

# **“Religions and the Practices of Criticism”**

**A Conference Sponsored by  
Mormon Scholars in the Humanities  
May 8–9, 2009**

## **THURSDAY MAY 7 PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS**

- Thursday 3:30-5:00**      **Faculty Workshop with John Caputo**      **4186 JFSB**
- Thursday 5:30-7:00**      **Panel Discussion: “Thriving in Graduate School in the Humanities”**  
Panelists: Scott Miller, Jill Rudy, Chip Oscarson, and Brian Roberts      **B104 JFSB**

## **CONFERENCE EVENTS**

- Friday 9:00-10:00 am**      **Registration**      **Aspen Lodge 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**
- Friday 10:00 am-12:00**      **Religious Criticism in Theory I**      **Aspen Room, Aspen Grove**  
Moderator: George Handley
1. Jonathon Penny “New Heterodoxies for Old: Creed, Culture, and Criticism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”
  2. Adam Miller, “Critical Religion”
  3. Jim Faulconer, “The Fleshiness of Reason”
- Friday 12:00-1:00 pm**      **Lunch**      **Timpanogos Room**
- Friday 1:15-3:15 pm**      **Religious Criticism in Theory II**      **Aspen Room**  
Moderator: David Paxman
4. John Armstrong, “Religious Commitment and Social Criticism”
  5. Matt Jackson, “What Would Levinas Do?: Toward A Triangulation of Witnessing”
  6. Greg Stallings, “Mormonism and the New Fundamentalisms: A Lacanian Perspective”
- Friday 3:30-5:30 pm**      **Religious Criticism in Practice I**      **Aspen Room**  
Moderator: Kristina Gibby
7. Joseph M. Spencer: “Alfred Hitchcock in the Legacy Theater: Mormonism, Film, and ‘Religious’ Criticism”
  8. Candice Wendt “*King Lear* and Marion’s ‘Logic of Evil’”
  9. Doug Christensen, “This I Believe: Secular Talk and the Ontology of the Personal Essay”
- Friday 3:30-5:30 pm**      **Criticism and Mormon Scripture**      **Pine Room**  
Moderator: Catherine Guyon
10. Sam Brown: “Seerhood, Pure Language, and the Silence of the Grave”
  11. Kevin Christensen, “Proving Contraries or Spiritual Masochism?: Differences and Consequences in Book of Mormon Scholarship”
  12. Alan Goff, “How Then Should We Read? The Vexing Choice between Historical and Literary Readings of Scripture”
- Friday 5:45-6:45 pm**      **Dinner**      **Timpanogos Room**
- Friday 8:00-9:30 pm**      **Plenary Lecture**      **B092 JFSB, BYU\***

**John D. Caputo, Syracuse University, “On Making a Covenant with the Impossible: A Postmodern Approach to Religion and Its Place in the University”**      \*Note location on BYU campus

## SATURDAY MAY 9 CONFERENCE EVENTS

**Saturday 8:30-9:30      Breakfast and MSH Business Meeting      Timpanogos Room**

**Saturday 10:00-12:00      Religion and Science: Defining the Secular      Aspen Room**

Moderator: Doug Christensen

13. Dale Pratt, "Fostering Wonder in an LDS Context: The Case for Science and Literature"
14. David Collingridge "From the Inspired Scientific Revolution, to the Spiritually Unenlightened Enlightenment, to Atheistic Secular Humanism in Science: Going from Good, to Bad, to Worse."
15. Bryan Wallis, "Flexibility in the Ecology of Ideas, an LDS Perspective on Creation"
16. George Handley, "Literature and Global Climate Change: Making Room for Religious Criticism"

**Saturday 12:00 to 1 pm      Lunch      Timpanogos Room**

**Saturday 1:15-3:15      Implications of Mormon Doctrine for Criticism I      Aspen Room**

Moderator: John Armstrong

17. David Gore, "Joseph Smith's Letter from Liberty Jail as an Epistolary Rhetoric"
18. Shawn Tucker, "Home and Adventure: Mormon Contributions to the Virtues and Vices Tradition"
19. Robert B. Couch and Dennis C. Wendt, "Mormon Paradox in a Secular Age"

**Saturday 1:15-3:15      Faith, Women, and Technology      Pine Room**

Moderator: Keith Lawrence

20. Julie Frederick
21. Jenny Webb
22. Becky Johnston

**Saturday 3:30-5:30      Implications of Mormon Doctrine for Criticism II      Aspen Room**

Moderator: Joseph M. Spencer

23. Wade Hollingshaus, "Agamben's 'Play as Profanation' and the Practice of (LDS) Religion"
24. Ron Bartholomew, "Clash or Conformity with Social Convention: Missiology of the Bedfordshire Conference"
25. Jenn Lee Smith, "Cultural Evolution in Religion: Race and Marriage Discourses in the LDS Church"

**Saturday 3:30-5:30      Religious Criticism in Practice II      Pine Room**

Moderator: Bryan Wallis

26. Christopher Lund "Christology in the Poetry of Fernando Pessoa (1888-1935)"
27. Bruce Jorgensen, "How Is Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* Religious?"
28. Carl Sederholm, "Out of His Usual Way: Narrating Suicide in Jonathan Edwards's *Faithful Narrative*"
29. Keith Lawrence, "*In Criticism but Not of It?*: Placing the Believing Critic"