

Herbert Robinson Marbury

Address:

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Education

Emory University, Atlanta, GA, B.A. (1991), Majors: English Literature; African Amer. Studies

Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA, M.Div. with honors (1994),
Concentration: Old Testament

Vanderbilt University, The Graduate School, Nashville, TN, M.A. (1999)

Vanderbilt University, The Graduate School, Nashville, TN, Ph.D., (2003) Hebrew Bible (major), Ethics (minor). .

Dissertation:

The Separatist Rhetoric of the Ezra-Nehemiah Corpus: Its Imperial, Aristocratic, and Cultic Significations

Dissertation Committee:

Adviser: Renita J. Weems

Readers: Douglas A. Knight

Jack Sasson

Jon Berquist

Victor Anderson

Languages:

Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, French, German,

Fellowships and Honors:

Dempster Fellow, The United Methodist Church, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1998-1999

Dempster Fellow, The United Methodist Church, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry 1999-2000

Vanderbilt University Dean's Graduate Fellow, 1997, 1998, 1999

Dissertation Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2000-2001.

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 1/2006-Present.

University Chaplain/Director of Religious Life, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA 8/2001-Present.

Assistant Professor of Religion, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA 08/2001-Present

Instructor for *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew* course for M.T.S./M.Div. students, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Fall semester, 2000.

Visiting Instructor in Old Testament, American Baptist College, Nashville, TN 7/99-5/01.

Instructor for *Biblical Criticism* course for M.T.S./M.Div. students, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, 1999-2000 academic year. Responsibilities include preparation and presentation of lectures for each class session, facilitating discussions, grading student papers, and student conferences.

Teaching Assistant, *Literature, Religion, and Faith of Ancient Israel* course for M.T.S./M.Div. students, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Fall, 1998. Teaching Assistant to Professor Renita J. Weems. Responsibilities included preparation and presentation of selected lectures, facilitation of weekly discussion groups for two sections, grading papers and examinations, and student conferences.

Academic Service:

Search committee member for professor in theology, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, TN, 2001.

Graduate Assistant Steering Committee member for the Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives (ETANA) project. Responsible for researching content for the electronic database, coordinating meetings, and identifying and evaluating, new resources to be included in the project.

Bibliographer, *Hebrew Bible Area, Vanderbilt Divinity Library*, 1999-2001. Responsible for book acquisitions and collection maintenance for the Hebrew Bible section of the Divinity Library collection. Duties include updating current bibliography for Hebrew Bible department, maintaining and updating of the Vanderbilt Hebrew Bible Resources website (<http://divinity.library.vanderbilt.edu/bibs/hebrewbible.htm>), and responding to reference inquiries.

Related Experience

Mentor, Doctor of Ministry Program, United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH), 2004-present. Focus: The Black Church and Social and Civic Empowerment.

Pastor, Old National United Methodist Church (Riverdale, GA), 1992-1997.
Administered the development of a “New Start” congregation. Initiated and completed the church’s building program.

Refugee Resettlement Coordinator, The United Methodist Church, North Georgia Conference, 1995-1997.

Professional and Social Affiliations

Society of Biblical Literature
American Academy of Religion
American Schools of Oriental Research
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Pi Delta Delta Chapter

Courses

Hebrew (Fall, 2000)
Intro to Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (Fall, 1998/ Fall, 1999) (Fall 2006)
Biblical Criticism (Fall, 1999/ Spring, 2000)
History of Ancient Israel (Fall 2003)
Politics and Economics of Ancient Israel
Ethics of Ancient Israel

Minor Prophets(Fall, 2000)
African American Biblical Hermeneutics (Fall 2006)

Academic Interests:

I. Hebrew Bible:

History of Ancient Israel, Social History of Persian Yehud, the 'Am ha'arets problem, Archaeology and Historical Reconstruction, Rhetoric of the Second Temple Community, Politics and Economics of Persian Yehud, Hermeneutics and Methods of Interpretation

II. Ethics:

Ethics of Ancient Israel, Old Testament Ethics, Classical (Aristotelian) Ethics, Critical Theory, Religion and Popular Culture

III. African American Religion:

Rhetoric of the Old Testament in African American Ante-bellum Sermons, Cultural Criticism, African American Biblical Hermeneutics

Publications:

"The *Issa Zarah* in Colonial Judah: Regulating Exogamy in Proverbs 7," in *Semeia*.
Forthcoming, Summer 2004.

"Wisdom in the Ancient World," *Contemporary American Religion*. Co-authored with Renita J. Weems.
Wade Clark Roof, ed. *Contemporary American Religion*. New York: Macmillan Library Reference USA, 2000.

"Herod," *From Polis to Empire: c. 800 B.C.-500 A.D.* ed. Andrew G. Traver. Greenwood Press, 2000.

"Herod Antipas," *From Polis to Empire: c. 800 B.C.-500 A.D.* ed. Andrew G. Traver. Greenwood Press, 2000.

"John the Baptist," *From Polis to Empire: c. 800 B.C.-500 A.D.* ed. Andrew G. Traver. Greenwood Press, 2000.

Papers and Presentations:

“The Play of Multivalent Rhetoric: The Political and Priestly Significations of Ezra 9,” delivered at the annual congress of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, GA November, 2003

“Double Duty Discourse: Priestly Rhetoric and Economic Policy in Nehemiah 13 and Persian Yehud,” delivered at the annual congress for the Society of Biblical Literature, Toronto Ontario, November, 2002.

“Engaging Sexual Violence in the Bible: Hermeneutic for the Black Church,” delivered at the Black Church and Human Sexuality conference sponsored by the Kelly Miller Smith Institute, Vanderbilt University, November, 2000.

“Five Loaves and Two Fish, The Power of a Child: Rethinking The Role of Youth in the Zimbabwean AIDS Crisis,” delivered at the HIV/AIDS Youth Education and Awareness Conference of The General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church in Chinoyhi, Zimbabwe, August 2000.

“Regulating Boundaries and Bodies in Colonial Judah: A Reading of Curses of Deuteronomy 27,” delivered at the Southeastern Regional SBL (SECSOR) in Atlanta, GA, March, 2000.

“Sorry Comforters: The Friends of Job and the Church’s Response to the HIV/AIDS Crisis in Southern Africa,” delivered at the HIV/AIDS Education and Action Conference of The General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church in Kadoma, Zimbabwe, January 2000

“The Wisdom Movement in Ancient Israel,” Vanderbilt Divinity School, October, 1998.

“The Seams of Job: Weaving Together Prose and Poetry in the Skeptical Corpus of Israel’s Wisdom Literature,” Interdenominational Theological Center, November, 1997

“From the J Writer to Jamnia: A History of the Pentateuch,” Interdenominational Theological Center, November, 1996

“Ghanian Perspectives on the Old Testament: Reflections From My Participation in the Pan-African Christian Church Conference in Accra,” *Journal of the Interdenominational Theological Center* (January, 1994).

Works in Progress:

“The Appropriation of the Rhetoric of the Hebrew Prophets in the Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.,” for an upcoming volume edited by Lewis V. Baldwin.

Ongoing Projects:

Participation in the Archaeological Excavations of the Megiddo Expedition, Megiddo, Israel