

L. S. Carlos A. Thompson

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Awards

- Henri Nouwen Doctoral Fellowship: *Western Theological Seminary*, Holland, MI (March 2018)
- *Best Paper* at the 18th International Conference of Disability and Diversity: Rome, Italy (May 2016)
- *Southeastern University* graduation commencement speaker, 2012
- North Dakota Boy's State Governor, 2007

Academic Papers, Presentations, Journal Articles, and Book Reviews

- ***Henri Nouwen Fellow Finalist Lecture:*** “Reforming Disability Theology: Listening to the Soft-Spoken Amongst Us”
Presented at: Western Theological Seminary (March 2018)
- ***Book Review:*** Thompson, L. S. Carlos A. “Latin@ Identity in Pneumatological Perspective: Mestizaje and Hibridez, Written by Daniel Orlando Álvarez.” *Pneuma* 39, no. 3 (2017): 407–409.
- **“Moving Beyond the Limits of Disability Inclusion: Using Belonging Through Friendship to Improve the Outcome of the Social Model of Disability”**
Presented at: The 18th International Conference on Disability and Diversity. Rome, Italy (May 2016)
Published in: World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, International Science Index 113, International Journal of Social, Behavioral, Educational, Economic, Business and Industrial Engineering (2016), Vol 10(5), 1312-1315.
- ***Reconstructing Blackness: Embracing Me as We: From Disable to Differently-Able***
Presented at: The Transatlantic Roundtable on Race and Religion. London, UK (July 2015)

Education

University of Aberdeen, King's College, Aberdeen, UK Oct. 2015 – Present

Ph.D. in Divinity

Research area: *Pentecostalism, Disability Theology, theologies of healing, and human suffering*

Research Question: *How is one to understand Pentecostal healing in the context of enduring congenital physical disability?*

University of Aberdeen, King's College, Aberdeen, UK Sep. 2014- Sep. 2015

M.Th. in Ministry and Mission (Practical Theology)

Concentration: *Pentecostalism and Disability Theology*: My research focuses on attempting to provide an appropriate and biblically sound theology of healing within a Pentecostal framework.

Thesis: *Bringing Healing, Health and Wholeness to a Broken Church: A biblical critique of Pentecostal healing praxis.*

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL Aug. 2012-May 2014

M.A. Religious Studies

Concentration: *Philosophical and Theological approaches to Religion*: Hermeneutics and Disability theory at the intersection of Disability and Religious Studies

Thesis: *Rising Above a Crippling Hermeneutic*. Examining how Amos Yong interprets controversial biblical passages in a way that is more inclusive of the differently-able (disabled) and marginalized.

Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL Aug. 2008-May 2012

B.S. Church Ministry

Minor: Psychology

Work Experience

Jun. 2018 – Present

Western Theological Seminary

Holland, MI

Henri Nouwen Doctoral Fellow: I have been given the opportunity to teach one course per term in conjunction with my role as the Resident Director of the Friendship House.

- *Introduction to World Religions:* Fall 2018

An introduction to the beliefs and practices of the major religions of the world, with a study of their scriptural traditions. New religious movements such as Baha'i, The Unification Church, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ("Mormons") are also treated, paying special attention to their relationship to Christianity. The Christian theological response to other religions is also considered.

- *Living in Community: Friendship House:* Spring 2019

In this course students will spend time critically reflecting upon what it means to live into community as an act of mutual discipleship. Students will engage questions such as: What is discipleship? What is a Christian community? What is the difference between a Christian community and a social group? And, what does it mean to belong to, rather than simply be included in, a Christian community?

Feb. 2014 – Aug. 2014

The View Church

Riverview, FL

I was given the opportunity to lecture and preach on the following topics:

- *World Religions:* Spring 2014
- *Jesus in the World's Faiths:* Spring 2014
- *The Book of Revelation: The letter to the Church in Philadelphia:* Spring 2014

Dec. 2013 - May 2014

University of South Florida

Tampa, FL

Graduate Teaching Assistant: I was given the opportunity to assist with and teach Mr. Dell DeChant's, *New Religions in America* (REL3131) course. I have also been given the opportunity to assist with Dr. Mozella Mitchell's, *Issues in Caribbean Religions* course. My responsibilities include administering lectures on the following topics:

- *Haitian Voodoo:* Spring 2014
- *Syncretism in Caribbean Religions:* Spring 2014

In addition to lecturing my responsibilities included the following: grading daily assignments; administering exams and conducting review sessions. Outside the classroom I was responsible to meet with students one-on-one during my office hours to answer

their questions. This allowed me to inspire, encourage, and challenge the students on a more personal level through face-to-face communication.

Aug. 2013 – Dec. 2013

University of South Florida

Tampa, FL

Graduate Teaching Assistant: I was given the opportunity to assist with and teach, Dr. William Schanbacher's, *Introduction to World Religions* (REL2300). Delivering weekly lectures on the following subjects:

- *How to appropriately approach the study of Religion within the university:* Fall 2013
- *Indigenous Religions:* Fall 2013
- *Hinduism:* Fall 2013
- *Buddhism:* Fall 2013
- *Daoism:* Fall 2013
- *Confucianism:* Fall 2013
- *Judaism:* Fall 2013
- *Christianity:* Fall 2013
- *Islam:* Fall 2013

In addition to lecturing my responsibilities included the following: grading daily assignments; administering exams; designing syllabi, quizzes and exams. Outside the classroom I was responsible to meet with students one-on-one during my office hours to answer their questions. This allowed me to inspire, encourage, and challenge the students on a more personal level through face-to-face communication.

Jan. 2013- May 2013

University of South Florida

Tampa, FL

Graduate Teaching Assistant: I was given the opportunity to assist, Dr. Paul Schneider with *Introduction to World Religions* (REL2300). My responsibilities included grading daily assignments, administering exams, managing his online World Religion platforms, and lecturing during exam review sessions. Outside the classroom I was responsible to meet with students during my office hours to answer their questions. This allowed me to inspire, encourage, and challenge the students on a more personal level through face-to-face communication.

Aug. 2012- Dec. 2012

University of South Florida

Tampa, FL

Graduate Teaching Assistant: I was given the opportunity to assist with and teach, Mr. Dell DeChant's, *Introduction to World Religions* (REL2300). Delivering weekly lectures on the following subjects:

- *How to appropriately approach the study of Religion within the university:* Fall 2012
- *Indigenous Religions:* Fall 2012
- *Hinduism:* Fall 2012
- *Buddhism:* Fall 2012
- *Daoism:* Fall 2012
- *Confucianism:* Fall 2012
- *Judaism:* Fall 2012
- *Christianity:* Fall 2012
- *Islam:* Fall 2012

In addition to lecturing my responsibilities included grading daily assignments, administering exams, and assisting the Professor over the course in any area he delegated. Outside the classroom I was responsible to meet with students one-on-one during my office hours to answer their questions. This allowed me to inspire, encourage, and challenge the students on a more personal level through face-to-face communication.

Volunteer Experience

Fall 2014 to Fall 2016

Aberdeen Vineyard Church

Aberdeen, UK

Guest Preaching and Leading Weekly Bible Study: I was given the privilege of sharing some of the preaching and Bible study responsibilities at our home church while we reside in Aberdeen, Scotland.

- *Suffering and the Faithfulness of God (Jms. 1:1-4):* Fall 2014
- *Working through Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome:* Fall 2014-2016

Fall 2010 to May 2012

Presbyterian Church in the Highlands

Lakeland, FL

College Ministry Internship: I was given the task of starting, staffing, and leading the college ministry. This afforded me the opportunity to gain experience in the areas of teaching and leadership. My responsibilities included delivering weekly lectures pertinent to the field of Biblical Studies. These lectures included the following:

- *Biblical Hermeneutics:* Fall 2010; Fall 2011; Fall 2012
- *The Origins of the Hebrew Scriptures:* Fall 2010; Fall 2011; Fall 2012

- *The Origins of the New Testament Canon*: Spring 2010; Spring 2011; Spring 2012
- *Jesus Through the eyes of the Religions of the World*: Spring 2011; Spring 2012
- *Paul's Letters*: Fall 2011; Spring 2011; Fall 2012; Spring 2012
- *St. Irenaeus and the Gnostics*: Spring 2012
- *Pluralism Vs. Tolerance: Encouraging Interfaith Dialogue*: Spring 2012

Summer 2011

Church of Hope in Sarasota Florida

Sarasota, FL

Youth and Church Ministry Internship: I was responsible for all the day-to-day business of running a ministry within the church while working alongside the lead youth pastor. My daily tasks consisted of handling church finances and accounting, event planning, fundraising, preaching, teaching, mentoring, and counseling.

Extracurricular Interests

- Mentoring people in the Christian faith
- Motivational speaking
- Piano and guitar
- Wood Carving
- Health and fitness

Academic and Professional References

Rev. Dr. John Swinton

*Professor and Chair in Divinity and
Religious Studies*

(M.Th. & Ph.D. Diss. Supervisor)

University of Aberdeen, King's College

Phone: +44 (0)1224 273224

e-mail: j.swinton@abdn.ac.uk

Dr. Michael DeJonge

Associate Professor and Department Chair

(M.A. Thesis Advisor and Comm. Chair)

University of South Florida (Tampa)

Phone: +1 813-974-1848

e-mail: mdejonge@usf.edu

Rev. Dr. Mozella Mitchell

Professor Emeritus and Former Chair

(Former Supervisor & Comm. Member)

University of South Florida (Tampa)

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Instructor Dell DeChant, M.A.

Instructor and Associate Chair

(Former work Supervisor)

University of South Florida (Tampa)

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Dr. William Schanbacher

Instructor and Undergraduate Director

(Former work Supervisor)

University of South Florida (Tampa)

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Dr. Paul Schneider

Senior Instructor

(Former work Supervisor)

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Dr. Robert Crosby

Professor of Practical Theology

Southeastern University

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Dr. Robby Waddell

Professor of New Testament

Southeastern University

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Dr. Zachary Tackett

Assistant Professor of Religion

Southeastern University

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Rev. Shaun Hartsell

Pastor

(Former Pastoral Supervisor)

Presbyterian Church in the Highlands

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Jeff Davis

(Current) Dir. Of Family Ministry

Trinity Presbyterian Church (Clearwater)

(Former) Christian Education Director

(Former Pastoral Supervisor)

Presbyterian Church in the Highlands

Phone: +1 863-398-8797

Casey Casal

(Current) District Youth Director

Peninsula Florida District Council (AG)

Former Director of Youth Ministry

(Former Pastoral Supervisor)

Church of Hope

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