

**Miles Adam Park, Ph.D.**  
Curriculum Vitae

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St. Louis, MO 63101  
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**Academic Positions**

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Fall 2018 – Spring 2019	Research Fellow Lived Religion in the Digital Age, The Henry Luce Foundation
Fall 2018 – Spring 2019	Adjunct Professor Saint Louis University

**Education**

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Ph.D., 2017	Florida State University Department of Religion
M.A., 2009	Missouri State University Department of Religious Studies
B.A., 2006	Missouri State University Department of Philosophy

**Fields of Study**

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Religion and American Culture  
20<sup>th</sup> Century American History  
Race, Gender, and the Body  
Sports and Physical Culture  
History of Medicine in America  
Visual and Material Culture  
Popular Culture  
Ethnography

## Publications

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### BOOK MANUSCRIPT

“Savage Saints: Muscular Christianity, Human Nature, and Fighting in America, 1900 – 2018” (currently under revision for resubmission to the University of Chicago Press).

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

“‘Fighting Spirit’: WWI and the YMCA’s Allied Boxing Program,” *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation* (forthcoming).

“Believing and Nothingness: An Existential Reading of Mark 9:17-29,” *Journal of Theta Alpha Kappa* 33:1 (Spring 2009): 1-19.

\* Selected for the Albert Clark Award for Best Graduate Essay.

“Cream, Sugar, and Christianity: An Ethnographic Study of Religion and Coffee Houses in Springfield, Missouri,” *Logos: A Journal of Undergraduate Research* 1:1 (Fall 2008): 12-25.

\* Selected for the Logos Award for outstanding undergraduate publications.

### BOOK CHAPTERS

“In the Octagon: Mixed Martial Arts Comes to Life.” In *American History Through American Sports: From Colonial Lacrosse to Extreme Sports*, edited by Danielle Coombs and Bob Batchelor (Praeger: Santa Barbara, CA, 2012), 295-314.

### WORKS IN-PROGRESS

“On That Gold Mat in the Sky: Wrestling, Religion, and the Triumph of Evil in the U.S., 1947 – 1991,” in preparation for submission to an academic journal.

“Christian Machismo and Presidential Swagger,” in preparation for submission to a popular periodical or newspaper (1,000 words).

“Early American Muscular Christianity and Transatlantic Reform, 1800 – 1850,” in research for submission to an academic journal.

### PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Regular Contributor for *Religion in American History: A Group Blog on Religion in American Culture and History* (since November 2014).

“Know Your Archives: The YMCA and Historiographic Potential,”  
<http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2018/04/know-your-archives-ymca-and.html> (April 14, 2018).

- “A Death, a Body, and the Living Word,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2017/08/a-death-body-and-living-word.html> (August 10, 2017).
- “The R&AC Conference: Taking Religion ‘Seriously,’” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2017/06/the-r-conference-taking-religion.html> (June 8, 2017).
- “Saint Valentine’s Pleasures,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2017/02/saint-valentines-pleasures.html> (February 8, 2017).
- “Mars Hill, Fight Club, and the New Mark Driscoll,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2016/10/mars-hill-fight-club-and-new-mark.html> (Oct. 8, 2016).
- “Boxing and the YMCA War Dogs,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2016/08/boxing-and-ymca-war-dogs.html> (Aug. 8, 2016).
- “Modern Fitness; Or, The Origin of the Species,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2016/06/modern-fitness-or-origin-of-species.html> (June 8, 2016).
- “Winking Scofflaws and Christian Strongmen,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2016/04/winking-scofflaws-and-christian.html> (Apr. 8, 2016).
- “Theory, Football-Religion, and Metaphors,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2016/02/theory-football-religion-and-metaphors.html> (Feb. 8, 2016).
- “Elvis’s Chi and the Metaphysics of Martial Arts,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2015/10/elvis-chi-and-metaphysics-of-martial.html> (Oct. 8, 2015).
- “On Why You Should Change Your Gluttonous Holiday Ways; Or, Three Things You Should Know About Muscular Christianity, and Don’t,” <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2014/11/on-why-you-should-change-your.html> (Nov. 29, 2014).
- “Tales of Sporty Violence, Obligatory Doughnut Consumption, Pull-Up Contests, and Other Evangelical Things from the Midwest,” [http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2013/05/tales-of-sporty-violence-obligatory\\_5468.html](http://usreligion.blogspot.com/2013/05/tales-of-sporty-violence-obligatory_5468.html) (May 25, 2013).

Regular Contributor for *Sport in American History* (since May 2014).

- “Jon Jones, Fallen Sports Icons, and Public Rituals of Damnation,” <http://ussporthistory.com/2016/03/31/jon-jones-fallen-sports-icons-and-public-rituals-of-damnation/> (Mar. 31, 2016).

- “A Physical Culture Classic that Everyone Should Know,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2015/11/12/a-physical-culture-classic-that-everyone-should-know/> (Nov. 12, 2015).
- “Boxing: The Brief History of a ‘Science,’”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2015/08/17/boxing-the-brief-history-of-a-science/>  
 (Aug. 17, 2015).
- “Floyd Mayweather, Jr. and a Brief History of Boxing Technique,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2015/06/04/floyd-mayweather-jr-and-a-brief-history-of-boxing-technique/> (June 4, 2015).
- “The Religious Origins of Sports in America,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2015/05/11/the-religious-origins-of-sports-in-america/>  
 (May 11, 2015).
- “3 Reasons Why CrossFit is So Hot Right Now,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2015/02/19/3-reasons-why-crossfit-is-so-hot-right-now/> (Feb. 19, 2015).
- “Japanese Pluck and American Degeneracy: The Origins and Jiu-Jitsu in the United States,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2014/11/16/japanese-pluck-and-american-degeneracy-the-origins-of-jiu-jitsu-in-the-united-states/> (Nov. 16, 2014).
- “Kickin’ and a Gougin’ in the Mud and the Blood and the Beer; Or, Real Tales of Reality Fighting,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2014/09/11/kickin-and-a-gougin-in-the-mud-and-the-blood-and-the-beer-or-real-tales-of-reality-fighting/> (Sept. 11, 2014).
- “*Fight Church*: A Film Review, and Some Thoughts on Evangelicals,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2014/06/12/fight-church-a-film-review-and-some-thoughts-on-evangelicals/> (June 12, 2014).
- “Good Sports and the Problem of MMA,”  
<https://ussporthistory.com/2014/05/08/good-sports-and-the-problem-of-mma/> (May 8, 2014).

#### ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

- “Barbie,” *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, eds. James S. Baugess and Abbe Allen-Deboit (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012), 52-53.
- “G.I. Joe,” *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, eds. James S. Baugess and Abbe Allen-Deboit (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012), 247-248.
- “Go-go,” *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, eds. James S. Baugess and Abbe Allen-Deboit (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012), 252-253.

“Miss America—1960-1969,” *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, eds. James S. Baugess and Abbe Allen-Deboit (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012), 427-429.

“Playboy Magazine,” *Encyclopedia of the Sixties: A Decade of Culture and Counterculture*, eds. James S. Baugess and Abbe Allen-Deboit (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012), 513-514.

“Henry Louis Mencken,” *Alcohol and Drugs in North America: A Historical Encyclopedia*, eds. David M. Fahey and Jon Miller (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013), 423-425.

“Brigham Young,” *Alcohol and Drugs in North America: A Historical Encyclopedia*, eds. David M. Fahey and Jon Miller (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013), 816-817.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Wendy L. Rouse, *Her Own Hero: The Origins of the Women’s Self-Defense Movement* (New York: New York University Press, 2017) in *Sport in American History* (forthcoming).

Review of Robert A. Orsi, *History and Presence* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2016) in H-Net Reviews, <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=48316> (November 2016).

Review of Matthew Avery Sutton, *American Apocalypse: A History of Modern Evangelicalism* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2014) in *Religion* 47:1 (July 2016): 120-123.

Review of Thomas J. Little, *The Origins of Southern Evangelicalism: Religious Revivalism in the South Carolina Lowcountry, 1670-1760* (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2013) in *Religion* 45:3 (July 2015): 483-486.

Review of Jonathan H. Ebel, *Faith in the Fight: Religion and the American Soldier in the Great War* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010) in *Religion* 41:4 (December 2011): 707-709.

Review of Jennifer Glancy, *Corporal Knowledge: Early Christian Bodies* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010) in *Religion* 41:3 (September 2011): 503-506.

#### Teaching Experience and Employment

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Fall 2018 – Spring 2019      Research Fellow, Lived Religion in the Digital Age, The Henry Luce Foundation

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019      Adjunct Professor, Saint Louis University

Fall 2017                              Volunteer Curator, James M. Tyson Photograph Collection, Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center

Fall 2015 – Spring 2016      Substitute Teacher, Springfield Public Schools (Missouri)

Fall 2014 – Spring 2015	Teaching Assistant, Seattle Public Schools
Spring 2014	Instructor, Florida State University Department of Religion
Spring 2014	Teaching Assistant, Bainbridge Island Schools (Washington)
Fall 2013	Teaching Assistant, Florida State University Department of Humanities
Spring/Summer 2013	Book Review Editor, <i>Journal of Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture</i> –
Fall 2011	Teaching Assistant, Florida State University Department of Anthropology
Spring 2010 – Fall 2012	Instructor, Florida State University Department of Religion
Summer 2010	Research Assistant, Florida State University Department of Medical Humanities and Social Sciences
Fall 2009	Teaching Assistant, Florida State University Department of Religion
Spring/Summer 2008	Fieldwork Interviewer, Notre Dame Congregations Survey project (conducted by the Center for Marketing & Opinion Research)
Fall 2007 – Spring 2008	Research and Teaching Assistant, Missouri State University Religion Department
2006 – 2009	Substitute Teacher, Springfield Public Schools (Missouri)
Fall 2005 – Spring 2006	Philosophy Tutor, Missouri State University Achievement Center
Fall 2005 – Spring 2006	Religious Studies Tutor, TRIO Student Support Services

### **Courses Taught**

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#### SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

American Christianity (Spring 2019)

Religion and American Politics (Fall 2018)

#### FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Introduction to World Religions (Spring 2014, Online) – Instructor

Multicultural Dimensions of Film and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Culture (Fall 2013, Online) – Instructor

Religion, Sport, and Gender (Fall 2012) – Instructor

Religion and Sport (Spring 2012) – Instructor

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Fall 2011) – Teaching Assistant

History of Religions in the U.S. (Spring 2010 to Fall 2011) – Instructor

History of Religions in the U.S. (Fall 2009) – Teaching Assistant

#### MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Religion in America (Fall 2007 to Spring 2008) – Teaching Assistant

#### Conference Presentations and Public Lectures

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- 2018 “Fighting, Human Nature, and Religion.” Lecture for the Department of Philosophy and World Religions at the University of Northern Iowa (February).
- 2017 “‘Soldier Sport’: WWI and the YMCA’s Allied Boxing Program.” American Academy of Religion. Religion, Sport, and Play Unit. Boston, MA (November).
- 2017 “‘Black Belts of the Faith’: Accessories and Christian Martial Artistry.” American Academy of Religion. Religion, Attire, and Adornment in North America Seminar. Boston, MA (November).
- 2016 “‘Fighting Spirit’: WWI, the YMCA, and Boxing.” American Religious History colloquium at Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL (December).
- 2016 “‘Greeks of the East’: Muscular Christianity and Japanese Jiu-Jitsu in the Progressive Era.” Religious Studies Thesis Writing Workshop at Missouri State University Department. Springfield, MO (February).
- 2016 “Jiu-Jitsu, Muscular Christianity, and the Problem of Culture in Progressive Era America.” Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium at Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL (February).
- 2011 “Body Studies: A Nature/Culture Problem.” American Academy of Religion. Body and Religion Section. San Francisco, CA (November).
- 2011 “Body Studies: The Aporetic State of the Feel.” Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium at Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL. (February).

- 2010 “‘Needed – A New Human Race’: Dr. John Harvey Kellogg’s Sexed Prescriptions.” The Popular Culture Association and The American Culture Association in the South Conference. Savannah, GA (October).
- 2010 “XXXianity: ‘A Safe, Non-Pornographic Place to Shop for All Your Christian Sex Toy and Lingerie Needs.’” The Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion conference. Atlanta, GA (March).
- 2010 “Dr. John Harvey Kellogg’s Utopian Sanitarium of Bodily Perfection.” Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium at Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL (February).
- 2009 “XXXianity: ‘A Safe, Non-Pornographic Place to Shop for All Your Christian Sex Toy and Lingerie Needs.’” The Midwest American Academy of Religion Conference. Chicago, IL (April).
- 2008 “Starbucks at a Megachurch: ‘Get Involved in a Ministry!’” Writer’s Showcase: Celebrating Missouri State University Student Publications at Missouri State University. Springfield, MO (October).
- 2007 “Cream, Sugar, and Christianity: An Ethnographic Study of Religion and Coffee Houses in Springfield, Missouri.” The Midwest American Academy of Religion Conference. River Forest, IL (March).
- 2006 “The Paradox of Miracles: A Philosophical Analysis of the Nature and Possibility of Miracles.” Undergraduate Philosophy Conference at Pacific University. Forest Grove, OR (April).
- 2005 “The Paradox of Miracles.” Undergraduate Philosophy & Religion Conference at Truman State University. Kirksville, MO (November).

### **Selected Honors and Awards**

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- 2017 University of Minnesota Libraries Elmer L. Andersen Research Scholar
- 2009 – 14 Florida State University Department of Religion Teaching Assistantship
- 2013 Florida State University Department of Humanities Teaching Assistantship
- 2011 Florida State University Department of Anthropology Teaching Assistantship
- 2010 Florida State University College of Medicine Research Assistantship
- 2009 – 10 Florida State University Dean’s Scholarship Fund for New Doctoral Students
- 2008 Albert Clark Award for Best Graduate Essay in the *Journal of Theta Alpha Kappa*



2008	Missouri State University Logos Award for outstanding undergraduate publications
2007 – 08	Missouri State University Religious Studies Department Graduate Assistantship
2007	Missouri State University Graduate College Thesis Research Funding
2006 – 07	Missouri State University's Strong Family Graduate Scholarship
2005	Missouri State University's Robert A. Foster Philosophy Scholarship

### **Academic Service and Memberships in Academic Societies**

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Summer 2018 – Present	Manuscript reviewer for the <i>Journal of Southern Religion</i> and <i>MAVCOR Journal</i>
Fall 2017	Volunteer Curator for the Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center
2016 – Present	Member of the American Society of Church History
2014 – Present	Regular Contributor to digital publications
Spring/Summer 2013	Book Review Editor for <i>Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture</i>
2010 and 2011	Catering Committee member of Florida State University Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium
2007 – Present	Member of the American Academy of Religion
2005 – 2006	President of Missouri State University's chapter of Phi Sigma Tau (The International Honors Society for Philosophy)
2005 – 2006	President of Missouri State University's Philosophy Club
2005 – Present	Member of Theta Alpha Kappa (International Honors Society for Religious Studies)

## References

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John Corrigan, Ph.D.  
Lucius Moody Bristol Distinguished Professor of Religion and Professor of History  
Department of Religion  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1520  
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Amy Koehlinger, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
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John Schmalzbauer, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Blanche Gorman Strong Chair in Protestant Studies  
Department of Religious Studies  
Missouri State University  
Springfield, MO 65897  
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Martha L. Finch, Ph.D.  
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