

# EDWARD C. POLSON

Diana R. Garland School of Social Work  
Baylor University  
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## EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D., Sociology, Baylor University
- 2006 M.A., Sociology, Baylor University
- 2003 M.S.W., Baylor School of Social Work, Baylor University
- 2003 M.Div., George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University
- 2000 B.A., Christian Studies and Philosophy, English, Mississippi College

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2020 – Present Associate Professor, Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University
- 2014 – 2020 Assistant Professor, Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University
- 2011 – 2014 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Messiah University
- 2009 – 2011 Assistant Professor, Department of History and Social Sciences, Louisiana State University Shreveport
- 2007 – 2008 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Sociology, Baylor University

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Religion and spirituality, religious congregations, civil society, social work education, organizations

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Oxhandler, H. K., Polson, E. C., & Selman, S. (in press). Religion and spirituality in MSW programs' implicit and explicit curricula: A national survey of faculty. *The Journal of Social Work Education*.

Oxhandler, H. K., Polson, E. C., & Moffatt, K. M. (in press). The religious/spiritually integrated practice assessment scale for educators: A national survey of social work faculty. *The Journal of Social Work Education*.

Polson, E. C., & Scales, T. L. (2020). Good Neighbor House: Reimagining settlement houses for 21<sup>st</sup> century communities. *Social Work & Christianity*, 47(3), 100-122. doi: 10.34043/swc.v4713

- Oxhandler, H. K., Moffatt, K. M., Polson, E. C., & Pooler, D. K. (2020). The religious and spiritual beliefs and practices of MSW program leaders across the United States. *Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought*, 39(3), 324-344. doi: 10.1080/15426432.2020.1760179
- Whiteley, K. M., & Polson, E. C. (2019). Streams in the desert: Exploring religion and spirituality among incarcerated women with lengthy sentences. *Journal of Spirituality in Mental Health*. doi: 10.1080/19349637.2019.1647816
- Miller, K., & Polson, E. C. (2019). Exploring the social justice beliefs of Baptist Christians. *Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought*, 38(3), 239-258. doi: 10.1080/15426432.2019.1590292
- Polson, E. C., & Gillespie, R. (2019). The bridging activity of multiracial congregations. *Religions*, 10(204), 1-14. doi: 10.3390/rel10030204
- Polson, E. C., & Dougherty, K. D. (2019). Worshipping across the color line: The influence of congregational composition on whites' friendship networks and racial attitudes. *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 5(1), 100-114. doi: 10.1177/2332649218757804
- Garcia, N., & Polson, E. C. (2018). Community policing relations: Texas law enforcement practices in one community. *Journal of Ideology*, 39(1), 1-21.
- Polson, E. C., Gillespie, R., & Myers, D. R. (2018). Hope and resilience among vulnerable, community-dwelling older persons. *Social Work & Christianity*, 45(1), 60-81.
- Polson, E. C. (2018). An examination of the relationship between characteristics of sect-like religiosity and community volunteering among U.S. churchgoers. *Review of Religious Research*, 60(2), 247-274. doi: 10.1007/s13644-017-0315-4
- Oxhandler, H. K., Polson, E. C., & Achenbaum, W. A. (2018). The religiosity and spiritual beliefs and practices of clinical social workers: A national survey. *Social Work*, 63(1), 47-56. doi: 10.1093/sw/swx055
- Oxhandler, H. K., Polson, E. C., Moffatt, K. M., & Achenbaum, W. A. (2017). The religious and spiritual beliefs and practices among practitioners across five helping professions. *Religions*, 8(237), 1-15. doi: 10.3390/rel8110237
- Wolfer, T. A., Myers, D. R., Polson, E. C., & Bevis, B. (2017). Baby boomers as congregational volunteers in community ministry. *Religions*, 8(66), 1-18. doi: 10.3390/rel8040066
- Harris, H. W., Hess, B., Polson, E. C., & Yancey, G. I. (2017). ADHD and grief: Diagnosis and differentiation at one federally qualified health center. *Journal of Loss and Trauma*, 22(7), 540-563. doi: 10.1080/15325024.2017.1360583

- Polson, E. C. (2017). Religious environments and the distribution of anti-poverty nonprofit organizations. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 46(1), 156-174. doi: 10.1177/0899764016661032
- Liu, Eric Y., & Polson, E. C. (2016). The colors of fear: A multilevel analysis of fear of crime across Houston area neighborhoods. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, 14(4), 307-326. doi: 10.1080/15377938.2016.1187238
- Polson, E. C. (2016). Putting civic participation in context: Examining the effects of congregational structure and culture. *Review of Religious Research*, 58(1), 75-100. doi: 10.1007/s1364401502234
- Polson, E. C. (2015). Social diversity and civic engagement: The effects of ethnic and social heterogeneity on the community involvement of American congregations. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 44(5), 968-987. doi: 10.1177/0899764014548424
- Jang, S. J., Johnson, B. R., Kim, Y., Polson, E. C., & Smith, B. G. (2014). Structured voluntary youth activities and positive outcomes in adulthood: An exploratory study of involvement in scouting and subjective well-being. *Sociological Focus*, 47(4), 238-267. doi: 10.1080/00380237.2014.939926
- Polson, E. C., Kim, Y., Jang, S. J., Johnson, B. R., & Smith, B. (2013). Being prepared and staying connected: Scouting's influence on social capital and community involvement. *Social Science Quarterly*, 94(3), 758-776. doi: 10.1111/ssqu.12002
- Dougherty, K. D., Bader, C. D., Froese, P., Polson, E. C., & Smith, B. G. (2009). Religious diversity in a conservative Baptist congregation. *Review of Religious Research*, 50(3), 321-334.
- Polson, E. C. (2008). The inter-organizational ties that bind: Exploring the contributions of agency – congregation relationships. *Sociology of Religion*, 69(1), 45-65.
- Dougherty, K. D., Johnson, B. R., & Polson, E. C. (2007). Recovering the lost: Remeasuring U.S. religious affiliation. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 46(4), 483-499.
- Finke, R., Bader, C. D., & Polson, E. C. (2007). A growing web of resources: The Association of Religion Data Archives. *Review of Religious Research*, 49(1), 21-34.
- Mencken, F. C., Bader, C., & Polson, E. C. (2006). Integrating civil society and economic growth in Appalachia. *Growth and Change*, 37(1), 107-127.

## BOOKS

Cruise, S., Polson, E. C., Dolch, N., Well-Lewis, R., & Wise, H. (2019). *Social problems: A case study approach*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Dolch, N. A., Gassman, J., Krick, S., Kinnell, A. M., Polson, E. C., Schaffer, R. H., Cruise, S., & Wade, R. (2016). *Nongovernmental Organization Case Studies in Leadership from Around the World*, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND SECTIONS

Polson, E. C., & Scales, L. T. (2020). Good Neighbor House: Reimagining settlement houses for 21<sup>st</sup> century communities. In L. T. Scales and M. S. Kelly (Eds.), *Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., Botsford, CT: NACSW.

Polson, E. C. (2018). Australia. In R. Mirabella, A. M. Kinnell, & N. Dolch. (Eds.), *Nongovernmental Organization Case Studies in Leadership from Around the World*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Dolch, N. A., Wise, H., Polson, E. C., & Wells-Lewis, R. (2011). Introduction: What is a social problem? In N. Dolch, H. Powell, E. C. Polson, and R. Wells-Lewis (Eds.), *Social Problems: A Case Study Approach*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Polson, E. C., & Strong, M. T. (2011). Ideology. In N. Dolch, H. Powell, E. C. Polson, and R. Wells-Lewis (Eds.), *Social Problems: A Case Study Approach*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Polson, E. C. (2013). *Bad religion: How we became a nation of heretics*, by Ross Douthat (New York, NY: Free Press, 2012). *Christian Scholar's Review*, 42(2), 198-201.

## NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Finke, R., Bader, C. D., & Polson, E. C. (2010). Faithful measures: Developing improved measures of religion. *ARDA Guiding Paper Series*. State College, PA: The Association of Religion Data Archives. Retrieved from <http://www.thearda.com/rrh/papers/guidingpapers/finke.asp>.

Polson, E. C. (2009). *Community profile builder*. State College, PA: The Association of Religion Data Archives.

Maier, J., Polson C., & Rhodes, J. (2008). *Small congregations: A review of empirical findings in the professional literature*. Waco, TX: Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion.

Polson, E. C. (2007). Recent additions and improvements: An update from the Association of Religion Data Archives. *Review of Religious Research*, 48(4), 444-445.

Polson, E. C. (2006). QuickStats: An update from the Association of Religion Data Archives. *Review of Religious Research*, 48(1), 118-119.

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Polson, E. C., & Oxhandler, H. K. (2021, October). Examining the influence that colleges and universities' religious affiliation has on social work education. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Portland, OR.

Oxhandler, H. K., & Polson, E. C. (2021, July). Religion and spirituality in social work education: Explicit curriculum. Keynote/plenary address at the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) first Spirituality in Social Work Summit, virtual summit.

Oxhandler, H. K., & Polson, E. C. (2020, November). Social work educators' views/behaviors regarding training students to integrate clients' religion/spirituality. Paper presented at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), virtual conference.

Harris, H. E., Yancey, G. I., Polson, E. C., Herridge, M., Dawson, K., Goertzen, G., & Gregory, J. (2020, November). Congregations, denominations, and LGBTQ+ discernment research results. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW), virtual conference.

Polson, E. C., & Oxhandler, H. K. (2020, October). Examining the influence that college and universities' religious affiliation has on social work education. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), meeting cancelled due to Covid-19.

Myers, D. R., Polson, E. C., Gillespie, R. & McGee, J. S. (2019, November). Hope and resilience among vulnerable, community-dwelling older persons. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX.

Polson, E. C., & Oxhandler, H. K. (2019, October). Integrating clients' religion and spirituality in practice: A national survey of graduate social work faculty. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), St. Louis, MO.

Polson, E. C. (2018, November). Examining multiracial congregations as civil society organizations. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), Austin, TX.

- Polson, E. C. (2018, October). Examining multiracial congregations as civil society organizations. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Las Vegas, NV.
- Polson, E. C., & Smith, B. G. (2017, October). Religious success and the community engagement of U.S. congregations. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Washington, DC.
- Oxhandler, H. K., & Polson, E. C. (2017, October). The religious and spiritual beliefs and practices among practitioners across five helping professions. Poster presented at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Dallas, TX.
- Polson, E. C. (2016, November). More than one path: Examining the relationships between religiosity and community volunteering. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), Washington, DC.
- Polson, E. C. (2015, November). Putting civic participation in context: Examining the effects of congregational structure and culture. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), Chicago, IL.
- Polson, E. C. (2014, November). Building bridges and strengthening bonds: Examining the relationship between community engagement and congregational health. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Indianapolis, IN.
- Polson, E. C. (2013, March). Bridging communities: The effects of social diversity on congregational community engagement. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), Boston, MA.
- Polson, E. C., Kim, Y., Jang, S. J., Johnson, B. R., and Smith, B. G. (2012, February). Being prepared and staying connected: Scouting's influence on social capital and community involvement. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), New York, NY.
- Smith, B. G., Johnson, B. R., & Polson, E. C. (2011, October). (In)voluntary associations and religiosity. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Milwaukee, WI.
- Polson, E. C. (2009, October). Shaping civic life: Religious contexts and civic engagement in the US. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Denver, CO.

- Polson, E. C. (2009, October). The learning center: New online resources for teachers and students. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Denver, CO.
- Polson, E. C. (2009, October). Negotiating a contract. Panel presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Denver, CO.
- Polson, E. C. (2008, October). Diversity and civic engagement. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Louisville, KY.
- Polson, E. C. (2008, October). A growing web of resources: The Association of Religion Data Archives. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies (ASARB), Louisville, KY.
- Polson, E. C. (2008, August). Geographies of care: The spatial distribution of US nonprofits. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Boston, MA.
- Polson, E. C. (2008, March). The spatial distribution of charity: Inequality, religion, and the nonprofit sector. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Sociological Association (SSA), Las Vegas, NV.
- Polson, E. C. (2007, November). Do churches make good neighbors? The effects of congregational characteristics on civic participation. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Tampa, FL.
- Finke, R., Bader, C. D., & Polson, E. C. (2007, November). Faithful measures: Toward improving religion metrics. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Tampa, FL.
- Liu, E. Y., & Polson, E. C. (2007, March). Ethnic heterogeneity and fear of crime: A multilevel analysis of neighborhoods in the greater Houston area. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Sociological Association (SSA), Albuquerque, NM.
- Polson, E. C. (2006, October). Taken for granted? Exploring the relationships between social service agencies and religious congregations. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Portland, OR.
- Dougherty, K. D., Johnson, B. R., & Polson, E. C. (2006, October). Recovering the lost: Remeasuring US. religious affiliation. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)/Religious Research Association (RRA), Portland, OR.

Mencken, F. C., Bader, C. D., & Polson, E. C. (2005, March). Civic engagement and county economic growth in Appalachia during the 1990s. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Sociological Association (SSA), New Orleans, LA.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2021 – Present *Catalyzing a cultural shift toward effectively integrating religious and spiritual competencies in mental health care through training and systems-level change* (Holly K. Oxhandler and Edward C. Polson, Sub-project Co-Principal Investigators)
- 2020 – 2021 Research Consultant, *Congregational Study for Discernment: Processes and Outcomes around The Christian/LGBTQ Discussion*, Baylor University, Waco, TX (Helen Harris and Gaynor Yancey, Principal Investigators)
- 2019 – 2021 *Graduate Social Work Faculty Views on Preparing Students to Ethically Integrate Clients' Religion/Spirituality in Practice: A National Survey* (Edward C. Polson and Holly K. Oxhandler, Principal Investigators)
- 2016 – 2020 Research Consultant, *The Great Bible Experiment*, Massachusetts Bible Society, Boston, MA (Anne Robertson, Executive Director)
- 2010 – 2017 Research Associate, *Merit Beyond the Badges: Eagle Scouts in Later Life* (Byron R. Johnson and Rodney Stark, Principal Investigators)
- 2011 – 2012 Research Consultant, *Harrisburg YWCA Resident Satisfaction Survey*, Harrisburg, PA (Bill Reed, Director of Veterans' Services)
- 2009 – 2010 Research Consultant, *U.S. Congregational Life Survey* (Cynthia Woolever and Deborah Bruce, Principal Investigators)
- 2007 – 2010 Research Consultant, Agape Child and Family Services, Memphis, TN (David Jordan, Executive Director)
- 2006 – 2010 Research Associate, The Association of Religion Data Archives (Roger Finke, Director)
- 2006 – 2009 Research Assistant, *America's Four Gods: A Qualitative Interview Project* (Christopher Bader and Paul Froese, Project Directors)
- 2005 – 2007 Research Consultant, Central Texas Fatherhood Initiative, Waco, TX (Steve Durand, Executive Director)
- 2004 – 2009 Research Assistant, *Baylor Longitudinal Survey of Religious Values and Behavior* (Christopher Bader and Paul Froese, Principal Investigators)



## **FUNDING - AWARDED**

- 2021 Templeton Foundation, *Catalyzing a cultural shift toward effectively integrating religious and spiritual competencies in mental health care through training and systems-level change*. Co-PI with Holly K. Oxhandler. Amount: \$4,200,000 (\$842,000 sub-award).
- 2019 Spencer Foundation. *Social work faculty views on preparing student to ethically integrate clients' religion/spirituality in social work practice: A national survey*. Co-PI with Holly K. Oxhandler. \$50,000.
- 2019 Baylor University Research Leave Project, Awarded (August – December 2019).

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### ***Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University, 2014-Present***

SWO 4322: Social Policy for Social Work Practice (BSW)  
SWO 5182: Research Seminar (MSW)  
SWO 5282: Evaluation of Practice I (MSW)  
SWO 5283: Evaluation of Practice II (MSW)  
SWO 5322: Social Policy for Social Work Practice (MSW)  
SWO 5335: Frameworks/Perspectives for Community Practice (MSW)  
SWO 5383: Research Project (MSW)  
SWO 6343: Program Evaluation (PhD)

### ***Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice, Messiah College, 2011-2014***

SOAN 101: Introduction to Sociology  
SOAN 271: Quantitative Research Methods and Stats  
SOAN 315: Urban Sociology  
SOAN 331: Sociocultural Theory  
SOAN 341: Religion and Society  
SOAN 356: Engaging Diversity and Inequality  
SOWK 385: Introduction to Research in Social Work  
SOAN 442: Senior Thesis

### ***Department of History & Social Sciences, Louisiana State University Shreveport, 2009-2011***

SOCL 105: Introductory Sociology  
SOCL 107: Gender, Race, and Class in Society  
SOCL 142: Contemporary Social Problems  
SOCL 465: Sociological Theory  
SOCL 477: Sociology of Health  
SOCL 490: Sociology of Religion

***Department of Sociology, Baylor University, 2004 – 2008***

**Adjunct Instructor**

SOC 4325: Sociology of Religion

**Teaching Assistant**

SOC 1305: Introduction to Sociology

SOC 4325: Sociology of Religion

SOC 4352: Criminology

***Ph.D. Dissertation Committees***

- 2021 – Present Heather Deal, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, Committee Member (In progress).
- 2021 – Present Will Ward, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, Committee Member (In progress).
- 2020 – Present Wesley Furlong, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, Committee Member (In progress).
- 2019 – Present Veronica Timbers, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Clinical Practice with Transgender and Gender Diverse Clients at the Intersection of Religion and Spirituality in Appalachia*, Committee Chair (In progress).
- 2019 – 2020 Smith, Bethany, Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology, Baylor University, *Educational Outcomes During the Great Recession: Effects of Community, Homeownership, and Race*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2018 – 2020 Sara Dye, Doctor of Philosophy, English, Baylor University, *Investigating the Relationship between Religious Motives and Rhetorical Activism: An Ethnographic Study of the Texas Hunger Initiative*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2017 – 2020 Amanda Harper, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Justice, Faith and Politics: Congregational Engagement with Social Justice Issues*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2017 Matt Henderson, Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology, Baylor University, *Ontological Coherence and Psychological Distress: The Role of Religious Beliefs*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2017 – Present Leah Gatlin, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Iron Sharpens Iron: Member Experiences of Collaboration in the Texas Hunger Initiative*. Committee Member (Defended).

- 2016 – 2018 Jennifer S. Dickey, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Servants or Saviors? Exploring the Impact of International Volunteerism on Host Communities and Volunteers*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2016 – 2020 David McClung, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Leaps of Faith: Exploring the Role of Congregations in Addressing Youth Mental Health*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2015 – 2017 Erin Olson, Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, Baylor University, *Called to Serve: Empirical Explorations and a Review of Calling and the Social Work Profession*, Committee Member (Defended).

### ***Master's Thesis Committees***

- 2020 – Present Sarah Patterson, Master of Arts, Higher Education and Student Affairs, Baylor University, *Exploring Ideological Diverse Friend Groups Among College Students*. Committee Member (Defended).
- 2020 Jesse Lee DeDeyne, Master of Arts, Sociology, Baylor University, *Better than I Deserve: Evangelical Protestantism's Effect on Subjective Social Status*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2018 Providence Gee, Master of Arts, Educational Psychology, Baylor University, *Choice-making Interventions to Reduce Challenging Behavior for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2018 Michael Lotspeich, Master of Arts, Sociology, Baylor University, *Age, Period, and Cohort Effects on Trust of Government in Rural America*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2017 Bethany Smith, Master of Arts, Sociology, Baylor University, *Financial Motivations and Small Business Survival: The Effects of Gender and Race*, Committee Member (Defended).
- 2017 Cory Sugg, Master of Arts, Sociology, Baylor University, *Religion and Social Support for Parents*, Committee Member (Defended).

### ***Solid Gold Neighbor Research Fellow***

- 2021 Yingling Liu, Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology, Baylor University, *Teachers' Experiences with Students' Disruptive Behavior*, Project Advisor.

### ***Honors Thesis Committee***

- 2012 Jennifer Blackwell, Bachelor of Social Work, Messiah College, Committee Member (Defended).

### ***Wittlinger Scholars Project***

2014 Brooke Strayer, Bachelor of Arts in Peace and Conflict Studies, Messiah College, *Tracing the Trajectory of the Brethren in Christ Peace Position in the United States*, Project Advisor (Defended).

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2003 – 2005 Social Worker and Program Director, Potter’s Vessel Ministries, Waco, TX  
2003 – 2004 Part-Time Chaplain, Department of Pastoral Care, Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center, Waco, TX  
2002 – 2003 Social Work Intern (MSW), Church Under the Bridge, Waco, TX  
2002 Social Work Intern (MSW), Hillcrest Community Hospice, Waco, TX

### **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES**

Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW #38417), Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

2017 Character across the Curriculum Initiative, Baylor University  
2015 Planning and Writing Successful Grant Proposals, Baylor University  
2015 Summer Faculty Institute, Baylor University  
2015 Program Evaluation Summer Workshop, Claremont Evaluation Center  
2007 Pollsters and Parishioners Workshop, Calvin College  
2003 Clinical Pastoral Education, Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Sociological Association (ASA)  
Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR)  
Christian Sociological Association (CSA)  
Religious Research Association (RRA)  
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)

### **SERVICE**

#### ***Baylor University***

2021 – Present Board Member, Institutional Review Board (IRB)  
2018 – Present Board Member, Student Conduct Board  
2021 – Present Committee Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC)  
2018 – Present Committee Member, Guest Speaker (University Lecturers) Committee  
2018 – Present Committee Member, Communications/Media Committee

#### ***Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University***

2014 – Present Committee Member, Curriculum Committee (Co-Chair, 2017 – Present)  
2014 – 2020 Committee Member, Research Review Committee

2015 – 2016 Committee Member, PhD Committee  
 2017 – Present Committee Member, PhD Committee  
 2017 – 2018 Chair, Ad Hoc Sub-committee on Comprehensive Exam Revisions  
 2015 – 2017 Committee Member, Alumni Relations Committee  
 2017 Committee Member, Hiring Committee for Interdisciplinary Opportunity Hire  
 2014 – Present Member, Congregational Social Work Initiative  
 2018 – Present Lead Teacher, Frameworks and Perspectives for Community Practice  
 2018 – 2019 Lead Teacher, Research Seminar  
 2018 – 2019 Lead Teacher, Research Project  
 2020 – Present Lead Teacher, Social Policy for Social Work Practice  
 2020 – Present Lead Teacher, Evaluation of Practice II  
 2014 – 2019 Faculty Mentor for 15 BSW students and 28 MSW students  
 2020-2021 Faculty Mentor for 3 MSW students

***Messiah College***

2013 – 2014 Interim Chair, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice  
 2012 – 2013 Committee Member, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice  
 2012 – 2014 Committee Member, General Education Committee  
 2011 – 2014 Committee Member, Peace and Conflict Studies Committee  
 2011 – 2014 Chapter Representative, Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)  
 2012 – 2014 Advisor, Peace and Conflict Studies Special Interest Housing

***Louisiana State University Shreveport***

2010 – 2011 Committee Member, Instruction and Professional Development Committee  
 2009 – 2011 Committee Member, Recruitment Committee, Department of History and Social Sciences

***Profession***

2020 Thesis Reviewer, Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools' (MAGS) Distinguished Master's Thesis Award  
 2017 – Present Board of Directors, Religious Research Association (RRA)  
 2015 – 2017 Committee Member, Student Research Awards Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) (Chair, 2016 – 2017)  
 2015 Conference Submission Reviewer, Research Track, North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW)  
 2014 Session Convener, Civic Engagement and Interfaith Relations, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR), Annual Meeting  
 2014 – 2017 Editorial Board, *The Journal of Family and Community Ministries*  
 2016 – Present Editorial Board, *The Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion*  
 2019 – Present Editorial Board, *Review of Religious Research*

### **Peer Reviewer**

*Children and Youth Services Review*  
*Journal of Public and Nonprofit Affairs*  
*The Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion*  
*The Journal of Civil Society*  
*The Journal of Ideology*  
*The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*  
*Nonprofit and Management Leadership*  
*Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*  
*Qualitative Sociology*  
*Religions*

*The Review of Religious Research*  
*Social Currents*  
*Social Forces*  
*Social Science Quarterly*  
*Social Work and Christianity*  
*Sociological Inquiry*  
*Sociological Quarterly*  
*Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*  
*Sociology of Religion*

### **Community**

2021 – Present Member, Central Christian Church, Waco, TX  
2020 – 2021 Committee Member, Parish Staff Relations Committee, Woodway First United Methodist Church, Woodway, TX  
2019 – Present Board Member, Communities in Schools of the Heart of Texas, Waco, TX  
2017 – 2020 Volunteer Research Consultant, Massachusetts Bible Society, Boston, MA  
2016 – 2018 Board Member, Good Neighbor House, Waco, TX  
2016 – 2018 Member, Fundraising and Public Relations Cluster, Good Neighbor House, Waco, TX  
2016 – 2017 Member, Community Race Relations Coalition, Waco, TX  
2014 – 2021 Member, Woodway First United Methodist Church, Woodway, TX  
2013 – 2014 Committee Member, Administrative Committee, First United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg, PA  
2010 – 2011 Board Member, Church for the Highlands, Shreveport, LA  
2010 – 2011 Committee Member, CROP Walk Steering Committee, Shreveport, LA  
2010 Guest Speaker, First United Methodist Church, Shreveport; LA

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2020 Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching (Tenure-Track), Baylor University, Waco, TX  
2019 University Research Leave, *Community Engagement and the Success and Well-being of U.S. Congregations*, Baylor University, Waco TX  
2019 Nominee, Outstanding Tenure-Track Faculty Scholarship Award, Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University, Waco, TX  
2017 – 2018 Participant, Character across the Curriculum Initiative, Institute for Faith and Learning, Baylor University, Waco, TX  
2015 Fellow, Summer Faculty Institute, Academy for Teaching and Learning, Baylor University, Waco, TX

- 2012 – 2014 Workload Reallocation for Research and Scholarship, Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, PA
- 2010 – Present Research Fellow, Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- 2010 – 2012 Research Fellow, Center for Family and Community Ministries, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- 2007 Outstanding Doctoral Student Paper Award, *Ethnic heterogeneity and fear of crime: A multilevel analysis of neighborhoods in the greater Houston area*, Southwestern Sociological Association
- 2005 Distinguished Paper Award, *Civic engagement and county economic growth in Appalachia during the 1990s*, Southwestern Sociological Association
- 2004 – 2009 Graduate Fellow, Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University, Waco, TX