

PETER CLAVER AJER

EDUCATION

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA

PhD, Biblical Studies (New Testament and Early Christianity), with an allied field in Political Science (Peace and Conflict Studies), February 26, 2014.

Dissertation: "The Death of Jesus and the Politics of Place in the Gospel of John."

Advisor: Professor Jean-François Racine.

Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, Italy

SSL, Licentiate (Masters) in Sacred Scripture, March 29, 2006.

Pontifical Urbaniana University, Rome, Italy

STB, *magna cum laude*, Bachelor of Sacred Theology, May 19, 1997.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Church Divinity School of the Pacific

Lecturer in New Testament

Berkeley, CA

July 2017-Present

Courses:

- Introduction to the New Testament (Online and in-classroom)
- The Gospel of John
- Pauline Epistles: Exegesis

University of San Francisco

Adjunct Faculty

San Francisco, CA

January 2015-Present

Teach the following courses in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies:

- Introduction to Sacred Scripture (THRS 106)
- Catholic Thought: Basic of Christian Ethics (THRS 201)
- Ethics: Human Rights (THRS 390)
- Not Your Grade School Ethics (THRS 405)
- Catholic Social Thought (THRS 220)

Coordinator of Research

January 2016-May 2016

Joan and Ralph Center for Catholic Studies and Social Thought

Gathered resources for researchers, teachers and learners available on the Lane Center website. Made annotations on the Vatican Documents on Catholic social teaching. Located appropriate articles for discussion on the Facebook page of the center. Attended meetings and participated in scholarly discussions organized by the center.

Church Divinity School of the Pacific

Adjunct Lecturer

Berkeley, CA

January 2017-March 2017

Taught Introduction to the New Testament, Online

Pacific School of Religion

Adjunct Faculty

Berkeley, CA

January 2017-May 2017

Taught Critical Introduction to the New Testament (NT 1016)

Saint Mary's College of California

Adjunct Lecturer

Taught the course Bible and its Interpretation (TRS 97).

Moraga, CA

August 2015-December 2015

University of the Pacific

Visiting Lecturer

Taught the course New Testament and Christian Origins (RELI 025).

Stockton, CA

January 2015-May 2015

Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University

Teaching and Research Assistant

Berkeley, CA

February 2009-May 2014

Taught the following courses with Jean François Racine, PhD.

- NT 2530: Methods—Study of the Synoptics
- NT 4495: Luke-Acts—Narrative Perspective
- NT 2530: Methods—Study of the Synoptics
- NT 2523: Paul's Letters—Context and Theology
- NT 8270: Paul's Letters—Context and Theology, Online

Activities included: teaching selected topics, grading weekly student assignments, giving written feedback to each student using a student evaluation sheet, facilitating discussions, monitoring and grading discussion forums online, and posting reading materials on *Moodle* (an online reading and discussion site).

Taught the following courses with John Endres, PhD.

- OT 2503: Psalms
- OT 2095: Methods: Pentateuch and Histories, with John Endres, PhD.
- OT 2604: Wisdom and Deuterocanonical Books
- SPOT 4444: Biblical Issues/Christian Spirituality

Activities included: teaching selected topics, grading student assignments, facilitating discussions, and posting reading materials on *Moodle*.

Teaching assistant to Gina Hens-Piazza, PhD.

- OT 2095: Methods: Pentateuch and Histories

Graded student assignments, facilitated discussions, and posted reading materials on *Moodle*.

Church Divinity School of the Pacific

Adjunct Faculty

Taught the course Letters of St. Paul—Context and Theology (NT 2523).

Berkeley, CA

September 2013-December 2013

Holy Names University

Visiting Lecturer

Taught the following courses: Introduction to the New Testament (RLST 115).

Oakland, CA

September-December 2013

San Francisco Theological Seminary

Teaching Assistant

Taught the course New Testament Exegesis (NT 2000) with Eugene Eung-Chun Park, PhD.

Activities included: teaching selected topics, grading student assignments, and facilitating discussions.

San Anselmo, CA

February 2011-May 2011

Graduate Theological Union

Instructor

Berkeley, CA

September 2010-December 2010

Taught the course War and Peace in the New Testament (NT 3720) with Jean-François Racine, PhD. I created and designed the course with occasional guidance from Dr. Racine.

Pacific School of Religion

Teaching Assistant

Berkeley, CA

September 2010-December 2010

Taught the course Critical Introduction to the Old Testament (OT 1115) with Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, PhD.

Activities included: teaching selected topics, grading monthly student assignments, and grading mid-semester and end-of-semester exams.

St. Paul's National Major Seminary Kinyamasika

Instructor

Fort Portal, Uganda

June 2001-May 2002

Taught the following courses:

- Church History and Patristic Literature
- Social Communications

St. Joseph's Seminary

Instructor

Aboke, Uganda

October 1997-May 2001

Taught the following courses: Old Testament, New Testament, and Christian Ethics.

RESPONSIBILITIES HELD

September 2010-March 2011: Area Assistant, Biblical Studies Department, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA.

May 2009-May 2011: Elected and served as member of the Students Advisory Committee (SAC), Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA.

May 2003-May 2005: Elected leader and representative of the African Students at the Council, Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, Italy.

January 2001-May 2002: National examiner of the Christian Religious Education (Old Testament-Advanced Level) and Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB).

October 1997-May 2001: Head of the Department of Religious Studies at St. Joseph's Seminary, Aboke, Uganda

May 1998: Received a attendance certificate after the completion of a seven-day management-development program for accounts/managers in financial management. The program was conducted by Multitech Management Consultants in Uganda.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Newhall Teaching Grant/Fellowship awarded by the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) in November 2009. Taught the course War and Peace in the New Testament (NT 3720), Fall 2010. I created and designed the course with occasional guidance from Jean-François Racine, PhD.

Datatel merit scholarship awarded for university fees at GTU in Fall 2009.

Student Leadership Award from Katigondo National Seminary, Masaka-Uganda in May 1992.

SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING

Attended a three-day tech intensive course (summer 2016) provided by Center for Instruction and Technology (CIT) at University of San Francisco. Learned about technologies that might address some instructional challenges experienced in courses.

Online teaching experience acquired through teaching online courses with Dr. Jean-François Racine and through the University of San Francisco online-learning-technologies training conducted by Center for Instruction and Technology (CIT).

Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of California, Berkeley—a requirement for an allied field (complementary concentration) in my doctoral program.

Daylong seminars in Restorative Justice at the University of California, Berkeley with two important purposes: to understand and articulate the values and principles of restorative justice and to understand accountability within the framework of restorative processes.

A two-week intensive training in financial management conducted by Multitec Management Consultants, Kampala-Uganda.

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND INVITED LECTURES

November 19, 2013: Guest speaker at the University of California, Berkeley, Peace and Conflict Studies course and Conflict Resolution, Social Change and the Cultures of Peace (PACS 170) course. *Topic*: The Role of Customary Reconciliation Procedures and Religion in Reconciliation and Peace building: Case Study on Uganda and South Africa. *Instructor*: Julie Shackford-Bradley, PhD.

November 7, 2011: Guest lecturer at the Holy Names University. Lectured in the Introduction to the New Testament class. *Topic*: The Synoptic Gospels. *Instructor*: Sophia Park, PhD.

November 4, 2011: Guest speaker at the University of California, Berkeley in the Peace and Conflict Studies program. *Course*: Conflict Resolution, Social Change and the Cultures of Peace (PACS 170). *Topic*: The Acholi Traditional Reconciliation and Justice System “mato oput” versus International Criminal Court. *Instructor*: Julie Shackford-Bradley, PhD.

October 16, 2010: Guest Lecturer at a daylong public education seminar (Old Testament Book study) at the Pacific School of Religion. *Topic*: The Book of Psalms: An exegetical and thematic exploration. *Instructor*: Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, PhD, and Ann Jefferson, program coordinator.

March 30, 2010: Guest speaker at the University of California, Berkeley, department of Peace and Conflict Studies. *Class*: Non-Violence (PACS 164B). *Topic*: The Bible and Non-Violence. *Instructor*: Americ Azevedo, PhD.

October 27, 2009: Guest Speaker at the University of California Berkeley, department of Peace and Conflict Studies. *Class*: Non-violence (PACS 164A). *Topic*: The Bible and non-violence. *Instructor*: Americ Azevedo, PhD.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND SERVICE

October 2010: Co-founded Friends of Northern Uganda (FNU) at the University of California, Berkeley. FNU is a student organization at Berkeley whose purpose is to bring awareness to the campus and surrounding community about the war and the use of child soldiers in Northern Uganda, as well as to foster international relations through the implementation of a pen-pal system. The group provides support for affected families of the war through contact in the form of letters, financial support, and advocacy on their behalf.

October 21, 2009: A member of the planning team and moderator of a conference on diversity at GTU, a joint meeting of the GTU doctoral students and the core doctoral faculty.

October 1997-December 2000: Co-founder and member of the Board of Trustees of Concerned Parents Association of Uganda (CPA-Uganda). CPA-Uganda is a non-governmental organisation that works to promote peace and protect the rights of war-affected families in Uganda through advocacy, psychological counseling, social support, and community empowerment.

September 1999-May 2001: Presenter on Radiowa (our community radio, 98.4 FM-Uganda) for youth and vocations programs. Served as a weekly panel member discussing the War in Northern Uganda.

PUBLICATIONS

Ajer, Peter Claver. *The Death of Jesus and the Politics of Place in the Gospel of John*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2016.

REVIEWS

Review of *Postcolonial Perspectives in African Biblical Interpretations*, edited by Dube, Musa W., Andrew M. Mbuvi, and Dora R. Mbuwayesango. *Global Perspectives on Biblical Scholarship* 13; Atlanta, GA: Society of Biblical Literature, 2012. Pp. 529. Published in *The Review of Biblical Literature* 01/2015.

CURRENT RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The Gathering Motif in the Fourth Gospel

“The Rhetoric of War in Judeo-Christian Scriptures in the Political Theology of the Holy Spirit Movement and the Lord’s Resistance Movement of Uganda.” (Finalizing)

(Revised August 5, 2017)

“Social Construction of Space in Philemon.” (Finalizing)

“Reading Philemon for Decolonization.”

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“The Death of Jesus and the Politics of Place in the Gospel of John.” Presented in the New Testament Section at Catholic Biblical Association Meeting, Santa Clara University, California on August 7, 2016.

“The Rhetoric of War in Judeo-Christian Scriptures in the Political Theology of the Holy Spirit Movement and the Lord’s Resistance Movement of Uganda.” Presented in the African Biblical Hermeneutics Program Unit of the Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religions Meeting, San Antonio, Texas on November 19, 2016.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND SERVICE

Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
American Academy of Religions (AAR)
Catholic Biblical Association (CBA)
Peace and Collaborative Development Network (PCDN)
College Theology Society

LANGUAGES

Lango (fluent)
English (fluent)
Italian (fluent)
German (proficient)
Koine Greek (reading)
Biblical Hebrew (reading)
Aramaic (reading)
Latin (reading)

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Jean-François Racine, PhD

Associate Professor of New Testament
Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University
1735 LeRoy Avenue,
Berkeley, CA 94709
E-mail: [jraccine@scu.edu](mailto:jracine@scu.edu)
Phone: (510) 549-5030

Eugene Eung-Chun Park, PhD

Dana and Dave Dornsife Professor of New Testament
San Francisco Theological Seminary
105 Seminary Road

San Anselmo, CA 94760
E-mail: epark@sfts.edu
Phone: (415) 451-2881

Darren Zook, PhD

Lecturer in Comparative Politics
University of California, Berkeley
210 Barrows Hall # 1950
Berkeley, CA 94720-1950
E-mail: warce@gtu.edu
Phone: (510) 643-3186

David L. Balch, PhD

Professor Emeritus, New Testament
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
2770 Marin Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94708
E-mail: dbalch@plts.edu
Phone: (510) 559-2725