

# PAUL G. SCHNEIDER

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## EDUCATION

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Columbia University  
Ph.D., New Testament/Early Christian Literature and History, 1990  
Dissertation: "The Mystery of the Acts of John: An Examination of the Hymn and the Dance in Light of the Acts' Theology"  
Readers: Holland Hendrix, President, Union Theological Seminary  
Alan F. Segal, Barnard College/Columbia University  
Robin Scroggs, Union Theological Seminary

Florida State University  
M.A., Religious Studies, 1978

Harvard Divinity School  
M.T.S., New Testament, 1976

University of South Florida  
B.A., Religious Studies, 1974

St. Petersburg Junior College  
A.A., Liberal Arts-Education, 1971

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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Phi Kappa Phi (Univ. of So. Florida); Omicron Delta Kappa (Univ. of So. Florida); Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, 1976; Who's Who at the University of South Florida, 1976; Merrill Fellow - Florida State University; Union Fellowships (1977-81, 1986); Who's Who in Biblical Studies and Archaeology, 1993.

## AREAS OF TEACHING

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New Testament; Hebrew Bible; Early Christian History and Literature; History of Christianity; Hebrew; New Testament Greek; Aramaic; Second Temple Judaism; Graeco-Roman Religions; History of Judaism; Introduction to Religion; World Religions; Theory and Methods, and Death and Dying.

## PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS IN PROCESS

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*The Mystery of the Acts of John* (Distinguished Dissertation Series; Mellen Research University Press: San Francisco, 1991).

"A Perfect Fit: An Examination of the Major Interpolation of the Acts of John," in 1991 *SBL Seminar Papers* (Scholars Press: Atlanta, 1991).

"The Gnostic Transformation of a Christian Community," in *Hellenization Revisited: Shaping a Christian Response within the Greco-Roman World*. Ed. Wendy E. Hilleman. (University Press of America, Inc.: Lanham, MD, 1994).

*The Hitchhikers Guide to the Study of World Religions: The Website* (Kendall/Hunt Publishing: Miami, 2006)

*The Hitchhikers Guide to the Study of World Religions: The Textbook* (Kendall/Hunt Publishing: Miami, forthcoming Fall 2016)

*The Hitchhiker's Guide to Life After Death* (Kendall/Hunt Publisher: Miami), in negotiations

## PAPERS

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"Ebionites, Nazoraeans and the Pella Tradition," 1981 Union Colloquium.

"The Problem of Covenantal Nomism: Paul and the Galatian Judaizers," 1982 Union Colloquium.

"The Polymorphic Christology of the Acts of John," 1991 Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion (AAR/SBL/ASOR Regional), Atlanta.

"The Gnostic Transformation of a Christian Community," 1991 Christianity and the Classics II: Beginnings: In the Context of Hellenistic Judaism and Gnosticism, Institute on Christian Studies, Toronto.

"The Acts of John: A Gnostic Response to Martyrdom," 1991 International Conference of the Society of Biblical Literature, Rome.

"A Perfect Fit: An Examination of the Major Interpolation of the Acts of John," 1991 Annual Meeting of the SBL, Kansas City, MO, and the 1993 Meeting Central States Region of the SBL, Kansas City, MO.

"Why Can't Fortunatus Be Saved? – One Gnostic's View of Humanity and Salvation," 1992 Meeting of the Chesapeake Bay AAR and the Mid-Atlantic Region of the SBL, Washington, D.C.

"The Apostle John and the Immovable Race: A Preliminary Discussion on the Relationship Between the Acts of John and Sethian Gnosticism," 1992 Meeting of the Southeastern Region of the AAR, Atlanta.

"To the Universe Belongs the Dancer: The Importance of Ritualism in Christian Gnosticism" 1992 Meeting of the Eastern International Region of the AAR, Rochester, NY.

"The First Person Singular: The Key to Unlocking the Mystery of the Acts of John," 1992 SBL International Conference, Melbourne, Australia.

"'Because They Are Human:' The Immovable Race and the Acts of John," 1992 Annual Meeting of the SBL, San Francisco.

"Dancing with the Lord: A Christian Mystery Rite in the Acts of John," 1993 Southwestern Region of the SBL, Dallas and the 1993 Mid-Atlantic Region of the SBL, Philadelphia.

"The Gnosticizing of the Acts of John," 1993 Meeting of the Eastern Great Lakes Region of the SBL, Pittsburgh and the 1993 SBL International Conference, Münster, Germany.

"Christ in Paradox: The Polymorphic Christologies of the Acts of Peter and the Acts of John," 1994 Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Meeting of the SBL, New York, NY.

"'Because They Are Human, Part II: Gnostic Ritualism in the Acts of John," 1994 Meetings of the Southeastern Region, Atlanta, and the Central States Region of the SBL, St. Louis.

"Who is Talking to Who? The Relationship Between the Petrine and Johannine Acts," 2001 SBL International Conference, Rome, Italy.

"What's in a Name? A Problem in the Use of Jewish Sources When Studying the Origin of Christianity," The Fourteenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, 2005, Jerusalem, Israel.

"Acts of Peter and the Acts of John and the Issue of Martyrdom," 2005 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia.

"The Johannine Origins of a Gnostic Sacrament," 2006 SBL International Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Is the Acts of John a Johannine Document?" 2007 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego

## **PUBLIC AND MEDIA APPEARANCES**

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"666 and June 6, 2006" Channel Nine News and Channel Thirteen News (Tampa, Florida Media Market). Interviews concerning 666 and the Book of Revelations, and pregnant women who wish to have forced deliveries so that their child will not be born on that date.

"Jewish Practices in the Time of Jesus," October 7, 2007, public lecture at Congregation Kol Ami (Tampa, Florida)

"Paul and the New Faith in Christ Jesus," October 16, 2011, public lecture at The Cathedral Church of Saint Peter (St. Petersburg, Florida)

Lecture Series on Life After Death in World Religions, March and April, 2012, Church of the Isles (Indian Rocks Beach, Florida.)

## **EXPERIENCE**

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### **Religious Studies Department University of South Florida, Tampa Florida**

*Senior Instructor, 2001 to present*

Teaching responsibilities include four courses per term, and include Theory and Method in the Study of Religion; History of the Development of Religious Studies (Graduate level course); Introduction to the New Testament; Introduction to the Old Testament; Who Wrote the Bible? Life After Death in World Religions; Introduction to World Religions; Contemporary World Religions; Judaism and Islam; Introduction to Judaism; History of Judaism (Origins to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century c.e.); Development of Religious Studies; Theory and Method in the Study of Religion; New Testament Greek, and Biblical Hebrew.

**Religious Studies Department  
University of South Florida, Tampa Florida**

*Visiting Instructor, 1997, 1998-2001*

This one was one-year position in the department, which evolved teaching multiple sections of the the exit core courses offered by the department, Life after Death in World Religions; and a study of the Pentateuch and Deuteronomical History, as well as teaching the Introduction to World Religions.

**Department of Philosophy and Religion  
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida**

*Adjunct Instructor, 1997 to 2003*

Responsible for teaching multiple sections of the Introductions to the New Testament and the Old Testament at this small Methodist college.

**Program for Experienced Learners  
Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida**

*Adjunct Professor, 1996 to 2003*

The Program for Experienced Learners is a nontraditional approach for offering the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science degrees to students whose careers and lives have prevented them from seeking degrees through traditional college and university programs. In this program I teach the introductory courses to the New Testament and Hebrew Bible; Issues in Early Christianity; History of Christianity, Introduction to the Study of Religion; Judeo-Christian Perspectives (Ethics). For next term I will be offering a comparative course in Hinduism and Buddhism as a directed study course for one of our students.

**Religious Studies Department  
University of South Florida, Tampa Florida**

*Adjunct Instructor, 1996*

My teaching responsibilities for this year include the introductory courses to the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament, Pentateuchal Sources, and Roman Civilization for the Classical Studies Department. Previous courses have been New Testament Greek and World Religions and their Literature.

**Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, Florida  
First United Methodist Church, Clearwater, Florida**

*Instructor/Scholar in Residence, 1993-1994*

The purpose of this position was to introduce modern biblical scholarship to the members of these two churches through the teaching of seminars and adult Christian education courses, which included classes on Paul, the Gospels, and the Life and Teachings of Jesus.

**New York Theological Seminary**

*Instructor-Church History*

*Masters of Professional Studies Program, 1987-1988*

The Masters of Professional Studies is an intensive, one-year degree program offered by New York Theological Seminary. The students' background was varied as well as their ages, from the traditional student ages to those in their fifties and sixties. Graduates of this program have continued their education in other seminaries, such as Union Theological Seminary in New York. It was the responsibility of the instructor in Church History to create and teach the full spectrum of the history of Christianity, from its origins to the present day. Additional responsibilities included student advisement and advocacy. For the year I taught in this program I received the highest evaluation from the students.

**New York Theological Seminary**

*Instructor, Certificate Program, 1986-1988*

New York Theological Seminary provides a certificate program for those students not sufficiently prepared to enter the Masters of Professional Studies Program. Instructorship in this program is a volunteer position. Within this program I was able to create and teach several courses: introductions to Old and New Testament; Jesus: His Life and Teachings; Paul; the Gospel of Matthew and Early Christianity. However, there were times when it was necessary for me to teach and lead seminars in Black, Liberation and Feminist Theology.

**Florida State University**

*Section Instructor, 1984*

The Religion and Sociology Departments offer a joint course on Death and Dying, which had an average class size of 300 students. This position was of a volunteer nature. I was in Tallahassee for the year preparing for my final field examinations at Columbia, and I volunteered to teach a section of the course and to provide additional resource material. My personal library has a large section on this topic, which I shared with my students.

**Union Theological Seminary**

*Tutor, Biblical Field, 1978-1979*

The position of Tutor is the equivalent of graduate student assistant or instructor. Responsibilities included teaching sections of courses, grading papers, student counseling, and providing assistance for faculty publications and research. Courses included Paul: His Life and Letters and The Parables of Jesus. I also created and held tutorials on doing exegesis and using the library for those students needing some extra help.

**Florida State University**

*Teaching Assistant, 1976-1977*

Responsibilities included teaching sections of the department's introduction to the New Testament, 19th and 20th Century Christian Thought, and Death and Dying. During the summer session of 1977, I was responsible for the grades and supervision of all 300 students in the course.