Robert L. Foster

Department of Religion

Peabody Hall

University of Georgia

Athens, GA 30602-1625

rlfoster@uga.edu

214-893-5950

# \_\_\_EDUCATION\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PhD in Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2007

MA in Religion, Abilene Christian University, 2002

MA in Old Testament, Abilene Christian University, 2000

MS in Missions, Abilene Christian University, 1998

BA in Bible and Preaching Ministry, Kentucky Christian College, 1992

Certificate in Online Teaching & Learning, United Theological Seminary (Ohio), 2010

\_\_\_**EMPLOYMENT\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Senior Lecturer in New Testament and Religion, Fall 2020 – Present

Lecturer in New Testament and Religion, Fall 2014 – Spring 2020

Adjunct Instructor in New Testament Studies, Perkins Course of Study School/Perkins School of

Theology, Summer 2011, Summer 2012, Summer 2015

Part-Time Instructor of Religion, University of Georgia, Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Religion, Southern Methodist University, Fall 2007, Spring 2013

Adjunct Instructor in New Testament Studies, United Theological Seminary (Ohio), Spring –

 Fall 2011, Fall 2012 [online]

Adjunct Instructor of Bible, Abilene Christian University, Summer 2000, Summer 2001, Spring

– Summer 2002, Summer 2004, Summer 2005, Spring 2010

Adjunct Instructor in Religious Studies, Texas Christian University, Fall 2008, Fall 2009

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Perkins School of Theology/SMU, Fall 2007 –

 Spring 2008

Instructor, United Methodist Certification / Perkins School of theology, Bible and Ministry,

 June 18 – June 28, 2007

Instructor, Perkins School of Theology / Southern Methodist University, Spring 2006

Teaching Assistant in New Testament, Perkins School of Theology/Southern Methodist

 University, Fall 2004 – Fall 2005

Guest Lecturer, Perkins School of Theology/Southern Methodist University

The Gospel of Matthew, Fall 2010, Fall 2015 (Dr. Jaime Clark-Soles; 1 Session each)

Evil, Suffering & Death in the New Testament, Fall 2010 (Dr. Jaime Clark-Soles; 1

Session)

Greek Exegesis – Galatians, Fall 2008, Fall 2009 (Dr. Jaime Clark Soles; 1 Class Session

Each Year)

**\_\_COURSES\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

University of Georgia

Apocalyptic Literature.

Christianity and the Quest for the Common Good.

Gospels.

Gospel of John

Introduction to Religious Thought.

Jesus.

Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Life and Letters of Paul.

New Testament Interpretation: Ethics.

New Testament Literature.

New Testament World (Roman Empire).

New Testament World (Early Judaism).

Reading the New Testament.

Theology and Culture

CURO (Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities, UGA) Supervision

Kathryn Huller, “Burqas, Bangles, and Beautiful Women: Gender Implications of the Disnification of Religion in Film,” 2017-2018

Jacob Sparks, “Inter-Religious Dialogue Between Orthodox Christians, Early Muslims, and Early Protestants,” 2017-2018

Christian Sullivan, “Maronite Christian and Muslim Interactions during the Lebanese Civil War, 1972-2000,” 2017-2018

Kathryn Huller, “Religion in Fantasy: Christian and Wiccan Protagonists as Vessels for Gendered Religious Ideals,” 2016-2017

 Audry Gagnon, “Kabbalah and Christianity: A Connection?” 2013-2014

Southern Methodist University / Perkins School of Theology

 Book of Judges.

 Interpretation of the Old Testament.

Perkins Course of Study School: New Testament I and II.

 UMC Certification: Book of Psalms.

 UMC Certification: Gospel of Matthew.

 Interpretation of the New Testament I and II (Teaching Assistant).

Southern Methodist University / Department of Religion

 Introduction to the New Testament.

 Ways of Being Religious.

United Theological Seminary

 Introduction to the New Testament, I.

Introduction to the New Testament II.

New Testament Rhetoric in Its Ancient Context [Directed Study].

Abilene Christian University

 Christianity & Culture.

Justice in the Biblical Tradition.

Life & Teachings of Jesus.

 Message of the Old Testament.

Texas Christian University

 Understanding Religion: Texts & Ideas – The Bible.

**\_\_\_\_PUBLICATIONS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Books:

*Exploring the Gospel of Mark: The Tragedy of the Gospel* (Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity; SBL

Press, in process).

*Theology of the Books of Haggai and Zechariah* (Old Testament Theology; Cambridge

 University Press, 2020).

*We Have Heard, O Lord: An Introduction to the Theology of the Psalter* (Fortress Academic

Press, 2019).

*Wrestling with God and World: The Struggle for Justice in the Biblical Tradition* (a Journey

 Publication, 2013).

Edited Books/Series:

“Bringing Out the Treasures: The Place of the Old Testament in the Modern Church,” co-edited

with Caleb Lindgren, *Christianity Today* (five part series appearing in 2020).

*My Words Are Lovely: Studies in the Rhetoric of the Psalms*, edited with David M. Howard, Jr.

 (Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies; T & T Clark, 2008).

*The Impartial God: Festschrift for Jouette Bassler*, edited with Calvin Roetzel (Sheffield

 Phoenix Press, 2007).

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals:

“Who’s Learning about Religion: Factors the Predict First-Year Student’s Curricular Decisions,”

with Joshua R. Patterson, *Religion & Education* Nov 2, 2020 (online).

“The Christian Canon and the Future of Biblical Theology,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology*

37 (2015): 1-12.

“The Justice of the Gentiles: The Purpose of Romans Revisited,” *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*

74 (2014): 684-703.

“Undoing the Future: The Theology of the Book of Zechariah,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology*

34 (2012): 59-72.

“Naming Sin: Reframing Racism and Atonement,” *Leaven* 18/1 (First Quarter, 2010): 21-25.

“Shepherds, Sticks, and Social Destabilization: A Fresh Look at Zechariah 11:4-17,” *Journal of*

*Biblical Literature* 126 (2007): 735-753.

“‘A Temple in the Lord Filled to the Fullness of God’: Context and Intertextuality (Eph.3:19),”

 *Novum Testamentum* 49 (2007): 85-96.

“Yours, Ours, and Mine: Jesus’ Use of the Prophetic Possessive in the Gospel of Matthew,”

 *Biblical Theology Bulletin* 37 (2007): 3-11.

“A Plea for New Songs: A Missional/Theological Reflection on Psalm 96,” *Currents in Theology*

 *& Mission*, 33/4 (August, 2006): 285-90.

“Alexander Campbell’s ‘Sermon on the Law’ in Its Historical Context,” *Discipliana* 63 (2003):

 35-45.

“Why on Earth Use ‘Kingdom of Heaven’?: Matthew’s Terminology Revisited,” *New Testament*

 *Studies* 48 (2002): 487-99.

Invited Articles:

“Pauline Ethics,” in *Pauline Mind*, ed. Stanley Porter and David Yoon (Routledge, forthcoming

2021).

“Stewards of Our Environment: A Reflection during Climate Week of Action,” *Faith in Action,*

Church & Society – The United Methodist Church, September 24, 2020 [online]

“The Motherly Love of a Wrathful God,” *Christianity Today*, March, 2020 [print]

‘The Irresistible Connection between the Old and New Testaments: Why Andy Stanley’s

“Unhitching” Robs Christianity of Power,’ *Christianity Today*, October 15, 2018 [online].

“Seek First the Kingdom and Its Justice,” *Christian Standard*, November, 2016.

“Lent as a White Christian during Black History Month,” *The Christian Century* Blog, February

 11, 2016 [online].

“Manasseh, Tribe/Territory,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies*, edited by Christopher

 Matthews (Oxford University Press, 2015) [online].

“Manasseh, King of Judah,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies*, edited by Christopher

Matthews (Oxford University Press, 2014) [online].

“Rhetoric of the Psalms,” *Oxford Handbook to the Psalms*, edited by W. Brown (Oxford

 University, 2014), 392-403.

“Revival in the White Church,” *The Christian Century* Blog, December 2, 2014 [online].

“Tested at the Boundary: Deuteronomy and Matthew in Conversation on Testing,” *Raising Up a*

 *Faithful Exegete: Festschrift for Richard Nelson*, edited by K. L. Noll and B. Schramm

 (Eisenbrauns, 2010), 279-88.

“Discipleship in the New Testament,” *Teaching the Bible: An e-Newsletter for Public School*

 *Teachers by the Society of Biblical Literature* (October, 2010).

“Understandings of Justice in the New Testament,” *Teaching the Bible: An e-Newsletter for*

 *Public School Teachers by the Society of Biblical Literature* (May 2010).

“Names of God in the Hebrew Bible,” *Teaching the Bible: An e-Newsletter for Public School*

 *Teachers by the Society of Biblical Literature* (October 2009).

“On Recognizing Genre,” *Teaching the Bible: An e-Newsletter for Public School Teachers by the*

 *Society of Biblical Literature* (September, 2009).

“Cosmology and Theology in Ephesians-Philemon,” in *Cosmology and New Testament*

 *Theology*, edited by J. T. Pennington & S. M. McDonough (Library of New Testament

 Studies; T & T Clark, 2008), 107-124.

“*Topoi* Related to God in the Call to Praise Psalms: Toward a *Theo*logy of the Psalms,” in *My*

 *Words Are Lovely: Studies in the Rhetoric of the Psalms*, edited by R. L. Foster and D.

 M. Howard Jr. (Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies; T&T Clark, 2008), 75-

 88.

“The Rhetorical and Theological Force of ‘Grace’ in the Letter to the Ephesians,” *The Impartial*

 *God*, edited by R. L. Foster and C. Roetzel (Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2007), 186-193.

Encyclopedia Articles:

“Church Planting Associations,” in *Encyclopedia of the Stone Campbell Movement*

(William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2005), 211-2.

“Congregational Life [Christian Church/Churches of Christ],” in *Encyclopedia of the Stone*

*Campbell Movement* (William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2005), 231-2.

Reviews:

Runar M. Thorsteinsson, *Jesus as Philosopher: The Moral Sage in the Synoptic Gospels*, in

*Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (2021, online)

Grant Macaskill, *Living in Union with Christ: Paul’s Gospel and Christian Moral Identity*, in

 *Review of Biblical Literature* (2021, online)

Mark S. Gignilliat, *Reading Scripture Canonically: Theological Instincts for Old Testament*

 *Interpretation*, in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2020, online)

J. de Waal Dryden, *A Hermeneutic of Wisdom: Recovering the Formative Agency of Scripture*,

 in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2020, online)

Edwin K. Broadhead, *Let the Reader Understand: Essays in Honor of Elizabeth Struthers*

*Malbon*, in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2019, online).

Charles Lee Irons, *The Righteousness of God*, in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2017, online).

Samuel E. Balentine, ed. *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology*, in *Review of Biblical*

*Literature* (2016, online).

David Neville, ed. *The Bible, Justice, and Public Theology* in *Review of Biblical Literature*

(2016, online).

Jack R. Lundbom, *Theology in Language, Rhetoric, and Beyond: Essay in Old and New*

 *Testament,* in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2015, online).

Sungho Choi, *The Messianic Kingship of Jesus: A Study of Christology and Redemptive*

 *History in Matthew's Gospel*, in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2015, online).

D. M. Gurtner and J. Nolland, eds., *Built upon the Rock: Studies in the Gospel of Matthew*, in

 *Restoration Quarterly*,52 (2010), 186-8.

C. Seitz, *Prophecy and Hermeneutics*, in *Stone-Campbell Journal* 12 (2009), 131-2.

U. Luz, *Studies in Matthew*, in *Restoration Quarterly* 49 (2007), 113-4.

W. Yarchin, *History of Biblical Interpretation*, in *Restoration Quarterly*, 48 (2006), 123-4.

V. Matthews, *Social World of the Hebrew Prophets*, in *Restoration Quarterly* 47 (2005), 126-7.

**\_\_\_PRESENTATIONS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“Jesus, the Philosopher King,” Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity Seminar, Society of Biblical

 Literature Annual Meeting – 2019

“Faithful to Our Holy God: Leviticus, Holiness, and Violating Scripture’s Commands,” Post-Way

-Forward Gathering of United Methodist Scholars, Perkins School of Theology, August 7,

2019

“Jesus, Heracles, and the Kingdom of God,” Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity Seminar; Society of

Biblical Literature Annual Meeting—2018.

“Who’s Learning about Religion?,” with Joshua Patterson, The IDEALS Symposium: Bridging

Research and Practice – 2018

“Overwhelmed by YHWH Sabaoth, the God of Zion: The Rhetoric about YHWH in the Book of

 Amos,” SBL: Hebrew Bible Session; Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion

 Regional Meeting – 2017

“The Earth is the LORD’s: A Theological Ethics of Race and Place,” Theology and Ethics of Race

Session; Christian Scholars Conference, 2016

“Teaching at the Private Christian College,” AAR: Teaching and Learning Religion Panel

 Session; Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion Regional Meeting - 2016

“Is There a Future for *Biblical* Theology?” Christian Scholars Conference – 2014

“Teaching Ethics: Pedagogical Conversations on Teaching and Learning,” AAR Ethics, Society,

and Cultural Analysis Panel Session; Southwest Commission on Religious Studies

Regional Meeting – 2012

“Learn from Me: Jesus, Jewish Scriptures, and Identity Formation,” Matthew Section; Society of

 Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2011

“The Tale of Two Kings: Herod, the Unforgiving Servant, and the Missio Dei in the Gospel of

Matthew,” Biblical Studies Session; Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting –

2011

“Led in Paths of Justice: Shaped by the Shaping of the Psalter,” Book of Psalms Section; Society

 of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2010

“The Remains of the Nations: The Role of Babylon in the Book of Isaiah,” Formation of Isaiah

 Group; Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2010

“New Beginnings: Theological Reflections on Struggles in Post-Exilic Yehud,” Christian

Scholars Conference – 2010

“The Beauty of the Gospel,” Christian Scholars Conference – 2010

“The Undoing of the Future: The Power of Narrative in the Theology of the Book of Zechariah,”

Christian Scholars’ Conference – 2009

“God With Us: The Narrative Map of the Gospel of Matthew,” Southwest Commission on

 Religious Studies Annual Meeting – 2009

“A Desperate Search for Wise Speech: the Rhetoric of the Book of Job,” Wisdom in Israelite and

Cognate Traditions Section; Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2008

“No Book Beyond the Bounds of Empire?: Structuring Heavenly Realities through Imperial

 Metaphor in the Letter to the Ephesians,” Disputed Paulines Section; Society of Biblical

 Literature Annual Meeting – 2008

“Designing a Program in Teacher Development,” Conference for Graduate School Deans and

 Program Directors; Wabash Center for Teaching & Learning in Theology and Religion,

 October 3 – 5, 2008

“The Justice Imperative: The Rhetoric of Paul’s Letter to the Romans,” Abilene Christian

University Lectureship Summit – September 21 – 24, 2008

“The Future of Race Relations in Churches of Christ,” Panel Discussion; New Wineskins

 Retreat; Lipscomb University, July 24 – 26, 2008

“What’s The Use of Reception History? A Question for Teacher-Scholars,” SBL Joint Session

 Panel; Southwest Commission on Religious Studies Regional Meeting – 2008

“A Question of Justice: God’s Justice and the Message of Paul’s Letter to the Romans,”

 Pepperdine University 64th Annual Bible Lectures – May 4, 2007

“An Ekklesia Filled to the Fullness: Context and Intertextuality in Ephesians 3:19,” Disputed

 Paulines Section; Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2006

“Yours, Ours, and Mine: Jesus’ Use of the Prophetic Possessive in the Gospel of Matthew,”

Southwest Biblical Studies Seminar; Texas Christian University – 2006

“Appealing to the Nations and Israel: The Rhetoric of Psalm 96,” Book of Psalms Section;

 Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting – 2005

**\_\_AWARDS, Honors, & GRANTS**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Willson Center Faculty Seminar Grant for the Seminar “Religion and the Common Good,”

Willson Center for Humanities and the Arts, University of Georgia, 2017-2018, 2018-

2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022

Certificate for Faculty Impact on Career Development, UGA Career Center, 2016, 2017, 2018,

2019, 2020

IDEALS Research Award, Interfaith Youth Core, 2017-2018

Black Male Leadership Society Faculty Member of the Year, 2015-2016

“Ten UGA Professors You Don’t Want to Miss,” Odyssey Online Media Platform, Spring 2016

Alpha Omicron Pi [Lambda Sigma Chapter] Honored Professor, University of Georgia, Spring

2015

Wabash Project Grant for “Conversations on Pedagogy and the Teaching Vocation,” Graduate

 Program in Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2009

Wabash Small Project Grant for “Designing a Program in Teacher Development,” Graduate

Program in Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University, 2008

Recognition as a HOPE Professor [Honoring Our Professors of Excellence], Southern Methodist

University Department of Residence Life & Student Housing, Fall 2007

Schubert M. Ogden Fellowship for Academic Excellence in Theology, Southern Methodist

University, 2006 – 2007

Graduate Program in Religious Studies Fellowship; Southern Methodist University, 2003 –

 2006

Lockridge Ward Wilson Award; Disciples of Christ Historical Society, 2003

\_\_\_**SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY & GUILD \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Steering Committee, Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity Seminar, Society of Biblical Literature,

 2020-Present

Review Editor, *Horizons in Biblical Theology*, 2017-Present

Speaker, Interfaith Day of Service Day, ServeUGA, Center for Leadership and Service,

 2018, 2021

Dawg Camp Namesake, UGA Dawg Camp, Center for Leadership and Service (UGA), 2017,

2019

McCoy-Hutchinson Graduate Mentoring Academy (UGA), 2017-2020

“Let’s Talk: Microaggressions,” Panelist, UGA Wesley Foundation, November 8, 2018

“Black Faculty/Staff Panel,” Black Male Leadership Society (UGA), March 1, 2018

Member, Steering Committee of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Section, Southeast

Conference on the Study of Religion, 2017-2018

“Religion Courses, Self-Authorship, and the Pursuit of the Common Good” (UGA), with Josh

Patterson, Religion and the Common Good Seminar, September 26, 2017

“Conversations that Build Bridges (Workshop w/ Dawn Bennett-Alexander & John Dayton),

 coordinated with Sylvia Hutchinson and Josh Patterson, August 16, 2017

“How Campus Religious Groups Contribute to College Experiences for Students,” Panel

Discussion, Integrative Research & Ideas Symposium (UGA), March 20, 2017

"A Place for Everyone: Protecting Immigrants' Rights in Athens and at UGA," Panel Discussion,

Undocumented Student Alliance (UGA), March 15, 2017

“American Denial: Movie Viewing and Panel Discussion,” Black Male Leadership Society,

University of Georgia, Spring, 2016

“Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza,” Rooker Residential Hall Diversity Event, Fall, 2015

“Impacting Social Justice: A Panel Discussion,” Global Leadership Institute, University of

Georgia, Fall, 2013

Coordinator, Teaching Religion and Theological Studies Program, Graduate Program in

 Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University, Spring 2010

Co-Author, Wabash Project Grant (w/ Dr. Charles Wood, Director), “Conversations on

 Pedagogy and the Teaching Vocation,” Graduate Program in Religious Studies, Southern

 Methodist University, 2009

Co-Author, Wabash Small Project Grant (w/ Dr. Charles Wood, Director); “Designing a

 Program in Teacher Development,” Graduate Program in Religious Studies, Southern

 Methodist University, 2008

Virgil Howard Affirmation of Women Award Committee, 2007

Chair, Inaugural Virgil Howard Affirmation of Women Award Committee, Perkins School of

Theology, 2006

Student Representative, Graduate Program of Religious Studies Steering Committee, Southern

Methodist University, Fall 2005—Spring 2007

SMU Society of Biblical Literature Student Representative, Spring 2006 – Spring 2007

Editorial Board, Perkins Student Journal, Perkins School of Theology, 2004 – 2005, 2005 –

 2006

# Graduate Program in Religious Studies Representative, Perkins Student Association, Fall 2004

# – Spring 2007

**\_\_\_ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Disciples of Christ Historical Society

Society of Biblical Literature