

Janna Gosselin
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Academic Employment

New Theological Seminary of the West

Interim Academic Coordinator February 2018-present;
Professor of Christian Spirituality, November 2014-present;
Professor in the Spirituality and Aging Certificate Program October 2017-present.

Fuller Theological Seminary

Adjunct Professor, January 2016-present

University of Southern California

School of Gerontology: Guest Lecturer September 2014-2016;
School of Religion: Teaching Assistant "Introduction to Christianity," Spring semester 2014

Fuller Theological Seminary

Guest Lecturer April 2012-Spring 2016

Education

University of Southern California, Department of English, PhD 2015

Dissertation: *Blind Seeing: Visual Limitation in the Texts of Julian of Norwich*.

Fuller Theological Seminary, Master of Arts in Theology, 2016

University of Southern California, J.D. 1987

University of Southern California, B.A. 1983

Research and Teaching Interests

Christian Spirituality, Christian Spiritual Practices, Spirituality and Aging, Spirituality and Suffering, Medieval Piety, Julian of Norwich, Christian Mysticism, Enthusiasm and Piety, Protestant Mystics, Spirituality and Social Justice,

Publications

"Locating the Capacity for God in the Texts of Julian of Norwich." *Magistra, A Journal of Women's Spirituality in History*—Forthcoming Spring 2019

Academic Conference Papers

American Academy of Religion—Christian Spirituality Section, November 2016: "Julian of Norwich and Christian Creation Care: The Servant as Worshipful Gardener."

International Congress on Medieval Studies—Magistra Section, May 2016: "The Healing Potential of Integration: Julian of Norwich and Dan Siegel."

International Congress on Medieval Studies—Magistra Section, May 2015: "The Locus for the Capacity for God in the Texts of Julian of Norwich."

American Academy of Religion—Christian Spirituality Section, November 2014: "Julian of Norwich as Spiritual Director: Julian's Theodicy of Sin and Soul Growth."

Patristics, Medieval and Renaissance Conference—Villanova University, October 2013: "The Incomprehensible Self and the Unknowable God: An Exploration of the Texts of Julian of Norwich and Marguerite Porete."

Teaching Experience

New Theological Seminary of the West Faculty, Professor of Christian Spirituality

Courses Taught:

Spirituality and Social Justice (Spring 2018)
The Mystical Roots of Protestantism (Winter 2018)
Introduction to Christian Belief and Practice (Fall 2017)
Practices of Contemplative Prayer (Summer 2017)
Spirituality and Social Justice (Fall 2016)
Spirituality and Suffering (Spring 2016)
Women Christian Mystics. (Spring 2015)

Fuller Theological Seminary Adjunct Faculty

Courses Taught:

IS501: Practices of Worship and Prayer (Winter 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2018)
SP500: Spiritual Traditions and Practices (SP500) (Summer 2014) (Co-professor)

USC School of Religion Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Christianity (Rel 125) (Spring 2014)

Fuller Theological Seminary Guest Lecturer

IS501, SP500, SP823/523, Evangelism (Spring 2012-Spring 2016)

Fuller Theological Seminary Grading Assistant

Spirituality & Discipleship in College & Young Adult Settings (CF554) (Fall 2011)

Church Teaching and Leadership

Teacher: 6-week Lecture Series on Contemplative Prayer at LCPC (Summer 2017)

Deepening your Prayer Practice: Learning from the Christian Mystics

(Average class attendance 80 people)

This course explored the origins, Scriptural basis and various expressions of contemplative prayer in the Christian tradition, including The Jesus Prayer, Hesychastic traditions and prayer of the body, Centering Prayer, and the Prayer of Union.

Teacher: 6-week Lecture Series on Christian Mystics at LCPC (Summer 2015)

Spiritual Transformation and the Protestant Mystics: Learning from the Christian Mystics

(Average class attendance 65 people)

This course explored the experience of the presence of God as it has manifested itself in the Protestant tradition through the works of notable Protestants including Martin Luther, John Calvin, Johann Arndt, Evelyn Underhill, and Jonathan Edwards.

Teacher: 6-week Lecture Series on Christian Mystics at LCPC (Summer 2014)

Knowing God, Knowing Yourself, Learning from the Christian Mystics

(Average class attendance 80 people)

This course explored the spiritual grounds for knowing oneself and knowing God by exploring Scripture and the writings of Hadewich of Brabant, Augustine, Thomas Merton, Julian of Norwich, Marguerite Porete, and Ignatius of Loyola.

Teacher: 6-week Lecture Series on Christian Mystics at LCPC (Summer 2013)

Deepen Your Connection to God, Learning from the Christian Mystics

(Average class attendance was 80 people)

This course explored ways to deepen one's connection to God by adopting strategies used by

the mystics, including intentionality, prayer, embracing a dark night, adopting humility, seeking after God and expressing oneself. The mystics discussed were Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Therese of Lisieux, Margery Kemp, and Hildegard of Bingen.

Co-Leader, Questioning Faith Discussion Group at LCPC January -- March 2010
Co-lead discussion in 8-week course on overcoming roadblocks to faith.

Small Group Leader, LCPC September 2009 – 2011

Lay Counseling Training Completion, LCPC September 2010 – 2011

Companions Spiritual Direction Member, LCPC September 2010 – 2011

Team Leader, Nametag Committee, LCPC September 2009 – 2014

Professional Affiliations

Member, American Academy of Religion 2012 – present

Member, Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality 2012 – present

Member, State Bar of California 1987 – present

Professional Legal Experience

Senior Associate, Wyman & Isaacs LLP January 2000 – March 2007
Practiced entertainment and intellectual property law at Beverly Hills based boutique law firm.

Associate, Skadden, Arps LLP October 1987 – May 1990
Practiced business litigation, representing the NFL, Revlon and other major corporate clients at major international law firm.

Community Service

President, La Canada Flintridge Educational Foundation July 2006 -- June 2007
Oversaw fundraising of \$1.3 million; lead directors in fundraising events, supervised 60 Foundation Directors; interfaced with District Superintendent, School Board Members.

2nd Vice President, Community Scholarship Foundation September 2008 – 2010
Assisted in selecting high school candidates for scholarship awards.

Vice President, Member of the Board, La Canada Flintridge Educ. Found. July 2002 – June 2006
Spearheaded fundraising campaign for class size reduction; served in other leadership positions.

1st Vice President, Palm Crest Elementary PTA September 1995 – June 2000
Organized Junior Great Books program, oversaw educational and fundraising programs.

References

Bernard McGinn, Naomi Shenstone Donnelley Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology and the History of Christianity, Divinity School, University of Chicago

William Dyrness, Professor of Theology and Culture, Fuller Theological Seminary

Todd Johnson, William K. and Delores S. Brehm Associate Professor of Worship, Theology and the Arts, Fuller Theological Seminary

Other Teaching Experience

Legal Writing Professor, Whittier Law School September 1995 – May 1997
Taught legal writing; researched, created and graded all assignments; awarded final grades.

Freshman Writing Instructor, USC September 1990 – May 1997
Taught writing classes; created and graded all assignments; awarded final grades.

Personal

Member, La Canada Presbyterian Church; Married for 27 years, two sons--26 and 22