

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

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

Contact information:

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Coventry University
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PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE V: (IR)RATIONALITY AND RELIGIOSITY DURING PANDEMICS

“Open Theology” invites submissions for the topical issue “Phenomenology of Religious Experience V: (Ir)Rationality and Religiosity During Pandemics”, prepared in collaboration with the Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience. In the context of the current COVID 19-crisis, the vexed relationship between religion, intuition, discursive reason, and instrumental rationality has become ever more complicated. Given resurgent appeals to the transformative (purifying, redemptive, liberating, etc.) force of religious resources in times of crisis—both manipulating and hopeful—we invite papers which explicate the involved aspects of (ir)rationality, on a societal, social, communal, and personal scale. Our working hypothesis is that the by now apparent lapses and discontents of secular reason contributed, if not lead to, the COVID19 pandemics. With the toll of deaths exceeding 286,000 in mid-May 2020, and industrial countries such as the United States leading the numbers, what does it tell us about the status of knowledge, consciousness, and their relationships with the power networks ? Given the astounding denials of both trivialontic-empirical and scientific facts of epidemics and the gripping realities of global misinformation, the relationship between the reason—in action, politics, press, local decision-making—and the subjective dimension of religiosity stand out in this new light, calling for phenomenological reporting and reflection, which must precede the care and the cure. While religious experience has been shown to have emancipatory value and enhance resilience and decrease stress, we’d like to clarify if this assessment still stands in this new situation.

As a rule, publication costs should be covered by so called Article Publishing Charges (APC), paid by authors, their affiliated institutions, funders or sponsors. To view funding opportunities to cover APC please visit <https://www.degruyter.com/page/1097>.

Authors without access to publishing funds are encouraged to discuss potential discounts or waivers with Managing Editor of the journal Dr. Katarzyna Tempczyk (katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com) before submitting their manuscript.

Submissions will be collected from September 1, 2020 to **March 31, 2021**, via the on-line submission system at <http://www.editorialmanager.com/openth/>

Before submission the authors should carefully read over the Instruction for Authors, available at: degruyter.com/publication/journal_key/OPTH/downloadAsset/OPTH_Instruction%20for%20Authors.pdf

All contributions will undergo critical peer-review before being accepted for publication.

Further questions about this thematic issue can be addressed to Olga Louchakova-Schwartz at olouchakova@gmail.com. In case of technical or financial questions, please contact journal Managing Editor Katarzyna Tempczyk at katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyter.com.



**Psychedelics and Mystical-type Experiences:
Relevance and implications for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality**

Special issue of The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion

The last decade we have witnessed a revival in psychedelic research. Psychedelic substances are increasingly used in a therapeutic context and seem to offer great potential for the treatment of biomedical disorders, such as depression, addiction and death anxiety. There is also a dearth of research showing that psychedelics, such as LSD and psilocybin, when used in the right setting, can occasion mystical-type experiences that are of great personal significance. Whereas these developments have had a huge impact on psychotherapy and clinical practice, so far they have remained largely beyond the scope of the psychology of religion. This is unfortunate, because the field of the psychology of religion has much to offer in terms of well-developed theories (e.g. for meaning-making) and well-validated scales and instruments (e.g., religious coping, spiritual struggles) that could potentially infuse the field of psychedelic research. In this special issue, we invite scholars from both fields to contribute both theoretical, review and empirical papers that address this issue of integration between these different disciplines. By doing so our hope is that the psychology of religion community will take notice of these exciting new developments, and that psychedelic researchers find inspiration from the rich history and resources offered by the psychology of religion.

Submission Instructions

- Please note that potential contributions to this special issue should meet the methodological standards of IJPR (e.g., sufficient statistical power; use of validated scales) and that the research reported must have been approved by relevant IRB.
- Authors can send an email enquiry to the editor if they are interested in submitting a paper or if they have questions about the suitability of their publication for this issue.
- The deadline for submissions is **December 31st, 2021**.
- Submissions can be uploaded on the editorial manager of IJPR. Please select ‘Special issue Psychedelics’ for your submission type.

Special Issue Editor(s):

Michiel van Elk, Leiden University

m.van.elk@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

David Bryce Yaden, Johns Hopkins Medicine

dbyaden@gmail.com

THE
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE
PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION

URL: https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/psychedelics-psychology-religion-spirituality/

Conferences



STEMM and Belief in Diverse Contexts: Publics, Praxis, Policy and Pluralism

Call for Papers

7–9 July 2021

Virtual Conference

Bursaries to support attendance are available, including (but not limited to) specific funds for digital access costs and the cost of childcare. Organised by the [International Research Network for the Study of Science and Belief in Society](#) (INSBS)

In the last decade, there has been significant growth in social scientific and humanities research focusing on science, religion and belief in society. Greater attention is being paid to the varied ways in which perceptions of different aspects of STEMM subjects (science, technology, engineering, medicine, and mathematics) have been, or are, influenced by religious and non-religious belief, identity, community and conflict in different geographical, cultural and historical contexts.

As this field of research has grown it has engaged in myth busting popular perceptions and stereotypes about the relationship between science and religion, which treat both science and religious/spiritual populations as monolithic. To date, much of this foundational research has focused on North American contexts or debates. This conference seeks to build on this essential work and address future avenues for research within the social scientific and historical study of science, religion and belief in society to examine the practical implications and applications of research in this field. Expanding the geographical focus, the conference will encompass a range of issues at global, or local levels around four interlinked areas:

- **PUBLICS:** Diverse (non)religious publics' engagement with, and perceptions of, STEMM
- **PRAXIS:** Issues relating to religion and (non)belief in scientific research or STEMM communication practices
- **POLICY:** Public policy analysis, exploring concerns with the development of, or implementation of, policy connected to STEMM, and religion or belief in society
- **PLURALISM:** Research on STEMM in pluralistic or religiously diverse societies.

This conference will bring together international researchers with backgrounds in sociology, science and technology studies, psychology, political science, history, social anthropology, and related humanities or social science disciplines, to discuss perspectives on the overarching topic of science and belief in society.

We are pleased to invite submissions of papers that relate to any aspect of STEMM in society (science, technology, engineering, medicine, and mathematics), that discuss any religious, spiritual or non-religious tradition, position or worldview.

Conferences



STEMM and Belief in Diverse Contexts: Publics, Praxis, Policy and Pluralism *Call for Papers*

We are pleased to invite submissions of papers that relate to any aspect of STEMM in society (science, technology, engineering, medicine, and mathematics), that discuss any religious, spiritual or non-religious tradition, position or worldview.

Abstracts are invited for the conference relating to the following themes:

- Public engagement with STEMM in pluralistic or religiously diverse societies;
- The social scientific and historical study of the relationship between science and religious and/or non-religious belief and identity;
- Public perceptions of the relationship between science, religion and non-religion and their respective roles in society;
- National and international comparative perspectives on the study of science, religion and belief in society;
- Past and present media or popular representations of science, religion and belief in society;
- The past or present roles of science, rationalism, religion and belief in national, social or cultural identity and related geopolitical narratives;
- Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of science, religion and non-religion in society;
- Methodological approaches to, and issues in, the study of science, religion and belief in society;
- Studies on the impact of publics' views on science and religion on policy making, and provision for religious, spiritual or non-religious communities across a range of geographies and issues (e.g. healthcare provision, educational policy, science policy, environmental policy or development).

Individual or panel session submissions may cross over several of the themes listed above, and those intending to submit papers are encouraged to consider the relevance of their work to other academic disciplines.

Conference format

Due to constraints imposed by COVID 19, this conference will be entirely online. Sessions will be held throughout the day in order to enable people from different time zones to participate. Participants will be given the option of pre-recording their presentations, with recordings being submitted in advance of the conference dates. If you have any questions or concerns about access or the conference format please email the INSBS Project Officer Paula Brikci (P.E.Brikci@bham.ac.uk).

Conferences



STEMM and Belief in Diverse Contexts: Publics, Praxis, Policy and Pluralism *Call for Papers*

Paper and panel submission

Please note: This virtual event is a rescheduled, online version of INSBS's 2020 conference and covers the same themes. If you had an abstract accepted for that event and we have not already contacted you, please email P.E.Brikci@bham.ac.uk. If you have reconfirmed your place held from the 2020 Conference, you do not need to respond to this Call and we will contact you with more information after 12 March.

Individual paper submissions

To submit a paper proposal, please write a title and abstract of no more than 300 words, alongside a biographical note of no more than 200 words (please use the online form - link below).

Panel session proposals

We will also be accepting a limited number of panel proposals with a maximum of four speakers. To submit a panel proposal, using the online form (link below) please send a session summary of no more than 250 words, alongside abstracts of no more than 300 words for each individual paper and a short biography of no more than 200 words for each contributor. The format and individual presentation length for panel sessions is flexible, but please note that panel sessions must not take longer than 90 minutes overall.

Contributor Biographies

For all submissions, please send a biography of no more than 200 words for each contributor, including name, institutional affiliation, email address, primary discipline or subject area, a statement regarding career stage (e.g., early career, mid-career), and if possible a link to a personal profile on an institutional web page or similar. Biographies of successful applicants will be added to the International Network's Research Directory. Please indicate on your application if you would like to opt out of being added to the Research Directory.

All submissions must be made online at: <https://scienceandbeliefinsociety.org/2021/02/08/call-for-papers-stemm-and-belief-in-diverse-contexts-publics-praxis-policy-pluralism/>.

All abstracts and panel proposals must be submitted online by **March 12, 2021**.

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Conferences



STEMM and Belief in Diverse Contexts: Publics, Praxis, Policy and Pluralism *Call for Papers*

Conference Costs and Bursaries

This conference is wholly funded by the International Research Network for the Study of Science and Belief in Society, as part of a 3-year grant from the Templeton Religion Trust. A number of bursaries are available to help with costs that may be incurred as a result of conference attendance.

These bursaries can be used to cover costs including (but not limited to) digital access/data packages or childcare, but may not be used for hardware (e.g. laptops etc.). We will prioritise those who have the most need such as postgraduate, early career, retired, low income/unwaged, or any researcher who may not ordinarily be able to access institutional funds or equipment to attend conferences.

To request a bursary or any additional support, when submitting your abstract, please complete the additional box on the online submission form, giving a short statement of why you would like to be considered for one of the bursaries.

Key Dates

Abstract submission opens: **15 February 2021**

Deadline for online submissions (abstracts, panels & bursaries): **12 March 2021**

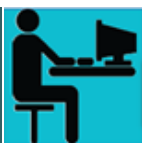
Decision notification/registration opens: **16 April 2021**

Registration deadline for presenters: **28 May 2021**

The conference is supported by the Templeton Religion Trust and is being held as part of the activities of the International Research Network for the Study of Science and Belief in Society, based at the University of Birmingham (UK).

For more information about the conference or wider network please contact Dr Alexander Hall: A.F.Hall@bham.ac.uk.

Job Openings & Grants



Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Developing Belief and Religious Cognition

School of Psychology at Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland

We are seeking to appoint a Postdoctoral Research Fellow to lead on an exciting cross-cultural, longitudinal project examining the development and diversity of belief. This programme of research investigates the acquisition and transmission of religious cognition and behaviour, with a focus on within- and between-culture variation. You will join the Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland research team of the Developing Belief Network, one of ten inaugural research teams funded by The John Templeton Foundation and led by Dr Jocelyn Dautel, Dr Laura Taylor, Professor Aidan Feeney (Psychology, Queen's University Belfast) and Dr John Coley (Psychology, Northeastern University). University College Dublin and Northeastern University are partner institutions on the project. More information about the project is available here: www.developingbelief.com.

This is an opportunity for a researcher interested in joining a large research network exploring the big questions in developmental science to develop an original and exciting programme of empirical work. You will be based at Queen's University Belfast, and will lead on designing and carrying out rigorous research including: experimental paradigms with children, longitudinal surveys with children and parents, and mixed-method studies with families, including coding naturalistic conversations.

The successful candidate should have a demonstrable background in developmental or cognitive psychology, along with experience managing cross-cultural research. Your CV/Cover letter must demonstrate you have:

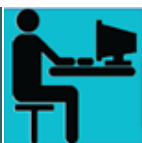
- Have or are about to obtain a PhD in Psychology, or a relevant area such as Cognitive or Behavioural Science.
- Have a minimum of three years relevant research experience.
- Have demonstrable experience of using quantitative research methodologies and techniques relevant to the research project, including ONE or more of the following:
 - Proven expertise in conducting reliable cross-cultural studies
 - Demonstrable expertise in longitudinal design and analysis with parents and children.
 - Experience in designing and running experimental studies with children
 - Experience with mixed-method studies with families, including coding naturalistic conversations
- Have demonstrable experience of using statistical packages to analyse, interpret and present on quantitative data.

For informal enquiries contact Dr Gülseli Baysu at G.Baysu@qub.ac.uk.

Closing date: **Monday 15 March 2021**

Full pdf: https://hr7.apps.qub.ac.uk/jobs/job_desc/21_108642.pdf?ts=20210208155154

Job Openings & Grants



Regional Network Grants opportunity

The International Research Network for the Study of Science and Belief in Society

Our funding programme seeks to promote the growth of the study of science and belief globally, by supporting the ongoing development of an international network of active academic researchers. We provide small grants to stimulate new avenues of individual or collaborative research internationally.

We aim to foster and support research that examines social and/or cultural aspects of science, technology, engineering, mathematics or medicine (STEMM) in relation to any religious, spiritual or non-religious tradition, position or worldview, including unbelief.

This grant scheme will allow for the development of local and regional research networks. Grants will be awarded for events and activities that share the aims of INSBS and which can evidence a contribution to the development of the field at a national or regional level.

To read more about how to build a good network, see

<https://scienceandbeliefinsociety.org/2021/02/15/how-to-build-an-academic-network/>

For further details about this scheme, please visit the

<https://scienceandbeliefinsociety.org/grants/how-to-apply-2/>

We welcome applications from academic researchers based in any country worldwide. To accompany this launch, we are offering applicants the opportunity to pose questions, specifically about this scheme only, to our expert team on **5 March 2021**.

Places are limited and will be on a first come first served basis and will be scheduled for a maximum of 10 minutes each. We currently have appointments available between 9am and 10am or between 4pm and 5pm (UK time). If you are planning to apply for this round of funding and wish to make an appointment to discuss your proposal, please contact Paula Brikci at p.e.brikci@bham.ac.uk with details of the question you would like to ask, to arrange a Zoom call.

This is a two stage application process and the deadline for first stage expressions of interest is **15 March 2021**.

We are grateful to the Templeton Religion Trust for its generous support which has enabled us to run this programme.