Florida State University
GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM
Sects and Sexuality: Issues of Division and Diversity

Program Schedule
(Preliminary)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

3:30–4:00 p.m.
Registration and check-in

4:00–6:00 p.m., Dodd Hall Auditorium

Puritans, Prostitutes, Polygamy, and Purity Balls:
Sexuality and Identity in American Religion
Moderator: Lauren Gray
Respondent: Dr. Kathryn Lofton

The Sins of (Puritan) Youth: Sex and Disrespect in Northampton, Massachusetts
Andrew Polk
Florida State University, Religion Department

The “Sodom of the South”: New Orleans’ Prostitution District, Vice, Virtue, and Segregation
Emily Clark
Florida State University, Religion Department

Polygamy, Prop 8, and the Peculiar People: Sexuality and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Ann Wertman
Arizona State University, Religion Department

Purity Balls: Bridging Cultural Gaps or an Evangelical Dividing Line?
Stephanie N. Brehm
Miami University, Comparative Religion Department

6:30 p.m., Dodd Hall Auditorium

"Beyond Slavery: Overcoming Its Religious and Sexual Legacies"
A Keynote Address by Dr. Bernadette Brooten, Brandeis University

8:00 p.m.
Announcement of the Leo Sandon Best Paper Award
Announcement of the Heidi L. Millarker Award for Best Contribution to Interdisciplinary Feminist Scholarship

Afterward: Reception, Dodd Hall Foyer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:30 a.m., Continental Breakfast, Dodd Hall Foyer

9:00–11:00 a.m., Session A, Dodd Hall Auditorium

The Regulation of Bodies, Communities, and Practices
Moderator: Shaun Horton
Respondent: Dr. John Corrigan

“The Delicious Sense of Foreignness”: American Transcendentalism in the Atlantic
Daniel Dillard  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

“God Speed the Churches and Ball Clubs”: The Regional Roots of the Protestant Promulgation of the Town Ball Gospel
Joshua Fleer  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

Dr. John Harvey Kellogg’s Utopian Sanitarium of Bodily Perfection
Adam Park  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

Deer Bladders Buried in the Landscape: Manifestations of Biodynamic Agriculture’s Epistemological Challenge to Industrial Farming
Mike Nesius  
*Florida State University, Geography Department*

9:00–11:00 a.m., Session B, Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Embodying Feminism and Disembodying Dualisms: Femininity, Gender, and Bodies in Action
Moderator: Emily Weston
Respondent: Dr. Aline Kalbian

The Body Disrupted: Same-Sex Marriage and the Body in Emergent Christianity
Matt Gallion  
*Missouri State University, Religious Studies Department*
Toward a Humanistic Ethics of Care
Elisa Ruhl Rapaport
University at Buffalo, Philosophy Department

Empowering Persons: An Elevation of the Personal Subject
Aaron Ellis
Baylor University, University Scholars Program

Critically Affirming Feminine Identity: A Critical Contrast of Two Approaches to the Affirmation of Femininity in Childbirth
Jeff Nall
Comparative Studies Department, Florida Atlantic University

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., Session A, Dodd Hall Auditorium

The Construction of Categories and Concepts
Moderator: Rosemary Kellison
Respondent: Dr. Jimmy Yu

Neo Advaita and Indian Secularism
Andrew Gibbs
Florida State University, Religion Department

What’s Faith Got to Do With It?: The Use of the Concept of Faith in the Japanese Pure Land Tradition
Sarah Whylly
Florida State University, Religion Department

The Legacy and Future of Religious Studies: Examining Religion, Hinduism, and Buddhism in the Encyclopedia Britannica
Kendall R. Marchman
University of Florida, Religion Department

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., Session B, Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Eros and Transcendence
Moderator: Jeff Gottlieb
Respondent: Dr. Martin Kavka

Erotic Love, Marriage, and Epistemology in Kierkegaard’s Works of Love
Aaron J. Goldman
University of Virginia, Religious Studies Department
Levinas’ Beloved and Irigaray’s Angel: An Examination of the Feminine in the Phenomenology of Eros and the Fecundity of the Caress

Julie Fortune
Florida State University, Religion Department

Are Irigaray’s Sensible-Transcendentals a Kantian Regulative Ideal?

J. Edward Hackett
Southern Illinois University, Philosophy Department

1:00–2:00 p.m.
Lunch, outside Dodd Hall Auditorium

2:00–3:00 p.m., Plenary Session, Dodd Hall Auditorium

Sights on Gender-Blindness:
A Roundtable Discussion on Incorporating Gender into Your Scholarship
Moderator: Cara Burnidge

Featuring: Dr. Bernadette Brooten of Brandeis University, Dr. John Corrigan of Florida State University, Dr. Nicole Kelley of Florida State University, and Dr. Kathryn Lofton of Yale University

3:30–5:00 p.m., Session A, Dodd Hall Auditorium

Heroines, Heretics, and Martyrs in Western Antiquity
Moderator: Kirk Essary
Respondent: Dr. Nicole Kelley

Ignorance or Malice: A Short Study of Accusations of Cannibalism and Sexual Deviancy as Methods of Early Heresiologists

Jodie Ann Baird
Florida State University, Interdisciplinary Humanities Program

To Act the Mother’s Part: The Roles of Women in the Acts of Thecla and the Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas

Harold Short
Florida State University, Religion Department

This Land is Your Land: Sacerdotal Women and Landholding in the Pylos Tablets

Debra A. Trusty
Florida State University, Classics Department

3:30–5:30 p.m., Session B, Thompson Religion-Classics Library
Culture, Gender, and Conflict in American Religion
Moderator: Barton Price
Respondent: Dr. Amy Koehlinger

Sex, Lies, and Subversion: A Study of Anti-Mormon Literature in the United States and Great Britain
Tammy Heise
Florida State University, Religion Department

Jonathan Olson
Florida State University, Religion Department

Interactions between Faith and Ethnicity: Latino and Euro-American Identity at St. Regis Catholic Church
David Givens
University of Pittsburgh, Religious Studies Department

United Methodist Understandings of Sexuality
Christina L. Wright
University of West Georgia, Psychology Department

6:30 p.m., Screening of Fallen Angel: The Outlaw Larry Norman, Dodd Hall Auditorium

Afterward: Reception, outside Dodd Hall Auditorium

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

8:30 a.m., Continental Breakfast, Dodd Hall Foyer

9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., Session A, Dodd Hall Auditorium

Discourse, Practice, and Performance in Islam
Moderator: James Broucek
Respondent: Dr. Adam Gaiser

Redefining Muslim Women: Aga Khan III’s Reforms for Muslim Women in the Twentieth Century and Their Implication Today
Shenila S. Khoja-Moolji
Harvard University, Divinity School

Albert B. Lord’s “Oral Formulaic Theory” and Qur’anic Recitation
Dianna Bell  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

Warping Gender Roles: An Exploration of Islamic Sexism through the Lens of Philosophical Works  
**Brian H. Herczog**  
*University of Hawaii at Manoa, Philosophy Department*

On the Problem of Scrupulosity: Regulation or Reconciliation?  
**Sue Spaid**  
*Temple University, Philosophy Department*

9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., Session B, Thompson Religion-Classics Library

Interpreting the Literature of Sects in Second Temple Judaism  
Moderator: Seth Bledsoe  
Respondent: Dr. Matthew Goff

Who is that Wily Wicked Woman in 4Q184?  
**LaBron Chance**  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

Sectarian Politics and the Writing of Scripture: Daniel 7 as Political *Fortschreibung*  
**John Whitley**  
*Harvard University, Divinity School*

Poetic Reconstructions of Wiles of the Wicked Woman  
**Shem Miller**  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

The Translator and the Provenance of the Latin Jubilees  
**Colin Womack**  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*

11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Session A, Dodd Hall Auditorium

Narratives of Gender, Sex, and Religion  
Moderator: Shannon Dunn  
Respondent: Dr. Francois Dupuigrenet-Desroussilles

How Low is Low?: Examining Narratives of Gender, Women, and Tibetan Buddhist Cosmology  
**Kristen Muldowney**  
*Florida State University, Religion Department*
A Narrative of Death and Resurrection: Emplotment and Decadence in Nineteenth-Century French Catholic Ideology

Gavin Murray-Miller
University of Virginia, History Department

Talking about Sex: A Critical Look at Michel de Montaigne’s “On Some Lines of Virgil” in the Wake of the Analysis of Michel Foucault

Jae Jerkins
Florida State University, Religion Department

11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m., Session B, Thompson Religion-Classics Library

The Rhetoric of Religion, Gender, and Science

Moderator: Monica Reed
Respondent: Dr. Sarah Irving

Unveiling the Unveiled: Exploring the Genealogy and Rhetoric of Rhonda Byrne’s The Secret, Positive Thinking, and the Law of Attraction

John Crow
Florida State University, Religion Department

Is Intelligent Design Motivated by Sexual Politics?

Daniel Ansted
Florida State University, History and Philosophy of Science Program

The Ethical Perspective of Buddhist Meditation and Its Understanding in the Context of Quantum Theory

Hyun Hee Kim
University of the West, Religion Department

1:00–2:00 p.m., Plenary Session, Dodd Hall Auditorium

"Sex and Sensibility: Interrogating Gender and Values in Bollywood Cinema"
A Closing Keynote Address by Dr. Kathleen Erndl, Florida State University
Guest Speakers

**Dr. Bernadette Brooten** is the Kraft-Hiatt Professor of Christian Studies at Brandeis University. Her fields of study include New Testament, Post-Biblical Judaism, Early Christian Literature and History, Women and Religion, History of Sexuality, and Feminist Sexual Ethics with a special focus on law and sexuality. She has written a number of influential works in the areas of early Judaism and Christianity including Women Leaders in the Ancient Synagogue: Inscriptional Evidence and Background Issues (Scholars Press, 1982) and Love Between Women: Early Christian Responses to Female Homoeroticism (University of Chicago Press, 1996). Dr. Brooten is also a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and a Ford Foundation grant on sexual ethics and religious traditions. Currently, Dr. Brooten is involved in the Sexual Ethics Project at Brandeis where her recent research concerns overcoming religious and sexual legacies of slavery.

**Dr. Kathryn Lofton** is an assistant professor of American Studies and Religious Studies at Yale University. Her work explores the many ways in which these two intertwine in American history and the present. Her first book, the forthcoming Oprah: The Gospel of an Icon, addresses contemporary religion in America, and her next book, The Modernity in Mr. Shaw: Modernisms and Fundamentalisms in American Culture, investigates religion in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Recently finishing a yearlong fellowship at Princeton University’s Center for the Study of Religion and participating in the Young Scholars in American Religion program at Center for the Study of Religion & American Culture, Dr. Lofton is quickly asserting her voice in the field.

About the Film

*Fallen Angel: The Outlaw Larry Norman* recounts the rise and subsequent fall from grace of Larry Norman, the father of Christian rock music. Known as the “rock 'n' roll Billy Graham” of the 1970s, Norman went on to found Solid Rock Records before a personal meltdown which exiled him to the margins of the Christian subculture he helped create. Because of his interest in singing about social issues (poverty, venereal disease, hunger, general social injustice), he was shunned by the majority of American Evangelicals, but he has since been cited as an influence by singers like Bob Dylan and Axl Rose.