**ARIEL G. SCHWARTZ**

Northwestern University, Department of Religious Studies

1860 Campus Drive, Crowe Hall, 5-179, Evanston, IL 60208

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**Education**

Ph.D. Northwestern University, Contemporary Religion, expected June 2016

*Dissertation:* “In the Wake of Hate: Rebuilding Religion, Place, and Community in Sacramento and Joplin”

*Advisor:* Dr. Robert Orsi, Religious Studies

*Readers:* Dr. Sarah McFarland Taylor, Dr. Elizabeth Shakman Hurd

M.A. Northwestern University, Religious Studies, thesis distinction, August 2013

B.A. Barnard College, Columbia University, Religion, May 2008

B.A. List College, Jewish Theological Seminary, Hebrew Bible, May 2008

**Research Interests**

Conceptualizing religion and violence; Intersections of religion, secularism, and politics; Methods for comparative religion; Affect theory and material religion with a focus on sacred space

**Teaching Competencies**

Theories and Methods of Religious Studies, Religion and Violence, Space and Place, Religious Pluralism, American Religion

**Publications**

Schwartz, Ariel. Review of *Fighting Words: Religion, Violence, and the Interpretation of Sacred Texts*, ed. John Renard (2012). *Religion & Theology 20* (2013): 403-406.

Schwartz, Ariel. “Sacred Space,” in the *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion*. Summer 2013.<http://www.springerreference.com/docs/html/chapterdbid/306591.html>

**Conference Papers**

“Clearing Religious Rubble: Rebuilding After Arson,” Space, Place, and Religion group, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, Georgia, Nov. 21-24, 2015.

“Picking Through Religious Rubble,” Sensory and Material Cultures of Religion panel, Midwest American Academy of Religion, Ada, Ohio, April 11-12, 2015.

“Rallying for Unity and the Push for Pluralism,” Religion and American Culture panel, Midwest American Academy of Religion, Ada, Ohio, April 11-12, 2015.

“The (Dis)Enchanted City,” *International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Emotional Geographies*, University of Groningen, Netherlands, July 1-3, 2013.

“Between Heaven and Earth: The Global Modern Sacred City,” *International Association for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place*, University of Florida, Gainesville, April 26-28, 2013.

“Erasing ‘Backyard’ Anti-Semitism: The Architecture of Memory,” *Ethnography and Biography: The Practice and Product of Writing Lives*, University of Colorado, Boulder, Sept. 27-28, 2012.

“Violence, Sacred Space, and the Vulnerable Body,” *Sensational Religion: Sense and Contention in Material Practice, Initiative for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion*, Yale University, Nov. 1-3, 2011.

“Swami Vivekananda and the Double Horizon: Experiencing the 1893 Parliament of World Religions,” *Religion and the Senses Graduate Conference,* Stanford University, May 13-14, 2011.

**Employment and Teaching Experience**

*University Courses Designed and Taught*

*Comparative Religions and Varieties of Violence*, Winter 2015

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies

*Teaching assistantships*

*Introduction to Islam*, Spring 2015

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Brannon Ingram

*Methods of Observing Human Behavior*, Winter 2015 and Spring 2015

Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy, Dr. Lilah Shapiro

*Introduction to Buddhism*, Spring 2013

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Antonio Terrone

*Introduction to Islam*, Fall 2012

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Brannon Ingram

*Introduction to Judaism*, Spring 2012

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Mira Balberg

*Introduction to Hebrew Bible*, Fall 2011

Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Mira Balberg

*Guest Lectures*

“Rethinking ‘Religious Violence,’” *Religion in Human Experience*, Fall 2014, University of Illinois-Chicago, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Laura Dingeldein

“The Modern Trends of Judaism: An Ongoing Debate,” *Introduction to Judaism*, Spring 2012, Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Mira Balberg

“Women in the Hebrew Bible,” *Introduction to Hebrew Bible*, Fall 2011, Northwestern University, Dept. of Religious Studies, Dr. Mira Balberg

*Training*

Participant, Teaching Certificate Program, Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching Northwestern University, 2014-2015

**Grants and Fellowships**

2015 Recipient, American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women

2014-15 Graduate Affiliate, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University

2014 Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University

**Professional Service**

Chair, “Religion and the Natural Elements” Graduate Student Conference

Northwestern University, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2014

Creator and coordinator, Religion & Global Politics Workshop, Sept. 2013-present

Co-creator, Religion & Global Politics certificate program, Sept. 2013

Participant, North American Religions Workshop, Sept. 2010-present

President, Graduate Student Association, Religious Studies Department, Sept. 2011-Sept. 2013

Panel moderator, “Religious Perspectives,” Life and Community Conference

Northwestern University, April 2013

Panel moderator and member of the Committee for Conference Planning

“Religion and the Trans…” Graduate Student Conference, Northwestern University, Oct. 2012

Member, Phenomenology Workshop, Kaplan Center for the Humanities, Nov. 2010-June 2011

**Philanthropic Service**

Volunteer researcher, writer and program-planner, Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions, Fall 2013-Fall 2014

**Professional Memberships**

American Academy of Religion

International Association for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place

**Languages**

English – native speaker

French – reading

Spanish – reading, conversational

Hebrew – reading, conversational

**References**

Dr. Robert Orsi

Grace Craddock Nagle Chair in Catholic Studies

Religious Studies, Northwestern University

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Dr. Sarah McFarland Taylor

Associate Professor of Religion

Religious Studies, Northwestern University

Phone: (847) 491-4361

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Dr. Elizabeth Shakman Hurd

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