

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Derek Cooper

Associate Professor of World Christian History
Biblical Theological Seminary
200 N Main St, Hatfield, PA 19440
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PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE AT BIBLICAL SEMINARY

Associate Professor, 2014-Present

Assistant Professor, 2011-2014

Visiting Professor, 2008-2011

Adjunct Instructor, 2007-2008

OTHER PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor in Religious Studies / Theology, 2006-Present

- La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA, Spring 2017
- Arcadia University, Glenside, PA, Spring 2011
- Reformed Episcopal Seminary, Blue Bell, PA Winter 2011
- Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Lancaster, PA, Fall 2010
- Gwynedd Mercy University, Lower Gwynedd, PA Spring 2007
- Eastern University, Philadelphia, PA, 2006-2007
- The Lutheran Theological Seminary (Teaching Assistant), Philadelphia, PA 2006

Spanish Teacher and Adjunct Instructor, 2000-2007

- Phil-Mont Christian Academy, Erdenheim, PA, 2003-2005
- Eastern University, Philadelphia, PA, 2006-2007
- Texas Christian University (Tutor), Fort Worth, TX, 2000-2001

PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Director, Doctor of Ministry Program, 2013-2015

- Oversaw DMin program, the responsibilities of which included: hiring professors; developing curriculum; making assessments; managing the budget; innovating the program; and working with recruitment

Co-director, Doctor of Ministry Program, 2011-2013

Director, LEAD Master of Divinity Program, 2010-2016

- Oversaw MDiv program, the responsibilities of which included: overseeing annual international trip; hiring professors; developing curriculum; making assessments; managing the budget; innovating the program; and working with recruitment

INTERNATIONAL / DOMESTIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND TRAVEL

INTERNATIONAL TRIPS LED

El Salvador, 2017

Israel, Palestine, June 2017

Israel, Palestine, April 2017

Turkey, Greece, Italy, 2015

Israel, Palestine, Turkey, Greece, 2014

Cambodia, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, 2013

Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, 2012

Israel, Palestine, 2010

INTERNATIONAL TEACHING AND LECTURES

Universitas Pelita Harapan, Karawaci, Indonesia, Spring 2015

International Baptist Church, Jerusalem, Israel, Spring 2014

Haneul School, Pocheon, South Korea, Summer / Fall 2013

Asian Center for Theological Studies and Mission, Seoul, South Korea, Fall 2013

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Austria, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and El Salvador, 2017

Canada, Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, 2016

Indonesia, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Qatar, 2015

Israel, Palestine, Turkey, Greece, Canada, 2014

South Korea, China, Japan, 2013

Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, 2013

Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, 2012

Israel, Palestine, 2010

Dominican Republic, 2006

Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, 2004

Morocco, Spain, Portugal, Germany, 2002

Honduras, Guatemala, 2001

Costa Rica, 2000

Mexico, 1997

Brazil, 1996

SAMPLE DOMESTIC TRIPS LED

St. Philip Orthodox Church, Souderton, BTS, 2016, 2015

Won Buddhist Temple, Philadelphia, BTS, 2016, 2012

Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, BTS, 2016, 2015

Rare Book Department, Free Library of Philadelphia, BTS, 2016, 2015

Basilica of St. Peter's and Paul, Archdiocese of Philadelphia, BTS, 2016, 2015

Gettysburg National Park, Gettysburg, BTS, 2013

Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit, Philadelphia, BTS, 2013

Bharitiya Hindu and Cultural Center, Chalfont, BTS, 2012

St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral, Philadelphia, BTS, 2011

Smithsonian and Holocaust Museum, Washington, D.C., PMCA, 2005

PUBLICATIONS

ACADEMIC BOOKS

Basics of Theological Latin. Zondervan Academic, 2019

Sinners and Saints: The Real Story of Medieval Christianity, Kregel Academic, 2019

Sinners and Saints: The Real Story of Early Christianity. Kregel Academic, 2017

[*Introduction to World Christian History*](#). IVP Academic, 2016. **Nominated for IVP Reader's Choice Award.**

[*1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings, 1-2 Chronicles*](#). Co-edited. Reformation Commentary on Scripture. IVP Academic, 2016

[*Twenty Questions that Shaped World Christian History*](#). Fortress Press, 2015

[*Exploring Church History*](#). Fortress Press, 2014

[*Christianity and World Religions: An Introduction to the World's Major Faiths*](#). P&R, 2013
Finalist for ECPA Award.

[*Thomas Manton: A Guided Tour of the Life and Thought of a Puritan Pastor*](#). P&R, 2011

TRADE BOOKS

[*Unfollowers: Unlikely Lessons on Faith from Those Who Doubted Jesus*](#). Co-written. WPH, 2014

[*Hazardous: Committing to the Cost of Following Jesus*](#). Co-written. CLC, 2012

[*So You're Thinking about Going to Seminary: An Insider's Guide*](#). Brazos, 2008

CHAPTERS / BOOK SELECTIONS / ARTICLES

“Comparative Religions and Alternative Philosophies on Final Salvation and Assurance,” in *Safe in the Arms of Sovereign Love*. Crossway, 2022

“Comparative Religions and Alternative Philosophies on The Way of Salvation,” in *Thine Eye diffused a Quickening Ray*. Crossway, 2021

“Comparative Religions and Alternative Philosophies on Determinism, Indeterminism and Free Will,” in *Chosen Not for Good in Me*. Crossway, 2020

“Comparative Religions and Alternative Philosophies on the Doctrine of Sin,” in *Ruined Sinners to Reclaim*. Crossway, 2019

Series of Articles on John Wesley, Fresh Expressions, 2015-Present

“More like Judas than You Think,” *Christianity Today*, March 2013

“Churches of God General Conference,” *Baker Handbook of Denominations and Ministries*, Baker, 2011

“Reformation A to Z,” *T&T Clark Companion to Reformation Theology*, T&T Clark, 2012

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Review of *Humanism and Calvinism: Andrew Melville and the Universities of Scotland, 1560-1625*, *Church History* 81:2

“Reformation Responses to Novatianism: Sixteenth-Century Interpretations of Hebrews 6:4-6” *Journal of Theological Interpretation* 3:2

“The Analogy of Faith in Puritan Exegesis: Scope and Salvation in James 2:14-26” *Stone-Campbell Journal* 12:2

“Saving the Strawy Epistle: The Recovery of James after Martin Luther,” *Haddington House Journal* 11:1

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, 2008

- Received Full Scholarship, 2005-2008
- Specialized in the History of Christianity
- Served as Teaching Assistant in Greek and Church History

Master of Arts (MA), Villanova University, 2017-Present

- Received Full Scholarship, 2017-2019
- Specializing in Classical Studies

Latin Certificate, Davenant Institute, 2016

Master of Divinity (MDiv), Biblical Theological Seminary, 2004

- *First-in-class*
- Received Greek Exegesis Award
- Received Presidential Scholarship, 2003-2004
- Served as Teaching Assistant, 2003-2005

Master of Arts (MA), Biblical Theological Seminary, 2002

- *First-in-class*
- Received Presidential Scholarship, 2001-2002
- Specialized in New Testament History

Bachelor of Arts (BA), University of Texas at Tyler, 2000

- *Magna cum Laude*
- Double Majored in Spanish and Political Science
- Served as President of Spanish Club

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Brigham Young University Maxwell Institute, Provo, UT, Summer 2017

Calvin College Summer Fellow, Grand Rapids, MI, Summer 2016

Fellow for American Association for the Advancement of Science, Portland, OR,
Summer 2016

Acton University Fellow, Grand Rapids, MI, Summer 2012

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA

- Preaching in the Context of World Religions, Summer 2017

Moderator, Christian History Institute, Harleysville, PA

- A Civil Conversation on Religious Differences, Spring 2017

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

- Jesus and the Forgotten City of Sepphoris, Spring 2014
- What It Meant to Be Jewish in Jesus's Day, Fall 2013

Cairn University, Langhorne, PA

- Signs and Sayings from the Book of John, Spring 2014

Reformed Episcopal Seminary, Blue Bell, PA

- Intertextuality in the Gospels, Winter 2011

Plumstead Christian School, Plumstead, PA

- The Gospel of John, Fall 2011

Biblical Seminary, Hatfield, PA

- The Mission of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark, Spring 2010
- Puritan Biblical Interpretation, , Winter 2010
- The Hermeneutics of Stanley Hauerwas, Spring 2010

Winebrenner Seminary, Findlay, OH

- A New Way to Approach Christology, Summer 2009

Reformed Episcopal Seminary, Blue Bell, PA

- Academic Reading, Researching, and Writing, Fall 2008

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA

- John Bunyan and the Historical Context of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Fall 2008

LECTURE SERIES AT CHURCHES

Brandywine Valley Baptist Church, Wilmington, DE

- Two-Part Series: Understanding the Reformation, Summer 2017

Calvary Church, Souderton, PA

- Two-Part Series: The Book of Proverbs, Spring 2017
- Two-Part Series: Important Topics in Christian Theology, Spring 2016
- Three Part-Series: The Life and Times of Jesus, Fall 2015
- Three-Part Series: Understanding Christianity, Winter 2015
- Four-Part Series: Christianity and World Religions, Fall 2014

Bethel: The Church at the Franklin Mills Mall, Philadelphia, PA

- Four-Part Series: Christianity and World Religions, Winter 2014

First Presbyterian Church, Ambler, PA

- Five-Part Series: A Global History of Christianity, Fall 2013
- Six-Part Series: Christianity and World Religions, Spring 2011
- Six-Part Series: Understanding Revelation, Fall 2010

First Baptist Church, Perkasie, PA

- Two-Part Series: Old Testament History and Theology, Fall 2012

Franconia Mennonite Church, Franconia, PA

- Two-Part Series: The Abrahamic Religions, Spring 2012
- Four-Part Series: Christianity and World Religions, Fall 2012

Deep Run East Mennonite Church, Perkasie, PA

- Four-Part Series: The Hospitality of Jesus, Winter 2012

Salford Mennonite Church, Harleysville, PA

- Old Testament Apocrypha, Winter 2017
- New Testament Apocrypha, Winter 2017
- Song of Songs, Fall 2016
- Leviticus, Spring 2016
- Three-Part Series: Key Moments in the Gospel of Mark, Winter 2012

Brandywine Valley Baptist Church, Wilmington, DE

- Three-Part Series: Common Pitfalls in Biblical Interpretation, Fall 2011

The Well, Feasterville, PA

- Three-Part Series: A Guide to Revelation, Fall 2011

Church of the Savior, Wayne, PA

- Two-Part Series: How to Interpret the Bible, Summer 2008

TEACHING AT CHURCHES

Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church, Maple Glen, PA

- Reading the Qur'an, Winter 2017
- Rosh Hashanah in the Jewish Calendar, Fall 2016
- Yom Kippur in the Jewish Calendar, Fall 2016
- The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Summer 2016
- Angels and Spirits, Spring 2016
- The Hope of Resurrection, Spring 2016
- The Passover Meal and the Last Supper, Spring 2016
- Two-Part Series: History of Christianity, Fall 2015
- Christianity and the Afterlife, Winter 2015
- World Religions and the Afterlife, Winter 2015
- Seasons of the Church Calendar, Winter 2015
- The Liturgy of the Church, Winter 2015
- The Lord's Prayer, Fall 2014
- Jesus and Tribalism, Fall 2014
- Prayer in the New Testament, Winter 2014
- Community Identity in the Bible, Winter 2014
- Jesus and Prophecy, Fall 2013
- Understanding World Religions, Spring 2013
- The Beatitudes, Spring 2013
- The Letters of Paul, Fall 2012
- The Gospel of Mark, Winter 2012
- World Religions, Fall 2011
- Two-Part Series: The Letter of James, Spring 2011
- Two-Part Series: Jesus and the Gospels, Fall 2010
- Learning How to Read Revelation, Spring 2010

West Wyomissing Chapel, Reading, PA

- Teaching Series: Discipleship, Summer 2012

University Christian Church, Tyler, TX

- The Story We Find Ourselves In, Summer 2012

Line Lexington Mennonite Church, Line Lexington, PA

- Living on the Vine, Summer 2012

The Well, Feasterville, PA

- World Religions and What to Do with Them, Winter 2012

Towamencin Mennonite Church, Kulpsville, PA

- Luke, Winter 2012

Providence Mennonite Church, Collegeville, PA

- Luke, Fall 2011

Rocky Ridge Mennonite Church, Quakertown, PA

- A Life of Holiness, Summer 2016
- Parable of the Prodigal Son, Summer 2013
- Genesis, Summer 2011

St. Peter's Covenant Church, Hilltown, PA

- The Gospel of Mark, Winter 2011

Doylestown Mennonite Church, Doylestown, PA

- The Gospel of Mark, Winter 2011
- Missional Churches and Living Missionally, Spring 2011

Macungie Church of the Nazarene, Macungie, PA

- The Gospels, Fall 2010
- 1 John, Summer 2011

Immanuel Church of the Nazarene, Lansdale, PA

- 1 Samuel, Fall 2010-Spring 2011
- 1 John, Winter 2010
- Revelation, Spring 2010

Living Hope Community Church, Dublin, PA

- The Life of David, Fall 2011
- 1 Corinthians, Spring 2009
- Mark, Fall 2008
- Church History, Spring 2008
- James, Fall 2007
- Romans, Spring 2007
- Minor Prophets, Fall 2006
- Genesis, Spring 2006
- 1-2 Samuel, Fall 2005

Grace Lutheran Church, West Chester, PA

- Understanding Biblical Poetry, Fall 2008

PRESENTATIONS TO PARACHURCH INSTITUTIONS

The Community at Rockhill, Sellersville, PA

- Teaching Series: Islam, Fall 2017

Brittany Retirement Home, Lansdale, PA

- Teaching Series: Buddhism, Spring 2017
- Teaching Series: Hinduism, Fall 2016
- Teaching Series: Islam, Spring 2016
- Teaching Series: Judaism, Fall 2015

The Lutheran Community, Telford, PA

- Four-Part Series: An Exploration of Faith, Fall 2017
- Four-Part Series: An Exploration of Faith, Fall 2014

Souderton Mennonite Homes, Souderton, PA

- How to Provide Interreligious Pastoral Care, Fall 2012

Church of the Brethren Philadelphia-Region Pastor's Gathering, Philadelphia, PA

- Two-Part Series: Jesus in the Gospel of Mark, Fall 2011

DOCTORAL AND MASTER'S DISSERTATIONS OVERSEEN

As the former Director of a Doctor of Ministry program, I oversaw all the DMin projects. I have also served on other graduate dissertations panels, e.g.:

- ThM Dissertation, "Confucian Interpretations of the Parable of the Good Samaritan," Biblical Seminary, Fall 2017
- DMin Dissertation, "Evaluation of the Forgiveness Labyrinth as a Stand-Alone Device to Facilitate Forgiveness among Christians," Biblical Seminary, Spring 2012
- PhD Dissertation, "The *Via Media* Approach to *Sensus Literalis* in the Hermeneutic of John Lightfoot," Westminster Seminary, Spring 2010

- DMin Dissertation, “Producing Missional Leaders: An Evaluation of the Short-Term Mission Training Program at Renewal Presbyterian Church,” Biblical Seminary, Spring 2010

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Biblical Seminary, Hatfield, PA

- Multiple Topics related to Effective Teaching, 2008-Present

Eastern University, St. David’s, PA

- Multiple Topics: Teaching Students from Different Backgrounds, Using Technology Effectively, Integrating Christian Worldview, 2006-2007

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

- Learning How to Teach Adults Effectively, Fall 2009
- Teaching Adult Learners, Spring 2006

Phil-Mont Christian Academy, Glenside, PA

- Multiple Topics related to Effective Teaching, 2003-2005

SCHOLARLY ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion

Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Speaking, Reading, and Writing Knowledge

- Spanish, Portuguese

Reading Knowledge

- Greek, Hebrew, Latin

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Available upon Request