

NAME: Todd Gooch

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Keith Hall 333
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Philosophy of Religion & Theology, Claremont Graduate University, 2000
Fulbright Fellow, Philipps-Universität, Marburg, Germany, 1997-1999
- M.A. Religion, Claremont Graduate University, 1997
Church Divinity School of the Pacific (G.T.U.), 1990-1992 (M.Div. program)
- B.A. University of California, Santa Barbara, Religious Studies (with high honors), 1990

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Eastern Kentucky University, 2014-present
Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Eastern Kentucky University, 2008-present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Eastern Kentucky University, 2003-2008
Visiting Asst. Prof. of Philosophy and Religion, Eastern Kentucky University, 2001-2003
Instructor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Eastern Kentucky University, 1999-2001

PUBLISHED WORKS

Monograph:

The Numinous and Modernity: An Interpretation of Rudolf Otto's Philosophy of Religion
(Berlin/New York: de Gruyter, 2000). Pp. vi + 233.

Chapters in Edited Volumes:

- “Ludwig Feuerbach and the Challenge of Atheism,” in David Lincicum, Judith Wolfe, and Johannes Zachhuber, general editors, *The Oxford History of Modern German Theology*, 3 vols., Volume 1: 1781–1848, Grant Kaplan and Kevin Vander Schel, volume editors (Oxford University Press, completed chapter forthcoming).
- “Rudolf Otto as Platonist,” in *The Holy in a Pluralistic World: Rudolf Otto's Legacy in the 21st Century*, Ulrich Rosenhagen and Gregory D. Alles, eds. (Sheffield: Equinox, forthcoming in January, 2022).
- “Critique of Religion: Strauss, Feuerbach, Marx,” in *A Companion to Nineteenth-Century Philosophy*, Blackwell Companions to Philosophy, John Shand, ed. (Malden, Mass.: Blackwell Publishers, 2019), 212-235.
- “Atheism,” in *The Oxford Handbook of German Philosophy in the Nineteenth Century*, Michael Forster and Kristin Gjesdal, eds. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 829-851.

- “Das Schaudern ist der Menschheit bestes Teil’: Über die Goethe-Rezeption Rudolf Ottos” in *Rudolf Otto: Theologie – Religionsphilosophie – Religionsgeschichte*, Jörg Lauster, Peter Schütz, Roderich Barth and Christian Danz, eds. (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2014), 305-315.
- “Rudolf Otto and ‘The Irrational in the Idea of the Divine,’” in *Religion und Irrationalität: Historisch-systematische Perspektiven*, Jochen Schmidt and Heiko Schulz, eds. (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013), 89-110.
- “Philosophy, Religion and the Politics of *Bildung* in Hegel and Feuerbach,” in *Hegel on Religion and Politics*, Angelica Nuzzo, ed. (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2013), 187-211.
- “Some Political Implications of Feuerbach’s Theory of Religion,” in *Politics, Religion, and Art: Hegelian Debates*, Douglas Moggach, ed. (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2011), 257-280.

Articles in Academic Journals:

- “The Rise of Scientific Materialism and Its Long-Term Effect on the Development of Nineteenth-Century German Theology,” *Journal for the History of Modern Theology* (invited submission under review).
- “The Numinous as an Axiological Category in Rudolf Otto’s Theology,” *Archivio di Filosofia* 86:3 (2018), 11-16.
- “Paul Natorp ‘Between the Ages,’” *Journal for the History of Modern Theology* 25:1-2 (2018), 129-151.
- “‘Bruno Reincarnate’: The Early Feuerbach on God, Love and Death,” *Journal for the History of Modern Theology* 20:1 (2013), 21–43.
- “Max Stirner and the Apotheosis of the Corporeal Ego,” *The Owl of Minerva: Journal of the Hegel Society of America* 37:2 (2006), 159-190.
- “The Epistemic Status of Value-Cognition in Max Scheler’s Philosophy of Religion,” *Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory* (www.jcrt.org) 3:1 (2001), 13,500 words.

Encyclopedia & Dictionary Entries:

- “Ludwig Andreas Feuerbach,” in *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, ed. Edward N. Zalta (Winter 2016 Edition, substantively revised & expanded version of entry first published in Winter 2013 Edition). 17,350 words.
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ludwig-feuerbach/>
- “Otto, Rudolf,” in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology*, ed. David Fergusson, Karen Kilby, Ian McFarland and Iain Torrance (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011), 361-362.

Proceedings:

- “The Religious Travails of a ‘Conscientious and Cultivated Mind’ in ‘an Age of Weak Beliefs’” (session on John Stuart Mill) in *Papers of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group* (of the American Academy of Religion), ed. Russell Kleckley and Arthur McCalla, vol. 40 (2009), 178-199.

Book Reviews & Notes:

- Review of Peter J. Woodford, *The Moral Meaning of Nature: Nietzsche's Darwinian Religion and Its Critics* (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2018), *The Journal of Religion* 100:4 (2020), 535-537.
- Note on Helena Rosenblatt, *Liberal Values: Benjamin Constant and the Politics of Religion*, *Ideas in Context*, 92 (Cambridge University Press, 2008), *Religious Studies Review* 36:2 (2010), 134–35. This note was mistakenly attributed to another author. A correction appeared in *RSR* 36:4, 317.
- Note on Johannes Wischmeyer, *Rahmenbedingungen, Akteure und Wissenschaftsorganisation protestantischer Universitätstheologie in Tübingen, Jena, Erlangen und Berlin 1850-1870*, *Arbeiten zur Kirchengeschichte*, 108 (Berlin/ New York: Walter de Gruyter, 2008), *Religious Studies Review* 35:4 (2009), 255-56.
- Review of Douglas Moggach, ed., *The New Hegelians: Politics and Philosophy in the Hegelian School* (Cambridge University Press, 2006) in *Journal for the History of Philosophy* 45:4 (2007), 669-70.
- Review of Jerry L. Walls, *Heaven: The Logic of Eternal Joy* (Oxford University Press, 2002), *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 59:2 (2006), 121-24.
- Review of Wayne Proudfoot, ed., *William James: Reexperiencing the Varieties of Religious Experience* (Columbia University Press, 2004) in *Philosophy in Review / Comptes rendu philosophiques* 25:5 (2005), 378-80.
- Review of Merold Westphal, *Overcoming Onto-Theology: Toward a Postmodern Christian Faith* (Fordham University Press, 2001) in *Philosophy in Review / Comptes rendu philosophiques* 22:5 (2002), 397-99.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

- “The Rise of Scientific Materialism and Its Long-Term Effect on the Development of Nineteenth-Century German Theology,” Nineteenth-Century Theology Group session on Theological Responses to the Rise of Scientific Materialism (A25-223), Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, Nov. 25, 2019.
- “Ludwig Feuerbach and the Challenge of Atheism,” *Oxford History of Modern German Theology* Author’s Workshop (M22-113), Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, Nov. 22, 2019.
- “Il numinoso como categoria assiologica nella teologia di Rudolf Otto,” Annual Meeting of the Italian Association for Philosophy of Religion (AIFR), University of Trento, Italy, Nov. 23-24, 2017.
- “Otto’s Approach to Theological Ethics,” Rudolf Otto Conference at the University of Gießen, Germany, March 8-10, 2017.
- “Paul Natorp ‘Between the Ages,’ Nineteenth-Century Theology Group session on Neo-Kantianism and Religious Thought, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, Nov. 22, 2015.
- “Sacrality, Secularity and Sovereignty in the Cultural Politics of the Young Hegelians,” Sacred Literature / Secular Religion: A Conference on Cultural Practices, LeMoyne College Religion and Literature Forum, Syracuse, NY, Oct. 3, 2015.

- “Rudolf Otto as Platonist,” Conference on The Holy in a Pluralistic World, Lubar Institute for the Study of Abrahamic Religions, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Nov. 5, 2014.
- “Faith, Knowledge, and the ‘Ausgang’ of Classical German Philosophy: Jacobi, Hegel, Feuerbach,” First German-Latin American Hegel Conference, Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina, Buenos Aires, May 20, 2014.
- “Otto, Brunner and Ritschl on Mystical Piety and the Piety of Faith,” Mysticism Group panel session on Genealogies of the Numinous: *Mysterium, Tremendum et Fascinans, Majestas* and the *Ganz Andere*, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (A25-130), Baltimore, Nov. 25, 2013.
- “Feuerbach on Love and the Human Species-Essence,” Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (A17-321), Chicago, Nov. 17, 2012.
- “‘Das Schaudern ist der Menschheit bestes Teil’: Über die Goethe-Rezeption Rudolf Ottos,” Internationaler Kongress Rudolf Otto: Theologie—Religionsphilosophie—Religionsgeschichte (German Research Commission), Philipps-Universität, Marburg, Germany, Oct. 6, 2012.
- “Philosophy, Religion and the Politics of *Bildung* in Hegel and Feuerbach,” 21st Biennial Meeting of the Hegel Society of America, St. Norbert’s College, De Pere, WI, Oct. 10, 2010.
- “Who is in a Position to Judge whether Christian Belief is Warranted?,” Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy of Religion, Claremont, CA, Feb., 25, 2010.
- “The Religious Travails of a ‘Conscientious and Cultivated Mind’ in ‘an Age of Weak Beliefs,’” Nineteenth-Century Theology Group session on J.S. Mill at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (A10-120), Montréal, Nov. 10, 2009.
- “The Political Implications of Feuerbach’s Theory of Religion,” Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the Annual Meeting the American Academy of Religion (A19-221), San Diego, CA, Nov., 2007.
- “Feuerbach’s Later Views on Religion: A Belated Response to Van Harvey,” Philosophy of Religion and Theology Section, Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Conference for the Study of Religion, Nashville, TN, March 16, 2007.
- “Max Stirner and the Apotheosis of the Corporeal Ego,” Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (A66), Atlanta, GA, Nov., 2003.
- “The Epistemic Status of Value-Cognition in Max Scheler’s Philosophy of Religion,” Philosophy of Religion Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Nashville, TN, Nov., 2000.
- “Rudolf Otto as Heir and Interpreter of Schleiermacher’s *Speeches on Religion*,” Schleiermacher Group at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, FL, Nov., 1998.
- “The Reception of Rudolf Otto’s *Das Heilige* in Post-WWI Germany,” History of the Study of Religion Group at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, FL, Nov., 1998.
- “Religious Consciousness and Religious Tolerance from Schleiermacher to Mensching,” Conference on Education and Civil Society in the Post-Totalitarian World, Bulgarian-American Fulbright Commission, Sofia, Bulgaria, May, 1998.
- “A ‘Full Stop’ Reconsidered: D.Z. Phillips and Religious Language-Games,” Western Regional Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Berkeley, CA, March, 1997.

INVITED LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- “The Critique of Religion Nineteenth-Century German Philosophy,” ECU Philosophy and Religious Studies Roundtable, October 31, 2108.
- “Thoughts on Constitutional and Pedagogical Issues Related to Teaching about the Bible in Public K-12 Schools in Kentucky,” Panel Discussion on Kentucky House Bill 128, O’Donnell Auditorium, Eastern Kentucky University, Feb. 20, 2018.
- “One Nation Under God? Religious Diversity in the United States,” Eastern Kentucky University Chautauqua Lecture Series, March 31, 2005
- “Violence and World Religions,” panel discussion sponsored by ECU Women and Gender Studies, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, and Department of Philosophy and Religion, Feb. 10, 2009.
- “Defining Socialism,” Eastern Standard radio broadcast, WEKU (88.9 FM), March 7, 2006.
- “When Should the U.S. Engage in Political Assassination?” ECU Philosophy Club Debate, Nov. 10, 2005.
- “Meanings of ‘God,’” invited lecture, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Madison County, Oct. 23, 2005.
- “One Nation Under God? Religious Diversity in the United States,” ECU Chautauqua Lecture Series, March 31, 2005.
- “Why is Free Speech Important?” ECU Philosophy Club Debate, March 22, 2005.
- Panel discussion of Mel Gibson’s film, *The Passion of the Christ*, at Centre College, Danville, KY, March 10, 2004.
- “When May a Nation Use Military Force against Other Countries?” ECU Philosophy Club Debate, March 4, 2003.
- “Are Humans Naturally Good, Naturally Evil, or Neither?” ECU Philosophy Club Debate, March 12, 2002.

COURSES TAUGHT AT EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY SINCE 1999

| Course Prefix and Number | Title |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| HON 205 & 205W | Honors Humanities I (with Helen Bennet, Charlotte Rich & Paula Kopacz) |
| HON 306 & 306W | Honors Humanities II (with Helen Bennet, Charlotte Rich & Paula Kopacz) |
| HON 308/PHI 390/REL 370 | Evolution and the Meaning(s) of Life: Science, Religion, Ethics (with Frank Williams) |
| HON 308W/310W | The Ancient World and Modern Cinema (with Jackie Jay) |
| HON 308W310W | Mummies, Museums & Buried Treasure: The Rediscovery of Antiquity in the Modern Age (with Jackie Jay) |

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| HON 308W310W | Contesting the Classics (with Jackie Jay) |
| HON 308W/312W | Search for Self (with Matt Winslow) |
| HON 308W/312W/320W | Religion and Politics in the Modern Middle East (with Steve Barracca) |
| HON 308W/312W/320W | Islamic Culture & Civilization (with Mina Yazdani) |
| PHI 100 | Practical Reasoning |
| PHI 110 & 110 W | Beginning Philosophy |
| PHI 130 | Beginning Ethics |
| PHI 240 | Philosophy of Religion |
| PHI 300 | Greek and Roman Philosophy |
| PHI 320 | Modern Philosophy |
| PHI 390/REL 370 | Freud, Marx & Nietzsche on Religion |
| PHI 390/REL 370 | Hume & Kant on Religion |
| PHI 390/REL 370 | Religious Belief in a Secular Age |
| PHI 390/REL 370 | Theories of Religion |
| REL 301 & 301W | World Religions |
| REL 305 | Survey of the Old Testament |
| REL 306 | Survey of the New Testament |
| REL 315 | History of Christian Thought |
| REL 320 | Judaism |
| REL 335 | Islam |

SUPERVISION OF INDEPENDENT STUDENT RESEARCH

Senior Theses in Philosophy

- Cox, Jeremy, Narrative Identity, Free Will, and Moral Responsibility (Fall 2013)
- Ross Kincaid, Philosophy and Gaming (Summer 2013)
- Scott Poynter, Marx's Theory of Human Nature (Spring 2013)
- Tim Howard, Conceptions of Immortality (Spring 2012)
- Ryan Kelly, The Cosmological Argument (Fall 2012)
- Raymond Zweifel, The Epistemology of Religious Experience (Spring 2009)
- Joe Mason, Philosophy of History (Fall 2006)
- Carl Root, Just War Theory (Spring 2006)a
- Michael Nolan, Free Will vs. Determinism (Spring 2006)
- Aaron Stack, Ethical Theory (Spring 2005)

- Zack Caldwell, *The Problem of Evil* (Spring 2005)
- Dan Robertson, *The Problem of Evil* (Spring 2004)
- William Sanford, *Just War Theory* (Spring 2004)

Honors Senior Theses

- Flynn Blanchet, *Evolution of Yahweh: The Changing Interpretation of the Hebrew God Over Time Based on the Stories of the Old Testament* (Fall 2020)
- Eric Powell, *The Moral Influence of Early Christianity on Roman Society* (Spring 2012)

Independent Studies in Philosophy

- Skyler Parkes and Dan Porter, *Existentialism and Literature* (Spring 2006)
- Aaron Stack, *Free Will vs. Determinism* (Fall 2005)

Independent Studies in Religion

- Olivia Leonard, *Independent Study of the Old Testament* (Fall 2019)
- Craig Chapman, *Independent Study of the New Testament* (Fall 2012)
- James Nichols, *Survey of the Old Testament* (Fall 2007)
- Gregory Dungan, James Nichols, Michael Padgett – *History of Christianity in the United States and Canada* (Spring 2007)
- Samantha Engstrom, *Sri Lankan Buddhism* (Spring 2006)
- Billy Ball, *Christianity and Colonialism* (Summer 2006)
- Warren Guilliot, *Roman Catholic View of the Sacraments*, (Fall 2006)
- Jeannie Thomas, *Religious Views of Capital Punishment* (Fall 2004)
- Faizal McBride, *Religions of India* (Summer 2004)
- Adam Walker, *Buddhist Philosophy* (Summer 2004)
- Gabriel Kessler, *Theology and Physics* (Spring 2004)
- Skyler Parkes, *Mysticism* (Fall 2003)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

University Committees

- Member, Faculty Senate Rules Committee, 2019-
- Member, Faculty Senate Nominations & Elections Committee, 2019-
- Member, Faculty Club Board of Governors, 2016 - 2018
- Member, Faculty Senate Elections Committee, 2016 - 2018, 2019 -
- Member, ECU Reads Committee, 2005 - 2009, 2012 - 2015
- Chair, Honors Curriculum Revision Faculty Workgroup, 2012
- Member, University Assessment Committee, 2005 - 2008

College Committees

- Member, CLASS Strategic Planning and Budget Committee, 2016 - 2017
- Member, CAS Strategic Planning and Budget Committee, 2015 - 2016
- Member, CAS Faculty Research and Development Committee, 2006 - 2009
- Member, CAS Sabbatical Leave Committee: 2004 - 2006

Departmental Committees

- Member, Search Committee for Position in Modern European History, 2021
- Member, Advisory Committee, 2019 -
- Chair, Sabbatical Leave Committee, 2010-2012
- Member, Departmental Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2003 - present
- Member, Departmental Curriculum Committee, 2003 - present
- Member, Search Committee for Position in Ethics, 2009
- Member, Search Committee for Position in Eastern Religions, 2006
- Member, Search Committee for Position in Ethics, 2004

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Member from 2010-18 of the steering committee of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Unit of the American Academy of Religion, Co-Chair from 2012-13, Chair from 2013-18).
- Area Editor for Nineteenth-Century Religious Thought, *Religious Studies Review* (2013-2018)
- Peer reviewer, *Journal of Religion* (University of Chicago Press), 2016, 2019.
- Peer reviewer, *Southern Journal of Philosophy* (Wiley-Blackwell), 2014.
- Peer reviewer, *Theology and Literature* (Oxford University Press), 2012.
- Peer reviewer, *Religious Studies* (Cambridge University Press), 2007, 2009.
- Peer reviewer, Oxford University Press / American Academy of Religion book series on Theory and Reflection in the Study of Religion, 2009.

PROGRAMMING OF THE 19TH-CENTURY THEOLOGY UNIT OF THE AAR

During my tenure as chair of the steering committee of this Unit, I helped to conceive, coordinate, and write the calls for papers for the following sessions:

2018 Annual Meeting of the AAR

- Panel on Thomas Albert Howard's *The Pope and the Professor: Pius IX, Ignaz Von Döllinger, and the Quandary of the Modern Age* (Oxford University Press, 2017)
- F. C. Baur and the Historical Turn in Nineteenth-Century Theology
- Catholic Responses to the Rise of Historical Consciousness
- New Avenues for Scholarship on Religion, Modernity, and the Secular: The Case of the Long Nineteenth Century

2017 Annual Meeting of the AAR

- Luther's Nineteenth-Century Heirs and Interpreters
- American Transcendentalism as Theological Resource for the Anthropocene
- Panel on Ted Vial's *Modern Religion, Modern Race* (Oxford University Press, 2016)

2016 Annual Meeting of the AAR

- Theology as Science in Nineteenth-Century Germany
- History of the Black Social Gospel
- Religion, Morality, and Politics: Revisiting the New Nietzsche for Religious Studies

2015 Annual Meeting of the AAR

- Schleiermacher and Mediating Theology

- Aesthetics and the Religious Imagination
- Neo-Kantianism and Religion

2014 Annual Meeting of the AAR

- Gendered Categories in Nineteenth-Century Religious Thought
- Religion Re-Conceptualizing Romanticism

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO AAR PROGRAMMING

“Church and State in Napoleon’s Wake,” session (A24-330) of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the 2013 Annual Meeting (Baltimore, Nov. 24). Helped to conceive session, drafted call for papers, solicited paper proposals.

“Defining the Field: New Methods for Reconceiving the History of Nineteenth-Century Christian Thought (in Memory of James C. Livingston),” session (A19-322) of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the 2012 Annual Meeting (Chicago, Nov. 19). Papers from this session, which I helped to conceive, and at which I presided, are included in *Papers of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group*, vol. 43, ed. James Swan Tuite and Todd Gooch, eds.

“Religious Thought and the Nineteenth-Century Novel,” joint session (A19-203) of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group and the Arts, Literature and Religion Section at the 2011 Annual Meeting (San Francisco, Nov. 19). Papers from this session, which I conceived and organized, are included in *Papers of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group*, vol. 42, ed. Todd Gooch, Dawn De Vries, and Arie Molendijk.

“Nineteenth-Century Proposals for a Religion of Humanity,” joint session (A30-322) of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group and the Religion and Humanism Consultation, 2010 Annual Meeting (Atlanta, Oct. 30). Papers from this session, which I conceived and organized, are included in *Papers of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group*, vol. 41, ed. Todd Gooch, Lori Pearson, and Theodore Vial.

“J. S. Mill and the Utility of Religion,” session (A10-120) of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group at the 2009 Annual Meeting (Montréal, Nov. 10). Conceived session and drafted call for papers. Papers from this session, at which I ended up presenting a paper, are included in *Papers of the Nineteenth-Century Theology Group*, vol. 40, ed. Todd Gooch, Lori Pearson, and Theodore Vial.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- ECU Sabbatical Leave, 2018-19 (half time for two semesters)
- ECU University Fellow, 2016-17
- ECU College of Arts & Sciences Excellence in Research and Creative Activities award, 2014
- Nominee, ECU Critical Thinking Teacher of the Year Award, 2013
- ECU Institutional Nomination for the NEH Summer Fellowship, 2011
- Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Religious Studies, Stanford University, Summer 2010
- ECU University Research Grant, 2009
- ECU Institutional Nomination for the NEH Summer Fellowship, 2009
- ECU Sabbatical Leave, 2009 (half time for two semesters)
- Fulbright Scholar, Philipps-Universität, Marburg, Germany, 1997-99

- Tuition Fellowship, Dept. of Religion, Claremont Graduate University, 1996
- Andrew Mellon Foundation Seminar on Postmodernism in the Humanities, 1995
- Honda Foundation Scholarship, National Academic Decathlon, 1985