

UNRAVELLING RELIGION

INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE
SCHOOL OF RELIGION, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
MARCH 01, 2014

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Russell T. McCutcheon (University of Alabama)

NEW DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: JANUARY 17, 2014

Religion, however it is defined, is deeply entangled in aspects of daily life, popular culture, and political discourse. In this view, religious beliefs and practices constitute a common thread that runs through the fabric of human life, linking individuals to religious communities and to one another. At the same time, the term 'religion' is inextricably tied to other complex terms including 'culture' and especially 'the secular.' Far from being a discrete thread in the intricately woven fabric of human life, 'religion' becomes a tangled mess of meanings and associations whose strands are often twisted, knotted, and frayed.

This conference seeks both to isolate and examine the common thread of religion in daily life and also to question, evaluate, and unravel the scholarly construct 'religion.' We invite papers from graduate students in all areas of the humanities and social sciences who share an interest in critically engaging with religion as both social phenomenon and analytical category. Potential topics for exploration include, but are not limited to:

'Religion' and 'spirituality'
Religion and popular culture
Pop culture religions (Jediism, FSM)
Secularism
Religious objects
Religion, gender, and sexuality
Secularization and religious change
Critical theories of religion

Religion and the environment
Religious spaces and places
New Atheism
New Religious Movements
Religion and the public sphere
Implicit religion
'Religion' and 'the secular'

We welcome proposals for 20 minute presentations. Abstracts should include a publication-ready, titled abstract of 200-300 words. The name, e-mail address, university affiliation and level of study of the presenter(s) should also be included, along with information concerning special needs. **The deadline for submission is January 17, 2013.** All received submissions will be acknowledged, with notification of acceptance, by mid January.

Send proposals and requests for information to: unravellingreligion@gmail.com
or visit unravellingreligion.wordpress.com for more information