

KATE COMMON

Curriculum Vitae - February 2022

Assistant Professor in Practical Theology and Louisville Institute Scholar,
Methodist Theological School in Ohio

kcommon@mtso.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Theological Studies area of Practical Theology, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA, (2021)
Advisor: Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore
Exam concentrations: Feminist & Womanist Theology, Practical Theology, Design Thinking, Theories of Social Change, Theories of the Social Imaginary, Feminist & Queer Utopia, Biblical Studies & Practical Theology.
Dissertation Title: “*Feminist Ecclesiology and Liberating Counterhistory: Reimagining Church for the 21st Century”
- M.A. Theological Research, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA (2012)
Concentration: Feminist Theology
Thesis Title: “Hidden Transcripts and Hidden Landscapes: A New Interpretative Model for Ironic Texts in the Hebrew Bible”
- B.F.A. Visual Communication Design, Kent State University, Kent, OH (2002)
Minor: Art History

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Feminist & Womanist Theology
Practical Theology
Queer Theology
Women’s and Gender Studies

Theological Imagination
Philosophies of the Social Imaginary
Design Thinking
Biblical Studies / Bible
Theopoetics

PUBLICATIONS

Under Review:

- 2021 *Undoing Conquest: Hebrew Highland Settlements and the Theological Imagination*
Manuscript under review with Baylor University Press

Peer-Reviewed:

- 2019 “Introducing Design Thinking & Practical Theology: A New Interdisciplinary Partnership.” *Practical Matters Journal*, Summer 2019, Issue 12, pp. X-XXX. Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

Invited essays:

- 2016 “Death Design Theopoetics.” In *Syndicate: A New Forum for Theology*, January/February 2016. Cascade Books: Wipf & Stock. Eugene, OR. (154-159).
- 2016 “Editorial: Graphic Design, Hermeneutics, and Theopoetics.” In *Theopoetics: A Journal of Theological Imagination, Literature, Embodiment, & Aesthetics*. Vol. 2, 2016. (1-6).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Assistant Professor in Practical Theology (MTSO)

Fall 2021 Professor – “Transformational Leadership by Design,” MTSO

Summer 2021 Professor – “Justice and Practices of Ministry: Focus on Ecology,” MTSO

Spring 2021 Professor – “The Bible in Community and Culture,” MTSO

Spring 2021 Co-Professor with Dean Valerie Bridgeman – “Social Justice and Sacred Texts,” MTSO

Boston University School of Theology (graduate level)

2019-2020 Course Coordinator – “Religion and Conflict Transformation,” Boston University, MOOC Course design and implementation, Professors Judith Oleson and Tom Porter

Fall 2018 Instructor – “Spiritual Companionship Group,” lead instructor

Aug 2017 Instructor – “Design Thinking for Leadership: 1-Day Design Thinking Seminar for Faith and Non-profit Leaders,” guest instructor for BU course *Transformational Leadership* taught by Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore

Spring 2017 Teaching Assistant – “Constructive Theology” Boston University, Dr. Wesley Wildman

Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant – “Feminist and Womanist Theologies” Boston University, Dr. Shelly Rambo

Aug 2016 Guest Instructor – August 2016, “Design Thinking for Leadership: 1-Day Design Thinking Seminar for Faith and Non-profit Leaders” Boston University, BU course *Transformational Leadership* taught by Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore

Spring 2016 Teaching Assistant – “Constructive Theology” Boston University, Dr. Wesley Wildman

Spring 2015 Teaching Assistant – “Travel Seminar: Dual Narratives Israel & Palestine” Boston University, Dr. Shelly Rambo

Fall 2014 Teaching Assistant – “Theology and Popular Culture” Boston University, Dean Bryan Stone

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Fellowships

Boston University School of Theology (graduate level)

Fall 2018 Research Assistant to Dr. Walter Fluker on the comparison of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Howard Thurman’s vision of pluralistic communities.

Fall 2018 Research Assistant to Dr. Shelly Rambo on feminist perspectives of moral injury trauma.

Fall 2015 Research Assistant to Dr. Shelly Rambo for Pathways to Military Chaplaincy Conference.

Summer 2015 Research assistant to Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore for Lily Endowment proposal for the *Young Prophets Institute: Theology and the Call for Justice* (\$600,000); various video interviews.

Summer 2014 Research assistant to Dr. Claire Wolfteich for *Invitation to Practical Theology Catholic Voices and Visions*. New York: New York: Paulist Press, 2014.

PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

Nov 2021 “Creating New Canon: A Feminist Case for Expanding Sacred Texts,” Paper, Women’s Caucus and Women and Religion Unit, Emerging Scholars Panel – Gender, Religion, Poverty and Inequality, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX

- Nov 2017 “Filmmaking & Scholarship: The Premier of Forging Voice Documentary Film” Presentation, Special Session of the Women’s Caucus American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- March 2017 “Design Thinking and Theology” – Paper Presentation, Theopoetics Conference, Cincinnati, OH.
- March 2016 “Feminist Theology and Filmmaking” – Presentation, Mid-Atlantic American Academy of Religion Annual Regional Meeting, Rutgers, NJ.
- March 2016 “Ape Drawing Project Film Premier & Presentation” – Plenary Presentation, Theopoetics Conference, Boston, MA. Premier of collaborative film piece produced with Boston artist Jen Bradley, commissioned by Association for Theopoetic Research & Education (ATRE).
- March 2016 “Feminist Pedagogy and Film” – Presentation, Theopoetics Conference, Boston, MA.
- Nov 2015 “Theopoetics, Feminist Epistemology, and Film” – Presentation, Women’s Caucus, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- March 2015 “Theopoetics via Liberation Theologies, Queer Theory, and Continental Thought” – Panel Participant, New England & Canadian Maritimes Region of the American Academy of Religion, Annual Regional Meeting, Boston College, Boston, MA. Presentation focused on feminist theology and theopoetics.
- March 2014 “Moving from a ‘House of Worship’ to an ‘Empowering House:’ Foundations for a 21st Century Feminist Ecclesiology” – Paper, Theological Research and the Church Graduate Conference, Boston University Center of Practical Theology, Boston, MA. Paper respondent Dr. Mary Hunt.

INVITED TALKS & WORKSHOPS (Partial List)

- May 2021 Invited guest presenter to discuss film *Forging Voice* in the course Liberation Theologies in the United States at Seminary of the Southwest. Invited by Dr. Jennifer Owens-Jofré
- April 2019 “Forging Voice: Feminist Pedagogy, Theopoetics, and Film,” Invited lecture, film showing, and panel presentation, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH..
- Oct 2018 Boston University School of Theology Library Faculty and Author Talk Series, presenter on dissertation project, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA.
- April 2019 Feminist Womanist Theologies Course, guest presenter and *Forging Voice Film* showing, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA, Dr. Becky Copeland.
- May 2018 Feminist Womanist Theologies Course, guest presenter and *Forging Voice Film* showing, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA, Dr. Shelly Rambo.
- March 2018 “Forging Voice: Feminist Pedagogy, Theopoetics, and Film” Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA. Film premier and panel presentation with Ashley Theuring.
- March 2017 “Founding a Regional Women’s Caucus,” workshop leader, Mid-Atlantic American Academy of Religion (MA-AAR), Rutgers, NJ. Facilitated workshop to help AAR regional leaders start a new Women’s Caucus in their area.
- Sep 2017 Ecclesiology Course, Guest presenter on Feminist Ecclesiology, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA, Dean Bryan Stone.

Sep 2016 Workshop Leader – “Design Thinking Basics,” administrative staff retreat, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA, Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore.

PUBLIC THEOLOGY

- August 2021 “Christian Faith Beyond the Gender Binary” guest presenter, *Theology and Gender Beyond the Binary Series*, The Burkhart Center, Columbus, OH
- August 2021 “Parenting Beyond the Gender Binary” guest panelist, *Theology and Gender Beyond the Binary Series*, The Burkhart Center, Columbus, OH
- July 2021 Hosted virtual panel discussion on [Ecowomanism](#) with Dr. Melanie Harris and Frances Roberts-Gregory, as part of the MTSO Science and Religion Digital Dialogues Series, made possible through grant funds from the Science for Seminaries project.
- 2016-2020 *Forging Voice Film: Conversations with Pioneering Feminist & Womanist Scholars in Religion*. Editor, videographer, and co-producer with Ashley Theuring. Premiered at AAR/SBL in 2017, first film fully produced by religious scholars of AAR. <https://www.forgingvoicefilm.com>.
- 2016 “Synchronous Wisdom: Face-to-Face with a Fisher,” Feminism and Religion Blog. February 23, 2016. <https://feminismandreligion.com/2016/02/23/synchronous-wisdom-face-to-face-with-a-fisher-by-kate-common/>.
- 2016 “A Dangerous Genocidal Text,” *Thirty Seconds or Less* (blog), February 11, 2016, <http://thirtysecondsorless.net/joshua-1/>.
- 2016 “A More Liberative Christianity,” *Thirty Seconds or Less* (blog), February 11, 2016, <http://thirtysecondsorless.net/joshua-2/>.

SERVICE

- 2021-Present Curriculum Review Committee Member – MTSO
- 2020-present Publications Coordinator and Board Member – Association of Practical Theology (APT)
- 2020-2021 Academic Affairs Committee Member – MTSO
- 2015-2020 Board Member – Arts, Religion, and Culture (ARC). Communications & Membership chair; Governance Committee, member.
- 2013-2018 Leadership Committee – Women’s Caucus of the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature. Help to plan and coordinate the activities and papers of Women’s Caucus at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings.
- March 2017 Presider & Consultant: Mid-Atlantic AAR Woman’s Caucus Inaugural Meeting
I was asked to present on my film project and also lead the first Women’s Caucus session consulting with the group on how it would like to develop.
- March 2016 Conference Planning Committee Member: Theopoetics Conference, Association of Theopoetics Research and Education, Boston, MA.
- Spring 2015 Editor: *THEOPOETICS: A Journal of Theological Imagination, Literature, Embodiment, and Aesthetics*, Vol. 2 Association for Theopoetics Research and Education.
- 2014-2015 Board Member, Association for Theopoetics Research and Education.

- Nov 2014 Panel Presider: “Shared Gardens: Celebrating Feminist Scholarship Across Generations” – American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting.
- Spring 2014 Conference Planning Committee Member: “Theological Research and the Church Graduate Conference,” Boston University Center of Practical Theology, Boston, MA.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020-2022 Louisville Institute Postdoctoral Fellow, Assistant Professor and Louisville Institute Scholar at Methodist Theological School in Ohio
- 2013-2018 Doctoral Fellowship, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA
- 2018 Peter Berger Seminar and Dissertation Research Fellowship, Boston University
- 2017 Dissertation Fellowship, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA
- 2018 Springboard Travel Grant for research trip to Findhorn Ecovillage, Scotland. Boston University School of Theology.
- 2016-2018 Doctoral Student Association Conference Travel Scholarship, Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA
- 2012 Endorsement in Multimedia Religious Literacy – Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA. Endorsed for two-years of videography training in conjunction with theological work at the Andover Newton Media Center and the production of a final video project titled “Why Seminary?” a video I created for the Admissions Office.
- 2012 Worship, Theology and the Arts Award – Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA. Granted by Andover Newton Faculty to one graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding integration of theology and the arts.
- 2012 Jonathon Edwards Society Scholar – Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA. Granted by Andover Newton Faculty to those graduating students showing outstanding scholarship and leadership potential.
- 2010-2011 Center for Inter-Religious and Communal Leadership Fellowship (CIRCLE) – Joint initiative of Andover Newton Theological School and Hebrew College, Newton, MA. Grant funding for developing collaborative project with Rabbi Becky Silverstein, titled “Queer Interfaith Community,” a monthly support group dedicated to bringing together theological students identified as queer.
- 1997-2001 Founders Scholarship – Kent State University, Kent OH. Competitive four-year scholarship for incoming students that takes into consideration GPA, test scores, and community service.

LANGUAGES

French for reading
Biblical Hebrew (one year of study)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2013-present American Academy of Religion

2018-present Association of Practical Theology