

**Ronald R. Cox**  
**Professor of Religion and Associate Dean of International Programs**  
**Pepperdine University**

**EDUCATION**

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|--------|------|---|
| Ph.D.  | 2005 | University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.<br>Major Area: New Testament and Christian Origins.<br>Minor Areas: Hebrew Bible, Systematic Theology. |
| M.Div. | 1996 | Pepperdine University, Malibu, California.  |
| B.S.   | 1991 | California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California.<br>Business Administration: Accounting concentration. Cum Laude.                |

**TEACHING & ADMINISTRATION**

*Academic Appointments*

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| 2017–Present | Associate Dean of International Programs  |
| 2015–Present | Professor of Religion<br>Courses Taught: History and Religion of Early Christianity, Christianity and Culture, Introduction to Biblical Interpretation, Pauline Writings II, Hebrews and the General Epistles, Johannine Literature, Beginning Greek I and II, Intermediate Greek, Christian History and Theology I: Ancient and Medieval, World of the New Testament, Keck First Year Seminar: Ancient Coins of the Holy Land. |
| 2009–2015    | Associate Professor of Religion, Seaver College, Pepperdine University.<br>Tenure received, August 1, 2011.   |
| 2005–2009    | Assistant Professor of Religion, Seaver College, Pepperdine University  |
| 2001–2005    | Assistant Professor of Bible and Religion, Rochester College.   |
| 2000         | Visiting Instructor, Rochester College.   |
| 1993–1997    | Adjunct Instructor in Religion and in Humanities, Pepperdine University.  |

*International Teaching Experience*

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| 2016–2017 | Faculty-in-Residence, Pepperdine University International Program, Heidelberg, Germany                           |
| 2015      | Faculty-in-Residence, Pepperdine University International Summer Religion Program, London, United Kingdom (July) |
| 2014      | Faculty-in-Residence, Pepperdine University International Summer Program, Florence, Italy (May–June)             |
| 2009–2010 | Faculty-in-Residence, Pepperdine University International Program, Florence, Italy                               |
| 2007      | Visiting Professor, Institute for Theology and Christian Ministry, St. Petersburg, Russia (August)               |

*Research & Teaching Accomplishments*

- 2013–2018 Blanche E. Seaver Professor of Religion
- 2016 Fellow, Harris Manchester College Summer Research Institute, Oxford, United Kingdom
- 2015–16 Teaching Grant, Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies Teaching Grant, REL 301 course on the Image of God in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- 2014–2018 Faculty/Student Mentorship program, Seaver Dean’s Office (Kevin Hoffman, Fall 2014, Spring 2015; Alexandra Campana, Fall 2015; Erika Bartlett, Spring 2017-Spring 2019)
- 2013 Keck Scholars Program grant (\$13,000) to fund RTI imaging and processing equipment for Keck First Year Seminars
- 2012, 2013, 2018 Academic Year Undergraduate Research Initiative Grants
- “Wyman (0220) Fragment,” with Mr. Vincent Quach, Ms. Natalie Lewis and Dr. Randall Chesnutt (spring 2018)
- “Negotiating Conquest: The Currency of Islam in the Holy Land,” with Ms. Anna Tiner (fall 2013)
- “Wyman (0220) Fragment,” with Mr. Paul Cox and Dr. Randall Chesnutt (fall 2018)
- 2013 University of Southern California’s West Semitic Research Project grant for one-week training in Reflectance Transformation Imaging (June)
- 2013 Summer Undergraduate Research Project, “Loyalist Coins during the First Jewish Rebellion,” with Mr. Eric Kim
- 2013 Green Scholars Initiative Papyrology Conference GSI Travel Grant, Baylor, Texas, February
- 2012 Seaver Dean Research Grant, “Wyman (0220) Fragment”
- 2012 Sabbatical Leave, Spring Semester
- 2011 Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies Research Grant to write a translation of and commentary on Philo’s *On the Confusion of Languages* 134–149
- 2007–2008 Lela Armstrong Fellow in Religion.
- 2007–2008 Seaver Research Council Grant, “Proposal for work toward a translation of Philo’s *Who is the Heir?*” [Series Editor changed treatise to “On the Confusion of Languages”]
- 2006–2007 Seaver Fellow in Religion.
- 2004 Rochester College Student Body’s “Most Influential Faculty Member.”
- 1997, 1998 *Christian Scholarship Foundation* Fellowship Awards.

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Research*

### Books

2007 *By the Same Word: Creation and Salvation in Hellenistic Judaism and Early Christianity* (BZBW 145; Walter de Gruyter, 2007)

### In process

Translation, Introduction and Commentary, "On the Confusion of Languages" by Philo of Alexandria for *The Philo of Alexandria Commentary Series* (edited by Gregory Sterling; Brill)

### Articles, Essays & Encyclopedia Entries

"Philo," contracted 2200 word essay

"Aristotle," contracted 600 word essay

"Tiberius Julius Alexander," contracted 200 word entry

in Loren T. Stuckenbruck and Daniel M. Gurtner, *T & T Clark Encyclopedia of Second Temple Judaism*, 2 volumes (Bloomsbury, in press 2019).

"Canon and Text of the New Testament," co-authored with Randall Chesnutt, in J. E. Wright, ed., *The Bible in Archaeology and History*, vol. 2: *The New Testament, Judaism, and Early Christianity* (Baylor University Press, forthcoming in 2019).

2017 "Philo of Alexandria: *On the Decalogue*"

"Philo of Alexandria: *Life of Moses*,"

invited chapters in *Early Jewish Literature: An Introduction and Reader*, edited by Archie Wright (Eerdmans, 2017)

2014 "A Sharp Pen vs. Fragrant Myrrh': Comparing and Contrasting the Commentaries of Cyril of Alexandria and Theodore of Mopsuestia on Psalm 45" in *The Harp of Prophecy: Early Christian Exegesis of the Psalms*, edited by Paul Kolbet and Brian Daley (University of Notre Dame Press, 2014).

2012 "Creation and Cosmogony" in Second Temple and Hellenistic Judaism, an invited dictionary article in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (Verlag de Gruyter, 2012)

2011 "Traveling the Royal Road: The Soteriology of Philo of Alexandria," an invited chapter in *This World and the World to Come: Soteriology in Early Judaism*, edited by Daniel Gurtner (Library of Second Temple Studies; T&T Clark, 2011).

### In Process

"The Wyman Fragment: A New Publication of MS0220," a co-authored chapter with Randall Chesnutt for Dirk Obbink and Jerry Pattengale, eds., *The Green Scholars Initiative: Papyrus Series* (Leiden, Netherlands: E. J. Brill, forthcoming).

*Practical*

Articles & Essays

- 2013 "Why it All Matters: Appreciating the Universal Scope of Colossians 1:15–20," *Leaven: A Journal for Christian Ministry* 21.3.
- 2012 "Listening for the Apocalypse: Romans 8:18–30," *Leaven: A Journal for Christian Ministry* 20.4.
- 2007 Guest editor of "Colossians" edition of *Leaven: A Journal for Ministry* 15.2 and contributor, "Christ, The Creation and You," *Leaven* 15.4.
- 2005 "The New Testament Preaches the Psalms: Problems and Possibilities" in *Performing the Psalms: And the World Imagined in Scripture*, edited by D. Fler and D. Bland (Chalice Press, 2005).
- 2003 "The Bible in the Hands of an Angry God: A Sermon on Hebrews 4:12–13" in *Preaching Hebrews*, edited by D. Fler and D. Bland (ACU Press, 2003).

*Book Reviews*

- 2006–2017 Book reviews for *Studia Philonica Annual* (7), *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (1), *Christianity and Culture* (1), *Restoration Quarterly* (2), *Religious Studies Review* (1)

**PRESENTATIONS**

*Research*

- 2019 Invited Respondent to the "Knowledge and the Cosmos in the Wisdom of Solomon and Related Literature" Session of the Wisdom and Apocalypticism Group at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California, November.
- 2018 "Along a Marvelous Way: The Significance of Middle Platonism for Understanding Wisdom of Solomon's Soteriology," a paper proposal accepted for the "Wisdom of Solomon at the Crossroads of Wisdom, Apocalyptic, and Philosophy" session at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, Colorado, November.
- 2017 "Fulfilling Creation: The Cosmological Significance of Salvation in Wisdom of Solomon and Philo of Alexandria." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature, St. John's College, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, July.
- 2015 "'Through Others': The Dirty Work of Heavenly Intermediaries in Philo, Plutarch, & Early Christianity." Paper for the "Philo, Plutarch, & the New Testament" joint session of the Philo of Alexandria Seminar and Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Georgia, November.
- 2015 "An Ancient Fragment of Romans 4:23–5:13: Deciphering MS 0220" with Dr. Randall Chesnutt, Plenary Session, Society of Biblical Literature Regional Meeting, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California, March.
- 2013 "Report on Wyman Fragment," with Dr. Randall Chesnutt, GSI Papyrology Conference, Baylor, Texas, February.

- 2012 Respondent to Thomas Tobin’s translation, commentary and analysis of Philo of Alexandria’s Allegorical Interpretation. Invited paper for the Philo of Alexandria Group for the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, Illinois, November.
- 2011 “‘Children of His Invisible Image’: Translation, commentary and analysis of sections 134–149 of Philo’s *On the Confusion of Languages*.” Paper and panel topic in the Philo of Alexandria Group for the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, California, November.
- 2011 “Wisdom Christology? Why Jesus’ Role as Creator should give us Pause About a Well-Worn Assumption.” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Malibu, California, June.
- 2011 “Shaking Heaven: Between Eschatology and Ontology in James Thompson’s *Hebrews*.” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Malibu, California, June.
- 2009 “‘Interpreting Babel’: From Earth to Heaven in Philo’s *On the Confusion of Languages*.” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, June.
- 2008 “Hebrews 5:11–6:12 as ‘Frank Criticism’ (παρρησία).” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, Massachusetts, November.
- 2007 “‘The Mystery Now Revealed’: Lohse’s *Colossians and Philemon* as the First Word on *Hermeneia*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California, November.
- 2007 “Salvation as the Reparation of Creation: The Roles of the Divine Intermediary in NT Christology.” Paper presented to the *Person and Society Seminar*, Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif., April.
- 1999 “Philo’s *Life of Moses*: Reading Torah Biographically.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Orlando, Florida, November.
- 1999 “A Sharp Pen vs. Fragrant Myrrh’: Comparing and Contrasting the Commentaries of Cyril of Alexandria and Theodore of Mopsuestia on Psalm 45.” Paper presented at *The Harp of Prophecy: Early Christian Exegesis of the Psalms* Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, April.
- 1997 “The History of the Churches of Christ ‘Put Another Way’: The Historiography of Richard Hughes in the Light of Alasdair MacIntyre.” Paper presented to Restoration Theological Research Forum, San Francisco, California, November.
- Practical*
- 2018 “Can I Get (Another) Witness? Trusting the Gospels and Avoiding the Harm of Harmonization.” Lecture for E2 (Encourage and Equip) Ministers Conference, Irvine, California, January.
- 2016 “How to Take Up Your Cross,” with John Barton. 73rd Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.
- 2016 “High Christology, Low Church: What’s Practical about the Divinity of Jesus.” Lecture for E2 (Encourage and Equip) Ministers Conference, Irvine, California, April.

- 2016 “New Witnesses to the New Testament Text: Deciphering the Oldest Manuscript of Romans 4–5,” with Dr. Randall Chesnutt, Passages Lecture Series, Santa Clarita, California, February.
- 2016 “Love Along: Belonging to the Heart of God.” A weekend retreat for the University Church of Christ Campus Ministry, Santa Barbara, California, February.
- 2015 “Colossians and Living the Cruciformed Life” with Dr. John Barton. 73rd Annual Bible Lectures Preview, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, October.
- 2014 “In What Sense is the Book of James ‘Christian?’,” FaithWorks: A 2015 Bible Lectures Preview, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, October.
- 2014 “Baptism in Colossians,” 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.
- 2013 “Baptism in Colossians,” Pepperdine Lectures Launch, Malibu, California, October.
- 2013 “Stressed to Blessed: Held Together in Christ,” The Conejo Valley Church of Christ Fall Retreat, Lake Hughes, California, October.
- 2013 “The End in Graphic Terms: What Comic Books Get Right (and Wrong) about the Apocalypse,” Lecture to be presented at the 70th Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.
- 2012 “Entering the Dance: High Christology and Daily Life in the Letter to the Colossians,” a Sabbatical Report for Seaver College, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, October.
- 2012 “The King James Bible in North America Churches Today,” Lecture presented as part of the *Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible* exhibition at Payson Library, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, September.
- 2010 “Women of Bethlehem: Lives of Women in 1<sup>st</sup> Century Palestine,” Lecture presented to Westminster Presbyterian Women’s Study Group, Westlake Village, California, December.
- 2009 “The Lord of Creation: The Hymn to Christ in Colossians 1:15–20,” Three lectures presented at the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.
- 2007 “Paul’s Letter to the Colossians.” Addresses made to the Boise State and Oregon State Campus Ministry Retreat, Yamhill, Oregon, October.
- 2007 “‘From God to God’: Pursuing Divine Love.” Addresses made to the Rochester College student assembly, Rochester Hills, Michigan, March.
- 2006 “The Church and the Nations,” Panel Presentation at the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Bible Lectureship, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, September.
- 2006 “Do You Have the Anointing? Learning “What is True and Is Not A Lie” in 1 John 2:27,” Lecture Presented at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bible Lectureship, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.

- 2006 “Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly: Preaching Colossians.” Seminar presented for the Cascade College Expositors’ Seminar, Portland, Oregon, January.
- 2005 “Through Him and To Him: Jesus as Savior and Creator in Colossians 1:15–20.” Lectures presented at the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Bible Lectureship, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, February.
- 2004 “The New Testament Preaches the Psalms: Problems and Possibilities.” Paper presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Rochester College Sermon Seminar, Rochester Hills, Michigan, May.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### *Service to the College*

#### *Administrative & Committee Work*

- 2019 Member, Buenos Aires International Program Director Search Committee
- 2018 Member, London International Program Director Search Committee
- 2017– Member, Seaver Academic Council
- 2016 Member, Long Term Visiting Faculty Task Force
- 2015–16 Past President, Seaver Faculty Association
- 2014–15 President, Seaver Faculty Association
- 2014–15 Member, Seaver College Dean Search Committee
- 2013–14 President-Elect, Seaver Faculty Association
- 2013–2016 Member, University Faculty Committee, Pepperdine University
- 2012–2016 Member, University Library Faculty Committee, Pepperdine University
- 2011–13 Member, Ad-hoc Faculty-Administration Working Group on Tenure Procedures, Seaver College
- 2010–11, 12–13 Member, Faculty Association Executive Committee, Seaver College
- 2006–09, 10–11 Member, Academic Integrity Committee, Seaver College
- 2006–08 Member, Electronic Resources Advisory Council, Payson Library, Seaver College
- 2003–2005 Chair, Freshman Seminar Coordination Committee, Rochester College.

#### *Academic*

- 2005–2018 Religion Major Advisor; examination committee member for Master of Divinity and Master of Science in Ministry students; thesis committee member for Master of Arts in Religion students
- 2016–2017 External Advisor for Gregory Miller, PhD Candidate, Fuller Theological Seminary on Dr. Miller’s dissertation “Clement of Alexandria: The Authority of the Sage, the Embodiment of the *Telos*” (successfully defended June 2017)

#### *Professional Development*

- 2018–2019 Participant, Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity

2015–2016 Participant, Academic Leadership Development Program

*Communal Contributions*

2019 Spiritual Mentorship, Ms. Sydney Scherler  
2017 Club Convo Mentor, Mr. Matthew Moran  
2015 Book Review Panelist, Review of D’Esta Love (ed), *Finding Their Voices: Sermons by Women in the Churches of Christ*  
2014 Book Review Panelist, Review of Ronald Highfield’s *God, Freedom, & Dignity*, March  
2013 Facilitator, C. S. Lewis “The Great Divorce” Club Convocation series, Seaver College  
2013 Moderator, Seaver Undergraduate Research Presentations session, April.  
2013 Co-facilitator with Dr. Jane Rodeheffer, “St. Johns Bible” Club Convocation series, Seaver College  
2012 Participant, Theology and Science Seminar, Seaver College, July.  
2010 Presenter, “Becoming Flesh: Taking Jesus into a World that is not Our Own,” International Awareness Week Convocation, Seaver College, November.  
2009 Co-facilitator (with Prof. Cynthia Colburn), “Christ in Art” Faith and Learning Faculty and Staff Seminar, Pepperdine University Center for Faith and Learning  
2008 Facilitator, Club Convocation series, Seaver College  
2008 Co-facilitator (with Prof. Cynthia Colburn), “Christ in Art” Faith and Learning Faculty and Staff Seminar  
2007 Presenter, “Biblical Perspective on Pre-Marital Sex,” Relationship IQ Project’s Convocation Series, Seaver College, October.  
2007 Presenter, “Biblical Perspective on Pre-Marital Sex,” Moral Compass Convocation Series, Seaver College, March.  
2006 Facilitator, Club Convocation series, Seaver College.

*Service to the Profession*

2018– Member, Editorial Board, *Studia Philonica Annual*  
2013–2019 Chair, Philo of Alexandria Seminar, Society of Biblical Literature.  
2013 Presider, Midrash and Philo of Alexandria Group Joint Session, Baltimore, Maryland, November.  
2007–2013 Member, Steering Committee, Philo of Alexandria Group, Society of Biblical Literature.  
2006–2017 Book Review Editor, *Studia Philonica Annual* (volumes 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29)  
1994– Member, Society of Biblical Literature



### *Service to the Church*

- 2018– Member, Camarillo Church of Christ
- 2006–2017 Member, Bible Class teacher, Auxiliary Preacher, and Associate Minister (part-time, 2011–2015), Culver Palms Church of Christ, Los Angeles, California.
- 2004–2005 Leadership Team, Word of Life Community Church of Christ, Metamora, Michigan.
- 2000 Interim Preaching Minister, Warsaw Church of Christ, Warsaw, Indiana.
- 1994– Preaching, teaching, and/or officiating for baptisms, weddings and funerals in Sierra Madre, Calif.; Warsaw, Ind.; Lagrange, Ind.; South Bend, Ind.; Dowagiac, Mich.; Clawson, Mich.; Rochester Hills, Mich.; East Lansing, Mich.; Metamora, Mich.; Culver City, Calif.; Whittier, Calif.; Camarillo, Calif.; Exeter, Calif.; San Diego, Calif.; Santa Paula, Calif.; Fullerton, Calif.; Malibu, Calif.; Westlake Village, Calif.; Traverse City, Mich.; Berkeley, Calif.; San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Phoenix, Ariz; San Clemente, Calif.; Glendale, Calif.; *Kansas City, Kansas*; Heidelberg, Germany; Marseille, France; Athens, Greece.

### **COMPETENCIES**

- General New Testament, Early and Medieval Church History, Hebrew Bible, Second Temple Judaism, Numismatics.
- Research Greek-Speaking Jewish Influences on Early Christology, The writings and world of Philo of Alexandria, Socio-Religious Context of the Letter to the Colossians, Origins and Nature of Sethian Gnosticism, Patristic Exegesis of the Psalms, Ancient Greco-Roman Numismatics.
- Languages Koine Greek, Biblical and Rabbinical Hebrew, Imperial Aramaic, Sahidic Coptic, French (reading), German (reading, limited speaking ability).