

Brian Bantum, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Theology ❖ Seattle Pacific University ❖ 3307 3rd Ave W Seattle, WA 98119
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Professional Experience

Associate Professor of Theology
Seattle Pacific University: 2009-present

Research Interests

Christology; theological anthropology; race and identity; mixed-race identity; theology and art; baptism

Education

Duke University, Graduate Program in Religion
Ph.D., Theology, Spring 2009
Dissertation, *Mulatto Theology: Race, Discipleship and Interracial Existence*

Duke University, The Divinity School
M.T.S., Theology, Spring 2002
Magna Cum Laude
Thesis, *A New Rhythm: The Anthropology of Hans Urs von Balthasar*

Houghton College
B.A., History, Spring 1997
Thesis, *The Theological Formation of Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Publications

Books:

Redeeming Mulatto: A Theology of Race and Christian Hybridity. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2010.

Current Projects:

God With Us, We With God: An Illuminated Theology
Bodies of Christ: Theological Anthropology from InBetween
The Imaged Body (a theology of the body's iconicity in the contemporary world)

Articles:

"The Threefold Man: Johannes Kaspar Lavater, Physiognomy, and the Creation of the Western Icon" *Racial Saints*. Molly Basset and Vincent Lloyd, eds. London: Routledge, 2014.

"A Future Unwritten: Blackness Between the Religious Invocations of Zadie Smith and Heidi Durrow," *South Atlantic Quarterly* Vol. 112, No. 4 (2013).

"Do They Know What I'm About?" Ronald Prezbylewski, Mis-Performance and Transformation," in *Corners in the City of God: The Wire and Theology*. Jonathan Tran and Myles Wertz, eds. Cascade: Eugene, OR, 2013.

"Discipleship and Identity: Race, Gender, and the Human Situation," *Gender and Christianity*. Jack Levison and Priscilla Pope-Levison, eds. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2012.

"To Those Who Are Distant and Those Who Are Far Away: Atonement, Identity, and Identification," *Ex Auditu* Vol 26. Pickwick Publications (2011), 128-144.

“Black Theology or Black Religion? Discipleship as a Theological Method,” in *Black Theology: An International Journal* Vol. 8, No.2 (2010).

“Why Christians Can’t be Post-Racial: Christian Existence in the Murky Waters of Race and Place” in *The Other Journal* 16, August 17, 2009. www.theotherjournal.com.

Presentations

"Discipleship: What's Race Got to Do With It?" Community Forum, Bluffton University, Bluffton OH, March 2014.

"Asians and Asian Americans in Conversation with the New Black Theology," Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA, January 2014.

"Recovery and Critique: The Turn to Tradition in Contemporary Black Theologies," Society of Christian Ethics Annual meeting, Seattle, WA, January 2014.

"Critical Whiteness, Theological Explorations," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 24, 2013.

"Theological Reflections on *The Wire*," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 24, 2013.

"Theology to and From: What is Mulatto Theology?" American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL November 19, 2012.

"Redeeming Mulatto: Theology and Hybridity," Faculty Forum, Westmont College, February 2012.

"The Bodied Word: Theology, Discipleship and the Problem of the Visible Body," Center for Applied Christian Ethics, Wheaton College, February 2012.

"Paradigm Shift," A site-specific art-installation, with Roger Feldman, Seattle Pacific University, Winter 2011.

“Redeeming Mulatto: A Book Presentation,” John Perkins Center Community Forum, Seattle, WA, April 2011.

“The Mulatto Jesus: Evangelical Theology Between the Margins and the Center,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2010.

“To Those Who Are Far and Those Who Are Near: Atonement, Identity, and Identification,” North Park Theological Seminary Theology Symposium, North Park Theological Seminary, September 2010.

“Discipleship and Identity: A Theological Consideration of Race, Gender, and the Human Situation,” Gender and Christianity: Lilly Fellows Summer Seminar, Seattle Pacific University, June 30, 2010.

“Race and Discipleship,” Passionate Faith: A Bible, Youth and Culture Conference and Youth Leaders Forum, Seattle, WA, May 2, 2010.

“Death by Misunderstanding: Nella Larsen and Social Death,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 2007.

“Who Do You Say I Am: Black Theology and Discipleship,” American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 2007.

"Race, Biology and the Mystery of Mixture," To Be or Not To Be: Searching for Self in the Genome, Conference, Duke University, October 2006.

Church and University Publications

"New Birth and the Realities of Race," *Covenant Companion*, September 2012.

"The Living Word: May 6, May 13," *Christian Century*, May 2, 2012, Vol. 129, No. 9.

"Why Theology Needs Art," *Response Magazine* Seattle Pacific University. Autumn 2011.

"A Reflection on Being Biracial and Christian," *Etc. Magazine*. Autumn 11, Seattle Pacific University, 12-13.

"A Letter to My Son," *Divinity Magazine*, Winter 2011, Volume 11, Number 2.

"What is the Black Church: Reflections on Rev. Wright, Sen. Obama, and Race in America," in *Gatherings* Vol. 6.1 (Summer 2008), 12-13.

Fellowships and Grants

Seattle Pacific University Center for Biblical and Theological Education (Art-Installation) Fall 2011

Seattle Pacific University Center for Biblical and Theological Education (*Living Theology*) Fall 2011

Dissertation Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2008-2009

Predoctoral Fellow, Ford Foundation, 2006-2009

Doctoral Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2005-2007

Courses Taught

Seattle Pacific University

Undergraduate level courses:

Introduction to Christian Theology

Christology

Introduction to Christian Ethics

Theology of Karl Barth

Introduction to Christian Reconciliation

Christianity and Society

Theology and Art

Graduate level courses:

Race, Ethnicity and Theology

Introduction to Theology: Christology

Theology of Karl Barth

Gender and the Body

The Duke Divinity School United Methodist Course of Study

Introduction to Contemporary Theology

Introduction to Christian Ethics

Christian Approaches to War and Peace

Race and the Christian Life

University Service

Faculty Diversity Committee, 2012-present

First Year Curriculum Task Force, 2013-2014

Cultural Engagement Task Force, 2012-2013

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2010-present

Asian American Ministry Program Faculty Advisory Committee, 2010-present

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2009-2010

Ecclesial Teaching/Service

Speaker, "Leadership in Multicultural Contexts," Evangelical Covenant Church Mid-Winter Meetings, January 2014.

Sermon, "You Must Be Re-Born," Wheaton College, African American Church Series, February 2012.

Community Group Leader, Quest Church, Seattle, WA, 2010-present.

Sermon, "Blessed are the Pure in Heart" Quest Church, July 24, 2011.

Core Team Leader, Faith and Race Depth Class (Faith and Race: Education), May 2011-14

Sermon, "I Saw a Beast," *Gathering* Chapel, Seattle Pacific University, February 16, 2010.

Core Team Member/Presenter, Faith and Race Course/Conference, Quest Church, Seattle WA, October 2009.

Memberships

American Academy of Religion

International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture

Editorial

Associate Editor, *Journal of Literature and Theology*, 2013-present

Advisory Team, The Fund for Theological Education, 2013-present

Editorial Advisory Committee, *The Other Journal*, 2010-present

African American Lectionary Core Team, 2012-2013