

UNRAVELLING RELIGION 2: PROJECTING THE SECULAR

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

MARCH 07, 2015

Keynote Speaker: Dr. William Arnal (University of Regina)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: JANUARY 20, 2015

Religion, however it is defined, is 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,' can become a tangled mess of meanings and associations whose strands are often twisted, knotted, and frayed.

This year's conference seeks to explore the ways both 'religion' and 'the secular' are deployed to describe individuals, groups, institutions, objects, places, and spaces. We invite papers from graduate students in all areas of the humanities and social sciences who share an interest in critically engaging with religion and the secular as both social phenomena and analytical categories. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

'Religion' and 'spirituality'
Religion and popular culture
Secularization / Disenchantment
Secularism
Religious objects
Critical theories of religion

Religion and the environment
Religious / Secular spaces / places
New Atheism
New Religious Movements
Religion and the public sphere
Implicit religion

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 20, 2015.**

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