

# Olivia Bustion

4 November 2025

UCSF Health Hyde Hospital  
Spiritual Care  
900 Hyde Street  
San Francisco CA 94109

## EDUCATION

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- 2023      **Ph.D.**, Theology, University of Chicago  
2014      **M.Div.**, University of Chicago  
2012      **Ph.D.**, English Language & Literature, University of Michigan  
2004      **M.St.**, English Literature 1900-Present, University of Oxford  
2003      **B.A.**, English, Mount Holyoke College (*Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude*)

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2023-2025      Teaching Fellow in the Divinity School, the College, and the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, University of Chicago

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2025      “The Spirit as Plural Person,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 27.1: 94-125.  
2017      “Autism and Christianity: An Ethnographic Intervention,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 85.3: 653-681.

### Encyclopedia & Dictionary Entries

- 2018      “Analytic Philosophy of Religion,” “Continental Philosophy of Religion,” “Eschatology,” “Queer Theology,” “Karl Rahner,” and “Schleiermacher,” in *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, ed. Charles Taliaferro and Elsa Marty, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New York: Bloomsbury).

### Book Reviews

- 2024      Amy Kenny, *My Body is Not a Prayer Request: Disability Justice in the Church*, in *Reading Religion*, <https://readingreligion.org/9781587435454/>.  
2023      Peter Comensoli, *In God's Image: Recognizing the Profoundly Impaired as Persons*, in *Reading Religion*, <https://readingreligion.org/9781625646323/>.  
2020      Kay Ryan, *Synthesizing Gravity: Selected Prose*, in *Christian Century* 137.11: 44.

- 2019 Karen Olsson, *The Weil Conjectures: On Math and the Pursuit of the Unknown*, in *Christian Century* 136.22: 47-48.
- 2018 Michelle Voss Roberts, *Body Parts: A Theological Anthropology*, in *Reading Religion*, <http://readingreligion.org/9781506418568/>.

### Manuscripts in Submission

*Spirit: A Brief Systematic Theology*, under consideration at Cambridge University Press  
 “Ethics of Method: Queer Theologies, Abolition Geographies,” under review at the *Journal of Religious Ethics*

### Manuscripts in Preparation

*Queer Theologies, Abolition Geographies: An Archive of Sacred Worldmaking*  
*NeuroChurches: Reimagining Theology with AuDHD Christians*  
 An article on disability and axiology

### Public Writing

- forthcoming* “The Wisdom of Devotion,” *Syndicate*
- 2017 “Tropes vs. Autism in Religious Studies,” *OUPblog*, Oxford University Press, <https://blog.oup.com/2017/03/tropes-autism-in-religious-studies/>.

### Poetry

- 2020 “Five for J—,” *Stone Fruit Magazine* 3: 5.
- 2016 “Angela at the End of the World,” *Bombay Gin* 42: 59-62.
- 2013 “Ruth 1:16,” *DIAGRAM* 13.5, [http://thediagram.com/13\\_5/bustion.html](http://thediagram.com/13_5/bustion.html).
- 2012 “See in How Neat a Hand I Am Writing to You,” *VOLT* 17: 22-23.
- 2009 “Catechumen Knitting,” *Ninth Letter* 6.1: 64.
- 2008 “Eunuchs for the Kingdom of Heaven,” *AGNI* 68: 94-99.

### SELECTED GRANTS & AWARDS

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- 2024-2025 The Lyman Fund, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends (\$3,000)
- 2024 Public Scholarship Fellowship, Martin Marty Center, University of Chicago (\$3,000)
- 2021-2023 Divinity School Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago (\$47,000)
- 2021-2022 Divinity School Inclusive Pedagogy Fellowship, University of Chicago (\$1,000)
- 2019-2020 Martin Marty Junior Fellowship, Martin Marty Center, University of Chicago (\$3,000)
- 2014 George W. Woodruff Fellowship, Emory University (declined)
- 2012 Perrin Fund Travel Grant, University of Chicago (\$500)
- 2011 Sweetland Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan (\$3,000)
- 2011 Mueschke Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan (8,000)
- 2009 Carl Braun Fellowship, University of Michigan (\$8,000)

2009	Rackham Travel Grant, University of Michigan (\$600)
2009	Rackham Dissertation Research Travel Grant, University of Michigan (\$1,750)
2008	Rackham Fellowship, University of Michigan (\$12,000)
2003	John N. Wall Scholar, Sewanee Writers' Conference, University of the South

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

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### Papers Presented

2024	“Disidentification and/as Queer Theological Method,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (San Diego, CA), 23-26 November.
2018	“Axiology without Ableism (or, On Using Theology in Disability Studies),” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (Denver, CO), 17-20 November.
2018	“The Bond of Love as Agent: A Friendship Pneumatology,” Theology of Joy and the Good Life Consultation Series: Temporality & Desire, Yale Center for Faith & Culture (New Haven, CT), 19-20 October.
2015	Particularity without Provincialism: Public Theology as Dramaturgy,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (Atlanta, GA), 19-24 November.
2015	“‘God Speaks Aspergian’: An Online Ethnography of Autistic Christians,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (Atlanta, GA), 19-24 November.
2012	“Epistemology of the Belly: <i>σπλαγχνίζομαι</i> in Luke 7:11-17 (or, A Widow’s Silence and the Lord’s Guts),” Ways of Knowing: A Graduate Conference on Religion, Harvard Divinity School (Cambridge, MA), 26-27 October.
2011	“Saint Wistan’s Shame,” The Society for Textual Scholarship, Penn State University (State College, PA), 16-18 March.
2009	“The Theological Ethics of Democracy in W. H. Auden’s ‘New Year Letter,’” Religion, Secularism, and Nationhood: British Modernities Graduate Student Conference, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, IL), 3-4 April.
2007	“Gender and Literary Priority in Three Early Poems by Marianne Moore,” The Society for Textual Scholarship (New York, NY), 14-17 March.
2005	“T. S. Eliot’s ‘Marina’ in Context,” The Society for Textual Scholarship (New York, NY), 16-19 March.

### CAMPUS TALKS

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2024	Panelist, “Christianity & the Queer Community,” CULT (Critical Understanding of Liturgies and Traditions) and OLS (Organization of LGBTQ+ Students), University of Chicago, 12 April.
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2022 Co-presenter, "Personal Experience in the Religious Studies Classroom," Craft of Teaching Program, Inclusive Pedagogy Series, University of Chicago, 19 April.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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### **University of Chicago**

#### *Instructor*

Abolitionist Theologies (Autumn 2024)

Religion: Cosmos, Conscience, and Community (Winter 2024, Winter 2025)

Queering God (Autumn 2023)

Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations (Autumn 2023, Autumn 2024, Winter 2025)

#### *Co-instructor*

M.Div. Thesis Seminar, taught with Cynthia Lindner (Autumn 2021-Spring 2022)

Introduction to Theology, taught with Kevin Hector (Spring 2019)

#### *Teaching assistant*

Bioethics (Spring 2022)

Truth (Spring 2021)

Philosophical Perspectives (Autumn 2020)

Introduction to the Study of Religion (Autumn 2018)

Media Aesthetics (Winter 2018)

### **Lewis University**

#### *Instructor*

Introduction to Christian Theology (Spring 2021)

### **University of Michigan**

#### *Instructor*

Argumentative Writing (Autumn 2009, Winter 2010)

College Writing (Autumn 2007, Winter 2008, Spring 2010, Summer 2011)

Writing and Literature (Autumn 2006, Winter 2007)

#### *Teaching assistant*

The Modern Novel (Winter 2005)

Three Modern Poets (Autumn 2005)

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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### **University of Michigan**

2007 Research assistant for George Bornstein's monograph, *The Colors of Zion: Blacks, Jews, and Irish from 1845-1945*

- 2006            Research assistant for Julian Levinson's monograph, *Exiles on Main Street: Jewish American Writers and American Literary Culture*
- 2005-2006      Research assistant for George Bornstein's scholarly edition, *The Collected Works of W. B. Yeats Volume IV: Early Essays*

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## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- 2023-            Peer reviewer, *Neurodiversity*

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## **DEPARTMENTAL & UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### **Departmental Service**

- 2019-2020      Student member, Committee on Degrees, Divinity School, University of Chicago

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## **NON-ACADEMIC WORK & SERVICE**

- 2025-2026      Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Level 2, UCSF Health, San Francisco CA
- 2025-2026      Chaplain, UCSF Health Hyde Hospital, San Francisco CA
- 2024             Judge, Upper Midwest Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, Chicago IL
- 2023-2025      Librarian, 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting of Friends, Chicago, IL
- 2021-2023      Prompt, Writing coach, Chicago IL (remote)
- 2014             Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Level 1, Urban CPE, Chicago IL
- 2014             Chaplain, Bonaventure House, Chicago IL
- 2012-2013      Student pastor, Urban Village Church, Chicago IL
- 2009-2010      Executive board member, Prison Creative Arts Project, Ann Arbor MI
- 2008-2010      Poetry workshop facilitator, Parnall Correctional Facility, Jackson MI

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## **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

Modern: French, German  
Ancient: Koine Greek, Latin

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## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion  
Fellowship for Protestant Ethics  
Political Theology Network  
Society for Textual Scholarship