Friday, November 16, 2:00 PM-6:00 PM

Analysis of academic norms for studying religion means to take up the problematic of scholars' own norms and the studied religionists' norms. It does not mean advocacy of interfaith dialogues or god-sharing. We wish to get beyond the paralysis-inducing guilt about what colonialism and "the West" have perpetrated, and seek to remain optimistic about our theory-and-method conscious studies of texts, traditions, and living/dead people. We need to explore how ideologies continue to inhabit academic norms and to identify effective ones. In the interest of relentless self-scrutiny in the study of religion, we aim to discuss how non-narcissistic work can be done in our field.

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