

Konden R. Smith Hansen

Curriculum Vitae (Feb 2026)

CONTACT DATA

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CHRONOLOGY OF EDUCATION

- M.Ed. 2022 Master of Education. Learning Design and Technologies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
Applied Project: Finding the Optimal Video Length – Creating an Asynchronous Interactive Online Learning Module for the Office of Digital Learning
Committee Members: Steve Salik, Adrienne Wooten, Arizona State University
Sponsor: Matthew Romanoski, University of Arizona
- Ph.D. 2012 Religious Studies, with emphasis in American Religious History and Historiography, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
Dissertation: “Mormons and the World’s Fair 1893: A Study of Religious and Cultural Agency and Transformation”
Committee Members: Moses Moore, Chair; Tracy Fessenden; and Linell Cady
- M.A. 2006 Master of Arts, Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
Thesis: “Nineteenth-Century Mormonism or ‘An Unloved Child’: National Culture and the Contested Notions of Americanness and the American Kingdom of God”
Committee Members: Moses Moore, Chair; Richard Wentz; and Tisa Wenger
- B.A. 2003 History, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona
- B.A. 2003 Religious Studies, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona

CHRONOLOGY OF EMPLOYMENT

- 2025 – present Career-Track Sr. Lecturer, Dept. of Religious Studies and Classics, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2023 – 2024 Research Fellow, University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2017 – 2025 Career-Track Lecturer, Dept. of Religious Studies and Classics, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2015 – present Faculty Instructor, General Education Academy, Arizona Online, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2015 – 2017 1.0 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Religious Studies and Classics, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2014 – 2015 .5 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Religious Studies and Classics, *University of Arizona*, Tucson, AZ
- 2011 – 2016 Online Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Comparative Cultural Studies, *Northern Arizona University*, Flagstaff, AZ
- 2010 – 2011 Instructor, Dept. of Comparative Cultural Studies, *Northern Arizona University*, Flagstaff, AZ
- 2009 – 2014 Faculty Associate, Honors Faculty, Dept. of Religious Studies, *Arizona State University*, Tempe, AZ
- 2008 – 2014 Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Philosophy and Religious Studies, *Glendale Community College*, Glendale, AZ

COURSES OFFERED (*Regularly Taught; +QM Certified)

- 100-level: Religions of the World (*In Person; Online*)*+
Comparative Religions (*In Person; Online*)
Introduction to Religion (*In Person; Online*)
- 200-level: Religion, Terrorism, and Violence (*Online*)*+
Religion and Film (*Online*)*+
Religion and Popular Culture (*Online*)
Mysticism: West (*In Person; Online*)
Religion and Society: Mormonism (*Online*)
Religion in the American Experience (*In Person; Online*)*+

- 300-level: Western Religious Traditions (*In Person; Online*)
 Intro to Christianity (*In Person; Online*)
 Christian Scriptures: New Testament (*In Person; Online*)
 Ritual, Symbol, and Myth (*In Person; Online*)
 Religion in America (*In Person; Online*)
 American Religious Traditions (*In Person; Online*)
- 400/500-level: History Cross-listed: Mormonism in American History and Culture (*In Person*)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2022 Best Anthology award for *The Reed Smoot Hearings*, John Whitmer History Association
 2020 Best First Book award for *Frontier Religion*, Mormon History Association
 2017 NEH Summer Institute. *World Religions and World Religions Discourse: Challenges of Teaching the Religions of the World*. July 9 to Aug 4. Director: James W. Laine. Macalester College, St. Paul, MN
 2008 Conference Paper Award, The Claremont Mormon Studies Student Association. “Reed Smoot Hearings and the Theology of Politics”
 2007 Best Student Paper, Western Region for the Study of Religion. “An Unloved Child: Contesting the American Kingdom of God”

PUBLICATIONS/CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Scholarly Books and Monographs:

- 2021 Smith Hansen, Konden R. and Michael Harold Paulos, Editors. *The Reed Smoot Hearings: Investigation of a Mormon Senator and the Transformation of an American Religion*. Peer-reviewed: University of Colorado Press. ix-320 pp (50%)
 Reviewed in *Journal of Church and State, Church History, Dialogue, American History*
 2019 Smith Hansen, Konden R., *Frontier Religion: Mormons and America, 1857-1907*. Peer-reviewed: University of Utah Press. ix-351 pp
 Reviewed in *Journal of Mormon History, Church History, Western Historical Quarterly, Mormon Studies Review, Dialogue, Association for Mormon Letters, Nova Religio*

Articles/Chapters in Scholarly Books and Monographs:

- 2024 Smith Hansen, Konden R., Melody Buckner, Angela Gunder, and Wen Wen. “Designing Instructional Digital Media in Higher Education: A Guide for Instructional Designers.” Co-authors, in *The SAGE Handbook of Higher Education Instructional Design*, Baiyun Chen, ed. (Peer reviewed: SAGE Publications). Forthcoming
 2024 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Writing Frontier Religion: A Professional Journal That Became Personal,” in *Writing Mormon History 2: Authors’ Stories Behind their Works*. Edited by Joseph W. Geisner (By Invitation: Signature Books)
 2024 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Mormonism in North America,” in *Bloomsbury Religion in North America*, Edited by Dyron B. Daugherty (By Invitation: Bloomsbury Publishing) (Peer-reviewed)
 2023 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Frontier Violence: Making America and the Myth of the West, 1860-1890,” chapter in *Religion and the American West: A Companion to the Exhibition “Acts of Faith,”* Edited by Jessica Ciales, Eiteljorg Museum (By Invitation: University of New Mexico Press) (Peer-reviewed)
 2015 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Early Mormonism: A Promised Land: Early Mormon Success in America and England 1830 to 1850,” in *World Religions: Belief, Culture, and Controversy* (Peer-reviewed: ABC-CLIO)
 2012 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “The Dawning of a New Era: Mormonism and the World’s Colombian Exposition of 1893,” in *Mormons and American Popular Culture*, vols. 2 (Peer-reviewed: ABC-CLIO)

- 2009 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “The Reed Smoot Hearings and the Theology of Politics: Perceiving an ‘American’ Mormon Identity.” *Journal of Mormon History* 35/3: 118-162. (Peer-reviewed)
- 2008 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Appropriating the Secular: Mormonism and the World Columbian Exposition of 1893.” *Journal of Mormon History* 34/4: 153-180. (Peer-reviewed)

Other Scholarship:

- 2026 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Russell M. Nelson, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, pushed it away from ‘Mormon’ – a word that has courted controversy for 200 years. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/russell-m-nelson-president-of-the-church-of-jesus-christ-of-latter-day-saints-pushed-it-away-from-mormon-a-word-that-has-courted-controversy-for-200-years-266229>
- 2024 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “As Russell M. Nelson turns 100, a look back at one of the words that will define his legacy – and the controversial term’s 200-year history.” *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/as-russell-m-nelson-turns-100-a-look-back-at-one-of-the-words-that-will-define-his-legacy-and-the-controversial-terms-200-year-history-207190>
- 2016 Smith Hansen, Konden R., Todd M. Kerstetter, *Inspiration and Innovation: Religion in the American West*. *Reading Religion, A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*. Book Review
- 2012 Smith Hansen, Konden R., Reid L. Neilson, *Exhibiting Mormonism: The Latter-day Saints and the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. *Religion in the American West*. Blog (September). Book Review
- 2010 Smith Hansen, Konden R., Edward L. Lyman, Susan W. Payne, and S. George Ellsworth, eds. *No Place to Call Home: The 1807-1857 Life Writings of Caroline Barnes Crosby, Chronicler of Outlying Mormon Communities*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 2005. *Journal of Mormon History* vol. 36:4. Book Review
- 2010 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Muslim Girl Scouts,” in Edward E. Curtis, *Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History* (New York: Facts On File, 2010)
- 2010 Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Muslim Boy Scouts,” in Edward E. Curtis, *Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History* (New York: Facts On File, 2010)

Works in Progress:

- TBA Smith Hansen, Konden R., “Using Site Visit Videos to Build a Community of Inquiry in the Asynchronous Online Classroom” (Article)
- TBA Smith Hansen, Konden R., *Frontier Religion in 1960s America* (Monograph)
- TBA Smith Hansen, Konden R., *Mormon Ladybug* (Graphic Novel)

Media:

- 2024 The Understanding Religion Series. 5 Videos (Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity). Judaism example: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/935580942>
- 2024 Signature Books Podcast. “Writing Mormon History 2: Authors’ Stories Behind Their Works.” Oct. 30
- 2023 C-Span BookTV, “The Reed Smoot Hearing and the Making of America” So You Want to Talk about Mormonism Podcast. “The Reed Smoot Hearings with Konden Smith Hansen.” September 27: Access: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?526205-3/the-reed-smoot-hearings>
- 2022 New Books Network. “Konden Smith Hansen, *Frontier Religion*.” May 19. Access: <https://newbooksnetwork.com/frontier-religion>
- 2022 Scholars & Saints: The University of Virginia Mormon Studies Podcast. “The Mormon Frontier.” Access: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2wEft5yct8>
- 2021 Meet the Authors – American Academy of Religion/Western Region, March 21

- 2018 Live guest on NPR-Phoenix, KJZZ's *The Show*. January 16. On the new president of the LDS Church, Russell M. Nelson
- 2016 Interview with *Arizona Daily Star*, "Tucson's Hare Krishna Community Opts for Spiritual Living in Material World," Oct 17
- 2016 Interview with *Arizona Daily Star*, "Tucson's Mormon Community Grows, Reaches Pinnacle with Temple," Sept 17
- 2016 Interview with *Arizona Daily Star*, "Tucson Opens Doors for Jehovah's Witnesses Convention," June 24

CONFERENCES/SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Research Presentations:

- 2021 "Unintended Consequences: Listening and the World Parliament of Religion, 1893," 7th *World Parliament of Religion, Science, and Philosophy*, MIT World Peace University, Pune, India. Online
- 2020 "Frontier Religion," Religious Studies & Classics Faculty Colloquium Series, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- 2019 "Speaking Truth to Power: What's Next for Religious Institutions After #MeToo," with Karen Seat, Alison Jameson, and Daisy Vargas. *University of Arizona's Humanities Festival*, Tucson, AZ
- 2019 "Religion at the World's Fair 1964-1965," Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Tempe, AZ
- 2018 "Teaching Against the 'World Religion Paradigm,'" Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Berkeley, CA
- 2017 "Mormon Assimilation and the Frontier Spirit at the World's Fair 1893," Annual Meeting of the *Mormon History Association*, St. Louis, MO
- 2015 "The World Columbian Exposition 1893," *Parliament of World Religions*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2013 "Approaching the Secular in a Post Secular America: Correlating Critical Thought and (non) Faith in the Classroom," Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Tempe, AZ
- 2012 "The Scientific Study of Religion, Mormonism, and the World's Fair of 1893," Annual Meeting of the *Mormon History Association*, Calgary, Alberta. Canada
- 2011 "Qualifying Liberty: Utah and the Frontier Wars of 1856 to 1858," Regional Meeting of the *American Academy of Religions*, San Francisco, CA.
- 2011 "The Dawning of a New Era: Mormonism and the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893," Faculty Forum at Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
- 2010 "Mormons at the World's Fair: A Study of Religious and Cultural Agency and Transformation," Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Tempe, AZ.
- 2008 "Uneasy Bedfellows: Twenty-First Century Mormonism and Contested Versions of Modern American Memory," Regional Meeting of the *American Academy of Religions*, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 "Appropriating the Secular: Mormonism and the World Columbian Exposition of 1893," Annual Meeting of the *Mormon History Association*, Sacramento, CA.
- 2008 "The Reed Smoot Hearings and the Theology of Politics: Perceiving an 'American' Mormon Identity," Biennial Conference of the *Claremont Mormon Studies Student Association*, Claremont, CA.
- 2008 "'Elements of Perfection': Imaginations of Race and Gender, Mormonism, and the Kingdom of God in Nineteenth-Century New England," Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Pasadena, CA.
- 2007 "Nineteenth-Century Mormonism or 'An Unloved Child': National Culture and the Contested Notions of Americanness and the American Kingdom of God." Annual

- Meeting for the *Mormon History Association*, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2007 “Nineteenth-Century Mormonism or ‘An Unloved Child’: National Culture and the Contested Notions of Americanness and the American Kingdom of God,” Meeting of the *Western Conference for the Study of Religion*, Berkeley, CA.

Community Presentation:

- 2020 JLL Sunday Salon with Dr. Konden Smith Hansen via Zoom, “The Chicago World’s Fair, 1893: How Judaism Became a World Religion.” Temple Emanu-El, Tucson, AZ.
- 2018 Guest Lecture on “Mormonism and the Abrahamic Covenant,” at Atria Belle Court Garden Assisted Living Home, Tucson. May 8

SERVICE/OUTREACH

- 2025 Blind peer review for Brett Hendrickson and Brandi Denison, *Empire and Care: Religion and the American West since 1848*.
- 2025 Blind peer review and blurb for Nicholas Covalleski, *Frontiers in American Religion: Myth, Technology, and the Making of a Pioneering People*.
- 2025 Host, Teaching Exchange Symposium, University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology. *Curriculum and Course Design*, University of Arizona
- 2024 RELI 599: Religion and Film. Independent study with graduate student Michele Murphy, University of Arizona
- 2022 Creation of an asynchronous interactive online learning module for the Office of Digital Learning. *Finding the Optimal Video Length*, Matthew Romanoski, sponsor, University of Arizona.
- 2022 Guest lecture on Mormonism in the Southwest, for Religion in the Southwest, Andrea McComb, November. University of Arizona.
- 2015-22 Chair, Religion in America section for American Academy of Religions, Western Region Section
- 2020 Panel Chair, *Imperial Zion: Mormon Involvement in American Colonial Projects in the Pacific, 1890-1901*. Western History Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2019 Mentor of Senior Capstone project for Adam Stricker, University of Arizona
- 2019 Hiring Committee for Instructional Designer for The Office of Digital Learning. Department of Academic Inits & Student Success, University of Arizona
- 2018 Helped establish a Religious Studies minor for Arizona Online, UA
- 2018 Guest Lecture on “American Metaphysical Religion,” for Life after Death in World Religions, Alison Jamison, University of Arizona, September
- 2018-19 Mentor for The Honors College First Year Project, Sophie Barshay, University of Arizona
- 2017 Hiring Committee for Instructional Designer for The Office of Digital Learning. Department of Academic Inits & Student Success, University of Arizona
- 2015 Consulting with PhD Student in area of expertise. Rachel Fisher, University of Arizona
- 2015 Mentor for The Honors College First Year Project, Alex Devora, University of Arizona
- 2008-9 Undergraduate advising, Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
- 2008 Research Assistant in Ethnobotany and Andean Religion with Tod Swanson, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2025 Training Webinar with UCATT, “Rethinking Assessment Alongside AI”
- 2024 Quality Matters recertification: Reli 160D4 (Intro to World Religions); Reli 210 (Religion in the American Experience), Reli 235 (Religion, Violence, and Terrorism)
- 2021 Designing Multimedia Assignments minicourse, UA
- 2018 Connection: Peer Mentoring for Online Instruction, UA
- 2017 Quality Matters Workshop on Online Course Design, UA

- 2016 OIA Large Online Course Mini-Course. UA
2016 Quality Matters Workshop on Independent Applying the QM Rubric, UA
2015 Gen Ed Workshop: Designing Effective Student Peer Review Instruction, UA

REFERENCES

Please feel free to contact any of my references

- Melody Buckner, Associate Vice Provost of Digital Learning and Online Initiatives for the University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; 520-626-9484; mbuckner@arizona.edu
- Nicole Schmidt, Assist. Director, Research, Innovation & Quality Assurance, University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; nicoleschmidt@arizona.edu
- Alex Nava, Professor, Department of Religious Studies and Classics, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; nava@arizona.edu
- Karen Seat, Director, Department of Religious Studies and Classics, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; (520) 621-5452; kkseat@email.arizona.edu
- Moses Moore, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-3104; (480) 965-7145; moses.moore@asu.edu
- Jason BeDuhn, Professor, Department of Comparative Cultural Studies, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011; (928) 523-8892; Jason.BeDuhn@nau.edu