

## **PAUL A. ANTHONY**

Historian of U.S. Religion

*Curriculum Vitae*

### **EDUCATION**

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Ph.D., American Religious History, Florida State University, 2026.

M.A., Modern and American Christianity, Abilene Christian University, 2016.

B.S., Journalism, Abilene Christian University, 2004

### **EMPLOYMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

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2026- Lecturer of History, Texas State University

2024-2025: Visting Lecturer of History, Northeast Lakeview College

2023-2024: Adjunct Instructor of History, Northeast Lakeview College

### **PUBLICATIONS**

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#### **PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES**

2026: "Idyllic, Exotic, Dangerous: Race, Gender, and the Frontier in News Coverage of Communal Religions," *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* (May 2026), 100-125.

2025: "'Is Humanism Molesting Your Child?' Lottie Beth Hobbs, the Death of the ERA, and the Birth of the Religious Right," *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 93:3 (September 2024, pub. February 2025), 565-586.

2024: "Less Power to Ya: Materiality and Sublation in Early Christian Rock Music," *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 36:3 (October 2024), 164-178.

2017: "An Evolving Approach: The Public Response to Darwinism at Abilene Christian University, 1935-1989," *Stone-Campbell Journal* 20:2 (Fall 2017), 173-188.

"'Drenched with Evolution': Reuel Lemmons and Churches of Christ in the Texas Textbook Controversy of 1964," *Restoration Quarterly* 59:4 (2017), 213-223.

2016: "'Untruths and Propaganda': Surveying the 1985-86 Abilene Christian University Evolution Controversy," *Restoration Quarterly* 58:1 (2016), 39-53.

#### **ESSAYS**

2026: "Between Church and State: Fundamentalist Mormon Life in the Shadow of Depression, War, and the FBI," *Mormon Studies Review* 13:1 (March 2026), 37-54.

#### **BOOK REVIEWS**

Brian J. Miller, *Sanctifying Suburbia: How the Suburbs Became the Promised Land for American Evangelicals*. *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming, 2026).

Leah Payne, *God Gave Rock & Roll to You: A History of Contemporary Christian Music*. *Religion* 55:4 (October 2025), 932-935.

Diane Winston, *Righting the American Dream: How the Media Mainstreamed Reagan's Evangelical Vision*. *American Religion* 6:1 (Fall 2024), 114-116.

Jesse Curtis, *The Myth of Colorblind Christians: Evangelicals and White Supremacy in the Civil Rights Era*. *Reading Religion* (July 2023).

Andrew Mall, *God Rock, Inc.: The Business of Niche Music*. *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 35:1 (April 2023), 52-53.

Richard Kent Evans, *MOVE: An American Religion*. *Reading Religion* (February 2023).

Paul Matzko, *The Radio Right: How a Band of Broadcasters Took on the Federal Government and Built the Modern Conservative Movement*. *H-JHistory* (February 2023).

## DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

Contributor, *The Texas Yamp*, collaborative, open access Texas history textbook  
Conservative religion in Texas after 2000

Contributor, *The Palace of the Thundering Gods*, collaborative, open access history of U.S. religion  
The conflict over Darwinism

## PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

“Who Will Save You from the ‘Cult?’” *ARC: Religion, Politics, Et Cetera* (March 2026),  
[arcmag.org/who-will-save-you-from-the-cult](http://arcmag.org/who-will-save-you-from-the-cult).

“Religion or Cult? Journalism, History, and the Challenge of New Religions,” *Perspectives on History* (August 2024), [historians.org/perspectives-article/religion-or-cult](http://historians.org/perspectives-article/religion-or-cult).

“‘Lies from the Living’: Wrestling with History When You Were Part of It,” *Perspectives on History* (July 2024), [historians.org/perspectives-article/lies-from-the-living](http://historians.org/perspectives-article/lies-from-the-living).

“Christian University Evolution Controversy,” KACU-FM podcast interview (April 2022),  
[kacu.org/podcast/deep-and-wide/2022-04-20/faith-science-part-3-christian-university-evolution-controversy](http://kacu.org/podcast/deep-and-wide/2022-04-20/faith-science-part-3-christian-university-evolution-controversy).

## PRESENTATIONS

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2026: “The Problem and Promise of Fundamentalism Among Polygamists, Journalists, and the State,” American Society for Church History, Chicago, IL (January 2026).

2025: “‘They Are Known to Have Traveled’: The Mann Act, the FBI, and the First Raid of the FLDS,” American Society for Church History, Chicago, IL (January 2025).

2024: “‘They Are Known to Have Traveled,’” American Academy of Religion annual meeting, San Diego, CA (November 2024).

“White Press, Black Church: Colorblind Rhetoric, Alternative Media, and the 1968 Summer of Crisis in Churches of Christ,” American Journalism Historians Association, Pittsburgh, PA (October 2024). Winner, J. William Snorgrass Award for outstanding research paper on a minority journalism topic.

- 2023: “Edenic, Risky, Destructive: Frontier Myths in Network News Coverage of the Children of God,” American Academy of Religion annual meeting, San Antonio, TX (November 2023).
- “The Long, Hot Summer: Racial Consensus and Alternative Media Among Churches of Christ in 1968,” Media and Civil Rights History Symposium, Columbia, SC (March 2023).
- “Your Women in Texas’: Lottie Beth Hobbs, Churches of Christ, and the Unheralded Networks That Stopped the ERA and Launched the Religious Right,” American Academy of Religion Southeast regional conference, Atlanta, GA (March 2023). Winner, Best Graduate Student Paper.
- “Not Just Schlafly: Black Activists, Fundamentalist Women, and the Fall of the ERA,” co-presenter, Florida State University Graduate Student Symposium, Tallahassee, FL (February 2023).
- 2022: “Your Women in Texas,” Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference, Boulder, CO (remote, September 2022).
- “Patterns and Practices: Differences in Newspaper Coverage of the 2008 FLDS Child-Custody Trial,” American Academy of Religion Southeast regional conference, Tallahassee, FL (March 2022) and FSU Graduate Student Symposium (February 2022).
- 2021: “The Long Hot Summer: King, Keeble, and the Collapse of Consensus Among Churches of Christ,” Christian Scholars Conference, Nashville, TN (June 2021).
- 2017: “Prophet, Priest, and Plum-line: Political Power in Amos 7,” Southwest Conference of Religious Studies, Irving, TX (March 2017).
- “Missing the Marx: The Decline and Fall of Marxism in the Writings of Gustavo Gutierrez,” Southwest Conference of Religious Studies, Irving, TX (March 2017).
- 2016: “‘Drenched with Evolution’: The Role of Reuel Lemmons and Churches of Christ in the Texas Textbook Controversy of 1964,” Southwest Conference of Religious Studies, Irving, TX (March 2016).
- 2015: “Was Evolution (at ACU) a Myth? One Man’s Crusade Against Two Biology Professors and a University’s Decision to Fight Him,” Christian Scholars Conference, Abilene, TX (June 2015).

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE**

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Fellow, Eugene England Summer Institute, June 2026

Peer reviewer, *Journal of Religion & Society*

Mentor, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, 2023-2025

Research assistant, Sonia Hazard, Summer 2022

Coordinator, Florida State University American Religious History Colloquium, 2021-2023

## **AWARDS**

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2026: Florida State University Department of Religion, Porterfield Prize for research

Florida State University, Graduate Research & Creativity Award nominee

- 2024: American Journalism Historians Association, J. William Snorgrass Award for outstanding research paper on a minority journalism topic
- 2023: American Academy of Religion, Southeast region, Graduate Student Paper prize  
Florida State University Department of Religion, Outstanding Research Award
- 2022: Florida State University, Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award nominee
- 2016: *Stone-Campbell Journal* Promising Scholar