



CREOR

**CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON RELIGION
CENTRE DE RECHERCHE SUR LA RELIGION**

CREOR LUNCH LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS

WOMEN IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

— SEPTEMBER 2018 TO APRIL 2019 —



CREOR

McGill Center for Research on Religion

Women in the Ancient World

CREOR Lunch Lecture Series 2018-2019

This Thursday lunch lecture series focuses on women in the ancient world. How did women live 1500-3000 ago, what did they feel, think and believe in, what did they produce and achieve? Recent research has uncovered many hidden treasures about the world in which women lived and were part of, from ancient Egypt and Babylonia to ancient Israel and Early Judaism, from the Greco-Roman world and Early Christianity to Byzantium and early Islam, of which much is now accessible through ancient writings, art and archeology.

Join our lecture series with informative and exciting presentations, images never seen before, and a light lunch and fellowship with graduate students and faculty. Topics will include women in the Ancient Near East, Women in Ancient Israel, women in Early Judaism, women in the Greco-Roman World, women in early Christianity, women in Rabbinic Judaism, and women in Byzantium.

This lecture series is organized by McGill's Centre for Research on Religion, the Montreal Biblical Colloquium, the School of Religious Studies and the Department of History and Classics.

Audience: Members of the McGill Center for Research on Religion, students and faculty of the School of Religious Studies, the Department of History and Classical Studies, the Montreal School of Theology, MORSL, interested lay people.

Date & Location

Birks Heritage Chapel and Senior Common Room, 3520
University Street, Montreal

Thursdays from 11:30-13:00, 2018-2019

September 21, 2018: Patricia Kirkpatrick & Gerbern S. Oegema (McGill University)
"Women, Gender, Classics and the Bible"

* Please note that this lecture will take place from 9:30 to 13:00.



PATRICIA KIRKPATRICK has spent the past 33 years teaching both in the academy and the Anglican Church here in Montreal and abroad. She has contributed to the educational formation of those pursuing academic careers in Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and those entering the ordained ministry of the Christian Church. She has pursued her research and teaching interests with an eye on both the academy and the ecclesial communities as she was asked to serve on a number of national and international theological commissions. Her interdisciplinary interests extend to feminist and gender studies where as chair of the Women's Studies Program, and Chair of the Board of the M.C.R.T.W. at McGill, she was instrumental in creating and maintaining several administrative programs in the area.

GERBERN OEGEMA is Professor of Biblical Studies at McGill University. He is the founder and current director of the McGill Center for Research on Religion (CREOR). He is also the founder and first chair of the Council of theological Education in Montreal. With a deep knowledge of different religious sacred texts and traditions, he has a talent of bringing together people from different disciplines, faiths and cultures and unit them around a common goal.



October 4, 2018: Ross Kraemer (Brown University) “Reconstructing Women’s History in Antiquity”

ROSS KRAEMER, Professor of Religious Studies at Brown University, specializes in early Christianity and other religions of the Greco-Roman Mediterranean, including early Judaism. Her research focuses on aspects of women’s religions in the Greco-Roman world, particularly Christian and Jewish women, questions of theory and method in the academic study of religion, the study of women and religion cross-culturally and trans-historically, and even religion and modern media. At Brown, she is currently the Director of Graduate Studies in Religious Studies. Her current research project investigates the fate of Greek-speaking Jewish communities in the ancient Mediterranean at the end of late antiquity.



October 18, 2018: Lynn Kozak (McGill University) “The Ancient Origins of the Contemporary Horror Heroine



LYNN KOZAK, Professor of History and Classical Studies at McGill University, has published on the *Iliad*, Thucydides, and Greek tragedy, and has broader interests in Plato, the Second Sophistic, the reception and production of Greek performance texts, modern comparative texts, and critical theories. Current research focuses on serial poetics, from epic performance to new media forms, building on their monograph on this subject, *Experiencing Hektor: Character in the Iliad*. Forthcoming work (2018-9) includes articles and book chapters on H.D.’s translations of Greek tragic choruses (with Miranda Hickman), recap structures in comparative serials, queerworlds in North American genre television, *Hannibal*, Homeric fandom, and *iZombie*.

November 1, 2018: Bernadette Brooten (Brandeis University) “Beyond the Binary: Rethinking Early Christian Opposition to Woman-Woman Marriage”

BERNADETTE BROOTEN is the Kraft-Hiatt Professor of Christian Studies and of Women’s and Gender Studies at Brandeis University, and the founding director of the Feminist Sexual Ethics Project. Professor Brooten’s primary areas of research include Early Christian Literature and History, Women and Religion, History of Sexuality, and the History of Slavery. Most recently she has taught Introduction to Christianity; The New Testament: A Historical Introduction; and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Jews and Christians: Sources and Interpretations.



November 15, 2018: Carly Daniel-Hughes (Concordia University) “Truly I Tell You Prostitutes Will Go to the Kingdom of God before You: Sex Workers in Ancient Christianity”



CARLY DANIEL-HUGHES earned her doctorate from Harvard University in Christian Origins. She teaches courses in the history of Christianity, biblical studies, and women, gender and sexuality in Religion. Her research has contributed to the study of ancient Christian constructions of sexuality, gender, and the body, the history of dress. Currently, she is undertaking a study of evangelical anti-sex trafficking campaigns today, with a focus on women’s involvement in these ministries. She is a member of the Department of Religions and Cultures Women, Gender, and Sexuality Seminar, and currently serves as Chair of the Department.

November 29, 2018: Anne Letourneau (Université de Montréal): "Tearing Through the Second Skin: Gender, Violence and Dress in the Hebrew Bible"

ANNE LETOURNEAU has a PhD in Religious Studies (Biblical Studies) with a concentration in Feminist Studies from the Université du Québec à Montréal. From 2015 to 2017, she conducted postdoctoral research at the Temple University (Philadelphia) Department of Religion. Her specialty is the exegesis of the Hebrew Bible. In her research and teaching, she is interested in the religious, literary and historical meanings of biblical texts as well as the history of their effects, especially on women and other marginalized groups.



January 24, 2019: Gerbern S. Oegema (McGill University) "Female Jewish Authorship in Antiquity"

GERBERN OEGEMA is Professor of Biblical Studies at McGill University. He is the founder and current director of the McGill Center for Research on Religion (CREOR). He is also the founder and first chair of the Council of theological Education in Montreal. With a deep knowledge of different religious sacred texts and traditions, he has a talent of bringing together people from different disciplines, faiths and cultures and unit them around a common goal.



December 6, 2018: Martin Seeger (University of Leeds) "Women in Early Indian Buddhism: Scholarly Debates on Gender in Pali Canonical Texts"



MARTIN SEEGER is Associate Professor of Thai Studies at the University of Leeds. From 1997-2000, Dr. Seeger was ordained as a Buddhist monk in northern Thailand and subsequently earned his MA and doctorate in Thai Studies at the University of Hamburg. Much of his research focuses on the life and work of the Thai Buddhist thinkers. He has also done research on Thai Buddhism and environmentalism, Human Rights in Thai Theravada Buddhism and development monks in the northeastern region of Thailand. He continues to work on "female saints in Thai Buddhism". At the moment, he is working on a research project with the title "Hagiographical Processes and Religious Symbolism in Modern Thai Buddhism".

February 5, 2019: William Gladhill (McGill University) "Women, Lament, and Roman Spirituality"



WILLIAM GLADHILL is an assistant professor at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. His research includes Roman poetics, empire and space, and the ancient body. He is currently reworking his dissertation "Foedera: a Study in Roman Poetics and Society" into a book. In addition, he is writing and researching papers on aspects of Greek and Roman cosmology, Roman law and poetry, and lexicography. William is currently working on a manuscript entitled, "The Poetry of Alliance at Rome." In addition to his work serving on the board of Vergilius, one of the leading journals on the study of Vergil, William started McGill University's working group Classical Revolutions.

February 19, 2019: Heidi Wendt (McGill University) “How the Wife Plays When Her Husband’s Away: Women and Superstitio in Early Imperial Rome”

HEIDI WENDT is an Assistant Professor in the School of Religious Studies and the Department of History and Classical Studies at McGill University. Her research investigates religious developments of the Roman imperial period, with a focus on situating Jewish and Christian actors and phenomena in their Greco-Roman milieu. She recently published her first monograph, *At the Temple Gates: The Religion of Freelance Experts in the Roman Empire* (Oxford: 2016), which examines evidence for the rise of self-authorized experts in specialized religious skills, rites, and wisdom under the Roman Empire.



March 19, 2019: Naftali Cohn (Concordia University) “Gender, everyday activity, and Jewish law in the Mishnah



NAFTALI COHN, Associate Professor of Religions and Cultures at Concordia University, studies the texts and culture of Jews in Classical to Late Antiquity, focusing especially on the group known as the rabbis, who produced texts that became canonical and foundational for subsequent Jewish literature and practice. His research centres on the late-second or early-third century law collection known as the Mishnah, which he reads using the critical lenses of ritual theory, narratology, memory/historiography, feminist theory, and material culture of the Roman period. His publications include *The Memory of the Temple and the Making of the Rabbis* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012).



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