

# Michael Baysa

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2024–Present** Henderson-Harris Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Religion, University of Vermont
- 2023–2024** Postdoctoral Research Associate, John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, Washington University, St. Louis
- 2022–2023** Adjunct Professor, Department of Religious Studies, New York University

## EDUCATION

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- 2023** Ph.D., Religious Studies, Religion in the Americas, Princeton University
- 2017** S.T.M., Boston University School of Theology
- 2016** M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
Honors: *Summa Cum Laude*
- 2012** B.S.B.A., Boston University, Questrom School of Management

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “Native Editors: Samson Occom’s ‘Autobiography’ as Critique and Correction” (preparing for submission with *Early American Literature*)
- “Protestant Hebrew: How Eighteenth-Century Language Production Performed Anglo-Protestant Authority,” *Religion and American Culture* (under copyedits, expected publication 2025)
- “Printing, Publics, and Pudding: Charles Chauncy’s Universal Salvation and the Material Transformation of New England Orthodoxy,” *Church History* 92, no. 2 (2023): 291-311.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640723001403>.
- Winner of the 2022 Sidney E Mead Prize with *Church History: Studies in Christianity in Culture*

### Peer-Reviewed Chapters in Edited Volumes, State-of-the-Field Essays, and Special Edition Journals

- “Religion in Early America,” invited piece for *Oxford Bibliographies in American History*, ed. Todd Moyer, (preparing submission entry by June 2025)
- “Disrupting Religion: Universalist Print Networks and the American Revolution,” invited chapter contribution for *Religion and the American Revolution*, ed. Kate Carté (revisions under review)

"Materializing the Public Sphere in American Religious History," *Religion Compass*, e12493.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/rec3.12493>.

"Managing Revival: Print Publications as Religious Authority in Colonial New England," in *American Examples 2022, Volume 3* ed. Michael Altman, Erik Kline, Dana Lloyd, and Cody Musselman, pp 213-234. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2024.

### Non-Peer Reviewed Textbooks and Special Edition Journals

Editor, Chapter 3 "Awakenings," in *The Palace of Thundering Gods*, ed. Ben Wright (editing chapter submissions for 2025)

"Reflections: Intermediaries in our Media Technologies," invited piece for *Media, Religion, and Culture: An Introduction*, ed. Jeffrey Mahan and James Thrall (submission under review)

"Experiencing Heathen and its Publics," Book Forum on Kathryn Gin Lum, *Heathen: Religion and Race in American History* (2025) *Church History*, ed. Jon Butler. February 2025, 1-3.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S000964072400146X>.

### Book Reviews

John Dorsey, *Murder in a Mill Town: Sex, Faith, and the Crime that Captivated A Nation*, (Oxford University Press, 2023), *Reading Religion*, January 2025.  
<https://readingreligion.org/9780197633090/murder-in-a-mill-town/>

John Dyer, *People of the Screen: How Evangelicals Created the Digital Bible and How it Shapes Their Reading of Scripture*, (Oxford University Press, 2023), *Fides et Historia*, Summer 2024.

Paul Gutacker, *The Old Faith in a New Nation: American Protestants and the Christian Past*, (Oxford University Press, 2023), *Journal of the Early American Republic*, Winter 2023.

Kate Carté, *Religion and the American Revolution: An Imperial History*, (Omohundro Institute and University of North Carolina Press: 2021), *American Religion*, Spring 2022.  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.2979/amerreli.3.2.15>

John G. Turner, *They Knew They Were Pilgrims: Plymouth Colony and the Contest for American Liberty* (University of Missouri Press: 2020). *Reading Religion*, June 2021.  
<https://readingreligion.org/9780300225501/they-knew-they-were-pilgrims/>

Carl H. Esbeck and Jonathan J. Den Hartog, eds., *Disestablishment and Religious Dissent: Church-State Relations in the New American States 1776-1833* (University of Missouri Press: 2019), *Journal of the Early American Republic*, Spring 2021.

### Online Essays

["Authorizing and Authenticating Revival"](#) Symposium on the Asbury Outpouring, *Political Theology Network*, June 2024.

["Are Religions Naturally Averse to Technology?"](#) *Anxious Bench*, February 2023.

["Do you hate being Filipino? – Reflections on 'Identity in Christ' Rhetoric and its Material Consequences on Christian Belonging"](#) *Center for Asian American Christianity*, Princeton Theological Seminary, January 2023.

["Evangelicals \(are\) Turning Red"](#) *Sightings*, University of Chicago Divinity School  
April 2022.

["Godzilla: Humanity, Spectacle, or Religion?"](#) *Sightings*, University of Chicago Divinity School, July 8,  
2019.

["The Fyre Festival's Spiritual Hype"](#) *Sightings*, University of Chicago Divinity School  
April 1, 2019.

["Religion in Crazy Rich Asians?"](#) *Sightings*, University of Chicago Divinity School  
October 11, 2018.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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### **University of Vermont**

Blood, Heathens, and Pagan Lands  
Religion and Media Technology

### **Washington University in St. Louis**

American Religion and Media Technologies

### **New York University**

American Religion

## **GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

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| <b>2025</b> | Reese Short-Term Research Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA.                                                                                                                   |
| <b>2022</b> | Sidney E. Mead Prize for "Printing, Publics, and Pudding: Charles Chauncy's Universal Salvation and the Material Transformation of New England Orthodoxy," American Society of Church History, 2022. |
| <b>2022</b> | Princeton/Community College Teaching Fellow, Rowan College South Jersey, Gloucester, NJ.                                                                                                             |
| <b>2021</b> | E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellow in Early American Religious Studies, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, PA.                                                             |
| <b>2021</b> | American Examples Cohort, Henry Luce Foundation-Funded American Examples, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.                                                                                     |
| <b>2021</b> | Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Short-Term Fellow, Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.                                                         |

## **ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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| <b>May 2025</b>  | Chair and Respondent, "Early America in Religious Studies," <i>Where is Early America Conference</i> , McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. |
| <b>Oct. 2024</b> | Paper, "Perspectives on Historians, Technology, and Religion," <i>Conference on Faith and History</i> , Samford University, Homewood, AL.                                                      |

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| <b>Jan. 2024</b>  | Respondent, "Intersections on Religious Studies and Book History," <i>American Historical Association</i> , San Francisco, CA.                                                                                                                |
| <b>Jan. 2024</b>  | Respondent, "Roundtable Discussion of Kathryn Gin Lum's <i>Heathen: Religion and Race in American History</i> ," <i>American Society of Church History</i> , San Francisco, CA.                                                               |
| <b>Nov. 2023</b>  | Paper, "A Free 'Market'?: Santiago de Puglia and the Limits of Early American Publishing," <i>Society of U.S. Intellectual History</i> , Denver, CO.                                                                                          |
| <b>Jan. 2023</b>  | Paper, "Publishing Ocom: Native American Christianity and the Printing Press's Anglo-Protestant Publics," <i>American Society of Church History</i> , Philadelphia, PA.                                                                       |
| <b>Nov. 2022</b>  | Chair, "Material-Textual Approaches for the Study of U.S. Protestantism," <i>American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting</i> , Denver, CO.                                                                                                    |
| <b>Jan. 2022</b>  | Organizer and Respondent, "Conversions as Crossing and Uncrossing," <i>American Society of Church History</i> , New Orleans, LA.                                                                                                              |
| <b>Nov. 2021</b>  | Paper, "Constructing Space and Religion in Bong Joon-Ho's <i>Parasite</i> (2019)," <i>American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting</i> , San Antonio, TX.                                                                                      |
| <b>Nov. 2021</b>  | Paper, "Anxious Texts: Printing Heterodoxy in Eighteenth-Century Colonial America," <i>American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting</i> , San Antonio, TX.                                                                                     |
| <b>July 2021</b>  | Respondent, "Race and Religion in the Early American Republic," <i>Society for the History of the Early American Republic</i> , Philadelphia, PA.                                                                                             |
| <b>June 2021</b>  | Paper, "Boiling Puddings: Charles Chauncy and Religious Print during the American Revolution," <i>Religion and American Revolution Conference</i> , Providence, RI.                                                                           |
| <b>Nov. 2020</b>  | Interview, Derrick Spires, <i>The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early United States</i> , "Religion and the Public Conversation," Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. |
| <b>April 2020</b> | Paper, "Liberal Religion's International Networks and the Tensions of a Globally Conscious American Exceptionalism," <i>Organization of American Historians</i> .                                                                             |
| <b>Feb. 2020</b>  | Graduate Student Coordinator and Panel Chair, "Space Time, and Religion in Early America," Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.                                                                                                               |
| <b>Nov. 2019</b>  | Paper, "Continuity and Rupture in the Great Awakening Revivals: Religious History as Political Commentary," <i>American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting</i> , San Diego, CA.                                                               |
| <b>March 2019</b> | Respondent, "Religion and New Voices in American Intellectual History," Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.                                                                                              |
| <b>Sept. 2018</b> | Paper, "Contested 'Religion': Democratized Authority in YouTube's Comment Sections," 2018 BU Graduate Conference on <i>Religion and Technology</i> , Boston University, Boston, MA.                                                           |

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**2021-2022**     *Media Producer for Public-Facing Scholarship at the Center for Culture, Society, and Religion at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.*

**2012-2017**     *Paralegal at Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA.*