

CURRICULUM VITAE

Tamara E. Lewis, Ph.D. Candidate

Early Modern Religious History

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EDUCATION

- PHD May 2013 (expected), Vanderbilt University Graduate Department of Religion
Dissertation: *“To Wash a Blackamoor White: The Theological Construction of Race in Early Modern England”*
Committee: Dr. Paul C. H. Lim (chair); Dr. Peter Lake; Dr. Victor Anderson; Dr. Dennis Dickerson; Dr. Catherine Molineux; Dr. Lewis Baldwin
- MA 2011, Church History, Vanderbilt University Graduate Department of Religion
Examination Fields: Early Church and Patristics, Catholic and Protestant Reformations, African American Church History, American Religious History
- MDIV 2000, Vanderbilt University Divinity School
- MA 1999, Tennessee State University, English
Master’s Thesis: *“A Triadic Study of Characterization in Three of Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Old Testament Wisdom Literature”*
- BA 1994, Univ. of Central Arkansas
Major: Political Science (Minor: English)

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2006-present | Departmental Scholarship | Vanderbilt University Graduate Department of Religion |
| March 2012 | Participant and Fellow | Wabash Center Workshop on Teaching and Learning |
| 2011-2012 | Dissertation Fellow | The Fund for Theological Education |
| 2006-2011 | Women of Color Scholar | United Methodist Church General Board of Higher Education and Ministry |
| May 2009 | Recipient | Vanderbilt Graduate Department of Religion and Divinity School Bettye R. Ford Graduate Student Service Award |
| 1998-2000 | Recipient | Kelly Miller Smith Scholarship, Vanderbilt Divinity School |

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research examines the ways Protestant doctrine was used in the development of racial ideologies in early modern England. This involves tracing how theological beliefs were applied to and shaped emerging discourses and practices regarding skin color differences in the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Moreover, I analyze early modern perspectives about theological anthropology and somatic difference in relation to England's burgeoning participation in the transatlantic human trade, slavery, and colonialism.

PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Christianity in the Reformation Era, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Spring 2012
Dr. Dale Johnson

Teaching Assistant, Martin Luther King and the Social Role of Religion, Vanderbilt Univ., Spring 2011
Dr. Lewis Baldwin

Guest Lecturer, "MLK as a Model for Contemporary Black Leadership: The Views of Clarence B. Jones," Martin Luther King and the Social Role of Religion, Vanderbilt Univ., Dr. Lewis Baldwin, Spring 2011

Guest Lecturer, "Barack Obama, Jeremiah Wright, and the Black Religious Tradition," Pentecostalism and Liberation Theology, Middlebury College, Dr. Ellie Bagley, Spring 2011

Teaching Fellow, Formation of the Christian Tradition, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Fall 2010
Dr. J. Patout Burns

Teaching Fellow, Christianity in the Reformation Era, Spring 2010 Dr. Paul C. H. Lim

Guest Lecturer, "Renaissance & Late Medieval Background to the Reformation" Christianity in the Reformation Era, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Dr. Paul C. H. Lim, Spring 2010

Teaching Fellow, Christianity in the Reformation Era, Spring 2009 Dr. Paul C. H. Lim

Guest Lecturer, "Teresa of Avila: Catholic & Female Reformer," Christianity in the Reformation Era, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Dr. Paul C. H. Lim, Spring 2009

Guest Lecturer, "The 1601 Elizabethan Royal Command to Deport Blacks from England" British Atlantic History, Vanderbilt Univ., Dr. Catherine Molineux, Spring 2009

Teaching Fellow, History of Religion in America, Spring 2008, Dr. Kathleen Flake

Teaching Assistant, Martin Luther King and the Social Role of Religion, Spring 2007, Dr. Lewis Baldwin

Research Assistant, Historical Studies Department, Vanderbilt Graduate Department of Religion, 2006-2007

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Early Modern English Bible Translations of Jeremiah 13 and 38: The Case of Geneva Bible’s *Black More*,” paper presented at the American Society of Church History, Chicago, 2012

“Late Sixteenth and Early Seventeenth Century Usages of Racial Tropes in Religious Texts,” paper presented at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference, Montreal, Canada, October, 2010

“A Kind of People: The 1601 Elizabethan Royal Command ‘Licensing Casper van Senden to Deport Negroes’ in Christian and Ontological Context,” paper presented at American Academy of Religion Society of Biblical Literature Southeastern Regional Meeting March, 2010 Atlanta, GA.

“The 1601 Elizabethan Royal Command ‘Licensing Casper van Senden to Deport Negroes’ in Historical and Ontological Context,” paper presented at Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies, Twenty-Eighth Graduate Student Conference, January, 2010 Chicago, IL.

“From Blackness as Metaphor to Blackness as Ontology: Patristic and Early Modern English Depictions of Symbolic and Metaphysic Evil,” paper presented at the Women of Color Seminar General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Meeting United Methodist Church, October, 2009 Durham, NC.

Moderator for panel “Ideology, Identity, and Consciousness: the power of ideas through history,” Vanderbilt University Graduate Student Council Graduate Research Day March, 2009 Nashville, TN.

“The Orders of Queen Elizabeth I to Export Blacks from England in Religious Context” paper presented at Vanderbilt University Graduate Research Day, March 30, 2009

“Contrasting uses of Agency, Protest and Authority in Thomas Hobbes and Paul Ricoeur,” paper presented at the Women of Color Seminar General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Meeting United Methodist Church, October, 2008 Washington, DC.

“Letter from Carthage City Jail: The Civil and Ecclesiastical Non-Violent Resistance of St. Perpetua,” Rethinking Protest in Church History Graduate Department of Religion panel paper presented at the Vanderbilt University Graduate Student Council Graduate Research Day March, 2008 Nashville, TN.

“O Happy Water: Tertullian’s Materialist Spirituality and Ancient Jewish Baptismal Rituals,” paper presented at the Vanderbilt University Graduate Department of Religion Historical Studies Colloquy Spring 2007.

ARTICLE IN PREPARATION FOR SUBMISSION

“Race and Early Modern England: Justification by Faith Alone and the Black Bride of the *Song of Songs*”

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
Sixteenth Century Studies Conference

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

German, French

