

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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**Place of Birth:** La Ceiba, República de Honduras  
**Citizenship:** U.S.A.

### I. Biographical Data

#### A. Education

**Ph.D. 1973** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
**Ancient Near Eastern and Biblical History.**

**Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures:** The History and Cultures of the Ancient Near East, Archaeology of Mesopotamia, Syria, Anatolia, Canaan, and Egypt. Languages and Literature of the Old Testament: Biblical Hebrew, Ugaritic, Akkadian.

**M.A. 1962** Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan  
**Archaeology and History of Antiquity.**

**Archaeology and History of the Ancient Near East:**  
Archaeology, Anthropology, Development of Civilization in the Ancient Near East.  
Pre-pottery Neolithic through Iron Age Mesopotamia, Syria and Egypt.

**B.A. 1960** Colegio de las Antillas, Santa Clara, Cuba  
**Religion and Ancient History**

**B. Doctoral Dissertation:**

“The Role of Human Sacrifice in the Ancient Near East,” [Directed by Dr. George Emery Mendenhall]. A conceptual study of the socio-cultural development of the idea of ritual killing in the Ancient Near East. This investigation begins by exploring the underlying conception of sacrificial ritual proposed by such as E. B. Taylor, Robertson Smith, James Frazier, Edward Westermarck, M. Alfred Loisy, Sigmund Freud and R. Money-Kyrle; and subsequently investigates the notion of ritual killing as a sacrificial offering in Mesopotamia, the Indus Valley, Egypt, Anatolia, Syria and Canaan, from the Early Bronze through the Iron Age.

**C. Areas of Special Interests**

**Near Eastern Studies:** 1. Ancient Near Eastern Cultures with a concentration on Bronze Age and Iron Age societies of Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Syria, Canaan and Israel. 2. Cultural Diffusion and Religion. 3. Languages and Literature of the Old Testament. 4. History of the Ancient Near East.

**D. Fields of Specialization**

Teaching: Old Testament, Ancient Near Eastern Religions, Religion and Culture, History of the Ancient Near East.

Research: Old Testament, Ancient Near Eastern Religion and Culture.

**E. Language Proficiency**

Fluency: Spoken and written Spanish and English. Reading and writing for research purposes: Classical Hebrew, Greek, Ugaritic, and Akkadian. Reading facility for research purposes: French, German, Italian, and Portuguese.

**II. Professional Appointments**

**A. Present Rank:** Professor I

**B. Teaching, Research and Administrative Positions:**

1998 - Professor. Department of Religion, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

1991-2000 Chairperson. Department of Religion, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

1997 Professor, Department of Religion, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

- 1989-1990 Organizer and Director. Study Abroad Program for Rutgers University. Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán. Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico.
- 1986-1987 Visiting Scholar. Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 1985-1986 Visiting Scholar. Department of Religion, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, California.
- 1982 Associate Professor. Department of Religion, Rutgers University. New Brunswick, New Jersey.
- 1982 Visiting Professor. Old Testament, Union Theological Seminary. New York.
- 1979-1982 Assistant Professor. Department of Religion, Rutgers University. New Brunswick, New Jersey.
- 1978-1979 Adjunct Professor. Department of History, Pace University. Pleasantville, New York.
- 1976 Organizer and Director. Near Eastern Study Tour. Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Israel. (Summer)
- 1973-1978 Assistant Professor. City University of New York, New York.
- 1972-1973 Instructor. Department of History, City University of New York, New York.
- 1968-1972 Adjunct Lecturer. Department of History, Eastern Michigan University. Ypsilanti, Michigan.
- 1966-1967 Chairperson and Professor. Department of Religion and History, Caribbean Union College. Maracas, Trinidad, South America.
- 1965-1966 Professor. Department of Religion and History, Caribbean Union College. Maracas, Trinidad, South America.
- 1963-1965 Coordinador. Departamento de Educación, Asociación Panameña de A.S.D., Panama, Central America.
- 1962-1963 Chairperson and Professor. Departamento de historia y religión, Colegio de Centro America. Alajuela, Costa Rica, Central America..

### III. Honors and Awards

- 1986-1987 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Full Independent Individual Research Fellowship.
- 1986-1987 University President's Coordinating Council on International Programs. Rutgers Research and Travel Award. (Summer).
- 1986 Rutgers Research Council Grant. Rutgers University. (Spring Semester).
- 1975 Shuster Fellowship. City University of New York. (For Summer research in the Middle East).
- 1973 Faculty Research and Travel Award. City University of New York (Research and travel in the Middle East).
- 1971-1972 Michigan Scholars Award, University of Michigan.
- 1970-1971 Waterman Foundation Award. University of Michigan.
- 1969-1970 Waterman Foundation Award. University of Michigan.
- 1968-1969 Michigan Scholar's Award. University of Michigan.

### IV. Principal Research Experience

- 1986-1987 University of California, Los Angeles. NEH, "The Storm-god Motif in Mesopotamia and Syria." Los Angeles, CA.
- 1985-1986 University of Southern California. FASP, "Conceptual Development of Near Eastern Storm-gods." Los Angeles, CA.
- 1986 University of Istanbul and the National Museum of Turkey. Ankara, Istanbul and other important Turkish collections. "Anatolian Storm-gods." Turkey (Summer).
- 1986 University of Cairo and the American Research Center in Egypt. "Seth and Asiatic Deities in EB II - LB II." Cairo, Egypt. (Fall).
- 1985 Yale University, Sterling Memorial Library. "Babylonian Epigraphy and Iconography on Near Eastern Storm-gods."
- 1984 Columbia University. "Ancient Near Eastern Seals and Bullae."
- 1975 American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon. "Original Sources

on the Role of Aleppo and Alalakh in MB II.” (Fall).

1974 University of Cairo, Cairo, Egypt. “Early Dynastic Contacts Between Syria and Egypt.” Summer).

## V. Scholarly Accomplishments

### A. Books

*The Storm-god in the Ancient Near East.* \_Biblical and Judaic Studies of the University of California, San Diego, Vol. 8. Winona Lake, Indiana, Eisenbrauns 2003, pp. 363 + xviii.

*The Quest for the Kingdom of God: Essays in Honor of George E. Mendenhall.* Ed. with Herbert B. Huffmon and Anthony F. Spina. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1983 [Publishers specializing in the Ancient Near East], pp. 316 + vii.

*The Role of Human Sacrifice in the Ancient Near East.* Missoula, Montana: American Schools of Oriental Research. 1975, pp. 383 + xvi.

### B. Refereed Scholarly Journal Articles and Chapters in Volumes

“Esarhaddon, Sanduarri, and the Adon Papyrus,” in *Inspired Speech: Prophecy in the Ancient Near East*, J. Kaltner and L. Stulman (eds). Sheffield University Press: Continuum / T & T Clark International, 2003.

The Identity of King So of Egypt - an Alternative Interpretation,” Journal of Near Eastern Studies 52 (1993) 99-109.

“La Importancia de Rousseau sobre la tesis del origen de las lenguas,” Publicación de la Biblioteca Central 20 (1990) 5-8, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán.

“The Date of Nehemiah : A Re-Examination,” Andrews University Seminary Studies 26 (1990) 195-209.

“Ashur-Uballit and the Inscription 88 from Arad: An Observation,” Zeitschrift für alttestamentliche Wissenschaft und Kunde des nachbiblischen Judentums 100 (1987) 277-281.

“Regnal Formulae in the Books of Kings in the Hebrew and Greek Texts,” Journal of Near Eastern Studies 42 (1984) 167-180.

“David’s Relations with Hiram: Biblical and Josephan Evidence for Tyrian Chronology,” in *Essays in Honor of David Noel Freedman*. Eds. Carol Meyers and Michael P. O’Connor, Ann Arbor, MI. American Schools of Oriental Research, (1983) pp. 373-397.

“Social Structure and Cultural Continuity at Alalakh,” in *The Quest for the Kingdom of God: Essays in Honor of George E. Mendenhall*. Ed. with Herbert B. Huffmon and Anthony F. Spina. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns (1983) pp. 183- 203.

“The Chronology of the Last Days of Judah: Two Apparent Discrepancies,” Journal of Biblical Literature 101 (1982) 57-73.

“The Fate of Jehoiakim,” Andrews University Seminary Studies 20 (1982) 103-109.

“Sua and Jehu: The Boundaries of Shalmaneser’s Conquest,” Palestine Exploration Quarterly, January-June (1979) 35-39 + i-vi

“Israelite Influence in Shishak’s Court?” Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research 233 (1979) 59-62.

“Solomon and Siamun: A Synchronism between Dynastic Israel and the Twenty-First Dynasty of Egypt,” Journal of Biblical Literature 97 (1978) 353-367.

### **C. Scholarly Work in Progress for Publication**

#### **Book Manuscript**

Upon the request of the editors of the Anchor Bible Reference Library, I am continuing my research and writing on the political and religious developments within the political structures of Transjordan, and the impact of these on the policies of the Omrid Dynasty of the Kingdom of Israel. The results of my work in this area will constitute the volume, *The Transjordanian States and Internal Developments Within the Omrid Dynasty in the Ninth Century BCE* of the series. My goal is to turn in this finished manuscript to the editors within two years.

#### **Articles and monographs in varying stages of completion:**

“Shishak, Solomon, and Jeroboam ben Nebat: Prelude to the Secession of the North.” (for submission for publication in the Journal of Near Eastern Studies).

#### **Monographs**

“The Book of Esther and the Persian Empire: Some Important Correlations,” (near completion).

“Cuneiform Evidence for a Previously Unrecorded Vassal King of Babylon in the Early Achaemenid Period and its Implications on Daniel Six” (partially completed Parts I and II, working on Parts III and IV).

### **Book Manuscript**

There has long been the need for a volume which deals exclusively with the genesis, development, and diffusion in the different religions of the ancient Near East. I am currently engaged in the initial stages of preparation of such a work. This involves the active consultation and correspondence with scholars in my field in order to arrive at the appropriate specialists as contributors. Over a period of months a series of lectures are being arranged at which recognized scholars in their respective areas of expertise will be presenting papers on specific themes to students and the university community at large. These lectures will focus on the religion of the following ancient peoples: Mesopotamian (Sumerian, Babylonia, Assyrian), Egyptian, Anatolian/Hittite, Canaanite, Israelite, Persian, and Greek. I will subsequently be working closely with each scholar on the preparation of each lecture for inclusion as a chapter in the publication of this volume on “Religions of the Ancient Near East.”

## **VI. Professional Activity**

### **A. Professional Membership**

American Academy of Religion (AAR)  
 Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)  
 American Oriental Society (AOS)  
 American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)  
 Columbia University Faculty Seminar for the Study of the Hebrew Bible  
 Mid Atlantic Region of the AAR/SBL  
 Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)

### **B. Some of My Papers and Presentations at Learned Meetings, Conferences, Symposia**

“Ahikar and Proverbs Revisited.” Respondent at presentation. Annual Meeting. Biblical Colloquium West. February 6-8, 2005.

“Accusing Whom of What? Hosea’s Rhetoric in the Light of Political Economy.” Respondent at presentation. Annual Meeting. The Biblical Colloquium West, February 7-9, 2004.

“Sumerian and Mayan Religion: Two Thousand Years Apart.” Facultad de Antropología, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatan, July, 2001.

“Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age Egypt, Syria and Canaan.” Convenor of Seminar. Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Nashville, TN. November 19-23, 2000.

“The Bible and the Spanish Renaissance: Cardinal Ximénes de Cisneros and the Complutensian Polyglot.” Discussion Group: Loyola University, Chicago. June 13, 1999.

Ancient Near East: “Divination in Ancient Near Eastern Religion.” Seminar. American Oriental Society, 209<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Baltimore Maryland. March 21-24, 1999.

“Ancient Near Eastern Texts, Cultures, and Archaeology.” Seminar. Mid-Atlantic Region - Society of Biblical Literature, Arlington, VA. February 26, 1999.

“The Central Elements involving Sanduarri in the Adon Papyrus,” American Schools of Oriental Research / Society of Biblical Literature. Annual Meeting in New Orleans. November 1996.

“Religious and Ideological Foundations of Egyptian and Israelite Monarchy and Kingship.” American Schools of Oriental Research/Society of Biblical Literature. Presider, Annual Meeting in Chicago. November, 1995.

“The Place of Anatolia in Early Christian Beginnings.” Seminar on Anatolian Influence on the Development of the Early Christian Doctrines. Istanbul, Turkey. March, 1995.

“Religión y economía en el mundo antiguo: Una comparación del Antiguo Cercano Oriente y el mundo de los Aztecas y Mayas.” (Topic of the Four Lecture Series) Universidad del Mayab, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. March, 1994.

“Critical Approaches to Comparable Biblical and Egyptian Wisdom Literature.” American Schools of Oriental Research/Society of Biblical Literature, Presider, Annual Meeting in Kansas City. November, 1993.

“Van Seeters Thesis: Egypt, Canaan, and Israel in Ancient Times.” American Schools of Oriental Research/Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting in San Francisco. November, 1992.

“Religions of the Middle East and their Political Significance Today.” Adult Enrichment Association, Pennington, New Jersey. September, 1992

“The Challenge of Academic Excellence in Study Abroad Programs in Latin America.” Conference on American Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. Mérida, Mexico. January, 1990

“Los Mayas: 3,500 años despues de su prototipo en el Cercano Oriente.” Conferencia sobre Experimento de Convivencia Internacional, Mérida, Mexico. February, 1990.

“La reina egipcia Hatshepsut: El prototipo de una mujer liberada.” Colegio de Contadores de Mérida, Mexico. March, 1990.

“Los egipcios: precursores de la medicina moderna.” Colegio de Medicina, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Mexico. April, 1990.

“El lugar del arte en la reconstrucción de la historia antigua.” Academia SODART del la Secretaría de Educación Pública del Estado de Yucatán, Mérida, Yucatán. May, 1990.

“Greek Cults on the Western Fringes of Near Eastern Religions.” Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA. October, 1990.

“Another Possibility for the Mysterious So of Egypt.” American Schools of Oriental Research/Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA. November, 1990.

“Immanence and Transcendence: the Numinous Experience.” Unitarian Universalist International, East Brunswick, New Jersey. March, 1989.

“The History of God: Cultural Metaphors in the Ancient Near East.” Caribbean Union College Alumnae Association. Boston, Massachusetts. February, 1988.

“In the Beginning God: Religious Metaphors and Yahweh.” Colloquium of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles. February, 1987.

“Emerging Yahwism within the milieu of Ancient Near Eastern Religions.” Seminar on Ancient Gods, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles. April, 1986.

“Canaanite Fertility Cult and the Body Politic.” Colloquium of the Department of Religion, Rutgers University. December, 1984.

“El Cercano Oriente y mitologías de creación.” Congreso Hispano de Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, New York. November, 1984.

“Yahweh the God of the Hebrews: Female Imageries.” Unitarian Universalist of East Brunswick, New Jersey. May, 1984.

“Canaanite Fertility Cult and the Body Politic.” Colloquium of the Department of Religion, Rutgers University. December, 1984.

“The Date of Nehemiah: A Re-examination.” Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting in Chicago. November, 1983

“History and Tradition in Israelite Religion.” Protestant Clergy Mid-Year Conference, Tranquility, New Jersey. August, 1982.

“An Exegetical Profile of the God of Amos.” Protestant Clergy Mid-Year Conference, Tranquility, New Jersey, 1981.

“A New Interpretation of Inscription 88 from Arad.” Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religion, Regional Meeting, Douglass College. May, 1981.

“A Closer Look at the Masoretic Text and the Greek Regnal Formulae.” Columbia University Faculty Seminar for the Study of the Hebrew Bible. April, 1981.

“Hebrew and Greek Chronologies: The Early Israelite Monarchies.” Colloquium of the Department of Religion, Rutgers University. March, 1981.

“The Theology of the Sanctuary and its Development in the Hebrew Scriptures.” Columbia University Adventist Forum. April, 1980.

“Observations on the Chronology of the Last Days of Judah.” Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. May, 1979.

“El concepto del ‘Juicio’ en la literatura apocalíptica.” Congreso Hispano de Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, New York. October, 1977.

“The Role of Archaeology in the Study of the Old Testament.” Ministers Retreat of the New York Conference of S.D.A., Camp Berkshire, New York. October, 1976.

“El problema del syncretismo en el Reino del Norte de Israel.” Instituto Colombo-Venezolano, Medellin, Columbia. May, 1976.

“Myth and Legend in the Joseph Story of Genesis.” History and Classics Faculties of Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York. March, 1974.

## **VII. Miscellaneous Professional Activity and Service to my Profession**

Consulting Scholar. New Jersey Transcultural Educational Committee, The Jersey Network, 2002-

Member. Biblical Colloquium West, 2002-

Member. Dissertation Committee for Old Testament Studies. The Theological Seminary, Drew University, 1993-1995, 2001-.

Grant Proposal Referee. National Endowment for the Humanities. Annually since 1989 -

Member. Committee on Egyptology and History of Israel Section, American Schools of Oriental Research / Society of Biblical Literature. 1989 -.

Member. Dissertation Committee: Universidad de Mayab, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico, 1989-1990.

Member. Rutgers University Representative, Consejo de Inmigración, Estado de Yucatán, Mérida, Mexico, 1989-1990

### **VIII. Some of the More Recent Courses and Seminars Taught at Rutgers**

840:201	Understanding the Old Testament
840:202	Understanding the New Testament
840:301	Ancient Near Eastern Religions
840:302	Cultural Context of the Old Testament
840:303	Social and Religious Thoughts of the Hebrew Prophets
840:304	Post-Exilic Literature of Israel
840:401	Seminars on: Studies in Old Testament Literature
	Yahwism and Israelite Religion Before the Monarchy
	An Analysis of the Old Epic Traditions of the Hebrew Scriptures
	Popular Religion Vs. State Religion in Judah and Israel
	Intermediation: The Divine /Human Encounter in the Ancient Near East and Israel

### **IX. Courses Taught at Other Institutions:**

#### **Courses Taught at Pace University**

HIS 101	Western Civilization: Pre-Greek to 1648
HIS 102	Western Civilization: 1648 to end of World War II
HIS 299	History of the Ancient Hebrews

#### **Some Courses Taught at the City University of New York**

##### **Advanced Courses and Seminars:**

HIA 303	History of the Ancient Hebrews
HIA 306	History of the Ancient Near East:Eastern Fertile Crescent.
HIA 307	History of the Ancient Near East:Western Fertile Crescent
HIA 388	Hebrew Prophets: Social and Religious Thoughts
HIA 315	Intellectual History of the Ancient Near East

### **Seminars:**

HIA 450	Prophetic Phenomenon and International Religions in the Ancient Near East
HIA 481	Urbanism in the Ancient Near East
HIA 450	Egyptian Influence on the Cultural Institutions of the Near East
HIA 450	Historical Introduction to the New Testament .

### **Courses Taught at Colegio de Centro America and Caribbean Union College:**

Arqueologia de la Biblia (Colegio de Centro America)  
 Biblical Backgrounds: Old and New Testaments (Union College)  
 Life and Teachings of Jesus (Union College)  
 Orígenes de la Biblia (Colegio de Centro America)  
 Profetas del Antiguo Testamento (Colegio de Centro America)  
 Religiones Mundiales (Colegio de Centro America)  
 Vida y Enseñanzas de Jesus (Colegio de Centro America)  
 Western Civilization (Union College)

## **X. Service on Committees: Rutgers University and City University of New York**

### **A. Rutgers University**

Member 2001-2004	New Brunswick Faculty Seminar
Chairperson 1991-2000	Department of Religion
Member 1993-	Education Opportunity Fund Program
	Community Advisory Board
Member 1994-1996	Curriculum Committee, Faculty of Arts Arts and Sciences
Senator 1992-1995	Representing Rutgers College Fellows
Director/Organizer 1989-1990	Rutgers Study Abroad Program, Mérida Estado de Yucatan, Mexico
Member 1988-1989	Curriculum Committee, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Member 1988-1989	Junior Year Abroad Committee
Member 1980-1983	Admissions Committee

### **B. Rutgers College**

Member 1992-1994	Executive Committee, College Fellows
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Member 1988-1989  
Chair 1980-1981  
Chair 1980-1982  
Member 1980-1984  
Member 1979-1984

Curriculum Committee  
Instruction and Honors Committee  
Henry Rutgers Thesis Committee  
Henry Rutgers Honors Committee  
Board of Academic Advisers

**C. Herbert H. Lehman College of CUNY**

Member 1976-1978  
Member 1976-1978  
Member 1975-1978  
Member 1973-1975

Fulbright Screening Committee  
Shuster Fellowship Committee  
Library Committee  
Education Policy Committee