assistant:

REL 3152: Religion, Race, and Ethnicity, on ground.

REL 2121: Religion in the US, on ground.

University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

8/2022-12/2022

Remote Adjunct Lecturer:

RELI 2250/HIST 2250: Religion in the US 1600-1865, online.

Mentoring:

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

MA Thesis Committee Member:

Ryan Tancos (2025)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Chair:

Anna Davis (2027)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member:

Yvé Dizes (2026)

Abigail Tuufuli (2026)

Supervision of Undergraduate Student Research Unrelated to Thesis:

Eliana Dunn (2025)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS:

- Florida State Department of Religion Porterfield Prize, 2024. (\$250)
- Florida State Department of Religion Graduate Teaching Award, 2023.
- Florida State University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2022-2023. (\$750)
- Historical Society of the Episcopal Church Regular Grant, 2022. (\$1500)
- Lucius F. Moody Bristol Fellowship Recipient, 2019-2021. (\$25,000)

NOMINATIONS AND HONORS:

- Nominated for the Florida State Department of Religion Graduate Teaching Award, 2023.
- Nominated for the Florida State Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2022-2023.
- Nominated for the Florida State Department of Religion Graduate Teaching Award, 2021.
- Nominated for the Florida State Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2020-2021.
- Florida State University Honors Program Finisher, 2017.
- Florida State University Honors in the Major Thesis Student, 2017.
- Florida State University Dean's List, 2014-2017.

SERVICE TO THE FIELD:

- Graduate Student Representative, American Academy of Religion—Southeast, 2021-2023.
- Graduate Student Committee Member, American Academy of Religion, 2021-2023.

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT:

Arizona State University:

- Member, Assistant Teaching Professor in Religious Studies Hiring Committee, 2025.
- Member, Ad-hoc Religious Studies Curriculum Planning Committee, 2024-2025.

Florida State University:

- Organizer, FSU Department of Religion American Religious History Colloquium, 2023-2024.
- Publicity Chair, FSU Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium, 2023.
- Publicity Chair, FSU Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium, 2022.
- American Religious History Track Representative, FSU Department of Religion Graduate Student Committee, 2020-2021.
- Organizer and Founder, FSU Department of Religion Distance Pedagogy Group, 5/2020-8/2020.

- Organizer and Founder, FSU Department of Religion ARH Women and Gender Nonconforming Mentoring Group, 2019-2020.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- American Academy of Religion, 2019-Present.
- The Southern Historical Association, 2020-Present.
- American Society for Church History, 2020-Present.
- Historical Society of the Episcopal Church, 2020-Present.
- American Studies Association, 2022-Present.
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2017-Present.
- Phi Kappa Phi, 2017-Present.

LANGUAGES:

- French: Fluent in Reading, Advanced in Writing.
- Spanish: Elementary Reading.

OTHER SKILLS:

- Classically Trained Singer.