

**Lee Gilmore**  
Curriculum Vitae

San Jose State Univ.  
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**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. Cultural & Historical Studies of Religions, Graduate Theological Union, 2005  
M.A. Women's Spirituality, California Institute of Integral Studies, 1997  
B.A. Women Studies, San Francisco State University, 1993

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2018-current Lecturer, Department Comparative Religion & Humanities,  
California State University, Chico
- 2011-current Lecturer, Department of Humanities, Religious Studies Program,  
San José State University
- 2008-2011 Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, California State University,  
Northridge
- 2009-2010 Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, California State University, Northridge,
- 2005-2007 Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, Holy Names University
- 2004-2006 Instructor, Department of Humanities, Chabot College

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

- 2010 *Theater in a Crowded Fire: Ritual and Spirituality at Burning Man.* (book with DVD)  
Berkeley: University of California Press.

**Edited Volumes**

- 2005 *AfterBurn: Reflections on the Burning Man Festival.* (w/Mark Van Proyen)  
Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.

## Book Chapters

- 2013 “Research Methods and Problems in Ritual Studies and New Religious Movements,” in *The Bloomsbury Companion to New Religious Movements*. George D. Chrystides and Benjamin E. Zeller, eds. London: Bloomsbury.
- 2011 “Burn-a-lujah! DIY Spiritualities, Reverend Billy and Burning Man,” in *Religion, Media and Culture: A Reader*. Gordon Lynch, Jolyon Mitchell, and Anna Sthan, eds. London: Routledge.
- 2011 “DIY Spiritual Community: From Individualism to Participatory Culture,” in *Media, Spiritualities and Social Change*, Stuart Hoover & Monica Emerich, eds. New York: Continuum.
- 2008 “Of Ordeals and Operas: Reflexive Ritualizing at the Burning Man Festival,” in *Victor Turner and Contemporary Cultural Performance*, Graham St John, ed. New York: Berghahn.
- 2007 “Media Mecca: Rituals, Tropes, & Technopagans at the Burning Man Festival,” in *Media, Religion, and the Marketplace*, Lynn S. Clark, ed., Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- 2006 “Public Ceremonies: Ritualizing Civic, Media, & Social Life,” in *Faith in America: Changes, Challenges, New Directions, Vol. 2*, Charles Lippy, ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood/Praeger.
- 2006 “Desert Pilgrimage: Liminality, Transformation, and the Other at the Burning Man Festival,” in *On the Road to Being There: Studies in Pilgrimage and Tourism in Late Modernity*, William Swatos, ed. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill Academic Press,
- 2005 “Embers Dust and Ashes: Pilgrimage and Healing at the Burning Man Festival,” in *Pilgrimage and Healing*, Jill Dubisch and Michael Winkelman, eds., Tuscon: University of Arizona Press.

## Peer Review

- Forthcoming (2018) “Pagans at the Parliament: Constructions of Authenticity in Interfaith Dialogue Among Pagan and Indigenous Communities.” *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies*, 20/2.

## Non-Peer Review

- 2014 “Burning Man Festival,” *World Religions and Spirituality Project* (Virginia Commonwealth University). <http://www.wrldrels.org/profiles/BurningMan.htm>
- 2011 “Occupy Christmas (and 2012),” *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). December 19. <http://www.transmissions.org/?p=47200>

- 2011 "Occupy the Earth: Paganism and the OWS Movement," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). October 31. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=46000>
- 2011 "Burning Man," *frequencies: a collaborative genealogy of spirituality*. Social Sciences Research Council Working Group on Spirituality, Political Engagement, and Public Life. September 27. <http://frequencies.ssrc.org/2011/09/27/burning-man/>
- 2011 "Dissent, Diversity, and Anxiety," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). September 22. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=44900>
- 2011 "Boy Wizards, Green Living, Blue Aliens: We're All Neo-Pagans Now," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). July 11. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=42500>
- 2011 "You Got Your Chakras in My Praise Moves: What Counts as Religious Authenticity?" *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). May 26. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=41200>
- 2011 "Framing the Battle: Who Hogs (and Holds) the Camera," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). April 11. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=39500>
- 2011 "Tea Leaves, Chicken Bones and the Super Bowl," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). February 7. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=37100>
- 2011 "Native Civil Religion." *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). January 19. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=36300>
- 2010 "Again with the Prop8? WTF," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). December 8. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=35000>
- 2010 "Out of the Deathly Doldrums ? Fresh Angles on Harry Potter," *Trans/missions: Media, Culture, Religion, Society*. (University of Southern California). November 22. <http://www.trans-missions.org/?p=34500>
- 2010 "Burning Man: Religious Event or Sheer Hedonism? Ten Questions for Lee Gilmore," *Religion Dispatches*. June 16. [http://www.religiondispatches.org/books/rd10q/2724/burning\\_man%3A\\_religious\\_event\\_or\\_sheer\\_hedonism/](http://www.religiondispatches.org/books/rd10q/2724/burning_man%3A_religious_event_or_sheer_hedonism/)
- 2008 "Change-a-lujah!: Destabilizing Normative Religion with Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Gospel Choir." *The Council of Societies for the Study of Religion Bulletin*. 37(1): 7-10.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Department of Comparative Religion & Humanities, California State University, Chico**

World Religions and Global Issues (Spring 2018, online)  
Religion in American Public Schools (Spring 2018, online)

### **Department of Humanities/Religious Studies, San José State University**

Gender, Sexuality & Religion (Fall 2012)  
Magic, Science, & Religion (16 sections, all online)  
Nature & World Cultures (Fall 2011)  
Pagan Traditions (4 sections, 3 online)  
Religion & Political Controversy in the U.S. (9 sections, 7 online)  
Religion, Film & Media (Fall 2015, online)

### **Department of Religious Studies, California State University, Northridge**

American Cults & Sects (Spring 2010)  
American Political Institutions & Religion (4 sections)  
Contemporary Religious Thought (Fall 2009)  
Introduction to the Study of Religion (4 sections)  
Native American Religions (Fall 2010)  
Women & Religion (Fall 2008)  
World Religions (Spring 2010)

### **Department of Anthropology, California State University, Northridge**

Anthropology of Pilgrimage and Festival (Fall 2010)  
Visions of the Sacred (Spring 2009)

### **Department of Religious Studies, Holy Names University, Oakland**

World Wisdom Traditions (Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007)

### **Department of Humanities, Chabot College, Hayward, CA**

World Religions (6 sections)

### **Associate Faculty, Starr King School for the Ministry, Berkeley, CA**

Global Religious Traditions (Fall 2005)

### **Technology Teaching Assistant, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA**

Cross-Cultural Christian Ethics (Spring 2003)

### **Teaching Assistant, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA**

Religion and Cultures: Issues, Pilgrimage and Methodology (Fall 2002)

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2005 GTU Teaching Scholar Award, Graduate Theological Union
- 2004 Fichter Research Award, Association for the Sociology of Religion
- 2003 Fellowship for Dissertations in Media, Religion, and Culture, School of Mass Communications and Journalism, University of Colorado, Boulder
- 2003, 2004 Newhall Fellowship, Graduate Theological Union
- 2002 Tech TA Fellowship, Graduate Theological Union  
Center for Teaching & Learning

## **INVITED TALKS**

- 2011 “Burners Without Borders: Participation & Activism After the Burning Man Festival.” University of Southern California: Participatory Culture and Civics Research Group, convened by Henry Jenkins. March 2.
- 2010 “Theater in a Crowded Fire: Ritual & Spirituality at Burning Man.” Public conversation with Rev. Jim Burklo, USC Assoc. Dean of Religious Life and Larry Harvey, Founder of the Burning Man festival. University of Southern California. October 13.
- 2010 “Theater in a Crowded Fire: Ritual and Spirituality at Burning Man.” Public lecture, California State University, Northridge. September 29.
- 2009 “DIY Spirituality: From Burning Man to Reverend Billy.” St Catherine’s College, Oxford, hosted by the Centre for Religion and Contemporary Society, Birkbeck College, University of London. September 6.
- 2007 “Teaching Someone Else’s Passion: Revising a Core Course.” Graduate Theological Union, Learning and Teaching Academy. August 23.
- 2005 “Desert Pilgrimage: Negotiating Place, Community, Identity, and Commodification at the Burning Man Festival.” Tourism Studies Working Group, University of California Berkeley. February 4.
- 2005 “How to Design a World Religions Survey Course in 48 Hours or Less: What I've Learned.” First Friday Teaching Talk, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. March 4.

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

- 2017 “Ritual, Performance, and Politics at Burning Man.” Western States Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Eugene, OR. April 21-22.

- 2016 “Pagan & Indigenous Communities at the Parliament: The Myth of the ‘Unbroken Line’ in Constructions of Authenticity.” American Academy of Religion, Contemporary Pagan Studies Group, San Antonio, TX. November 19-22.
- 2016 “Turn the World Upside Down: Indigenous & Pagan Activists at the Parliament of the World’s Religions.” Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness, Portland State University. March 31-April 3.
- 2016 “Burning Man: Spirituality, Transformation, and Activism.” The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture, University of Florida, Gainesville. January 14-17.
- 2014 “Videographic Methods in Studying Ritual.” (Panelist) American Academy of Religion, Ritual Studies Group, San Diego, CA. November 22-25.
- 2011 “Pagans at the Parliament: Interfaith Dialogue between Neo-Pagan and Indigenous Communities.” w/ Sabina Magliocco. American Academy of Religion, Indigenous Religious Traditions Group, San Francisco, CA. November 18-21.
- 2011 “Pagans at the Parliament: Pre-Christian Religions Reclamation, Global Interfaith Dialogue, and Ecological Discourse.” w/ Sabina Magliocco. American Academy of Religion/Western Region, Whittier College, CA. March 27-29.
- 2011 “Burners Without Borders: Participation and Activism After the Burning Man Festival.” Digital Media & Learning Conference: Designing Learning Futures, Long Beach, CA. (Organized by the Digital Media and Learning Research Hub at University of California, Irvine) March 3-5.
- 2008 “Convergence Culture, Web 2.0, and DIY Spiritualities.” Media Spiritualities and Social Change, University of Colorado, Boulder. February 1-3.
- 2006 “Change-a-lujah!” Destabilizing Normative ‘Religion’ with Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Gospel Choir.” American Academy of Religion 2006, Religion and Popular Culture Group, Washington, D.C. November 18-21.
- 2005 “No Spectators: Ideology and Performativity at the Burning Man Festival.” American Academy of Religion, Anthropology of Religion Group, Philadelphia PA. November 19-22.
- 2004 “Theater in a Crowded Fire: Ritualizing ‘Spirituality without Religion’ at the Burning Man Festival.” American Academy of Religion, Ritual Studies and New Religious Movements Groups, co-sponsored session, San Antonio, TX. November 20-23.
- 2003 “Desert Dreams: Reflexivity, Ritual, and the Media at the Burning Man Festival.” American Academy of Religion 2003, New Religious Movements Group, Atlanta, GA. November 22-25.

- 2002 “Fires of Transformation: Ritual, Art, and Performance at the Burning Man Festival.” American Academy of Religion/Western Region, Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, CA. March 22-24
- 2000 “Rites of Pilgrimage and Transformation at the Burning Man Festival.” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA. November 18-21.
- 1999 “The Burning Man Festival as a Rite of Passage.” Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness, University of California, Berkeley. March 24-28.

## **PANELS ORGANIZED**

- 2006 Co-Convener, “The State of the Subfield: A Senior/Junior Scholar Roundtable.” American Academy of Religion, New Religious Movements Methods Meeting, Washington, DC. November 18-21.
- 2005 Co-Convener, “Historical Perspectives and Current Issues in the Study of New Religious Movements: A Senior/Junior Scholar Roundtable.” (co-convener. American Academy of Religion, New Religious Movements Methods Meeting, Chicago, IL. November 19-22.
- 2000 “Burning Man and Public Consciousness.” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA. November 15-19.

## **SERVICE**

### **To Profession**

- 2006-2010 Steering Committee Member, American Academy of Religion, Ritual Studies Group
- 2002-2006 Executive Board Student Representative, Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness
- 2000-2004 Assistant Editor, *Anthropology Of Consciousness*, American Anthropological Association

### **To Departmental and University**

- 2015-current Social Media Lead, Religious Studies Program, San Jose State University
- 2011 Organized student panel: “The Anthropology of Pilgrimage and Festival,” Annual AnthroExpo, California State University, Northridge

## **NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2015 Consultant, Cultural Competency Professional Development Initiative, Office of Professional Organization & Development, Lane Community College, Eugene, OR
- 2002-2003 Project Manager, The Regeneration Project/Interfaith Power & Light, San Francisco, CA
- 1999-2001 Associate Producer, Grace Cathedral, Media/Communications Department, San Francisco, CA

## **MEDIA COVERAGE AND INTERVIEWS**

- 2012 “Burning Man ticket fiasco shows festival has grown too popular.” Associated Press, February 25. <http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Burning-Man-Ticket-Fiasco-Shows-Festival-is-Too-Popular-140459923.html>
- 2010 “For academics, Burning Man a hot subject.” *Washington Post*, November 20. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/20/AR2010112003099.html>
- 2010 “Burning Man becomes a hot academic topic.” *Los Angeles Times*, October 20. <http://articles.latimes.com/2010/oct/20/local/la-me-burning-man-20101020>
- 2010 “The Burning Man Festival as Modern Desert Pilgrimage.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 15. <http://www.chronicle.com/blogs/pageview/the-burning-man-festival-as-modern-desert-pilgrimage/26957>
- 2006 “The Art of Burning Man.” KQED Forum with Michael Krasny. January 16.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Academy of Religion (2002-current)  
American Anthropological Association (1998-2002)