

NICOLE S. SYMMONDS

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EDUCATION

Emory University

Doctor of Philosophy: Graduate Division of Religion (Ethics & Society)

Certificate: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Atlanta, GA

August 2021

Dissertation: *Trafficking in God: Exploring Race and Religion in Anti-Commercial Sex Trade Interventions*

Committee: Ellen Ott Marshall (Advisor), Ted Smith, Elizabeth Bounds, Monique Moultrie

Emory University

Master of Divinity: Theology & Ethics

Atlanta, GA

May 2013

Florida A&M University

Bachelor of Science: Journalism

Tallahassee, FL

May 2002

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics, Columbia Theological Seminary

Atlanta, GA
July 2023-Present

Visiting Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics, McAfee School of Theology

Atlanta, GA
2021-Present

ACADEMIC AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Sacred Writes Fellowship, *National Catholic Reporter*

2021-2022

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Louisville Institute

2021-2023

Dissertation Fellowship, Louisville Institute

2020-2021

Dissertation Fellowship, The Forum for Theological Exploration

2019-2020

PUBLICATIONS

“Breaking the Body of Evangelical Whiteness: A Womanist Ethic of Encounter for Faith-Based Anti-Trafficking Work,” in *Religions: Critical Perspectives on Religion, Sex and Human Trafficking*, May 2023

“Black Feminism, Womanism, and Intersectionality Discourse: A Theo-ethical Roundtable,” in *The Journal of Moral Theology: Volume 12, Special Issue 1*, June 2023

“Qualitatively Studying Evangelical Whiteness: Excerpts and Experiences,” in *Ethnography as Christian Theolog(ies) and Ethics: Volume 2*, Bloomsbury 2023 (**Under Review**)

Co-Author on “Rioting as Flourishing: Reconsidering Virtue Ethics in times of Political Unrest,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics: Volume 38 Issue: 1*

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Plenary Address, “Wherever You Go, I Go...: Mapping Migratory Patterns and Declaring Solidarity at Such as Time as This,” Southeast American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, March 10, 2023

Paper Presentation, “Breaking the Body of Evangelical Whiteness: A Womanist Ethic of Encounter for Faith-Based Anti-Trafficking Work,” Society of Christian Ethics, Chicago, Illinois, January 6, 2023

Paper Presentation, “The Black Body as Religion: Blackness as A Site of Interreligious Theology and Ethics,” Catholic Theological Society of America, Atlanta, GA, June 10, 2022

Panelist, “Fostering Civil Discourse: How Do We Talk About the Issues that Matter?” Mercer University Center for Leadership and Ethics: Atlanta, GA, March 24, 2022

Panelist, “Race, Racism and Qualitative Methods in Christian Ethics,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Costa Mesa, California, January 9, 2022

Panelist, “Un/Compromised Subjects: Religion, Race, and Purity in the United States,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 22, 2021

Paper Presentation, “Stripping Humanity: A Womanist Response of Social Responsibility to Strip Club Culture’s Construction of Black Sex Workers,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 19, 2021

Lecture, “Elevating Flesh: Womanist Ethics, Afro-Caribbean Carnival, and Divine Enjoyment,” Aquinas Day Lecture, Atlanta, Georgia, January 28, 2021

Paper Presentation “We are All Eleanor Shellstrop: How Dirtbags Can Be Virtuous,” Southeastern Regional Conference on Religious Studies, Athens, Georgia, February 29, 2020

Paper Presentation: “Mas to Mass: The Intersecting Performativity and Black Religiosity of Trinidad Carnival and Black Catholicism,” Black Catholic Theological Symposium, Charleston, South Carolina, October 12, 2019

Paper Presentation: “Not Your Normative Ethics: Michel Foucault as Course Corrector to Liberative Christian Ethics,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky, January 4, 2019

Paper Presentation: “Rioting as Flourishing: Reconsidering Virtue Ethics in times of Political Unrest,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 5, 2017

Paper Presentation: “I Wish Her Heart Still Was in Rhyming: Hip-Hop Feminist Ethics in a World of Wanksta Feminists,” Anna Julia Cooper Gender, Sexuality, and Hip-Hop Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, December 5, 2013

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Panelist, “Pseudo-Religion or Social Poetry: Black Lives Matter and the Catholic Church,” The National Black Catholic Congress, Virtual, December 6, 2021

Panelist, “The State of Black Forgiveness in the Wake of White Fragility,” Womanist Ingathering, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, California, November 22, 2019

Co-Facilitator, “What’s Next? It’s Not a Test” Teen Retreat, St. Ignatius House Retreat Center, Atlanta, GA, June 2-4, 2019

Panelist, “The Church Women Want: Life Stories from Catholic Women,” St. Thomas More Church, Atlanta, GA, March 20, 2019

Lecture, “Introduction to Black Feminism and Womanism,” North Decatur Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA, February 3, 10, 17, 2019

Lecture, “Wrestling with the Wages of Sin: A Death Penalty Discussion,” St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA, May 3, 2015 & April 26, 2015

Lecture, “Peeling the Onion: Testing the Limits of Freedom of Speech,” St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA, April 12, 2015 & February 1, 2015

Workshop, “Faith & Sexuality: Balancing Faith and Sex,” Infectious Disease Program for Health & Wellness, Atlanta, GA, May 20, 2014

Lecture, “Reconciling Spirituality and Sexuality,” Grace United Methodist Church, Atlanta, GA, March 26, 2014

GUILD & INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

- Society of Christian Ethics, Women’s Caucus Convener, 2023-Present
- *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*, Editorial Board Member, 2022-Present
- American Academy of Religion, Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession, Committee Member, 2022-Present
- Catholic Theology Society of America, Black Catholic Consultation Steering Committee Member, 2022-Present
- Political Theology Network, Advisory Board Member, 2021-Present
- Society of Christian Ethics, Student Board Member, 2020-2022

- Aquinas Center of Theology, Board Member, 2018-2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Mercer University: Visiting Assistant Professor

THET 500: Introduction to Christian Ethics

THET 707: Christian Sexual Ethics

THET 800: Feminist & Womanist Ethics

Brite Divinity School: Visiting Professor

RECU: Black Embodiment and Ethics

Emory University: Instructor of Record

AAS 385: Race, Sex, and Gender in the South

ES 621: Christian Sexual Ethics

REL/WGS 352: Global Christian Women's Voices

Emory University: Teaching Assistant

REL 270/AAS-285: Black Love

ES 501: Introduction to Christian Ethics

REL 322: Religion & Sexuality

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Catholic Theological Society of America
- American Academy of Religion
- Society of Christian Ethics
- Black Catholic Theological Symposium