

Hugo Méndez

Assistant Professor in Ancient Mediterranean Religions
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
125G Carolina Hall, CB #3225, Chapel Hill, NC 27599
+1 919 962-7598 (O) | +1 (770) 500-8826 (C) | hmendez@ad.unc.edu (E)

Abbreviated CV, current: 3 August 2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Department of Religious Studies

Assistant Professor, 2018–

Carolina Postdoctoral Fellow for Faculty Diversity, 2016–18.

Department of Classics

Adjunct Assistant Professor, 2019–

Yale University

Yale Divinity School

Lecturer, 2014–16.

Yale Institute of Sacred Music

ISM Fellow in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Related Arts, 2014–16.

EDUCATION

University of Georgia

Ph.D., Linguistics, 2013.

M.A., Religion, 2009.

Southern Adventist University

B.A., English, 2006.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Faculty Fellowship, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2022 (future).

Schwab Academic Excellence Award, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2021.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Center for the Study of Christianity, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2016–17 (declined).

Fellowship, Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2016–18.

ISM Fellowship in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Related Arts, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, 2014–16.

Travel Grant, Society of Oriental Liturgy, 2014.

Lilly Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities and the Arts, 2014–16 (declined).

Scholarship, North American Academy of Liturgy, 2013.

Outstanding Teaching Award in Religion, University of Georgia, 2009.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

The Cult of Stephen in Jerusalem: Inventing a Patron Martyr (80,158 words; under contract with Oxford University Press; revised version submitted 1 August 2021).

Refereed Journal Articles

“Revising the Date of the Armenian Lectionary of Jerusalem.” *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 29 (2021): 61–92.

“Did the Johannine Community Exist?” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 42 (2020): 350–374.

“Mixed Metaphors: Resolving the ‘Eschatological Headache’ of John 5.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 137 (2018): 711–732.

“He Spoke... Forever’: A Hebrew Idiom in Luke 1:55.” *Biblica* 98 (2017): 257–269.

“Stephen the Martyr (Acts vi-viii) in the Early Jerusalem Lectionary System.” *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 68 (2017): 22–39.

“Semitic Poetic Techniques in the Magnificat: Luke 1:46–47, 55.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 135 (2016): 557–574.

“‘Night’ and ‘Day’ in John 9.4–5: A Reassessment.” *New Testament Studies* 61 (2015): 468–481.

“The Origin of the Post-Nativity Commemorations.” *Vigiliae Christianae* 68 (2014): 290–309.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

“What Does Lazarus Have to Do with the Epiphany? Unraveling a Mystery in the Early Jerusalem Lectionary,” *Studia Patristica*, forthcoming.

“The Ritual Year of Fourth- and Fifth-Century Constantinople: Insights from the Gothic Calendar.” In *Studies in Oriental Liturgy: Proceedings of the Fifth International Congress of the Society of Oriental Liturgy, New York, 10-15 June 2014*, edited by Bert Groen, et al., Eastern Christian Studies 28. Leuven: Peeters, 2019, 167–178.

Unpublished Conference Presentations

“How Did Pseudepigrapha Surface? Exploring the Ancient Data,” 2021 SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX (Book History and Biblical Literatures), 21 November 2021 (*future*).

“Jewish Christianity and the Making of the Armenian Lectionary,” 2021 NAPS Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, 28 May 2021.

“The Invented Eyewitness of the Gospel and Epistles of John: A Literary History,” 2020 SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (Johannine Literature), 7 December 2020.

“Did They Really Talk This Way?: The Johannine Epistles and the Scholarly Construction of a ‘Johannine Sociolect.’” 2019 SBL Annual Meeting (Johannine Literature), San Diego, CA, 23 November 2019.

“In the Beginning Was the Word?: The Johannine Community as a ‘Textual Community’ in Recent Scholarship.” 2019 SBL Annual Meeting (Social-Scientific Criticism of the New Testament), San Diego, CA, 23 November 2019.

“Duplicate Feasts, Different Homilies: Liturgical Tailoring in Hesychius of Jerusalem’s Homilies at Bethany (Serm. 11, 12).” XVIII International Conference on Patristics Studies. Oxford, UK, 22 August 2019.

“The Date of the *Armenian Lectionary*: Reconsidering Renoux.” Seventh International SOL Congress, Košice, Slovakia, 13 June 2018.

“(Do not) Hold This Sin Against Them’ (Acts 7.60): Imposed Intertextualities and the Bracketing of Stephen’s Dying Prayer.” 2016 SBL Annual Meeting (Book of Acts), San Antonio, TX, 20 November 2016.

“Weaponizing Stephen: Caricature and Competition in the *Revelatio Sancti Stephani*.” 2016 SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX (Religious Competition in Late Antiquity), 22 November 2016.

Invited External Presentations

Invited Talk. “The Community of the Invented Disciple: Rethinking Johannine Origins,” Duke New Testament and Jewish Studies Colloquium, Duke University, 27 February 2019.

SELECTED TEACHING ACTIVITIES**Courses Taught****University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

- Graduate:* Metacriticism of New Testament Studies
- Undergraduate/Split:* Cultural Histories of the New Testament (rotating):
 Mark Written and Rewritten
 John and its Earliest Readers
 Religious Frauds: Lies, Forgeries, and Fake News
 Early Christian Bodies and Ritual
 The Cult of Saints: Narratives, Materialities, Practices
 Christian Cultures: Eastern and Orthodox Christianities
 Introduction to the New Testament
 Birth of Christianity
 Jesus in Myth, Tradition, and History
- Independent Studies:* Classical Syriac

Yale Divinity School

- Graduate/Professional:* Galatians and Romans: Greek Exegesis
 Gospel and Epistles of John
 The Parting of the Ways: Synagogue and Church
 New Testament Poetics: Hymns and Prayers
 The Cult of Martyrs in Early Christianity
 Churches of the East (*co-taught with Bryan Spinks*)

LANGUAGE TRAINING**Teaching and/or Research Languages**

- Indo-European: Ancient Greek, Latin, Classical Armenian, Gothic, Old Church Slavic,
 Sanskrit (Classical, Vedic).
- Semitic: Aramaic (Biblical Aramaic, Classical Syriac), Classical Hebrew,
 Akkadian.

Modern Languages

- Native: English, Spanish.
- Reading Proficiency: French, German, Italian.