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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

July 2019–present	University of California, Irvine (CA) Associate Professor (as of July 1, 2022), Religious Studies and Philosophy Shri Parshvanath Presidential Chair in Jain Studies
July 2016–19	Rice University (TX) Bhagwaan Mahavir/Chao Family Postdoctoral Fellow in Jain Studies
Aug. 2014–16	Monmouth College (IL) Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies
June 2012–Dec. 2013	Claremont School of Theology (CA) Lecturer, Jain and Sikh Studies, and Director, Center for Jain Studies

EDUCATION

2012–2018	The Australia National University—Sanskrit
2013	PhD. Religious Studies, Claremont School of Theology
2013	M.A. Religion, Claremont School of Theology
2007	M.A. Theology and Ethics, Anabaptist Mennonite Seminary
2005	B.A. Bible, Religion, and Philosophy, Goshen College

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Insistent Life: Principles for Bioethics in the Jain Tradition*, co-authored with Ana Bajželj (University of California Press 2021)
- *Creaturely Cosmologies: Why Metaphysics Matters for Animal and Planetary Liberation* (Lexington Books, 2015). (Jainism, Process philosophy, Critical Animal Studies)

Edited Volumes

- *Knowing Life: The Ethics of Multispecies Epistemologies*, ed. Brianne Donaldson (Routledge 2025)
- *Feeling Animal Death: Being Host to Ghosts*, ed. Brianne Donaldson and Ashley King (Rowman and Littlefield International, 2019).
- *The Future of Meat Without Animals*, ed. Brianne Donaldson and Christopher Carter (Rowman and Littlefield International, 2016).
- *Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature: A Common World for Animals and the Environment*, ed. Brianne Donaldson (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2014).

Select Peer Reviewed Articles and Chapters

1. “Cultivating a ‘Habitus of Multiplicity’ in Cross-Cultural Medicine: From Case Study Conflict to Many-Sided Conditions of Care Through Process and Jain Metaphysics,” *Nursing Philosophy* 27.2 (2026): 1–9.
2. “Expansive Modes of Multispecies Knowing Toward Nonviolence in the Early Jaina Canon” in *Knowing Life: The Ethics of Multispecies Epistemologies*, ed. Brianne Donaldson (Routledge, 2025).

3. "Jainism, Solidarity, and Animals," *Solidary with Animals: Promises, Pitfalls, Potentials*, ed. Alisdair Cochrane and Mara-Daria Cojocaru, (Oxford University Press, 2024).
4. "Multiplicity Without Tyranny: The Nonviolent Aim in Jainism and Whitehead's Process Metaphysics" in *Astrophilosophy, Cosmotheology, and Religiosity in a Process Universe* (Lexington Books 2023).
5. "Unifying, Globalizing, and Reinterpreting 'Practical Nonviolence' through the Covid-19 Pandemic Response of North American Jains," *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternate and Emerging Religions*, *Nova Religio* 26.3 (2023): 52–79.
6. "Jainism and Nonviolence: Variable Practices of an Ultimate Principle," *Nonviolence In the World's Religions*, ed. Jeffery D. Long and Michael J. Long (Routledge 2021).
7. "Witness at the Slaughterhouse: Conflicting Propositions for Alternate Futures [in Whitehead, Jainism, and Nietzsche]," in *Propositions in the Making: Experiments in a Whiteheadian Laboratory*, ed. Roland Faber, Michael Halewood, and Andrew Davis (Lexington Books, 2020).
8. "Transmitting Jainism in U.S. Pāṭhaśāla Temple Education Part 2: Navigating Non-Jain Contexts, Cultivating Identity Markers and Networks, and Analyzing Truth Claims." *Transnational Asia* 2 (1) (2019), no. 3, 1-41.
9. "Transmitting Jainism in U.S. Pāṭhaśāla Temple Education Part 1: Implicit Goals, Curriculum as 'Text,' and Authority of Teachers, Family, and Self." *Transnational Asia* 2 (1) (2019), no. 2, 1-45.
10. "Bioethics and Jainism: From *Ahiṃsā* to an Applied Ethics of Carefulness." *Religions* 10.4 (2019): 1-19.
11. "Jainism and Darwin: Evolution Beyond Orthodoxy," in *Asian Religious Responses to Darwinism*, ed. C. McKenzie Brown (Springer 2020).
12. "Salvaging Shame, Saving Ourselves: The Productive Role of Shame for Animals and Marginalized Life," co-authored with Isaac Willis. *Journal for Critical Animal Studies* 14.3 (2017), 4-26.
13. "Environmental Rites: Plants and Animals in Jain Rituals of Repentance," in *Nonviolence as a Way of Life: History, Theory, and Practice*, ed. Predrag Cicovacki (New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2017).
14. "From Ancient Vegetarianism to Contemporary Advocacy: When Religious Folks Decide that Animals Are No Longer Edible," *Journal of Religious Studies and Theology* 35.2 (2016): 143-160.
15. "Exploiting Fantasy: Žižek and Overconformity in Animal Agriculture, Meatless Meat, and Animal Ethics," in *The Future of Meat Without Animals*, ed. Brianne Donaldson and Christopher Carter (Rowman and Littlefield International, 2016).
16. "Zones of Conviviality in Multi-religious Education: Tagore and Whitehead's Experiential Religious Naturalism," in *Living Traditions and Universal Conviviality: Prospects and Challenges for Peace in Multireligious Communities*, ed. Santiago Slabodsky and Roland Faber (Lexington Books, 2016).
17. "Oxytocin Responses After Dog and Cat Interactions Depend on Pet Ownership and Affects Interpersonal Trust," Brianne Donaldson, Ben Curry, Moana Vercoe, Matthew Fillipo, and Paul J. Zak. *Human-Animal Interaction Bulletin* 3.2 (2015): 56-71.
18. "Immortality and Omniscience: Conceptual Bridges to Reworlding in Process and Jainism," in *Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature: A Common World for Animals and the Environment*, ed. Brianne Donaldson (New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014).
19. "Does Whitehead Have a Theory of Mourning?: A Response to Butler's Inquiry," in *Beyond Superlatives: Regenerating Whitehead's Philosophy of Experience*, ed. Hollis Phelps, J. R. Hustwit, and Roland Faber (New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014).

20. “Bad with Names: Replacing “Animal” with Whitehead’s Insistent Particularity of Bodies,” *Process Studies Journal* 42.2 (2014): 181-199.
21. “Faith of an Abhavya: Kundakunda’s Unlikely Dialectic for Contemporary Jain Science,” *Sramaṇa: A Quarterly Research Journal of Jainology* 62.1 (2011): 86-102.
22. “They Will Know We Are Process Thinkers By Our...: Finding Whitehead’s Ecological Ethic Through the Lens of Ecofeminism and Jainism,” in *Polydoxy: Theologies of the Manifold*, ed. Catherine Keller and Laurel Schneider (New York: Routledge Press, 2010).
23. “Discourse First, Cages Second: A New Locus for Animal Liberation,” *Between the Species: A Journal for the Study of Philosophy and Animals* 13.10 (2010): 204–22.
24. “Animals and Humanity in the World: Job 38-39,” in *Celebration of Wisdom: Life and Meaning in Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes*, ed. Steven Schweitzer (Elkhart: Institute of Mennonite Studies, 2009).

TRANSLATIONS

- “Jain Vegetarianism: From Asceticism to an Art of Living,” by Marie-Claude Mahias, French to English translation. *International Journal for Jaina Studies* 22.1 (2026): 1-23.
- “On the Medical Doctrines in the *Tandulaveyāliya*: 2. Teachings of Anatomy,” by Colette Caillat, French to English translation. *International Journal for Jaina Studies* 15.1 (2019): 1-12.
- “On the Medical Doctrines in the *Tandulaveyāliya*: 1. Teachings of Embryology,” by Colette Caillat, French to English translation. *International Journal for Jaina Studies* 14.1 (2018):

VIDEO RESEARCH

- 2025 [“Balancing Belief and Medicine: How Jain Values Shape Healthcare Decisions.”](#) *SciTube* (February 2025; 3.6k views)

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, PEER REVIEWED

Religious Violence Today: Faith and Conflict in the Modern World, ed. Michael Jerryson. (Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 2019).

- 2019 Jain vegetarian diet
- 2019 Svastika
- 2019 Ahimsā

Encyclopedia of Indian Religions: Buddhism and Jainism, ed. K. T. S. Sarao and Jeffery Long (New York: Springer, 2017).

- 2017 Samavasaraṇa
- 2017 Namōkāra mantra
- 2017 Divya-dhvani

Lexikon of Human-Animal Relations, ed. Arianna Ferrari and Klaus Petrus (Bielefeld Germany: Transcript, 2015).

- 2015 Animals and Jainism (p. 184-186)

Global Guide to Animal Protection, ed. Andrew Linzey (Champaign IL: University of Illinois Press, 2013).

- 2013 Animal Courses in Academia (p. 273-274)

ONLINE ANALYSES

- 2025 "Imagining Wildfire Religion" *Reforestation Magazine*, March 2025.
- 2021 “The Risks of K-9s on Campuses, *Inside Higher Ed*. November 23, 2021.

- 2020 “If Killing Animals is Traumatic for Farmers, Why Have Slaughterhouse Workers Do It?” *Medium*. July 7, 2020.
- 2017 “Offer the Other Cheek? The Risks of Listening and Peacemaking.” *Patheos*. April 11, 2017.
- 2017 “Politics and the Lies We Tell About Grief.” *Patheos*. March 9, 2017.
- 2017 “To Sir, With Love”?: Grounding Protests in Skeptical Politics. *Process and Faith*. January 30.
- 2015-16 “What is Justice?” series (6 entries). *Process and Faith*.
- 2015 “Chicago Jains Celebrate Annual Fast for Self, Neighbor, and the World.” *Patheos*. October 9, 2015.
- 2015 “Chicago Jains Celebrate Ancient Ritual of Forgiveness.” *Patheos*. September 22, 2015.
- 2015 “Outlawing the Jain Fast-Unto-Death is a Bioethical Issue.” *Patheos*. August 17, 2015.
- 2015 “Jains In America: A Socially-Engaged Second Generation.” *Patheos*. July 1, 2015.
- 2015 “The Sacred No: The First Word for a New Future for Animals.” *The Dodo*. April 19, 2015.

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Co-PI (with Matthew Landry, UCI Wen Public Health) / UCI & UCLA End Disparities Grant: “Community-Based Participatory Design of a Cardiovascular Health Survey Among Jains in Southern California”
- 2024 UCI Addressing Bias and Building Community: Meaning of Life Silence Sessions
- 2024 Ninth Helen Crovetto Award for Excellence in the Study of New Religious Movements with Ties to South Asia for article “Unifying, Globalizing, and Reinterpreting 'Practical Nonviolence' through the COVID-19 Pandemic Response of North American Jains” published in *Nova Religio* 26, no. 3 (February 2023).
- 2023-26 Templeton Foundation: Science Engaging Theology (SET) Foundations Course Development Prize
- 2022 Spalding Foundation (U.K.): Conference—Knowing Life The Ethics of Multispecies Epistemologies
- 2022 University of California Humanities Research Initiative; Project: Multispecies Epistemologies
- 2022 UCI Humanities Center; Project: Knowing Life: The Ethics of Multispecies Epistemologies
- 2020 1-year Visiting Bhagwan Adinath Professorship in Jain Studies, University of North Texas (declined)
- 2020 UCI School of Humanities Faculty Publication Grant
- 2017 Rice University, Summer Research Grant: Religion & Pork Slaughter
- 2015 Associated Colleges of the Midwest, Digital Storytelling Fellowship
- 2013 Teaching for Peace, International School for Jain Studies
- 2012 American Academy of Religion (AAR) Project Grant: Ahimsā in the Face of Disaster: The Jain Response to the Partition of India, 1947
- 2011 Uberoi Foundation, Center for Jain Studies at Claremont Lincoln University
- 2010 International School for Jain Studies (India) 6-week research fellowship
- 2007 Lilly Endowment, Teaching Fellowship (Introduction to Theology), Goshen College

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2022 *Knowing Life: The Ethics of Multispecies Epistemologies* (22 presenters; culminated in 18 chapter edited collection by the same name)
- 2015 *The Future of Meat Without Animals* (13 presenters; culminated in 20+ chapter edited collection by same name)
- 2013 *Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature: A Common World for Animals and the Environment* (Claremont; 12 presenters and 6 graduate “synthesizers,” 1 exhibit; culminated in edited collection by same name)
- 2013 *Womens' Perspectives in Indian Traditions and Beyond* (Claremont; 9 keynotes; 18 paper presenters)
- 2012 *Bioethics: Religious and Spiritual Approaches* (Claremont; 4 keynotes; 17 papers presenters)
- 2010 *Interreligious Voices for Animal Compassion* (Chapman University; 1 keynote, 7 presenters, 1 art exhibit)

EXHIBITIONS CURATED

- 2023 *Structures of Striving: Jainism and Nonviolence in Temple Architecture* (University of California, Irvine; with public event and speaker)
- 2018 *Structures of Striving: Jainism and Nonviolence in Temple Architecture* (Rice University; with public event and speaker; subsequently on display at University of North Texas, and Univ of Texas at Austin)
- 2015 *Eating Plants: Vegetarian Stories from the Heartland* (Monmouth College; student-generated community exhibit)
- 2013 *Sikh Relics, Sikh Life: Objects and Identity in Contemporary Sikhism* (Claremont School of Theology; with public event and 2 speakers)
- 2012 *Voice and Vision: Art and the Jaina Spiritual Life* (Claremont School of Theology)
- 2010 *Troubling Recognition: Seeing Animals, Seeing Ourselves* (Chapman University)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UC Irvine (undergraduate)

- Hum 1C Humanities Core: Animals, People, Power
- Rel St 170/Philos 131c Multicultural Medical Ethics
- Rel St 103/Philos 117 Asian Philosophies
- Rel St 120/Philo 117 Jain History, Philosophy, Ethics
- Rel St 21/Philos 21 Philosophy of Religions: Evil and Suffering
- Rel St 170/Philos 130 Animal Ethics and Religions
- Rel St 110w Thinking About Religion (theory, methods, writing)
- Rel St 126/Philos 117 Topics in Jain Studies (Karma and Ethics) (Nonviolent Movments & Praxis)
- Rel St 175/Philos 103 Process Philosophy and Environment

UC Irvine (graduate)

- Philos 298 Whitehead's Process and Reality
- Philos 298 Cross-cultural Medical Ethics
- Philos 230/Hum 270 Gender, Sex, Species

Rice University (undergraduate)

- Asia 238 Introduction to Jainism
- Asia 338 Bioethics and Indian Traditions

Asia 339

India, Consciousness, and Science

Baylor College of Medicine (graduate) Spring 2017 and 2018
Medical Ethics (case-study intensive course for first year medical students)

Monmouth College (undergraduate)

Phil/Rel 207 Bioethics
Phil/Rel 300 Religions of Asia: India
Phil/Rel 310 History and Philosophy of Yoga
Rel 210 Islam and Judaism
Rel 220 Women and Religion
Intg 101 Intro to Liberal Arts
Intg 288 Global Perspectives: What is Justice?
Intg 313 Queer Theory and Nonviolent Movements

Claremont School of Theology (graduate)

Ldt 3000/4000 Bioethics and Indian Traditions
Ldt 3004/4004 Ecology, Indian Traditions, and Our Planetary Future
Ldt 3012/4012 Introduction to Sikhism
Ldt 3010/4010 Chanting, Social Change, and the Traditions of India

University of Laverne (undergraduate)

Phil 101 Introduction to Philosophy

Goshen College (undergraduate)

Fall 2007 Introduction to Christian Theology, teaching internship

CLINICAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Jan 2010 to Dec 2012 Center for Neuroeconomics Studies, Claremont Graduate Univ.
Lead Researcher: Oxytocin, Animals, and Decision Making
Lead Researcher: Social Ritual & Quakers / Social Ritual & Contra Dancing

MEDIA COVERAGE

- **2025** “CST and Jain Community Celebrate Landmark Moment in Interfaith Education”, April 16, 2025; link [here](#).
- **2025** Sara Tiersma, “Jain Center of Southern California Hosts Interfaith Climate Action Event,” UCI Newkirk Center for Science and Society, Jan. 14, 2025; link [here](#).
- **2024** Podcast Interview for Institute for Ecological Civilization: [“Jain Tradition, Nonviolence, and Ecology.”](#) May 2024.
- **2023** Megan Cole, “Promoting Nonharm and Many-sided View through Jain Studies,” *UCI School of the Humanities*, May 16, 2023; link [here](#).
- **2021** Lilibeth Garcia, “Ancient Principles for a Modern World: Brianne Donaldson Co-authors First Full-length Examination of Bioethics in Jainism,” *UCI School of Humanities*, September 23, 2021; link [here](#).
- **2021** Lilibeth Garcia, “Ancient Principles for a Modern World: Brianne Donaldson Co-authors First Full-length Examination of Bioethics in Jainism,” *UCI School of Humanities*, September 23, 2021; link [here](#).

- **2021** Nina Agrawal, “Little Known Outside India, Jainism Spreads at Colleges Amid Calls to ‘Decolonize’ Studies,” *Los Angeles Times*, May 2, 2021; link [here](#).
- **2021** “UCI Center for Medical Humanities Invites Dr. Kathrin Herrmann to Talk About ‘Replacement, Reduction & Refinement in Practice: Are We Doing All We Can?’” *New University*, May 12, 2021; link [here](#).
- **2020** “UCI Center for Medical Humanities Hosts ‘Alternatives to Animal Testing,’ Featuring Dr. Donald Ingber,” *New University*, November 23, 2020; link [here](#).
- **2020** “Jain Education in North America,” *Jain Digest*; link [here](#).
- **2020** “Animal Agriculture and the Pandemic: Jain Scholar Sees Beyond Our Cultural Blind Spot,” *Vegan Jains*, September 7; link [here](#).
- **2020** “Jainism and Intellectual Integrity,” *UCI Chancellor’s Anteater Virtues* series for Incoming Students; link [here](#).
- **2020** “What’s Next: The Future of Food,” *UCI News*. Link [here](#).
- **2020** “The Pandemic Problem” on *YJA Aneka Podcast* #6. Link [here](#).
- **2020** “The Danger is the System: Animal Agriculture’s Role in Pandemics,” *Covid-19: Humanities Response* Video Series with Dean Miller; link [here](#).
- **2020** “Jain-Friendly Summer Meals,” *UCI Cooking with the Professor*. Link [here](#).
- **2018** Video “Jain View of Death,” by Brianne Donaldson. Recorded by Houston Symphony for performance of Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 on theme of resurrection. Link [here](#).
- **2018** Jeff Falk, “Fondren exhibit highlights richness and philosophy of Jainism,” *Rice News*, February 26. Link [here](#).
- **2015**. Barry McNamara, “Student-created ‘Eating Plants’ exhibit now on display at Monmouth College,” *Monmouth College News*, December 9. Link [here](#).
- **2013** “Claremont Lincoln University hosts International Jain Conference,” *India West*, September 5, Link [here](#).
- **2013** Deepinder Singh, “International Jain Conference Focuses on Status of Women,” *India Journal*, September 4. Link [here](#).
- **2013** The Associated Press, “US-Born Jains Make Ascetic Faith Fit Modern Life,” *National Public Radio*, August 18. Link [here](#).
- **2012** “Claremont Lincoln University Opens Center for Jain Studies,” *India Journal*, November 23. Link [here](#).
- **2012**. “A Look at Cultural Traditions on Death,” *Los Angeles Times*, Aug 19, 2012. Link [here](#).

LANGUAGES

Sanskrit	advanced translation; intermediate chanting
French	advanced translation
Spanish	advanced translations; intermediate spoken
Hindi	intermediate translation; basic spoken
Prākṛit	beginning translation