

PETER CLAVER AJER

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EDUCATION

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA

Ph.D., 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, *cum laude*, 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

January 2017-Present

Courses:

- Introduction to the New Testament (NT 1009)
- Introduction to the New Testament -online (NT 8109)
- Pauline Epistles: Exegesis (NT 2508)
- The Gospel of John (NT 2251)
- The Gospel of John - online (NT 8280)
- Exegeting the Parables of Jesus - online (NT 8250)
- Exegeting the Parables of Jesus (NT 2858)

University of San Francisco

Adjunct Faculty

San Francisco, CA

January 2015-Present

Courses:

- Introduction to Sacred Scripture (THRS 106)
- Catholic Thought: Basics 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-June 2016

Joan and Ralph Lane Center for Catholic Studies and Social Thought

- Gathered resources for researchers, teachers, and learners available on the Lane Center website.
- Made annotations on the official documents on Catholic social teaching.
- Located relevant articles for academic discussion on social media (on the Facebook page of the Lane Center).
- Participated in organizing scholarly conversations across academic disciplines and engaged in talks hosted by the Lane Center.

Saint Mary's College of California

Adjunct Associate Professor

Moraga, CA
August 2015 – Present

Courses:

- Wealth, Poverty, and Economic Justice (TRS 189)
- Topics: John's Gospel and Social Justice (TRS 110)
- The Bible and Its Interpretation (TRS 097)
- The Gospel of John (TRS 112)
- Catholic Social Teaching (TRS 143)

University of Redlands' Graduate School of Theology

Adjunct Faculty

San Anselmo, CA
February 2018-May 2020

- New Testament Exegesis (NT 2000)
- Teaching Assistant, New Testament Exegesis (NT 2000) with Eugene Eung-Chun Park, Ph.D. February 2011-May 2011

Pacific School of Religion

Adjunct Faculty

Berkeley, CA
January 2017-May 2017

- Critical Introduction to the New Testament (NT 1016)

University of the Pacific

Visiting Lecturer

Stockton, CA
January 2015-May 2015

- New Testament and Christian Origins (RELI 025).

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, Ph.D.

- 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

Taught the following courses with John Endres, Ph.D.

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

Teaching assistant to Gina Hens-Piazza, Ph.D.

- OT 2095: Methods: Pentateuch and Histories

Church Divinity School of the Pacific

Adjunct Faculty

Berkeley, CA
September 2013-December 2013

- Letters of St. Paul – Context and Theology (NT 2523).

Graduate Theological Union

Instructor

Berkeley, CA
September 2010-December 2010

- War and Peace in the New Testament (NT 3720).

Pacific School of Religion

Teaching Assistant

Berkeley, CA

September 2010-December 2010

- Critical Introduction to the Old Testament (OT 1115) with Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Ph.D. 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

- Church History and Patristics
- Social Communications

St. Joseph's Seminary

Instructor

Aboke, Uganda

October 1997-May 2001

- 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 a 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-January 2002: Vocations Director, Diocese of Lira, Uganda.
- October 1997-May 2001: Vice-Rector, St. Joseph's Seminary, Aboke.
- October 1997-May 2001: Head of the Department of Religious Studies at St. Joseph's Seminary, Aboke.

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, Ph.D.
- 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 the Center for Instruction and Technology (CIT) at the 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 the Center for Instruction and Technology (CIT).

- Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of California, Berkeley – a requirement for an allied field in the doctoral program.
- Daylong seminars in Restorative Justice at the University of California, Berkeley, with two critical purposes: to understand and articulate the values and principles of restorative justice and to understand accountability within the framework of restorative processes.
- Two-Week intensive training in financial management conducted by Multitec Management Consultants, Kampala-Uganda (May 1998), and awarded attendance certificate.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND SERVICE

- August 8, 2021: Summer Sundays Instructor at Trinity Church Wall Street, in the Adult Education Discovery Program. Topic: Gospel According to Mark – General Introduction, Jesus in Galilee.
- July 11, 2021: Summer Sundays Instructor at Trinity Church Wall Street, in the Adult Education Discovery Program. Topic: Gospel According to Mark: Parables of Jesus
- June 6, 2021: Summer Sundays Instructor at Trinity Church Wall Street, in the Adult Education Discovery Program. Topic: Gospel According to Mark – The Passion of Jesus.
- August 2020 – May 2021: Masters' Thesis Reader in Biblical Studies and Theology: Church Divinity School of the Pacific and Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University.
- October 4, 11, 18, 2020: Adult Education Classes on Parables as Codifications for Social Reform at Montclair Presbyterian Church, Oakland, California.
- Preacher and instructor in Bible Studies, St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Marin City, California.
- 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 supports affected families of the war through contact in the form of letters, financial aid, 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 organization that works to promote Peace and protects 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. Also, a weekly panel discussion member on war and peace in Northern Uganda.

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Death of Jesus and the Politics of Place in the Gospel of John*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2016.
- "Tongues and Community Building in Corinth." *Asian American Theological Forum* 4 no. 2 (2017).
- "Leaders without Blemish: Pseudo-Philo's Retelling of the Biblical Golden Calf Story. In *the Golden Calf Traditions in Early Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*. Edited by Eric F. Mason and Edmondo F. Lupieri. Leiden: Brill, 2018. In collaboration with John Endres, Ph.D.

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.
- Review of *Stories with Intent: A Comprehensive Guide to the Parables of Jesus*, second edition, authored by Klyne Snodgrass, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2018. Pp. 892. Review in progress, to be published in *The Review of Biblical Literature* soon.

CURRENT RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- "Social Construction of Space in Paul's Letter to Philemon." (Submitted to *Theoforum* for peer review and publishing).
- *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."

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- "Social Construction of Space in Philemon." Presented as part of the Brown Bag Lecture Series at the University of San Francisco, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, April 6, 2021.
- Chaired a section on the African Biblical Hermeneutics at the Society of Biblical Literature, at San Diego, California, on November 19, 2019.
- Organized a day-long Leadership Conference on Africa South of the Sahara at the University of San Francisco, November 16, 2019. Presented a paper on Leadership in Africa as one of the principal speakers. The Keynote Speaker: Hon. Nabilah Naggayi, Member of Parliament, Uganda.
- "The Woman at the Well: Building Bridges Across Divides." Presented as part of the Bible, Theology, and Religion Lecture Series in Theology and Religious Studies at Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, California, on April 09, 2019.
- "Social Construction of Space in Philemon." Presented in the Scripture Section at the College Theology Society Meeting, St. Catherine University, Saint Paul, Minnesota, on June 02, 2018.
- "Transformative Spaces in John's Passion Narrative." Presented as part of the Bible, Theology, and Religion Lecture Series in Theology to the faculty and students at Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, California, on April 09, 2018.

- “The Death of Jesus and the Politics of Place in the Gospel of John.” Presented in the New Testament Section at Catholic Biblical Association of America 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.
- 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 Peacebuilding: Case Study (Uganda and South Africa). *Instructor:* Julie Shackford-Bradley, Ph.D., November 19, 2013.
- Guest lecturer at the Holy Names University. Lectured in the Introduction to the New Testament class. *Topic:* The Synoptic Gospels. *Instructor:* Sophia Park, Ph.D., November 7, 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 the International Criminal Court. *Instructor:* Julie Shackford-Bradley, Ph.D., November 4, 2011.
- 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, Ph.D., and Ann Jefferson, program coordinator. October 16, 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, Ph.D., March 30, 2010.
- 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, Ph.D., October 27, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND SERVICE

- Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
- American Academy of Religions (AAR)
- Catholic Biblical Association of America (CBA)
- Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA)
- The College Theology Society (CTS)

LANGUAGES

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