

# International Association for the Psychology of Religion

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*The International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR) is an international organization promoting the scientific research and exchange within the field of the psychology of religion. The Association is not partial to any particular trend but aspires to provide a platform for the entire spectrum of the scientific-psychological study of religion for psychologists of religion from all over the world.*

Website: [www.iaprweb.org](http://www.iaprweb.org)

**Become a member or renew your membership :**

<http://www.iaprweb.org/membership.html>

Benefits of membership:

1. Regular membership with the IAPR includes the subscription to the *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*. For regular members, print and online version are free.
2. Members of the IAPR pay reduced conference fees for the organization's conferences.
3. IAPR members receive special discounts for their subscriptions to:
  - a) The *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*: \$43/£26/€34 instead of \$62/£37/€49.
  - b) *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*: \$100/£60/€80 instead of \$386/£231/€441.
4. IAPR members receive the Association's e-mail newsletters which keep you in touch with the scientific community and inform you about conferences, job advertisements, funding opportunities, key publications, and the Association's latest developments and activities.

## Announcements



Dear IAPR members,

If you would like to add information in future newsletters please e-mail me the text. This may concern general announcements, conferences (future and report from past ones), job opportunities, key publications, or any other information you think IAPR members might be interested in.

If you are an early career researcher (PhD student or postdoc) and would like to see your work featured in the newsletter, contact me also.

Thank you,

Valerie van Mulukom  
*Editor of the IAPR newsletter*

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## Announcements



Dear colleagues,

It was a pleasure to see you in Hamar in August. Thank you for being there and for your presentations and other contributions.

### **Online evaluation survey**

For our final report and evaluation, we ask you kindly to answer the online survey with some questions about how you experienced this year's IAPR conference. A high response rate is very desirable, so we really hope you will spend the two minutes it takes to run through the survey. There are both set answer alternatives and room for comments, further explanations, suggestions and so on if you would like to tell us more detailed about your experiences and thoughts regarding the IAPR 2017. Enter the evaluation survey here:

<https://innolab.sihf.no/cb2/IAPR-conference.aspx>

The deadline for the survey is 5 January 2018.

### **Nordic Psychology of Religion Conference**

If you got the taste of coming to Norway, we can inform you that the annual Nordic Psychology of Religion Conference will be held at Honne Conference Hotel ([www.honne.no](http://www.honne.no)) October 22–23, 2018.

Overarching theme will be about *Existential Issues in Psychotherapy* and the keynote speaker will be Dr *Sebastian Murken*. Other contributors are Dr Gry Stålsett, Dr Peter laCour, and others. Program and further information will be available on see [www.religionspsykologi.no](http://www.religionspsykologi.no) (currently under reconstruction) and [www.fait-health.org](http://www.fait-health.org) from January 20, 2018.

Further information about the next bi-annual IAPR conference in Gdansk 2019 will be available on [www.iaprweb.org](http://www.iaprweb.org).

Best regards,

Heidi Frølund Pedersen  
IAPR Gen Secretary

Lars J Danbolt  
Host Committee IAPR 2017

## Conferences



### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS ON THE EVOLUTION OF RITUALS, BELIEFS AND RELIGIOUS MINDS**

*May 9-14, 2018 - Erice, Sicily, ITALY*

Registration Deadline: March 1st 2018

#### *Purpose of the workshop*

As a deep and enduring aspect of human societies and individual psychology, religion remains an evolutionary puzzle. Considering its centrality in so many lives, however, the scientific study of religion remains a largely neglected and fragmented topic.



In this workshop, an international and interdisciplinary group of eminent scholars explore the current state of our knowledge concerning religion as a complex bundle of behavior-belief packages rooted in genetic and cultural evolution. The focus will be on fresh developments and current controversies about the evolution of commitments to gods, rituals, sacred values, as well as religious cooperation and conflict in the world today. The format will encourage brief talks followed by extensive discussion and debate. Speakers are asked to reflect on emerging themes across disciplinary boundaries, and formulate the new and important questions that will shape future developments of this growing field over the next decade.

Confirmed invited speakers: Ara Norenzayan, Joe Henrich, Edward Slingerland, David S. Wilson, Scott Atran, Paul Bloom, Cristine Legare, Harvey Whitehouse, Colleen Shantz, Pascal Boyer, Ann Taves, Russell Gray, Eleanor Power, Richard Sosis, Jesper Sørensen, Dimitris Xygalatas, Claire White, Dominic Johnson, Robert McCauley, Joseph Bulbulia

#### WORKSHOP ORGANIZERS<sup>[L][SEP]</sup>

Ara Norenzayan (University of British Columbia)

Joe Henrich (Harvard University)<sup>[L][SEP]</sup>

Edward Slingerland (University of British Columbia)

Stefano Parmigiani (University of Parma)

More information and Registration: <http://schools.centromajorana.it/relmind2018/>

## Job Openings & Grants



### PhD Studentship in Evolutionary Ethics

*Oxford Brookes University*



Qualification type: PhD

Location: Oxford, UK

Hours: Full Time

Funding for: UK Students, EU Students, International Students

Funding amount: £16,000 per annum, for a maximum of three years

Fees: Tuition fees will be paid by the School of History, Philosophy and Culture

Eligibility: Home/EU and International students

Placed on: 6th December 2017

Closes: 20th February 2018

Start date: 17 September 2018

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of History, Philosophy and Culture

Deadline: The closing date for applications is 13.00 on Tuesday 20 February 2018

Interview date: Interviews will be held as soon as possible after the deadline

Oxford Brookes University is pleased to offer a full-time PhD Studentship in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and applications are invited for a PhD Studentship in Evolutionary Ethics.

The project will be co-supervised by Dr Stephen Boulter, Dr Helen De Cruz and Dr Johan De Smedt. This proposed PhD project offers an outstanding student the chance to conduct research into evolutionary ethics, a branch of philosophy that is concerned with the evolutionary basis of morality. The student will use a naturalistic approach to the evolution of human morality.

We are looking for someone with background knowledge in one or more of the following fields: meta-ethics, normative ethics, philosophy of cognitive science, philosophy of archaeology, and philosophy of biology. Candidates with a strong interest in empirically-informed philosophy are especially encouraged to apply.

More information: <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/BGG834/phd-studentship-in-evolutionary-ethics/>

**Job Openings  
& Grants****University teacher for the Master's Degree Programme in Social Exclusion**  
*Åbo Akademi University, Finland*

The new international Master's Degree Programme in Social Exclusion will start in the academic year 2018–2019. The Master's programme is part of the internationalisation agenda of the Faculty of Arts, Psychology and Theology, while also serving as a key element in the minority research profile of Åbo Akademi University.

We are now looking to employ a university teacher for the period of 1 March 2018 – 31 July 2021 to participate in the development of activities related to and within the new Master's degree programme. The position includes both coordination and teaching duties. The university teacher is expected to be part of and contribute to a dynamic and boundary-crossing academic community within the Faculty of Arts, Psychology and Theology.

The university teacher's work duties are primarily comprised of teaching and related organisation and administrative tasks with a special focus on the planning of the programme, the managing and coordination of the teaching, and the coordination between the subject areas involved as well as the collaborative support for and/or teaching in other subject entities within the Faculty in accordance with the appointee's competencies. The university teacher is also the so-called teacher tutor for students admitted to the programme, which involves bearing the responsibility for the students' adaptation to Åbo Akademi University and the study environment. General university-level assignments concerning the international Master's degree programmes at ÅAU may also be included.

The university teacher shall collaborate with teachers and researchers at national and international levels, participate in the pedagogical development in the field, and conduct research related to the theme areas of the programme. The university teacher is provided with an opportunity to conduct research for a maximum of one third of the working hours.

The university teacher has a total working time of 1,624 hours per year, and the work tasks will be defined in detail in annual work plans.

Read more about the Master's Degree Programme in Social Exclusion at

<http://www.abo.fi/ansok/en/Content/Document/document/37249>

The electronic application should be submitted in the University recruitment system below ([www.abo.fi/rekrytering](http://www.abo.fi/rekrytering)) no later than on 15 January 2018 at 3 PM (Finnish time) with the following enclosures.

For more information: [https://abo.rekrytointi.com/paikat/?o=A\\_RJ&jgid=1&jid=48](https://abo.rekrytointi.com/paikat/?o=A_RJ&jgid=1&jid=48)