

ELESHA COFFMAN

Assistant professor of American intellectual history
Baylor University
One Bear Place, #97306
Waco, Texas 76798-7306

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Duke University, 2008
Dissertation: "Constituting the Protestant Mainline: *The Christian Century*, 1908-1947"; Advisor, Grant Wacker

M.A., Duke University, 2006

B.A., Wheaton College (IL), 1997
Summa cum laude

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University, 2013-

Visiting fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, 2011-2012

Communitas Fellowship, Calvin College, 2010

Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship, 2007-2008

Gurney Harris Kearns Fellowship, Duke University, 2002-2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Baylor University, Waco, TX
Assistant Professor of American Intellectual History, 2016-

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA
Assistant Professor of Church History, 2012-2016

Courses taught: Early and Medieval Church History, Reformation and Modern Church History, Introduction to Reformed Theology, Jesus in America

Waynesburg University, Waynesburg, PA
Assistant Professor of History, 2008-2012

Courses taught: U.S. History to 1865; U.S. History since 1865; Twentieth Century World History; Colonial History; Gilded Age and Progressive Era; Women's History; Church History; American Religious History; Public History; Sports in American History

Duke University, Durham, NC
Graduate instructor, 2006-2008

Courses taught: World Religions in America, “*Napoleon Dynamite* and Other Mormons” (section of freshman composition)

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“The Bible and the Mainline Denominations,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Bible in America*, ed. Paul Gutjahr (forthcoming)

“‘You Cannot Fool the Electronic Eye’: Billy Graham and Media,” in *American Pilgrim: The Worlds of Billy Graham*, eds. Andrew Finstuen, Grant Wacker, and Anne Blue Wills (forthcoming)

Turning Points in American Church History
Baker Academic, under contract

The Christian Century and the Rise of the Protestant Mainline
Oxford University Press, May 2013

“The Measure of a Magazine: Assessing the Influence of *The Christian Century*”
Religion and American Culture, Winter 2012

“Harry Emerson Fosdick”
Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2012)

“*The Chicago Call* and Responses,” in *Evangelicals and the Early Church*, ed. George Kalantzis (Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2011)

“The ‘Religious Issue’ in 1928, 1960, and 2004”
American Catholic Studies 119.4 (Winter 2008)

“George Cadbury” and “George Eliot”
Encyclopedia of Protestantism, ed. Hans Hillerbrand (New York: Routledge, 2003)

RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PUBLIC LECTURES

“Mainline” contribution to the panel “What’s in a Name? Debating Keywords in the Study of American Protestantism”
American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, 2016

“Sixty Years of Religious Decline? An Interdisciplinary Conversation” panel presentation
American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, 2015

“Marketing the Mainline: Circulation, Advertising, Design, and Identity in *The Christian Century*”

Religious Press and Print Culture conference, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, Nov. 19-22, 2014

Panel response, “Twentieth Century Evangelicalism”

Conference on Faith and History, September 2014

“Postwar Protestantism: The Contested Center”

Lecture, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion, February 17, 2014

“I had not yet learned to read books”: The role of texts in liberal Protestant conversion narratives

American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, 2014

“‘You Cannot Fool the Electronic Eye’: Billy Graham and Media”

Worlds of Billy Graham Conference, Wheaton College, September 27, 2013

“Beyond the Protestant Establishment?” panel presentation

American Society of Church History Winter Meeting, 2013

“‘You Can’t Enlist the Laymen’: *The Christian Century* and the Logic of Mainline Churchliness”

Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, 2012

RECENT REVIEWS AND ARTICLES

“Belief and Behavior Up, Belonging Down”

Patheos Public Square, “Future of Faith in America” series, July 29, 2015

“How Evangelicalism Built Its Brand Loyalty” (review of Timothy Gloege, *Guaranteed Pure: The Moody Bible Institute, Business, and the Making of Modern Evangelicalism*) *Christianity Today* online, June 4, 2015

Review of George Marsden, *The Twilight of the American Enlightenment: The 1950s and the Crisis of Liberal Belief*

American Historical Review, February 2015

Review of David A. Hollinger, *After Cloven Tongues of Fire: Protestant Liberalism in Modern American History*

Journal of Religion, January 2015

“Religious Decline in America? The Answer Depends on Your Timeframe”

Religion News Service “Corner of Church and State” blog, Jan. 21, 2015

Review of Molly Worthen, *Apostles of Reason: The Crisis of Authority in American Evangelicalism*
Journal of American History, December 2014

“Evangelicals, Gender, and Anxiety”
Christian Century “Then & Now” blog, Nov. 12, 2014

“Before There Was Billy Graham, There Was ...” (interview with Thomas Kidd regarding his book *George Whitefield: America’s Spiritual Founding Father*)
Christianity Today online, Nov. 12, 2014

“Mainline Protestantism: Numbers Count, but Prestige Matters More”
Huffington Post, April 8, 2013

“The Forgotten Woman of Evangelical History” (review of Catherine A. Brekus, *Sarah Osborn’s World: The Rise of Evangelical Christianity in Early America*)
Christianity Today online, March 14, 2013

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Monthly contributor, Religion in American History, <http://usreligion.blogspot.com/>

Managing editor, *Christian History*, 2000-2002

Christianity Today International, Carol Stream, IL

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Church History (Council member, 2015-)

Conference on Faith and History

REFERENCES

Mark Noll, University of Notre Dame

Matthew Schlimm, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary

Grant Wacker, Duke University

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