

R. Scott Hanson, Ph.D.

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Ph.D., June 2002, Committee on the History of Culture

Fields: American urban, immigration and ethnic history, religion, ethnography

Dissertation: “City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens
—New York City, 1945-2000”

Committee: Martin E. Marty (Chair), Kathleen Neils Conzen, Neil Harris, Catherine A. Brekus

Columbia University, New York, NY
Exchange Scholar, 1999-2000

Columbia University, New York, NY
M.A., October 1993, Department of Religion

Concentration: American religious history

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
B.A., May 1992, double-major: Plan II Liberal Arts Honors Program and English Honors

The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA
Diploma, May 1987 in top quarter of class

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

August 2022-present: Postdoctoral Senior Scholar in Urban History and Material Culture, Department of History and Lenfest Center for Cultural Partnerships

- Teach courses in History and work with Lenfest Center staff in the Atwater Kent Collection and exhibitions

Fall 2021-July 2022: Senior Fellow, Lenfest Center for Cultural Partnerships, Drexel University

- Assist with Collection Transfer Plan of Philadelphia History Museum (Atwater Kent Collection) and supervise practicum for graduate students in Museum Leadership working in the collection

Summer 2016-2022: Director, Social Justice Research Academy, University of Pennsylvania, Penn Summer Programs.

- Recruit and supervise staff including Assistant Director and 4-5 Penn graduate student Teaching Assistants
- Assist Penn Summer with Admissions process of students
- Design the academic schedule and curriculum of program with 20 guest speakers (Penn faculty and other local and national experts), workshops, field trips, and other activities
- Manage budget and financial records of expenditures in compliance with University policies
- Identify and communicate to Penn Summer staff all program-related needs, including instructional space, supplies, teaching materials
- Coordinate with Penn Summer and Summer Discovery regarding any student advisory or disciplinary issues

Spring 2012-present: Lecturer, Department of History, University of Pennsylvania.

- Taught two courses per term, advised students
- courses taught include: U.S. survey from 1865-present, Recent American History, America in the 1960s, Origins of the Urban Crisis, History of Philadelphia, The Immigrant City, Melting Pots, Mosaics, and Walls: Immigration and Diversity in American History, Immigration, Religion, and Ethnic Relations in U.S. History, From Puritans to the Religious Right: Religion and Politics in American History, History of American Music

Fall 2010-present: Adjunct Associate Professor, History and American Studies, Temple University.
Promoted to Associate, Fall 2020.

- Taught two courses per term, advised students
- courses taught include: Capstone Seminar in History, Junior Seminar in History: Oral History, Making of American Society, Immigration and the American Dream, First Person America, American Revolutions, Founding Philadelphia, The City in American History (senior seminar), Religion in Philadelphia (online and traditional classroom format sections), Religion in the Modern U.S., Intellectual Heritage/Mosaic II (Western/World Civilization), Superpower America, American Military Culture, War and Peace.

Summer 2019-20: Reader, AP United States History (APUSH) exam, Educational Testing Service.

Fall 2012: Curatorial Research Associate, The American Philosophical Society Museum.

- Helped curate “Jefferson, Philadelphia, and the Founding of a Nation” exhibition, April 17-December 28, 2014.

Fall 2008-Spring 2010: Visiting Assistant Professor of U.S. History, Department of History, Binghamton University, State University of New York.

- Taught three undergraduate and graduate courses per term, advised students
- Supervised and evaluated Teaching Assistants
- Courses taught included:
undergraduate courses: U.S. survey from 1865-present (with supervision of 5 Teaching Assistants), U.S. history since 1945, Religion in America, and senior seminars on The City in American History and Religion and Politics in America
graduate courses: seminars on Religion in America and 20th c. U.S. history.

Fall 2007-Spring 2008: Lecturer, Intellectual Heritage Program, Temple University.

- Courses taught included: 2nd half of IH Program sequence (Western Civ and World Civ).

Fall 2002-Spring 2007: Visiting Assistant Professor of U.S. History, School of Liberal Arts, Philadelphia University.

- Taught 4/4 course load, advised students, attended faculty meetings, teaching workshops, retreats, edited anthology of student writing
- Courses taught included: U.S. survey from 1865-present, The Urban Experience, U.S. Recent Past.

Fall 2001-Summer 2002: Postdoctoral Research Associate, Brown University.

- Conducted study of three immigrant groups in Providence for MacArthur Foundation project

Winter 1999: Lecturer in the College, The University of Chicago.

- Designed and taught course on “Immigration, Religion, and Ethnic Relations in U.S. History” for Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowship.

1994-1996: Researcher in New York City for Diana L. Eck’s Pluralism Project at Harvard University.

- Research covered the Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Tibetan, Sri Lankan, and Thai Buddhist (and some Muslim) communities for ongoing study of the changing religious landscape of America with a focus on post-1965 immigration.

February-June 1994: Research Assistant and Assistant Production Manager for folklorist Alan Lomax and the Association for Cultural Equity, Hunter College/CUNY, New York, NY.

ADVISORY POSITIONS

Mentor, Liberty Scholars Program, Drexel University. 2022-2023

Advisor for "City of Faith: Religion, Activism, and Urban Space" exhibition, Museum of the City of New York, Fall 2022.

Consultant, Cherry Hill Public Schools, NJ. Fall 2020-Summer 2021. Developed new social justice studies course for Cherry Hill, NJ school district with teachers and staff modeled on Social Justice Research Academy at Penn.

Advisor, The Pluralism Project, Harvard University

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens—New York City, 1645-2001 (New York: Fordham University Press, 2016). Second printing, May 2017.

Book Reviews for *City of Gods*:

Thomas F. Rzeznik, *Journal of Urban History* (Fall 2018).

Timothy B. Neary, *Journal of American Ethnic History* (Spring, 2018).

Anaïs Ménard, *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* (October–December, 2017).

Peter Kivisto, *Journal of Contemporary Religion* (September, 2017).

Carl L. Bankston III, *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Studies* (May, 2017).

Paul Moses, "Dispatches from America's Ethnic Enclaves," *America: The Jesuit Review*, May 22, 2017.

José Sarza, *Mito Revista Cultural* (March 2017).

James Ryerson, "Deep Thinking About Immigration," Sunday Book Review, *The New York Times*, July 26, 2016.

Publishers Weekly, Starred Review. July 4, 2016.

Articles and Book Chapters:

"Colonial Context and Significance of the Flushing Town Charter of 1645, the Flushing Remonstrance of 1657, John Bowne, and Friends Meeting House," Report on Historic Context of the Flushing Remonstrance, Flushing Remonstrance Special Resource Study, National Park Service, December 4, 2017.

"Pluralism and Cosmopolitanism in American Thought," *Journal of American Ethnic History* (under review).

"Religious Pluralism and the Canon of American Religious History," *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation* (under review).

"Donald Trump, God, and the Depth of Faith," *TIME*, January 22, 2017.

"At Home With Diversity," *Dallas Morning News*, January 17, 2017.

"Teaching the Religious History of Pennsylvania: Reflections from a course on 'Religion in Philadelphia' at Temple University," Special Issue on Teaching Pennsylvania History, *Journal of Pennsylvania History* (January, 2015).

“Presidents as Pastors in Chief: An Update on Religion in Inaugural Addresses,” *Sightings*, the Martin Marty Center, the University of Chicago Divinity School (February 7, 2013).
http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/sightings/archive_2013/0214.shtml

“Piloting an Online Course in the City of Neighborhoods,” *Temple University Faculty Herald*, Volume 43, Number 1 (October, 2012).

“Religious Freedom and Immigration History: the Flushing Remonstrance and Beyond,” a timeline for the exhibit “‘This Case of Conscience’: Spiritual Flushing and the Remonstrance” commemorating the 350th anniversary of the Flushing Remonstrance of 1657, Queens Museum of Art, April 6-June 29, 2008.

Review of Robert Wuthnow, *America and the Challenges of Religious Diversity*, *Journal of Religion* (January 2007).

“Hindus” and “Sikhs,” in *The Encyclopedia of New York State* (Albany: Syracuse U. Press, 2005).

“Understanding and Celebrating Religious Diversity in Britain: A Case Study of Leicester since 1970 making comparison with Flushing, Queens County, New York City,” with Richard Bonney, *Encounters* 9:2 (2003).

Review of Robert A. Orsi, ed. *Gods of the City: Religion and the American Urban Landscape*, H-Net list on Urban History (March 2001).

“Religion in Inaugural Addresses,” *Sightings*, the Martin Marty Center, the University of Chicago Divinity School (February 28, 2001). http://marty-center.uchicago.edu/sightings/archive_2001/sightings-022801.shtml

Review of Harry S. Stout and D. G. Hart, eds., *New Directions in American Religious History*, *Journal of Religion* (October 1999).

“Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati Devasthanam of Flushing, New York” in T. S. Rukmani, ed., *Hindu Diasporas: Global Perspectives* (Montreal: Department of Religion, 1999).

“Temples and Mosques of New York City,” in Diana L. Eck, ed., *On Common Ground: World Religions in America*, 2nd ed. (1997; New York: Columbia U. Press, 2001). CD-ROM.

“History of the City of New York,” *1995-96 Columbia Guide to New York* (New York, 1996).

“Presidential Inaugural Addresses,” Electronic Text Service, Butler Library, Columbia University, 1993.
The first online textual database of U.S. presidential inaugural addresses.
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/ets/etslist.html>

Credits:

Research Fellow for Valarie Kaur, *See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love* (New York: One World, 2020).

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Keynote Address, Flushing Council on Culture & the Arts 40th Anniversary, Flushing Town Hall, May 19, 2019.

Boniuk Institute for Religious Tolerance, Rice University, March 21, 2019.

Podcast on Flushing Quaker Meeting House for Open House New York 2018, Gotham Center for New York History, October 8, 2018.

Grand Rounds, North Shore University Hospital, Manhasset, NY, August 10, 2017.

Book Talk, Penn Book Store, March 16, 2017.

Harvard Graduate School of Design, Critical Conservation Colloquia, Power & Place: Culture and Conflict in the Built Environment, February 6, 2017.

Author @ the Library talk, NYPL Mid-Manhattan Library, December 27, 2016. Filmed by C-SPAN and aired/archived on American History TV.

University Seminar on Religion and Content and Methods in the Social Sciences, Columbia University, November 2, 2016.

Crossroads of Religion and Politics Discussion Series, Center for the Study of Religion and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, October 17, 2016.

Author Talk, Queens Library, Flushing. August 3, 2016.

Keynote Address, New York Landmarks Conservancy, Sacred Sites Open House Weekend, Bowne House Historical Society, Flushing, NY, May 17, 2015

“City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens—New York City, 1945-2001” Biannual Multicultural Forum Lecture, Liberal Arts Department and Students for Diversity, Delaware Valley College, April 21, 2011.

“Public/Private Urban Space and the Social Limits of Religious Pluralism,” Columbia University Seminar on Religion in New York, April 16, 2010.

“Religious Pluralism in Flushing, Queens,” Harvard University Pluralism Project Reception, AAR, November 2009, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

“Commemorating the Flushing Remonstrance of 1657 350 Years Later: A History and Reflections on its Meaning Today,” Keynote Address for opening reception of exhibit “‘This Case of Conscience’: Spiritual Flushing and the Remonstrance,” Queens Museum of Art, May 2008.

“Public/Private Urban Space and the Social Limits of Religious Pluralism,” The American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, November 2007.

“City of Gods: Religious Pluralism in Flushing, Queens,” Museum of the City of New York, November 2007.

“The Flushing Remonstrance of 1657: Then and Now,” 31st Annual Law, Youth, and Citizenship Conference, New York State Bar Association, Lake George, NY, October 2007.

“Immigration and Religious Diversity in ‘the Birthplace of Religious Freedom’: Religious Pluralism in Flushing, Queens,” Conference on Queens History, Queens College, Flushing, NY, October 2007.

Keynote Address, Difficult Dialogues Project, LaGuardia Community College, Long Island City, NY, May 2007.

“Religion in Queens,” Consultation on Researching and Teaching Religions in New York City, Columbia University, October 2006.

“American Immigration History and American Religious History,” Boisi Center for the Study of Religion and American Public Life, Boston College. July 2005.

“Multi-Ethnic Congregations in a Microcosm of World Religions: Snapshots from Flushing, Queens,” The American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA, November 2003.

“A Blessing and a Curse? Modern Flushing and Pluralism,” 1st Global Conference on Critical Issues in Pluralism, Mansfield College, Oxford University (UK), September 2003.

“Consecrating ‘a National Shrine to Religious Freedom’: Bowne House and the Tercentenary of Vlissingen (Flushing) in 1945,” Researching NY Conference: Perspectives on Empire State History, SUNY-Albany, November 2002.

“Neighborhood Narratives in the City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism on Bowne Street in Flushing, New York,” The Immigration and Ethnic History Society, The American Historical Association, Boston, MA, January 2001. *Organizer of session.*

“Intra- and Extra-Religioethnic Encounters: Responses to Plurality Among Hindu Temples on Bowne Street in Flushing, New York,” The American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA, November 1999. *Organizer of session.*

“A Blessing and a Curse: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism on Bowne Street in Flushing, New York,” Social History Workshop and Culture, Society, and Theory Workshop, The University of Chicago, 1998.

“Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati Devasthanam of Flushing, New York,” International Conference on the Hindu Diaspora, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, August 1997. Also presented at the Culture and Society workshop and South Asia workshop at The University of Chicago, Autumn 1997.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

August 2020: Certificate of Completion, College of Liberal Arts Online Teaching Program, Temple University.

January 2016: Furthermore publishing grant for *City of Gods*, J.M. Kaplan Fund.

August 2012: Certificate of Recognition and Achievement, Program in Virtual Teaching, Temple University.

Fall 2011 Philadelphia Experience (PEX) Partnership Stipend for developing a course assignment with an organization in Philadelphia (the American Philosophical Society), General Education Program, Temple University.

Fall 2010 Interfaith Leadership Institute participant, The White House, sponsored by the Interfaith Youth Core and the Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, Washington, D.C. <http://www.ifyc.org>

2006 Publication Grant for *City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens – New York City, 1945-2001*, Schoff Publication Fund, University Seminars, Columbia University.

2005 NEH Summer Seminar participant, “Religious Diversity and the Common Good,” Boisi Center for the Study of Religion and American Public Life, Boston College. Alan Wolfe, director.

2004-: Project Affiliate, The Pluralism Project, Committee on the Study of Religion, Harvard University. <http://www.pluralism.org/affiliates/shanson/index.php>

2003-04: Regional Faculty Research Fellowship, Penn Humanities Forum, The University of Pennsylvania.

2001-2002: Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Brown University.

1999-2000: Dissertation Fellowship, The Louisville Institute for the Study of American Religion. A Lilly Endowment Program for the Study of American Religion based at Louisville Seminary. <http://www.louisville-institute.org/grdissawards.html>

Winter 1999: Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowship in the College, The University of Chicago.

Autumn 1996-Spring 2000: Full Tuition Scholarship and Stipend for graduate study at the University of Chicago.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Interview with Rafael PiRoman, MetroFocus, WNET/Thirteen, October 11, 2018.

April 26, 2017: Panel Reviewer, NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes.

January 24, 2017: "God Lives in Queens," Brian Lehrer Show, WNYC.

December 27, 2016: "Religious Diversity in Flushing, Queens," American History TV, C-SPAN3.

July 31, 2016: "Deep Thinking About Immigration," review of *City of Gods* by James Ryerson in Sunday Book Review, *The New York Times*

July 4, 2016: *Publishers Weekly* Starred Review of *City of Gods*

August 25, 2008: Interview and webchat participant for the U.S. State Department website, America.gov, for feature on religious diversity. See Louise Fenner, "Religious Freedom Laws Help Create Culture of Tolerance." <http://www.america.gov/st/diversity-english/2008/August/20080825143428xlrennef0.4305994.html>

May 18, 2008: Television interview at Bowne House Historical Society in Flushing, NY for the Quadricentennial of New York State, WMHT - PBS Albany, NY.

January 3, 2004: Newspaper interview, Robert F. Worth, "Blue Blood at the Gas Pumps; Queens Families Still Have Their Legacy, if Not Their Land," *The New York Times*.

July 17, 2003: Radio interview for "The New New York," The Brian Lehrer show, WNYC: http://www.wnyc.org/newnewyork/queens/bl_queens_islam.html

June 23, 2001: Feature story on religious pluralism in America, Religion & Ethics Newsweekly/PBS website: <http://www.thirteen.org/religionandethics/week443/pluralism.html>

November 7, 1999: Newspaper interview, Somini Sengupta, "A Snapshot of World Faith: On One Queens Block, Many Prayers Are Spoken," *The New York Times*.

1999-2003: Member, Board of Trustees, The Bowne House Historical Society, Flushing, NY.

Autumn 1997-Spring 1999: Graduate Student Representative, the Committee on the History of Culture, The University of Chicago. Organized workshops for the Committee, helped design and maintain website at <http://humanities.uchicago.edu/cmtes/histc/> and email list, assisted with conference on "The History of Culture at the Present Time" in February 1999.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1998-present: The American Historical Association, The Organization of American History, The American Society of Church History

1997-present: The American Academy of Religion, The Immigration and Ethnic History Society, The American Studies Association

LANGUAGES

German: fluent (high school exchange student in Cologne, Germany; B.A. minor in German)

French: high pass on University of Chicago graduate school reading exam