

Phil Zuckerman

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Oregon. June, 1998. Dissertation: "Opposite Sides of the Street: Religious Schism and One Jewish Community's Struggle" (Chair: Benton Johnson).

M.A. Sociology, University of Oregon. June, 1995.

B.A. (cum laude), Sociology, University of Oregon. June, 1992.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Dean, Pitzer College, 2019-present

Full Professor, Pitzer College. 2010-present.

Teaching: Classical Sociological Theory; Qualitative Research Methods; Sociology of Secularity; Social Construction of Morality; Sociology of Religion; Introduction to Sociology; Secularism, Skepticism, and Irreligion; Sociology Through Film; The University Blacklist

Director of Summer School, Pitzer College. 2016-present.

Associate Professor, Pitzer College, 2005-2010.

Guest Professor, University of Aarhus, Denmark. 2005-2006, 2010

Research: Secularization in Scandinavia.

Taught: Religion in the United States; Secularization in Scandinavia; Atheism and Agnosticism

Affiliated Professor, Claremont Graduate University, 2002-2015.

Assistant Professor, Pitzer College, 1999-2005.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Pitzer College, 1998-1999.

Instructor, University of Oregon, 1996-1998.

BOOKS (as author)

Sociology, Unplugged. Routledge, 2025.

Beyond Doubt: The Secularization of Society (with Isabella Kasselstrand and Ryan Cragun), NYU Press, 2023

What it Means to be Moral, Counterpoint Press, 2019

The Nonreligious: Understanding Secular People and Societies, (with Frank Pasquale and Luke Galen), Oxford University Press, 2016.

Living the Secular Life, Penguin, 2014.

“Editor’s Choice,” *New York Times Book Review*

“A Best Book of 2014” – *Publishers Weekly*

“A Best Book of the Month,” December, 2104, Amazon.com

[Translated into Korean, Panmidong, 2018]

Faith No More: Why People Reject Religion, Oxford University Press, 2011.

[Translated into Korean, Ermamama, Seoul, Korea, 2012]

Society Without God, New York University Press, 2008.

Book of the Year Silver Award, *Foreword Magazine*, 2008

[Translated into Italian, Malcor D’Edizione, Catania, Italy, 2013]

[Translated into Korean, Maumsanchaek, Seoul, Korea, 2011]

[Translated into Danish, *Samfund Uden Gud*, Aarhus, Denmark 2008]

Invitation to the Sociology of Religion, Routledge, 2003.

[Translated into Farsi, Tehran, Iran, 2005]

[Translated into Turkish, Ankara, Turkey, 2006]

[Translated into Chinese, Peking University Press, 2012]

Strife in the Sanctuary: Religious Schism in a Jewish Community, AltaMira Press, 1999.

BOOKS (as editor)

Du Bois on Religion, Second Edition, Bloomsbury, 2025.

The Oxford Handbook of Apostasy and Deconversion (with Alex Zamuzinski), Oxford University Press, 2026

The Oxford Handbook of Secularism (with John Shook), Oxford University Press, 2017

Beyond Religion, Macmillan, 2016

Irreligious: Secularism and Atheism in Social Science Perspective (series editor), New York University Press, 2013-ongoing

Studying Religion and Society, (with Titus Hjlem), Routledge, 2012.

Atheism and Secularity, volumes 1 and 2, Praeger, 2010.
[Translated into Italian, Ipermedium Libri, Italy, 2014]

Sex and Religion, (with Christel Manning), Wadsworth, 2005.

The Social Theory of W.E.B. Du Bois, Pine Forge Press, 2004.

Du Bois on Religion, AltaMira Press, 2000.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Zuckerman, P and Myers, S. 2025. "Altruistic Atheists." *Secularism and Nonreligion*, 14: 3, pp. 1–15.

"An Invitation to the Sociology of Religion: Important Questions Answered by Scholars in the Field" (co-author), *The American Sociologist*, May 26, 2023

"Secularism: The Basics," *Secular Studies*, 5 (2023) 48–52

"Good Without God? Connecting Religiosity, Affiliation and Pro-sociality Using World Values Survey Data and Agent-based Simulation." Gore, Ross, Phil Zuckerman, Luke W. Galen, David Pollack, and LeRon Shults. 2019. *SocArXiv*. April 7. doi:10.31235/osf.io/jnpe9.

"Bringing up Nones: Intergenerational Influences and Cohort Trends," with Vern Bengtson and David Hayward. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 2018: 1-18.

"Nonfirmants: Danish Youth Who Choose Not to Have a Lutheran Confirmation," with Isabella Kasselstrand, Donald Westbrook, and Robert Little. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, v.22, n.1, 2018

"What About Secular People?" *Religion, Brain, and Behavior*, April, 2014.

“Contrasting Irreligious Orientations: Atheism and Secularity in the USA and Scandinavia,” *Approaching Religion*, v.2, n.1, June, 2012.

“Deviant Heroes: Nonconformists as Agents of Justice and Social Change.” (with Brian Wolf), *Deviant Behavior* 33:639-654, 2012

“Atheism, Secularity, and Well-Being.” *Sociology Compass*, 3/6, 2009

“Why are Danes and Swedes so Irreligious?” *Nordic Journal of Religion and Society*, volume 22, no.1, 2009.

“The Sociology of Religion of W.E.B. Du Bois,” *Sociology of Religion*, vol.63, no.2, 2002.

[REPRINTED in *International Library of Essays in Classical Sociology*, edited by David Chalcraft and Alan Sica, Ashgate Publishing, 2011]

[REPRINTED in *W.E.B. Du Bois*, edited by Reiland Rabaka, Ashgate Publishing, 2011]

"Gender Regulation as a Source of Religious Schism," *Sociology of Religion*, vol.58, no.4, 1997

[REPRINTED in *Conflict and Culture*, Pat Chew, editor, New York University Press, 2000.]

"Jews and the Christian Right," *Journal of Jewish Communal Service*, vol.73, no.1, Fall, 1996.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

“Reflections on a Death Spiral,” *Free Inquiry*, April/May, 2024

“Why America’s Secularization is Good for American Democracy,” *Religion News Service*, Aug. 2, 2023

“All Hail Jean Meslier!” *Free Inquiry*, Oct/Nov, 2023

“Ten Great Things People Ought to Know About Atheists,” *American Atheist*, Vol.61, n.1, 2023

“Americans Have Nothing to Fear From Secularization,” *nyupressblog*, May 9, 2023

“Three big numbers that tell the story of secularization in America.” *The Conversation*, Feb. 27, 2023

“Why Nations Are Becoming More Secular,” *Skeptic*, February, 2023, vo. 27, no. 4

“The Sinner in the Mirror: Why Atheists are Stereotyped as Immoral” *Free*

Inquiry, February/March, 2023

“The Morality of Atheism,” *The Humanist*, March 22, 2022

“Do We Need Faith As The World Feels Like Its Ending?” *The Nation*
Nov. 15/22, 2021

“Clinical Notes on Atheism and Self-Reliance,” *Free Inquiry*, Oct/Nov, 2021

“The Supreme Court’s Right-wing Catholics are Destroying True Religious
Freedom” *Salon.com* Sept. 14, 2021

“Imagine at 50: Why John Lennon’s Ode to Humanism Still Resonates,” *The
Conversation*, Sept. 13, 2021

“Staunch Atheists Show Higher Morals Than the Proudly Pious, from Pandemic
to Climate Change,” *Salon.com*, August 21, 2021

“Why America’s Record Godlessness is a Good Thing,” *Los Angeles Times*,
Op-Ed, April 2, 2021

“Secular Values-Voters Are Becoming an Electoral Force,” *Salon.com*,
Jan. 4, 2021

“Why Is It So Hard for Atheists to Get Voted Into Congress?” *The
Conversation*, Oct. 5, 2020

“The Unbearable Wrongness of William Barr,” *Salon.com*, Nov. 9, 2019

“Mike Huckabee Ties Mass Shootings to an Absence of Faith in God. Social
Science Proves Him Wrong.” *Los Angeles Times*, Op-Ed, August 11, 2019

“The Trump Administration’s Alternative Christianity,” *Los Angeles Times* Op-
Ed, August 11, 2017

“Secularism and Social Progress,” *Free Inquiry*, April/May 2016

* Winner of the Selma V. Forkosch Best Article of 2016 Award

“Think Religion Makes Society Less Violent? Think Again” *Los Angeles Times*
Op-Ed, Oct. 30, 2015

“How Secular Family Values Stack Up,” *Los Angeles Times*, Op-Ed, Jan.15, 2015

“Ye of Little Faith,” *Contexts*, Vol.12, n.o.1, Winter 2013

“Taking Leave of Religion,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 20, 2011

- “Majoring in Secular Studies,” *The Guardian*, May 13, 2011
- “Secular Studies Arrives at Last,” *Free Inquiry* August/September, 2011, vol.31, no.5
- “Why Do Americans Still Dislike Atheists?” Op-Ed, (with Gregory Paul), *Washington Post*, April 29, 2011
- “The Virtues of Godlessness: The Least Religious Nations are also the Most Healthy and Successful,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Volume 55, Issue 21, Page B4 1/30/09.
- “The Secular Soul of the North,” *Nordic Reach*, No.28, vol.22, 2009
[published also in *Nordstjernen*, issue #18, Oct.24, 2008]
- “Aweism,” *Free Inquiry*, April/May 2009, vol.29, no.3
- “A New Argument for Unbelief” (with Michael Martin) *The Open Society*, volume 8, no.1, 2009.
- “Is Faith Good for Us?,” *Free Inquiry*, August/September 2006, vol.26, no.5
[translated into Swedish in *Humanisten*, Stockholm, Sweden, 2006]
[also posted on www.onlineopinion.com in Australia, April 22, 2009]
- “Secularization: Europe – Yes, United States – No.” *Skeptical Inquirer*, vol. 28, no.2, 2004.
- “‘Environmental Terrorism’ is a Matter of Definition,” Op-Ed, the *Los Angeles Times*, Oct. 11, 2003.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “How Humanists Contribute to a Meaningful, Just, and Prosperous Future,” in *Perspektiven des zeitgenössischen Humanismus*, De Gruyter, vol. 1: *Humanistische Lebensbegleitung in Krisenzeiten*. 2025
- “Foreword,” *Questions and Answers About the Religious Unaffiliated*, Front Edge Publishing, 2024
- “Secular Living as a Context for Moral Development,” with Kyle Thompson, in *The Oxford Handbook of Moral Development: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*, edited by Lene Jensen, Oxford University Press, 2020
- “Are Human Beings Naturally Religious? A Response to Christian Smith,” in *Homo Religious?* Edited by Timothy Samuel Shah and Jack Friedman, Cambridge University Press, 2018.

“Being Secular, Finding Community,” in *Parenting Beyond Belief*, edited by Dale McGowan, Amacom, 2016

“Beyond Religion,” in *Religion: Sources, Perspectives, and Methodologies*, edited by Jeffrey Kripal. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan/Cengage, 2016

“Forward,” for *Godless Grace*, edited by David Orenstein and Linda Ford Blaikie, The Humanist Press, 2015

“The Rise of the Nones: Why More Americans are Becoming Secular, and What that Means for America,” in *Theism and Public Policy*, edited by Anthony Pinn. Palgrave Macmillan. 2014.

Translated into Danish: “The Rise of the Nones” – Hvorfor flere amerikanske bliver sekulære og hvad det betyder for USA” in Center for Samtidsreligion, Årg. 9, No.1, 2017

“Secular America: Nones, Atheists, and the Unaffiliated,” in *Secularism on the Edge: Rethinking Church-State Relations in the United States, France, and Israel*, edited by Jacques Berlinerblau, Plagrave-Macmillan, 2014.

“Atheism and Societal Health,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Atheism*, edited by Stephen Bullivant, Oxford University Press, 2014.

“Atheism and Society” in *Open Questions: Diverse Thinkers Discuss God, Religion, and Faith*, edited by Luis F. Rodriguez, Praeger, 2010

“The Social Scientific Study of Atheism and Secularity,” in *Atheism and Secularity*, edited by Phil Zuckerman, Praeger, 2010.

“Contemporary Atheism: Numbers and Patterns,” in *Cambridge Companion to Atheism*, edited by Michael Martin, Cambridge University Press, 2007.

“The Irreligiosity of W.E.B. Du Bois,” in *The Souls of W.E.B. Du Bois*, edited by Edward Blum, Mercer University Press, 2009.

“The Social Theory of W.E.B. Du Bois: An Introduction,” in *The Social Theory of W.E.B. Du Bois*, Pine Forge Press, 2005.

“Sex and Religion: An Introduction,” (with Christel Manning), in *Sex and Religion*, Wadsworth, 2005.

“*The Negro Church: An Introduction*” (with Sandra Barnes and Daniel Cady) in *The Negro Church* by W.E.B. Du Bois, 100th Anniversary Edition, Alta Mira Press, 2003.

“Du Bois on Religion: An Introduction,” in *Du Bois on Religion*, pages 1-18, AltaMira Press, Fall, 2000.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

“Secularization in Norden” in *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Nordic Culture*, edited by Helena Forsås-Scott, Mary Hilson, Titus Hjelm, 2011

“Atheism in Norden” in *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Nordic Culture*, edited by Helena Forsås-Scott, Mary Hilson, Titus Hjelm, 2011

“W.E.B. Du Bois,” *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Social Theory*, edited by Austin Harrington, et al, 2006.

BOOK REVIEWS *(selected)*

“Religious Indifference,” *Reading Religion*, Sept. 14, 2017

“Village Atheists,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, forthcoming, 2017

“The Apostates,” *Sociology of Religion*, November, 2015

“Required Reading for Seculars,” *Free Inquiry*, October/November, 2012.

“The Political Influence of Churches,” *Journal of Church and State*, May, 2010.

“An Introduction to the Sociology of Religion,” *Sociology of Religion*, 69(2), Summer, 2008.

“From Quest for Truth to Being Oneself: Religious Change in Life Stories,” *Nordic Journal of Religion and Society*, 20 (2), 2007.

“Religion and Everyday Life,” *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 21(2), May 2006.

“Handbook of the Sociology of Religion,” *Contemporary Sociology*, 33(6), 2005.

(selected book reviews, continued)

“A Comparative Sociology of World Religions,” *Sociology of Religion*, vol.63, Fall, 2002

“Dublin’s Merchant-Quaker: Anthony Sharp and the Community of Friends, 1643-1707” *Review of Religious Research*, vol. 41, Fall, 1999

"Studying New Religions" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, vol.36, no.2, June, 1997

"Standing Against the Wind: Evangelical Episcopalians in the 19th Century" *Review of Religious Research*, vol.38, no.1, Sept., 1996

"Utopia in Zion: Worker Cooperatives in Israel" *Sociological Inquiry*, vol.66, n.4 Fall, 1996

BLOGS and WEB ARTICLES

Blog: “The Secular Life: Thriving Without Gods or Gurus” *Psychology Today* on-line, on-going, with over 1.2 million views and counting

Huffington Post, on-line, 2009-2018.

“Are Men More Likely to be Secular Than Women?” *Friendly Atheist*, Sept. 17, 2014

“Obama’s Battle for Ohio’s Atheist Vote,” Op-Ed, *Bloomberg View*, Oct. 17, 2012

“Why the Gods are not Winning”, co-authored with Gregory Paul in *The Edge*, edition #209, May 1, 2007. www.edge.org

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

“Are Religious People More Moral than Atheists?” Planet Curious, 2024
490,000+ views

“What Happens When Societies Stop Worshipping God?” Planet Curious, 2024
200,000+ views

“Oxford Union Debate,” 2024, Oxford University
36,000+ views

INVITED LECTURES

“A Secular Humanist Perspective on the Israel-Hamas War” Center For Inquiry

Hollywood, CA July 21, 2024

“Beyond Doubt: Secularization,” Oxford, Explaining Atheism

June 26, 2024, Oxford, UK

“Humanism: Values and Behaviors,” Berlin, Germany, June 21, 2024

“Contemporary Extensions of W.E.B. Du Bois,” Brown University, Saturday,
May 4, 2024

“Having Difficult Conversations in the Classroom,” Art Institute of Chicago,

April 26, 2024

“How Can You Be Moral if You Don’t Believe in God?” CSU Northridge,

Richard Smith Lecture in Cultural Studies, March 27, 2024

“What It Means to be Moral,” Glendale Community College, Glendale, Arizona,

March 4, 2024

“Is God a Delusion?” Invited debater at the Oxford Union, Oxford University,
Nov. 23, 2023

“The University in an Age of Polarization,” UC Berkeley, Oct. 13, 2023

“Is Secularization in the US a Problem?” Claremont McKenna College, Sept. 23,
2023

“Beyond Doubt: The Secularization of Society” – Symposium. University of
Aberdeen, August 7, 2023

“How Secularism Can Help the World,” Jefferson Country Freethinkers, Golden,
Colorado, April 15, 2023

“Secular Values and the USA”, Secular Coalition for Arizona, March 31, 2023

“Atheism and Morality,” Rocky Mountain Atheists of Calgary
March 29, 2023

“Religion, Secularism, and the American Nightmare,” Hasseris IB World School,
Aalborg, Denmark, Dec. 5, 2022

- “Secular Morality,” Kentucky Freethought Convention, Sept. 3, 2022
- “The ‘Nones’: Contemporary Secularity in the USA” Benedictine University
May 21, 2021
- “What It Means to be Moral,” Ethical Humanists of Chicago, March, 21, 2021
- “What is Secular Studies?” UC Riverside, March 4, 2021
- “The Moral Edge: Secularism and Ethical Progress,” LogiCal Annual Conference,
Lakewood, July 21, 2019
- “Secular Virtues and Community Building,” USC, July 13, 2019
- “The ‘Nones’ and Political Activism,” Augsburg University, Minneapolis, Feb.
28, 2018
- “Religious vs. Secular Approached to Morality in the Age of Trump,” Jefferson
Center, Ashland, Oregon, March 13, 2017
- “What is Secular Studies?” University of Köln, January 10, 2017
- “What is Secular Humanism?” B.F. Skinner Keynote Lecture, Association for
Behavior Analysis International, Chicago, May 30, 2106
- “The Rise of Irreligion in the USA,” University of Aarhus, Denmark, April 5,
2016
- “Doing Qualitative Research,” VIA University, Aarhus, Denmark, April 7, 2016
- “Atheists in America,” California State University, Northridge, November 4,
2015
- “Illiberal Liberalism? The Fate of Religious Freedom in the Public Square,”
Georgetown University, panelist, with Kirsten Powers and Russell Moore,
Oct. 27, 2015
- “Irreligion, Apostasy, and the Rise of the 'Nones': How and Why Religion is
Fading From American Society.” Western Colorado State University,
Sept. 10, 2015
- “The Rise of Secularism in the US: Possible Causes, Effects and Implications.”
Goshen College, Indiana, Oct.11, 2015
- “The Rise of Irreligion,” Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua, NY, Aug. 5, 2015

- “Secular Family Values,” Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fullerton, CA, July 12, 2105
- “Secular Culture,” Center for Inquiry, Buffalo, New York, June 13, 2015
- “Secularism and Individualism,” DuVal Auditorium, Tuscon, AZ, June 21, 2015
- “Living the Secular Life,” Center for Inquiry, Washington, D.C., May17, 2015
- “Secularism and Humanistic Judaism,” The Birmingham Temple Farmington Hills, Michigan, May 29, 2015.
- “Living the Secular Life,” California Institute of Technology, April 19, 2015
- “Irreligion Rising: Causes and Cinsequences,” Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell, Montana, March 26, 2105
- “The Rise of the ‘Nones’” and “The Pillars of Secular Culture,” 30th Annual Farstrup-Mortensen Lecture Series, Bethania Luthern Church, Solvang, CA, Feb. 20-22, 2105
- “Secularity and Societal Well-being,” Portland State University, Oct. 9, 2014
- “The Pillars of Secular Culture,” CFI, Portland, Oct. 9, 2014
- “Atheism,” Loma Linda University, May 10, 2014
- “Rise of the ‘Nones’” Center for Inquiry, Hollywood, CA May 4, 2014
- “Secular Morality: Real World Implications,” Center for Inquiry, Hollywood, CA, April 27, 2014
- “Society Without God?” CSU Fresno, April 2, 2014
- “The Rise of Irreligion” CSU Bakersfield, Nov.5, 2013
- “Secularity and Individualism” Center for Inquiry Annual Conference, Tacoma, WA, Oct.25, 2013
- “The Great Debate: What Provides a Better Foundation for Civil Society: Christianity or Secular Humanism?” Phil Zuckerman vs David Marshall, Adventure Christian Church, Roseville, CA Oct. 12, 2013
- “Irreligion Rising: Causes and Consequences of Growing Secularity in America,” American Humanist Association Annual Conference, San Diego, June 1,

2013

“Secular Life in America,” Georgetown University, Washington D.C, Feb. 21, 2013

“The Rise of Irreligion in Europe and the USA: Causes and Consequences,” St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church, Palm Desert, CA, Jan. 25, 2013

“What is Secular Studies?” Santa Barbara Humanists Association, Oct. 20, 2012

“Goodness and Godlessness” University Synagogue, Irvine, CA, May 25, 2012

“Secular Studies” Orange Country Freethought Alliance Annual Meeting, UC Irvine, May 20, 2012.

“Faith No More: Why People Reject Religion,” West Colorado Atheists and Freethinkers, Grand Junction, Colorado, March 25, 2012.

“Faith No More: Contemporary Apostasy in America” Center for Inquiry, Washington, D.C., Feb. 10, 2012

“Are We Naturally Religious? A Response to Christian Smith,” Religion, Human Personhood, Culture, and Society Seminar, Georgetown University, Feb. 10, 2012

“What We Know About Atheists and Secular People: A Social Science Perspective,” Åbo Academie, Turku, Finland, Jan. 19, 2012

“The Rise of Irreligion: Causes and Consequences,” Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Santa Monica, CA, Nov. 27, 2011

“Aweism,” Adat Chaverim, Brentwood, CA, Oct. 8, 2011

“Contemporary Apostasy,” Reed College, April 22, 2011

“Society Without God,” Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Montclair, CA, April 3, 2011.

“Religion and Irreligion in Denmark” Folkeuniversitet, Copenhagen. March 13, 2011

“Religion and Irreligion in Contemporary Scandinavia,” Farstrup-Mortensen Lecture Series, Bethania Lutheran Church, Solvang, California, March 26, 2011

“Society Without God,” Jefferson Center, Ashland, OR, Feb. 17, 2011.

“Atheism, Secularity, and Societal Well-Being,” Center For Inquiry, Hollywood, CA, Jan. 23, 2011.

“Samfund Uden Gud,” Egå Gymnasium, Aarhus, Denmark, Jan, 13, 2011.

“Why is the USA so Religious?” Viby Gymnasium, Aarhus, Denmark, Nov. 30, 2010

“Atheists and Secular People: What Social Science Reveals” AtheistSelskab, Copenhagen, Nov. 25, 2010

“Contemporary Apostasy,” University of Copenhagen, Nov. 26, 2010

“Religion in Denmark and the USA” Favrskov Gymnasium, Hadsten, Denmark, Nov. 23, 2010

“Why is Denmark so Irreligious?” A.P. Møllers Gymnasium, Slesvig, Germany, Oct. 27, 2010

“Contemporary Apostasy,” University of Aarhus, Sept. 21. 2010

“Atheism and Religion in Denmark,” Folkeuniversitet, Aarhus. Sept 27, 2010

“Contemporary Irreligion” Humanist Society of Santa Barbara, July 17, 2010

“Secularity and Society” Orange County Free-thought Alliance Conference, Costa Mesa, CA, May 8, 2010

“Society Without God,” Loma Linda University, April 17, 2010.

“Society Without God,” Humanist Association of Los Angeles, Santa Monica, April 11, 2010.

“Religion, Secularity, and Morality,” Scripps College, March 22, 2010

“Secularity and Society,” Citizens United for the Separation of Church and State, Orange County chapter, Feb. 20, 2010

“What We Can Learn From the World’s Least Religious Nations,” Southern California Political Action Group, Los Angeles, Nov. 15, 2009

“The Goodness of Godlessness,” Annual Conference of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, November 7, 2009

“Society Without God,” Honnold Library, Claremont, CA Oct.28, 2009

- “Secularity and the Social Sciences,” Center For Inquiry, Amherst, New York, July 17, 2009
- “Aweism.” Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Fullerton, California. June 28, 2009.
- “Society Without God,” Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado, March 17, 2009
- “Contemporary Secularity,” Claremont School of Theology, Feb. 24, 2009
- “Samfund Uden Gud,” University of Aarhus, Denmark, Aug. 26, 2008
- “W.E.B. Du Bois and the Bible,” Institute for Signifying Scriptures, Claremont Graduate University, Nov. 8, 2007
- “Why are Danes and Swedes so Secular?” University of Aarhus, Denmark, Sept. 26, 2007
- “A Qualitative Analysis of Religion and Secularization in Denmark and Sweden,” University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Feb. 17, 2006
- “Society Without God: Secularization in Northern Europe,” European Union Center of California, Claremont, March 23, 2005
- “The Sociology Job Market”, Dept. of Sociology, University of Oregon, Nov. 5, 2004
- “Secularization: Data and Theories,” Marching and Chowder Society, Pitzer College, April 28, 2004
- “Many Faiths, Many Faces: The Future of Racial and Religious Diversity in Southern California,” moderator, Thorton F. Bradshaw Seminar, Claremont Graduate University, Feb. 28, 2004
- “Du Bois, Religion, and the *Souls of Black Folk*,” University of Massachusetts, Amherst, May 1, 2003.
- “Sex and Judaism,” California State University Long Beach, Oct. 16, 2002.
- “Sex and Religion,” California State University, Long Beach, December 11, 2001
- “Strife in the Sanctuary,” Portland State University, July 12, 1999

CONFERENCES

“Altruistic Atheists,” Annual meeting for the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Salt Lake City, Oct. 21, 2023

“How Could Rodney Stark Have Been So Wrong?” Non-Religion and Secularity Research Network, June 18, 2021

On-Site Organizer, 78th Annual Conference of the American Humanist Association, Pitzer College, June 8, 2019

Invited panelist, “The Next Mormons,” Mormon Studies Conference, Claremont Graduate University, April 27, 2019

Invited panelist/member, “Consultations in the Social Scientific Study of Science and Religion,” Templeton Religion Trust/The Issachar Fund, Santa Monica, Oct.20-22, 2017

“Nonfrmands: Danish Youth Who Choose Not to Have a Lutheran Confirmation” Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association, Portland, Oregon, April 8, 2017

“Where do Youthful ‘Nones’ Come From? Families and the Intergenerational Transmission of Non-Religion” and Author Meets Critics: *American Secularism: The Cultural Contours of Nonreligious Belief Systems*. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Newport Beach, California, Oct. 23-25. 2015.

Lead Organizer, Third International Conference of the Non-religion and Secularity Research Network, Pitzer College, Nov. 19-20, 2014.

Featured Panelist: “Faith, Culture, and the Common Good,” Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., April 10, 2014

Discussant, “(Im)migration and Border Control,” Claremont-UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union, April 13, 2012

“Contrasting Secularity and Atheism in Scandinavia and the USA” Roundtable Presentation, “The New Visibility of Atheism in Europe,” Donner Institute, Turku, Finland, Jan.19, 2012.

“Author Meets Critics – Panel Discussion of *Society Without God*,” American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, Nov. 21, 2011

- “Atheism, Secularity, and Well-Being,” Association for the Sociology of Religion, San Francisco, Aug. 8, 2009
- “Why Are Danes and Swedes so Irreligious?” Association for the Sociology of Religion, San Francisco, Aug. 8, 2009
- “Secularity and Irreligion in Denmark and Sweden,” Religion in the 21st Century, University of Copenhagen, Sept. 23, 2007
- “Scandinavian Perspectives on God,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion annual meeting, Portland, 2006
- “Congregations and Community,” Pacific Sociological Association annual meeting, San Francisco, 2004.
- “Cult or Religion?: The Social Construction of Religious Legitimacy,” Pacific Sociological Association annual meeting, Pasadena, 2003.
- “Teaching Social Theory,” Pacific Sociological Association annual meeting, Vancouver, B.C. 2002.
- “Muslim Reactions to September 11th and Beyond,” Pacific Sociological Association annual meeting, Vancouver, B.C. 2002.
- “The Sociology of Religion of W.E.B. Du Bois,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion annual meeting, Houston, 2000.
- “Studying and Theorizing About Sex and Religion,” American Sociological Association annual meeting, Chicago, 1999.
- “Towards a More Comprehensive Theory of Religious Schism,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion annual meeting, San Diego, 1997.
- “Power and Conflict in Religious Organizations” (discussant), Society for the Scientific Study of Religion annual meeting, San Diego, 1997.
- “Religious and National Identity, Class, and the Culture Wars,” (discussant), Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, San Diego, 1997.
- “Equality vs. Tradition: Gender Issues as a Source of Religious Schism,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion annual meeting, Nashville, 1996.
- “Jews and the Christian Right,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Annual meeting, Nashville, 1996.

“Horkheimer, Adorno, and Snoop Doggy Dogg: Critical Theory and Rap,” Pacific Sociological Association annual meeting, Seattle, 1996.

IN THE MEDIA

Religion Expert, “The God Question,” *Chelsea* with Chelsea Handler (Netflix), Season 1, Episode 34, 2016

Featured Guest, “Nones and Religious Identity Today,” *On Point* with Tom Ashbrook, March 22, 2016

Featured Guest, “Living the Secular Life,” *Los Angeles Review of Books*, KPFK, Jan, 28, 2016

Featured Guest/Focus of Story, NPR’s *All Things Considered*. “Unbelief As A Belief System: Core Tenet For Christians' Fight For Religious Rights,” Dec. 14, 2015.

Featured Guest, “A Guide to Godless Morality,” *On Point* with Tom Ashbrook, Feb 26, 2015

Featured Guest, “Living the Secular Life,” radio interview, KUER 90.1, RadioWest with Doug Fabrizio, July 9, 2015

Featured Guest, “Can Kids be Good Without God?” Televised interview with Pat Morrison, *Los Angeles Times*, Feb 18, 2015.

Featured Guest, “Losing Our Religion,” New Zealand National Radio, April 6, 2015

“The Golden Rule” – review of *Living the Secular Life* by Susan Jacoby in *The New York Times Book Review*, Dec. 21, 2014

Featured in *Der Spiegel*, “Kobold in der Hosentasche: Soziologie Phil Zuckerman ist der weltweit erste Professor für Atheismus – er erforscht den Glauben der Ungläubigen. Jan. 5, 2015

Featured Guest on The Dennis Prager Show, Dec 16, 2014

Quoted in *CNN*, “All in the Family? Not for Atheists,” June 24, 2014

Quoted in *Reader’s Digest*, “How and Why We Pray,” April, 2014

Featured Guest, *TakePart Live*, TV show, Pivot channel, Jan. 15, 2014

Featured in “Sunday Assembly: A Church for the Godless Picks up Steam,” NPR,
Jan. 7, 2014

Featured Guest, The Tommy Schnurmacher Show CJAD 800, Montreal, Canada,
Jan. 8 and Feb. 10, 2014

Quoted in *Boston Magazine*, “Losing Our Religion,” January, 2013

Quoted in *The New York Times*, “Percent of Protestant Americans is in Steep
Decline, Study Find,” Oct. 9, 2012

Radio Interview, KDKA Pittsburg, with Rick Bergman, Feb. 4, 2012

Radio Interview, Culture Shocks with Barry Lynn, Dec. 12, 2011

“Pitzer College Adds Major in Secular Studies,” *New York Times*, May 7, 2011

“Secularism as a Major?” radio interview with Patt Morrison, KPCC, May 12,
2011.

“Let’s Talk About It” radio interview, 880 AM, South Florida, April 20, 2011.

“Losing Religion” radio interview on PRI/To The Best of Our Knowledge. Aug,
22, 2010

“A Matter of Faith” radio interview ABC Australia/The Spirit of Things, Aug.1,
2010

Interviewed/Featured in “Secularists Spreading the Word,” by Manya Brachear,
Chicago Tribune, June 16, 2010

Review Article on *Society Without God* by Peter Steinfels, *New York Times*,
Feb. 28, 2009, page A-15

Society Without God review by Ed Doerr, *Free Inquiry*, April/May, 2009

Society Without God review by Lisa Graham McMinn in *Christianity Today*,
Feb. 2, 2009

Society Without God review by Louis Bayard, on salon.com, Oct. 22, 2008

Society Without God review by Paul Bloom on slate.com, Nov. 7, 2008

Interviewed on KQED/NPR “Forum” radio show with Michael Krasny, San
Francisco, Feb. 23, 2009

Interviewed by Dan Barker on Freethought Radio, Air America, Oct. 18, 2008

Interview article by Marcus Rubin, *Politiken* (Denmark), April 11, 2009

Samfund Uden Gud, review by Karin Ström, *Svenska Dagbladet* (Sweden),
March 2, 2009

Samfund Uden Gud, review by Dennis Nørmark, *Jyllands Posten* (Denmark),
October 29, 2008

Samfund Uden Gud, review by David Rehling, *Information* (Denmark),
Aug.16, 2008

Samfund Uden Gud, review by Sidsel Nyholm, *Kristeligt Dagblad* (Denmark),
June 28, 2009

“Lykkelig Uden Gud,” by Charlotte Rørth, NordJyske.dk (Denmark), Aug. 24,
2008

“Scandinavia – den sekulære himmel” by Per Eriksen, Vårt Land (Norway)
(Norway), April 27, 2009,

Interviewed on “Living Room” radio show, KPFA (Berkeley), Dec. 12, 2008

Interviewed on “Deadline” television show, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 24,
2008

Interviewed/featured in “Sects and the City,” by Joel Kotkin in *The Weekly
Standard*, May 2, 2005.

Interviewed/Featured in “The Centennial of ‘Souls’” by Scott McLemee,
Chronicle of Higher Education, April 4, 2003, page A16.

AFFILIATIONS

Executive Director, Humanist Mutual Aid Network/Humanist Global Charity,
2016-present

Advisory Board Member, U.S. Secular Survey, 2019

Academic Liaison for Secular Rescue, Center for Inquiry, 2018-present

Advisory Board Member, Simulating Religion Project, Institute for the Bio-
Cultural Study of Religion. 2016-present

Fellow, Secular Global Institute, 2014-2015

HONORS AND AWARDS

A Best Book of 2014 (*Publishers Weekly*), for *Living the Secular Life*, 2014

Book of the Year Silver Award for *Society Without God*, *ForeWord Magazine*, 2008

Scholar in Residence, Pitzer College, Spring 2009

One faculty member every year is chosen by a committee to be released from teaching and committee work in order to focus on research and publications.

Top 5 Professor at the Claremont Colleges, 2001-2002

Listed two years in a row as one of the five most outstanding professors in the entire Claremont College system by "CourseReview.Org."

Outstanding Teaching Award. 1997

Recognized from among 1,300 Graduate Teaching Fellows at the University of Oregon and awarded honorarium for excellence in undergraduate teaching.

American Sociological Association (Religion Section) Graduate Student Paper Award, 1st place. "Social Theory and Religious Schism," San Francisco, August, 1998.

Centurion Award. 1992 .

Recognizing leadership/community service; University of Oregon.

GRANTS

Davis Humanities Research Grant, "How Can You Be Moral if You Don't Believe in God?" 2018, Pitzer College

"Islam, Immigration, and Irreligion," Travel/Research Grant, European Union Center of California, 2010

Course Development Grant on Secularization and Secularism, Institute for the Study of Secularism in Society and Culture, 2006

Fichter Research Grant, Association for the Sociology of Religion
“Irreligion and Gender Equality: The Case of Scandinavia.” 2005.

Jack Shand Research Grant, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion:
“Secular Identity in Scandinavia: A Qualitative Exploration.” 2005

“**Secularity in Denmark and Sweden**,” Travel/Research Grant, European
Union Center of California, 2005.

BOOK MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

Reviewer for Rowman and Littlefield, *Christian Nationalism and Secularism*,
2023

Review for Oxford University Press: *Untethering: The Social Dynamics of
Leaving White Christian Nationalism*. 2022.

Reviewer for Stanford University Press: *Unholy Catholic Ireland: Secular
Morality in the Irish Republic*, 2019.

Reviewer for Routledge: *Oh, Your God! Why Religious Faith is Incompatible with
Contemporary Society*, 2019

Reviewer for Stanford University Press: *The Separation of Church and State*,
2018

Reviewer for Brill: *The Atheist Bus Campaign*, 2016

Reviewer for Routledge: *Atheists in Their Own Words*, 2013

Reviewer for Routledge: *Atheism Considered*, 2012

Reviewer for Oxford University Press: *Atheism and Secular Humanism in
America*, 2012

Reviewer for Oxford University Press: *Allergic to Religion: Inside the Minds of
“Spiritual but not Religious”*, 2011

Reviewer for Oxford University Press: *Culture War Blues*, 2010

Reviewer for Oxford University Press: *The Next Enlightenment: A Journey Into
Our Secular Future*, 2010

Reviewer for Routledge: *Studying Religion and Society*, 2009

Reviewer for Routledge: *Sociology: The Key Concepts*, 2005

Reviewer for Northern Illinois University Press: “*I Believe In the Prince of
Peace*”: *A Religious Biography of W.E.B. Du Bois*, Fall, 2004

Reviewer for Sage/Pine Forge -- Social Theory Textbook, 2002

Reviewer for Jossey-Bass Publishers -- Soc. of Religion Textbooks, 1997, 2000

Reviewer for AltaMira Press - Soc. of Religion Textbooks, 1998, 2000, 2001

JOURNAL ACTIVITY

Editorial Board, *Secular Studies*, 2017 - ongoing
 Editorial Board *Scripta Instituti Donneriani Aboensis*, 2014 –
 Editorial Board *Secularism and Non-Religion*, 2012 – 2020
 Referee for *Sociological Review*, 2023
 Referee for *American Journal of Sociology*, 2023
 Referee for *Secularism and NonReligion*, 2023 - ongoing
 Referee for *Journal of Church and State*, 2022
 Referee for *Journal of Religion and Health*, 2022
 Referee for *Sociology of Religion*, 2021
 Referee for *Sociology*, 2019
 Referee for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 2024, 2023, 2018 2013,
 2012,
 2011, 2009, 2007, 2005, 2002
 Referee for *Qualitative Sociology*, 2014
 Referee for *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 2014, 2017
 Referee for *Journal of Religion in Europe*, 2014
 Referee for *Critical Research on Religion*, 2014
 Referee for *Sociological Forum*, 2012
 Referee for *Review of Religious Research*, 2012
 Referee for *Tenemos*, 2012
 Referee for *Politics and Religion*, 2012
 Referee for *Secularism and NonReligion*, 2012
 Referee for *Religion, Brain, and Behavior*, 2012
 Referee for *Secularism and NonReligion*, 2011
 Referee for *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2005
 Committee Member, Outstanding Article Award, *Journal for the Scientific Study
 of Religion*, 2011-2012
 Referee for *Journal of Comparative Social Science*, 2010
 Referee for *Religion*, 2010, 2009
 Referee for *POETICS*, 2010
 Associate Editor, *Sociology of Religion*, 2006-2009
 Referee for *Review of Religious Research*, 2009, 2006
 Referee for *Rural Sociology*, 2008
 Referee for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 2007
 Referee for *Sociological Perspectives*, 2006
 Referee for *Sociology of Religion*, 2005
 Referee for *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion*, 2005
 Referee for *Sociological Inquiry*, 2004
 Referee for *Sociological Perspectives*, 2001

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Associate Dean, 2019 - 2025
 Director, Pitzer College Summer School, 2016 - 2025

Elected Vice-Chair, APT (Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure), 2017-2019
Alumni Board Member, 2019-2020
On-Site Organizer, 78th Annual Conference of the American Humanist
Association, Pitzer College, June 8, 2019
Title IX Hiring Committee Member – 2015-2016
Keck Science Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure (RPT) Committee,
2013-2014
Judicial Council Committee, Pitzer College, 2014
Chair, Ad-Hoc Grievance Committee, Pitzer College, 2012
Founder, Secular Studies Program, Pitzer College, 2011
Academic Planning Committee, Pitzer College, 2009- 2011
Sociology Field Group, convener, Pitzer College, 2009-1010
Faculty Representative, External Studies Committee, Pitzer College, 2008
Chair, Elected to FEC (Faculty Executive Committee), Pitzer College, 2007-2008
Chair, Judicial Council Committee, Pitzer College, 2003-2004
Chair, Judicial Council Committee, Pitzer College, 2004-2005
Chair, Ad-Hoc Committee on Advising, Pitzer College 2004-2005
Chair, Academic Events Committee, Pitzer College, 2001-2002
Sociology Field Group, convener, Pitzer College, 2001,2002
Sociology Field Group, convener, Pitzer College, 2002-2003
Diversity Committee, member, Pitzer College, 2000-20001
Organizer/Director of the 2nd Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, Pitzer
College, April 15th, 2001

MISC. ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES:

Faculty Mentor for Wabash Religion Fellow, Sean Dixon – Claremont Graduate
University, 2017-2018.

Faculty Mentor for Wabash Religion Fellow, Chase Way, – Claremont Graduate
University, 2018-2019.

Outside Reviewer of Grant Proposal, Baker Fund Committee, Ohio University,
2012.

Outsider Reviewer of Grant Proposal, Social Sciences and Humanities Research
Council of Canada, 2019

DISSERTATION SUPERVISION

PhD Committee Member – Alexandr Zamusinski, “Religious Leaders With No
Faith: How The Clergy Project Participants Navigate Their Apostasy,”
University of California, Riverside, 2025

PhD Committee Member – Kyle Thompson, “Ethics, X-Phi, and the Expanded

Methodological Toolbox: How the Think Aloud Method and Interview Reveal People's Judgments on Issues in Ethics and Beyond." Claremont Graduate University, 2019

PhD Committee Chair – Julia Parnell, "Stigmata: An Ethnographically Informed Approach to the Religious Tattoo in America." Claremont Graduate University, 2019

PhD Committee Member – Dusty Hoesly, "A Religion of Convenience: The Universal Life Church, Religious Freedom, and Contemporary Weddings." University of California, Santa Barbara, 2019

PhD Committee Member – Alan Clark, "The Full Gospel in Zion: A History of Pentecostals in Utah." Claremont Graduate University, 2019

PhD Committee Member – Petra Klug, "Anti-Atheism in the United States." University of Bremen, 2018.

PhD Outside Reader/Examiner – Steven Tomlins, "Navigating Atheist Identities: An Analysis of Nonreligious Perceptions and Experiences in the Religiously Diverse Canadian City of Ottawa," University of Ottawa, 2016.

PhD Committee Member, Outside Reader – Isabella Kasselstrand, "Tell the Minister Not to Talk About God:" A Comparative Study of Secularisation in Protestant Europe," University of Edinburgh, 2013

PhD Committee Member – Paula McGee, "The Walmartization of African American Religion: T.D. Jakes and Woman Thou Art Loosed" Claremont Graduate University, 2012.

PhD Committee Member – Winsley Hector, "Racial Reconciliation, Privilege, and the Debate Within the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in the United States on the Future of Regional [Black] Conferences." Claremont School of Theology, 2011.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Secularity and Secularism. Scandinavian Society. Atheism and Apostasy.
Introduction to Sociology. Social Theory.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Secular Life. Apostasy. Atheism. Agnosticism. Scandinavian culture.

MEMBERSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa
Alpha Kappa Delta
American Sociological Association
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
Association for the Sociology of Religion
Pacific Sociological Association
Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies

REFERENCES

Allem Omotto, Dean of Faculty (909-621-8217)
nigel_boyle@pitzer.edu

Shelva Paulse, Assistant Dean of Faculty for Academic Affairs
(909-621-8278)
shelva_paulse@pitzer.edu

Ahmed Alwishah, Professor (909-607-7732)
Ahmed_Alwishah@pitzer.edu

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Jim_marchant@pitzer.edu

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Harmony_orourke@pitzer.edu

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