

Jacob Alan Cook

Curriculum Vitae
February 23, 2024

Contact Information

Eastern Mennonite Seminary
1200 Park Road
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
jacob.cook@emu.edu

Education

Ph.D. Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary 2018
Concentrations: Christian Ethics (major), Theology and Culture (minor)
M.Div. McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University 2010
B.A. *summa cum laude* Religion and Philosophy, Friends University 2007

Professional Appointments

Senior Research Fellow 10/2023–*present*
International Baptist Theological Study Centre

Visiting Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics 1/2023–*present*
Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Eastern Mennonite University

Academic Program Director 1/2023–*present*
Pathways for Tomorrow Lilly Endowment Grant Program
Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Eastern Mennonite University

Teacher-Scholar Postdoctoral Fellow 7/2021–12/2022
Thriving Congregations Lilly Endowment Grant Initiative
School of Divinity, Wake Forest University

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy 1/2019–12/2020
Theology and Humanities Department, Friends University

Events and Programs Coordinator 1/2019–6/2020
Apprentice Institute, Friends University

Associate Director 7/2012–11/2014
Just Peacemaking Initiative, Fuller Theological Seminary

Publications

Books

Worldview Theory, Whiteness, and the Future of Evangelical Faith. Lanham, MD:
Lexington Books/Fortress Academic, 2021.

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Journal Articles

- “A New Fundamentalism Rising: The Southern Baptist Battle against the CRT ‘Worldview,’” *Journal of American Culture*, in press.
- “The Origins and Limits of the Worldview Paradigm for Christian Intellectual Life,” co-written with David P. Gushee, *The Baptist Educator* 80, no. 3 (2015): 4–8.

Book Chapters

- “Everything, Nothing, Something: Trading in World-Viewing for Everyday Faithfulness in Peacemaking and Sustainability.” In *The Gospel of Peace in a Violent World: Christian Nonviolence for Communal Flourishing*, edited by Shawn M. Graves and Marlena Graves. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2022.
- “Toward an Incarnational Theology of Identity.” In *Justice and the Way of Jesus: Christian Ethics and the Incarnational Discipleship of Glen Stassen*, edited by David P. Gushee and Reggie L. Williams. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2020.
- “War, Nonviolence, and Just Peacemaking.” In *Discerning Ethics: Diverse Christian Responses to Divisive Moral Issues*, edited by Hak Joon Lee and Timothy A. Dearborn. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2020.

Book Reviews

- Review of Pamela Cooper-White, *The Psychology of Christian Nationalism: Why People Are Drawn In and How to Talk Across the Divide*, in *Reading Religion*, February 17, 2023, <https://readingreligion.org/9781506482118/the-psychology-of-christian-nationalism/>.
- Review of J. Milburn Thompson, *Justice and Peace: A Christian Primer*, 3rd edition, Marcus Mescher, *The Ethics of Encounter: Christian Neighbor Love as a Practice of Solidarity*, and Charles Marsh, Shea Tuttle, and Daniel P. Rhodes, eds., *Can I Get a Witness?*, in *Perspectives in Religious Studies* (Spring 2022): 79–84.
- Review of Karen R. Keen, *Scripture, Ethics, and the Possibility of Same-Sex Relationships*, in *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* 74, no. 1 (January 2020): 104.
- Review of David Crump, *I Pledge Allegiance: A Believer’s Guide to Kingdom Citizenship in 21st-Century America*, in *Reading Religion*, June 5, 2018, <https://readingreligion.org/9780802871749/i-pledge-allegiance/>.
- Review of Joseph R. Wiebe, *The Place of Imagination: Wendell Berry and the Poetics of Community, Affection, and Identity*, in *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 38, no. 1 (Spring/Summer 2018): 203–204.

Print Publications

- “Teaching AI about Ethics and the Gospel,” *The Presbyterian Outlook*, March 2024. Online edition: <https://pres-outlook.org/2024/02/teaching-ai-about-ethics-and-the-gospel/>
- “Want diversity? Look beyond your walls,” *Anabaptist World*, February 10, 2023. Online edition: <https://anabaptistworld.org/want-diversity-look-beyond-your-walls/>

Web-Based Publications

- “Was Adam and Eve’s ‘Worldview’ the Original Sin?,” *Baptist News Global*, January 24, 2022, <https://baptistnews.com/article/was-adam-and-eves-worldview-the-original-sin.>

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- “Who Needs the Church When We Have the Biblical Worldview?,” *Baptist News Global*, December 22, 2021, <https://baptistnews.com/article/who-needs-the-church-when-we-have-the-biblical-worldview>.
- “Why Your Worldview Might Be Both More and Less Than Biblical,” *Baptist News Global*, December 1, 2021, <https://baptistnews.com/article/why-your-worldview-might-be-both-more-and-less-than-biblical>.
- “Putting the White in Witness since the 1940s,” *Baptist News Global*, November 15, 2021, <https://baptistnews.com/article/putting-the-white-in-witness-since-the-1940s>.
- “A Short History of the Roots of Colonialism, Racism and Whiteness in ‘Christian Worldview,’” *Baptist News Global*, November 2, 2021, <https://baptistnews.com/article/a-short-history-of-the-roots-of-colonialism-racism-and-whiteness-in-christian-worldview>.
- “What If Your ‘Christian Worldview’ Is Based on Some Sinful Ideas?,” *Baptist News Global*, October 26, 2021, <https://baptistnews.com/article/what-if-your-christian-worldview-is-based-on-some-sinful-ideas>.
- “Plan to Get Punched in the Mouth,” *Good Faith Media*, October 2, 2020, <https://goodfaithmedia.org/plan-to-get-punched-in-the-mouth/>.
- “Our Episcopate,” *Tableaux*, a semi-annual publication of McAfee School of Theology, no. 5 (Fall 2013): 26-27, <https://issuu.com/mcafee-tableaux/docs/tableaux1013>.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Books

Free for Others: Individual Agency and Its Relational Fabric. Perspectives on Baptist Identities Series. Edited by João Chaves and Kate Hanch. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, under contract.

Journal Articles

- “Living the Sermon on the Mount in the Shadows of the Empire: Comparing Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s and Eberhard Arnold’s Community Formation Models”
- “Longing for Satyagraha on the Path to Finkenwalde: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Mohandas Gandhi, and Forming Agents of Peace and Justice”
- “Between Don Quixote and Walter Mitty: Ideal Visions, Practical Problems, and Film in Moral Formation”

Awards and Honors

2022	Eberhard Arnold Research Grant, Plough Publishing House
2018	PhD Dissertation Passed with Distinction, Fuller Theological Seminary
2010	Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, McAfee School of Theology
2007–2010	Josiah Penfield Seminary Scholar, McAfee School of Theology
2009	John R. Claypool, IV, Preaching Award, McAfee School of Theology
2008	Stephenson Seminary Scholar, New Baptist Covenant Celebration
2007	Alpha Chi Honor Society Inductee

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Invited Lectures

“The W(h)it(e)ness of Worldview Theory: On the Troubled Genealogy of a Favorite Framework,” Philosophy Speaker Series, Department of Philosophy, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, March 2023.

Conference Participation

Paper Presentations

- “An Intentional Counter-Witness to Reactionary Authoritarianism,” Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival, Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 2023.
- “Connecting the Dots: Religious Liberty, the Common Good, and White Evangelical Activism against CRT in Public Schools,” National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion Annual Meeting, Boiling Springs, North Carolina, May 2023.
- “Between Don Quixote and Walter Mitty: Ideal Visions, Practical Problems, and Film in Moral Formation,” International Conference on Religion and Film, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 2022.
- “Where It All (Re)Starts: The Image of God, Created Sociality, and the Basis of ‘Our’ Freedom,” National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee, May 2022.
- “A Free, Responsible Approach to Actively Identifying (with) Jesus in Interreligious and Other Complex Contexts,” Bonhoeffer: Theology and Social Analysis Unit and Christian Spirituality Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 2021.
- “Reconceiving the Hopes for and Hindrances to the Conversion of a Plural Self,” Religious Conversions Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 2021.
- “Toward an Incarnational Theology of Identity,” invited paper for a symposium in memory of Glen Harold Stassen, Mercer University, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2019.
- “The Dangers of Misplacing the Concreteness of Idealist Anthropologies,” Philosophy of Religion Section (AAR), Southwest Commission on Religious Studies (SWCRS) Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas, March 2019.
- “Baptismal Waters and a Mushroom Cloud: Glen Harold Stassen’s Lifelong Pursuit of a Christian Peacemaking Ethic,” Scriptural/Contextual Ethics Group (AAR) and Ethics and Biblical Interpretation Section (SBL), Society of Biblical Literature and American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings, San Diego, California, November 2014.
- “Giving Yourself, Serving Others, Crushing Satan: Paul’s Call to Peacemaking in the Letter to the Romans,” co-presenter with Brian Robinson, The Fuller Forum, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California, May 2014.
- “Emergent Creativity in the Middle East,” co-presenter with Barbod Salimi, Conference on Spirituality, Emergent Creativity and Reconciliation, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario, May 2012.

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Workshop Facilitation

- “Moral Discernment in Community,” two sessions, The Shalom Academy, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia, January 2024.
- “Moral Formation: Adaptive Leadership in Situations of Conflict,” The Episcopal Diocese of Texas Clergy Conference, Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas, October 2023.
- Guided Conversation, three sessions co-facilitated, MennoCon: The Biennial Convention of Mennonite Church USA, Kansas City, Missouri, July 2023.
- “Formation for Moral Agency and Leadership,” Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival, Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 2023.
- “The Journey into Peacemaking,” The Apprentice Gathering, Friends University, Wichita, Kansas, September 2019.
- “Just Peacemaking and Ecological Civilization,” International Whitehead Conference, Pomona College, Claremont, California, June 2015.

Campus Talks

- “The Perils and Promise of Religion in Work for Peace, Justice, and Social Change,” workshop facilitated at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, February 2024.
- “AI Ethics,” presentation for the Center for Teaching and Learning, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, February 2024.
- “Founded in the Right Now of a Future,” address delivered at the International Baptist Theological Study Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands, January 2024.
- “The Living Water is Deeper than Our Religious Worldviews,” chapel address delivered at Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia, March 2023.
- “Protest and Peaceful Resistance: Quaker Influence on Civil Rights and Beyond,” panelist at Friends University, February 2020.
- “The Path of Grace and the Work of Peace,” chapel address delivered at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas, September 2019.
- “Human Rights Thwart Terrorism,” Just Peacemaking Conference, co-convenor at Fuller Theological Seminary, October 2013.
- “Greening Your Team,” staff workshop facilitated at Fuller Theological Seminary, July 2013.
- “Art, Activism, and Our Earthen Home,” convenor and discussant at Fuller Theological Seminary, April 2013.
- “Public Theology and the Sacredness of Human Life,” respondent at Fuller Theological Seminary, April 2013.

Teaching Experience

Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Eastern Mennonite University

Graduate Courses Taught

Christian Ethics (Spring 2024 [hybrid])

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Wake Forest University School of Divinity

Graduate Courses Taught

Studying and Developing Local Communities (Spring 2023 [online], Spring 2022)

Formation for Moral Agency and Leadership (Fall 2022, Fall 2021)

Graduate Independent Studies Supervised

Congregational Leadership as Local Community Development (Spring 2023, 1 student)

Bonhoeffer and American Christianity (Fall 2022, 1 student)

Religious Freedom and the Supreme Court (Fall 2022, 1 student)

Friends University

Undergraduate Courses Taught

Applied Christian Ethics (Fall 2020)

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2018 [online], Fall 2017 [online], Summer 2017 [online], Spring 2017 [online])

The Good Life/Faith at Friends (Fall 2020 [online], Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2018)

Introduction to Ethics (Spring 2020, Fall 2018, Fall 2017 [online], Spring 2017 [online])

History of Christian Spiritual Formation (Fall 2019)

Theology 1: Basic Christian Beliefs (Spring 2018)

Undergraduate Independent Studies Supervised

Great Philosophers: Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Summer 2020, 3 students)

Theology 2: Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Summer 2020, 4 students)

Renovation of the Heart (Spring 2020, 1 student)

Living as an Apprentice of Jesus (Fall 2019, 1 student)

Fuller Theological Seminary

Graduate Course Teaching Assistance

Introduction to Christian Ethics, Instructor-in-Training (Spring 2014), Teaching Assistant (Spring 2011, Winter 2011, Fall 2010)

Theology of Poverty and Development, Teaching Assistant (Spring 2012)

Peacemaking in Israel and Palestine, Teaching Assistant (Summer 2011)

Service to Profession

Conference Program Involvement

2023–present Member, Program Committee, Mennonite Scholars and Friends at the American Academy of Religion/Society for Biblical Literature Annual Meeting(s)

2023 Moderator, Gender, Justice, and Transformation session, Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival, Harrisonburg, Virginia

2023 Moderator, Ethics section, National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion Annual Meeting, Boiling Springs, North Carolina

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

Brian Virtue (2022), “Navigating Risk and the Threat of Loss in Transformational Servant Leadership: A Grounded Theory of When Unequal Negotiations Lead to Flourishing Outcomes,” International Graduate School of Leadership, Second Reader

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Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviewer

- 2021 *Amsterdam Studies in Baptist and Mennonite Theology*
2018–2019 *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations*

University Service

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA

- 2024–*present* Director of Programs, Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, Search Committee
2023–*present* Associate Professor of Restorative Justice, Search Committee
2023 Continuing and Professional Education, Search Committee

Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston Salem, NC

- 2022 Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee
2021–2022 Baptist Commons Advisory Council
2021–2022 Dean’s Advisory Committee

Friends University, Wichita, KS

- 2019–2020 Chapel Advisory Committee
2019 Associate Campus Pastor, Search Committee

Public Engagement

Talks and Sermons

- “What Are We Doing Here?,” sermon delivered at First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, August 2022, <https://youtu.be/izA9O-YWocw?t=3246>.
“The Kind of Change that Takes Forever,” sermon delivered at First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, November 2021.
“In the Spirit of Improv,” meditation shared at University Friends Church, Wichita, Kansas, December 2019.
“When Peace and Justice Kiss,” sermon delivered at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, July 2019, <https://youtu.be/0ItWo1XgqLw>.
“Stories of an Angry God that We Tell Our Children,” sermon delivered at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, January 2016, <https://youtu.be/NAQHRPc12Xg>.
“Proactive Love,” respondent for Pacifist Fight Club student group, Biola University, La Mirada, California, March 2014.
“Unknowing with Certainty,” sermon delivered at Central Baptist Church, Newnan, Georgia, May 2009.
“Evangelizing Thomas and Other Fail-y Tales,” chapel address delivered at McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia, May 2009, <https://goodfaithmedia.org/evangelizing-thomas-cms-14141/>.
“The Lenten Voice of Peace,” sermon delivered at Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, March 2009.
“You Are the Light of the World,” sermon delivered at Church on the Street, Wichita, Kansas, January 2009.

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“Wherever You Are, You’re Family,” sermon delivered at Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia, November 2008.

“Blazing All the Wrong Trails,” sermon delivered at Buckhead Baptist Church, Buckhead, Georgia, April 2008.

Workshops and Lay Courses

Workshop Facilitator, “Learning to Navigate Tough Conversations,” two sessions, Bon Air United Methodist Church, Richmond, Virginia, October 2023, February 2024.

Workshop Facilitator, “Navigating Tough Conversations with Adaptive Leadership Skills,” 3-hour online workshop, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 2023.

Workshop Facilitator, “Navigating Tough Conversations with Adaptive Leadership Skills,” 7-hour workshop, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 2023.

Teacher, “Learning to Practice Moral Discernment,” nine-week course, First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, Fall 2022.

Workshop Facilitator, “Learning to Practice Moral Discernment,” two sessions, Home Moravian Church, Winston Salem, North Carolina, Fall 2022.

Teacher, “Practicing Faith,” nine-week course, First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, Spring 2022.

Workshop Co-Facilitator, “Letter from Birmingham Jail: Reading Group,” four sessions, First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, February 2022.

Teacher, “Romans in Reverse,” 13-week course, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, Summer 2020.

Workshop Facilitator, “Following Jesus in a Racialized World,” three sessions, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, Summer 2020.

Teacher, “The Bonhoeffer Sessions,” 13-week course, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, Spring 2020.

Workshop Facilitator, “Sexuality and the Image of God,” two sessions, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, March 2020.

Teacher, “Jesus and the News,” nine-week course, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, Spring 2019 and Fall 2019.

Teacher, “Theology 101,” 13-week course, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, Spring 2017.

Media Interviews

Andy Hale, “Whiteness & the Future of Evangelical Faith,” *CBF Conversations Podcast*, January 18, 2023, <https://cbfblog.com/2023/01/18/jacob-cook-whiteness-the-future-of-evangelical-faith/>.

Chase Tibbs, “Worldview, Freedom, and the Purpose of Work,” *Faith and Capital Podcast*, January 11, 2023, <https://faithandcapital.buzzsprout.com/262450/12021090-worldview-freedom-and-the-purpose-of-work-w-jacob-alan-cook>.

Tripp Fuller, “Is the ‘Christian Worldview’ a Supremacist Grift?,” *Homebrewed Christianity Podcast*, February 4, 2022, <https://trippfuller.com/2022/02/04/jacob-alan-cook-is-the-christian-worldview-a-supremacist-grift/>.

Kathryn Joyce, “Evangelicals Do Battle with ‘Critical Race Theory’ in New Online Video Course,” *Salon*, January 15, 2022, <https://www.salon.com/2022/01/15/evangelicals-do-battle-with-critical-race-theory-in-new-online-video-course/>.

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Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion
International Bonhoeffer Society, English Language Section
National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion
Society of Christian Ethics

Ministry Service and Ordination

Founder/Lead Teacher, Moral Discernment Class, First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, 2022–2023

Ordained to Gospel Ministry, First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston Salem, North Carolina, 2023

Founder/Lead Teacher, Ethos Class, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, 2018–2021

Small Group Leader, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas, 2017–2019

Small Group Leader, Pasadena, California, 2010–2014

Volunteer Community Chaplain, Focused Community Strategies, Atlanta, Georgia, 2009

Licensed for Gospel Ministry, First Baptist Church, Augusta, Kansas, 2009

Teacher, Grades 4–5 Sunday School Class, Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia, 2008–2009

Small Group Leader, Atlanta, Georgia, 2007–2009

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References

Jonathan Lee Walton

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David P. Gushee

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Mercer University, Macon, GA
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Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam
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Jeremy Gallegos

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