Michael Baysa

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

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

Books

Unpublishing Religion: Race, Heterodoxy, and the Printing Press in Early America, full manuscript under contract with New York University Press, North American Religions series.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

"A Puritan Catholic: John Thayer and Reinventing Religious Boundaries in the Early Republic U.S." (preparing for submission with *New England Quarterly* or *Journal of the Early Republic*)

"Protestant Hebrew: How Eighteenth-Century Language Production Performed Anglo-Protestant Authority," *Religion and American Culture*, 34 no. 2 (2025): 1-39. https://doi.org/10.1017/rac.2025.10054.

"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

"Disrupting Religion: Universalist Print Networks and the American Revolution," *Revolutionary Turns: Religion and America's Founding,* ed. Kate Carté (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press). (*forthcoming Fall 2026)*

"Religion in Early America," invited piece for *Oxford Bibliographies in American History*, ed. Todd Moye, (*forthcoming 2025*)

"Materializing the Public Sphere in American Religious History," *Religion Compass.* 18 no. 5. (2024) 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

"Reflections: Intermediaries in our Media Technologies," in *Media, Religion, and Culture: An Introduction* 2nd edition, ed. Jeffrey Mahan and James Thrall. (London: Routledge, *forthcoming 2026*)

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

"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. *https://faithandhistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/TOC-for-Fides-56_1.pdf*

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. https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/56/article/915186

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. https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/56/article/783838

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

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

2025 Reese Short-Term Research Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA.

2022 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.

2022 Princeton/Community College Teaching Fellow, Rowan College South Jersey, Gloucester, NJ.

2021 E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellow in Early American Religious Studies, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, PA.

2021 American Examples Cohort, Henry Luce Foundation-Funded American Examples, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

2021 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Short-Term Fellow, Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.

2016 Athanasian Scholar, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Campus for Ministerial Education, Boston, MA.

2015 Byington Scholar, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Campus for Ministerial Education, Boston, MA.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

May 2025 Chair and Respondent, "Early America in Religious Studies," *Where is Early America Conference,* McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Oct. 2024 Paper, "Perspectives on Historians, Technology, and Religion," *Conference on Faith and History,* Samford University, Homewood, AL.

Jan. 2024 Respondent, "Intersections on Religious Studies and Book History," *American Historical Association,* San Francisco, CA.

Jan. 2024 Respondent, "Roundtable Discussion of Kathryn Gin Lum's *Heathen: Religion and Race in American History*," *American Society of Church History,* San Francisco, CA.

Nov. 2023 Paper, "A Free 'Market'?: Santiago de Puglia and the Limits of Early American Publishing," *Society of U.S. Intellectual History,* Denver, CO.

Jan. 2023 Paper, "Publishing Occom: Native American Christianity and the Printing Press's Anglo-Protestant Publics," *American Society of Church History,* Philadelphia, PA.

Nov. 2022 Chair, "Material-Textual Approaches for the Study of U.S. Protestantism," *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting,* Denver, CO.

Jan. 2022 Organizer and Respondent, "Conversions as Crossing and Uncrossing," *American Society of Church History,* New Orleans, LA.

Nov. 2021 Paper, "Constructing Space and Religion in Bong Joon-Ho's *Parasite* (2019)," *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX.

Nov. 2021 Paper, "Anxious Texts: Printing Heterodoxy in Eighteenth-Century Colonial America," *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, TX.

July 2021 Respondent, "Race and Religion in the Early American Republic," *Society for the History of the Early American Republic*, Philadelphia, PA.

June 2021 Paper, "Boiling Puddings: Charles Chauncy and Religious Print during the American Revolution," *Religion and American Revolution Conference*, Providence, RI.

Nov. 2020 Interview, Derrick Spires, *The Practice of Citizenship: Black Politics and Print Culture in the Early United States,* "Religion and the Public Conversation," Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

April 2020 Paper, "Liberal Religion's International Networks and the Tensions of a Globally Conscious American Exceptionalism," Organization of American Historians.

Feb. 2020 Graduate Student Coordinator and Panel Chair, "Space Time, and Religion in Early America," Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

Nov. 2019 Paper, **"**Continuity and Rupture in the Great Awakening Revivals: Religious History as Political Commentary," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

March 2019 Respondent, "Religion and New Voices in American Intellectual History," Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

Sept. 2018 Paper, "Contested 'Religion': Democratized Authority in YouTube's Comment Sections," 2018 BU Graduate Conference on *Religion and Technology*, Boston University, Boston, MA.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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.