Margaret D. Kamitsuka

Francis W. and Lydia L. Davis Professor Emeritus of Religion

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### Education

Ph.D., Religious Studies, Yale University

M.Phil., Religious Studies, Yale University

M.A.R., Theology, Yale Divinity School, *summa cum laude*

B.A., French, University of California, Berkeley, *Phi Beta Kappa*

### Teaching (Oberlin College)

Associate Professor, Gender and Religion, 2007—2019

Chair, Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Institute 2012—2014

Assistant Professor, Gender and Religion, 2002—2007

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, 2000—2002

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, 1999—2000

Visiting Instructor of Gender and Women’s Studies, Spring 1999

Visiting Instructor of Religion, Spring 1997, Fall 1997, Spring 1998

# Books

*Abortion and the Christian Tradition: A Prochoice Theological Ethic* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2019)

Editor: *The Embrace of Eros: Bodies, Desires, and Sexuality in Christianity* (Fortress Press, 2010)

*Feminist Theology and the Challenge of Difference* (Oxford University Press, 2007)

### Select Essays

“Prolife Christian Romance Novels: A Sign That the Abortion-as-Murder Center is Not Holding?” *Christianity & Literature:* special issue on literature of/about the Christian Right 69, no. 1 (2020): 36-52

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/752347>

“Unwanted Pregnancy, Abortion, and Maternal Authority: A Prochoice Theological Argument,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 34, no. 2 (Fall 2018): 41-57

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/703388/pdf>

“Sexual Pleasure,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Theology, Sexuality and Gender*, ed. Adrian Thatcher (Oxford University Press, online 2014; print 2015): 505-522 <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199664153.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199664153-e-010?rskey=sFyeS5&result=3>

“Feminist Scholarship and Its Relevance for Political Engagement: The Test Case of Abortion in the U.S.,” *Religion and Gender* 1, no. 1 (2011): 18-43

<http://www.religionandgender.org/index.php/rg/article/view/2>

“Introduction” (pp. 1-12) and “Sex in Heaven? Eschatological Eros and the Resurrection of the Body” (pp. 261-275), in *The Embrace of Eros: Bodies, Desires, and Sexuality in Christianity*, ed., Margaret D. Kamitsuka (Fortress Press, 2010)

“Sin and Power: Poststructuralist and Postcolonial Theories” (pp. 153-57) and dialog boxes: “Critiques of Poststructuralism” (p. 159) and “Sin as Social or Structural” (p. 134) in *Constructive Theology: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes*, ed. Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland (Fortress Press, 2005)

<https://fortresspress.com/product/constructive-theology-contemporary-approach-classical-themes>

“Toward a Feminist Postmodern and Postcolonial Interpretation of Sin,” *Journal of Religion* 84, no. 2 (April 2004): 179-211

<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/381210?journalCode=jr>

“Reading the Raced and Sexed Body in Alice Walker’s *The Color Purple*: Repatterning White Feminist and Womanist Hermeneutics,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 19, no. 2 (Fall 2003): 45-66

“Rejoinder: Dialogue Beyond First-Wave Feminism,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 19, no. 2 (Fall 2003): 75-77

**Select Conference Papers and Presentations**

“The Afterlife Understood from an Emergent Materialist Perspective,” Princeton Project in Philosophy of Religion Inaugural Conference, Princeton University (moved to zoom format, Oct 30)

“The Afterlife and Liminal Bodies,” Third International Conference on Philosophy and Meaning in Life, University of Birmingham, England (moved to zoom format, July 22, 2020)

“Bodies in the Afterlife and Reproductive Bioethics in this Life,” Association of Practical Theology Biennial Conference, Houston, TX (moved to zoom format, May 2, 2020)

“Hospitality and the Fetus: A Prochoice Proposal on Good Samaritanism,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Conference, Louisville, KY (Jan 4, 2019)

“Is Fetal Life Grievable,” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Denver, CO (Nov 19, 2018)

“A Feminist Ethics of Abortion: Grievability and the Limits of Hospitality,” Societas Ethica Conference on Feminist Ethics and the Question of Gender, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium (August 24, 2018)

“Abortion and the Maternal Authority to End Fetal Life,” Duquesne Women in Philosophy Conference, Pittsburgh, PA (March 24, 2017)

“Sex in Heaven? Eros, Abjection, and ‘Spiritual Bodies,’” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada (Nov. 8, 2009)

“The Abortion Controversy,” panel presentation at the Constructive Theology Workgroup meeting, Nashville, TN (April 19, 2008).

“Foucault and Empire: A Poststructuralist Model for Doing Feminist Theology in a Postcolonial Age,” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Washington, DC (Nov. 18, 2006)

### Academic and Professional Service

Editor, Academy Series, American Academy of Religion, 2017-2022:

<https://www.aarweb.org/publications/new-academy-series-editor>

Director, Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Institute, Oberlin College, 2012-2014

Associate Director, Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Institute, Oberlin College,

2010-2011

Memberships

American Academy of Religion

Association of Practical Theology

Society of Christian Ethics

Societas Ethica

Participant in the Constructive Theology Workgroup, 2000-2017

# Honors, Prizes and Fellowships

Coolidge Fellow in the *Cross Currents* Research Colloquium, Auburn Seminary, New York City, July 2019

The Francis W. and Lydia L. Davis Chair in Religion, Oberlin College, 2014—2019

Research Status, Oberlin College, 2011-12

B. Wade and Jane B. White Fellowship, Oberlin College, 2005-06

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2000-02

*Summa cum laude*, Yale Divinity School

Julia A. Archibald High Scholarship Prize, Yale Divinity School

Religion and Arts Prize, Yale Divinity School

Day Fellowship, Yale Divinity School

*Phi Beta Kappa*, University of California, Berkeley