

# Amaryah Shaye Armstrong

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## Education

*Vanderbilt University*

PhD Candidate, ABD, Theological Studies, Graduate Department of Religion

Expected Completion: Spring 2019

**Dissertation Title:** *Blackness and the Problem of Belonging: Political Theological Readings of the Family*

**Dissertation Advisor:** Ellen T. Armour, Vanderbilt University | **Dissertation Committee:** Paul DeHart, Vanderbilt University; Vincent Lloyd, Villanova University; Hortense Spillers, Vanderbilt University; Emilie Townes, Vanderbilt University

*Emory University, Candler School of Theology*

Master of Theological Studies

Graduated: May 2012

**Thesis:** *Desire and Displacement in Christological Perspective: Race, Redemption, and Christian Discipleship* |

**Thesis Advisor:** Ian A. McFarland; **Readers:** Joy A. McDougall, Steven Kraftchick

*Belmont University*

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature

Graduated: May 2010

## Publications

### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

"Of Flesh and Spirit: Race, Reproduction, and Sexual Difference in the Turn to Paul" | Journal Article | Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory 16, no.2 (Spring 2017): 126–141.

"The Spirit and the Subprime: Race, Risk, and Our Common Dispossession" | Journal Article | Anglican Theological Review 98, no. 1 (Winter 2016): 51–69.

### *Manuscripts*

*Race, Property, Debt* | Introduction and Co-Edited Volume with Vincent Lloyd | Manuscript in Preparation

### *Book Reviews*

"Reconceiving Infertility" by Candida R. Moss and Joel S. Baden | *Reading Religion*, A Publication of the American Academy of Religion (February 2018)

"The Prince of This World" by Adam Kotsko | *Anglican Theological Review*, 99, no. 3 (Summer 2017): 619–622.

"Our Lives Matter: a Womanist Queer Theology" by Pamela Lightsey | *Journal of Theology & Sexuality* 22, no. 3 (2016): 181–82.

"A Queering of Black Theology: James Baldwin's Blues Project and Gospel Prose." by E.L. Kornegay | *Journal of Theology & Sexuality* 20, no. 3 (2014): 263–65.

"Ain't I a Womanist Too?: Third Wave Womanist Religious Thought" edited by Monica Coleman | *Journal of Theology & Sexuality* 20, no. 2 (2014): 151–53.

### *Editorial Work*

**Guest Editor** | Special Issue of *Modern Believing* on black sexuality and theology (Forthcoming, 2019)

**Editorial Advisor** | *The A-Line Journal* | Edited by Hortense Spillers and Rich Blint

**Editorial Review Board** | *Reframing Continental Philosophy of Religion* | Book Series, Rowman & Littlefield International

**Editorial Assistant** | *Break Every Yoke*, by Joshua Dubler and Vincent Lloyd | Proofreading, Suggesting Revisions, and Completing Footnotes | Forthcoming Manuscript with Princeton University Press

**Symposium Organizer** | *Black Natural Law* by Vincent Lloyd, Syndicate Symposium | Syndicate Network (Spring 2017)

**Composition Assistant** | Scribe, Inc. Philadelphia, PA (April 2013–May 2014)

### *Essays and Popular Writing*

"Reading the Flesh: Otherwise Methodologies and the Possibility of Black Theology" | A Response to Ashon Crawley's *Blackpentecostal Breath: The Aesthetics of Possibility* | Syndicate Network (October 2017)

"James Cone and the Blackness of God" | Article | *The Other Journal* (Summer 2016)

## Awards & Honors

**2014–2019** Provost Fellow, Vanderbilt University

**2018-2019** Dissertation Fellowship, American Studies Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University

- 2018-2019** Dissertation Fellowship, Louisville Institute
- 2018-2019** Dissertation Fellowship for Students of African Descent, Forum for Theological Exploration [Declined]
- 2017** AAR Doctoral Fellowship, Political Theology Mentoring Network
- 2017–2018** Doctoral Fellowship for Students of African Descent, Forum for Theological Exploration
- 2017** Udo Keller Stiftung Forum Humanum Grant, Claremont Philosophy of Religion Conference
- 2016–2018** Doctoral Fellow, Louisville Institute
- 2015** Trinity Institute, Creating Common Good Essay Competition, Runner-Up (\$2,500 Award)
- 2015** Fellow: FTE Christian Leadership Forum, The Forum for Theological
- 2012** Myki Mobley Award for Academic Achievement and Demonstrated Social Concern, The Candler School of Theology
- 2012** Vernon Johns Award for Prophetic Scholarship and Leadership, The Candler School of Theology
- 2010** Fellow: Nurturing the Next Generation of Scholars, The Fund for Theological Education, AAR Workshop
- 2010** Alfred Leland Crabb University Writing Award, Belmont University
- 2010** Corinne Dale Award for Achievement in Writing About Gender, Belmont University
- 2009-2010** Dean's List, Belmont University
- 2007-2008**

## **Presentations, Invited Lectures, & Organization**

**Presenter** | “Race and the Refusal of Reproduction: Blackness, Justice, and Obligation” | Political Theology Seminary, AAR (November 2018)

**Presenter and Panel Co-Organizer** | “Disinheriting the Flesh: Jewishness, Blackness, and Belonging” | *Blood, Soil, and Supersession: Reading White Supremacy Between Blackness and Jewishness* | The Study of Judaism and the Black Theology Unit, AAR (November 2018)

**Keynote Lecture** | “Telling Slavery Slant, or, an Incoherence in Theological Anthropology: Race, Robots, and Redemptive Narratives” | Tell It Slant: Theology and Art | St. Francis College of Theology, Brisbane, Australia (June 15-17, 2018)

**Panelist** | Reframing Continental Philosophy of Religion | Theology and Continental Philosophy of Religion Group, AAR (2017)

**Guest Lecturer** | “An Introduction to Womanist Theology and Ethics,” Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN (October 2017)

**Panelist/Participant** | Unruly Collaborations, Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, *University of Pittsburgh* (September 2017)

**Presenter** | “Double Negative: The Apocalyptic Imagination from W.E.B. Du Bois to Afro-Pessimism” for the Pre-Conference on the Meaning and Power of Negativity | 38th Annual Claremont Philosophy of Religion Conference (February 2017)

**Guest Lecturer** | “Of Flesh and Spirit: Reading Race and Reproduction in the Turn to Paul” | Lebanon Valley College (February 2017)

**Presenter** | “Blackness at the End of the World: The Apocalyptic Imagination of W.E.B. Du Bois” for the Panel *Between Hope and Pessimism: A Comparative Analysis of Hope and Pessimism in Black Studies and Modern Jewish Philosophy* | Philosophy of Religion Section, AAR (2016)

**Panel Organizer & Presider** | *Strange Fruit: Critical Perspectives on Race, Religion, and Sexuality* | Queer Studies in Religion Group, AAR (2016)

**Panel Organizer & Presider** | *The Future of Debt: Theology, Economy, and the Political* | Theology and Continental Philosophy of Religion Group, AAR (2015)

**Presenter** | “Of Flesh and Spirit: Finding Hagar in the Turn to Paul” | *Political Theology and the Liberation of the Postsecular* at Liverpool Hope University, Liverpool, UK | Annual Conference of the Association for Continental Philosophy of Religion (2015)

**Panelist** | “Destabilized Racial Identities and Social Activism in Black Theological Perspective” | Black Theology Unit, Roundtable Discussion, AAR (2014)

**Respondent** | “Violence and Theology” | *Doing Violence to Theology*, Additional Meeting, AAR (2014)

**Contributor** | “Habakkuk” Discussion and Reflection | CEB Student Bible (2014)

**Convocation Speaker** | “An Introduction to Queer Theory.” | Bethel College, KS (2013)

**Presenter** | “Prayer and Performativity: Sarah Coakley and Judith Butler on Desire and Disruption.” | 11th Annual Graduate Student Symposium: “Beyond Borders: Constructing, Deconstructing, and Transgressing Boundaries” | Florida State University (2012)

## Teaching & Research

**Teaching Assistant** | Reformation History with Paul Lim | Vanderbilt Divinity School (Spring 2018)

**Teaching Assistant** | Constructive Christian Theology I with Ellen Armour | Vanderbilt Divinity School (Fall 2017)

**Teaching Assistant** | Contemporary Christian Theology | with Laurel Schneider | Vanderbilt University (Fall 2016)

**Research Assistant** | Forthcoming Manuscript, "Break Every Yoke," by Vincent Lloyd (Villanova University) and Joshua Dubler (Rochester University) (Summer 2016)

**Co-Organizer** | *Race, Property, Debt Symposium* with Vincent Lloyd | University of Wisconsin, Madison (March 2016)

**Teaching Assistant** | "Constructive Christian Theology I" with Ellen Armour | Vanderbilt Divinity School (Fall 2015)

**Teaching Assistant** | "Constructive Christian Theology II" with Paul DeHart | Vanderbilt Divinity School (Spring 2015)

**Research Assistant** | Andrea White | Candler School of Theology, Emory University (2011–2012)

**Research Assistant** | Ian McFarland | Candler School of Theology, Emory University (2011–2012)

## Professional and Community Affiliations

American Academy of Religion

- Steering Committee Member, Theology and Continental Philosophy of Religion Group (2017-Present)

American Comparative Literature Association

## Languages

French (Reading Knowledge)

German (Reading Knowledge)

Latin