

Jeremy Cohen

Curriculum vitae

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EDUCATION

2021 – PhD Religious Studies / McMaster University

2016 – MA Religious Studies / Concordia University

2013 – BA Jewish Studies / Concordia University

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021 – Assistant Professor (CLA), McMaster University

Religion, Science, and Human Futures

Death and Dying, Comparative Views

Death and Dying, Western Views

Spirits, Ghosts, and Demons

Health, Healing, and Religion

Cults, Conspiracies, and Close Encounters

Frenemies: Science and Religion

Culture and Religion (cross-listed with Anthropology)

PUBLICATIONS

2024 – Journal of Contemporary Religion

Cohen, Jeremy. Forthcoming. "Fear of a Transhumanist Future: Conspiracy Theories and the Speculative Present." *Journal of Contemporary Religion*.

2023 – American Religions

Cohen, Jeremy. 2023. "Algorithmic Conspiracies and Cosmologies." *American Religions*. 5(1), 148-156.

2022 – Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network

Mosurinjoh, Sharday, Jacob Boss, and Jeremy Cohen. 2022. "Human Augmentation Research Network (HARN) and Transhumanism" *Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network Blog*. [Visit Website](#).

2021 – Edited Volume: Berghahn Books

Cohen, Jeremy, 2021. "Immortality and Existential Terror: Learning the Language of Living Forever." In, *Beyond the Veil: Reflexive Studies of Death and Dying*. Edited by Aubrey Thamann and Kalliopi M Christodoulaki. Berghahn Books.

2020 – Religions

Cohen, Jeremy. 2020. "Frozen Bodies and Future Imaginaries: Assisted Dying, Cryonics, and a Good Death." *Religions*. 11: 584.

2020 – TheConversation.com

"Cell tower vandals and re-open protestors — why some people believe in coronavirus conspiracies." [Visit Website](#).

2020 – TheConversation.com

"Coronavirus 'cures' for \$170 and other hoaxes: Why some people believe them." [Visit Website](#).

2019 – Journal of Anthropology and Aging

Cohen, Jeremy, 2019. Review of Stafford, Philip B. *The Global Age-Friendly Community Movement: A Critical Appraisal*. 2019: New York: Berghahn Books. pp. 272.

AWARDS

2020 - The Mary Margaret Scammell Travel Scholarship

Travel scholarship via department nomination.

2019 – Visiting Graduate Scholar, UCLA

Visiting Graduate Scholar, Department of Anthropology, UCLA.

2019 – SSHRC Michael Smith Foreign Travel Supplement

Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

2019 – SGS Grant in Aid of Travel Research

Grant from the School of Graduate Studies, in aid of research and travel.

2018 – SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship

Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

2017 – OGS Ontario Graduate Scholarship

Fellowship grant from the Ontario government.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 - University of Bergen Workshop

Four-day workshop hosted by Bergen University's Human Futures Project in Bergen, Norway.

2022 - Ghana Death and Dying Tour

Two-week tour of southern Ghana organized by the Collective for Radical Death Studies.

2021 - Digital Anti-Racism Education Certificate

Two-part virtual training and workshop offered by the Canadian Council of Muslim Women.

2018 - American Anthropological Association Certificate

"Teaching Anthropology: Theory and Method for the 21st Century" pedagogy workshop.

INVITED TALKS

2023 - McMaster University

Alumni Association Speaker Series "Conspiracy Theories and Religion."

2023 - McGill University

RELG 205: Death & Dying guest lecture.

2023 - Queen's University

Elias Andrews Lectureship in Science and Religion. "Conspiracy Theories and Extraterrestrial Technologies"

2023 - Queen's University

RELS 301: Themes in Religion Studies - Religion, Culture, and Death guest lecture.

2021 - University of Bergen

"Technoscientific Immortality: A Study of Human Futures" Research Project online seminar.

2019 - Queen's University

RELS 221: New Religious Movements. "Meeting the immortalists"

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023 - International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture

Paper: A Transhuman Panelfesto - "I am a Death Positive Transhumanist"

2023 – Ernest Becker Foundation

Roundtable: Ernest Becker and the Denial of Death 50th Anniversary Symposium.

2022 – American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Paper: Fear of a Transhuman Future: Metaverse, Neuralink, and the New World Order.

Paper: The Fountain of Perpetual Youth is Within: The Metaphysical Origins of Contemporary Immortality Narratives.

Roundtable: Working and Teaching Outside the Academy: A Roundtable on Death, Dying, and Beyond Landscapes

2022 – RAI2022: Anthropology, AI and the Future of Human Society

Paper: The Fountain of Perpetual Youth is Within: The Metaphysical Origins of Contemporary Immortality Narratives.

2021 – American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Paper: The Afflicted and the Actively Well: The Redefinition of Death Among Radical Life Extension Activists.

2021 – American Academy of Religion (AAR) (Canceled)

Roundtable: Death / La Muerte / La Mort: An Experiment in North American Communication

2020 – American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Paper: Creating Future Bodies: The Biosocial Imaginaries of Cryonics and Medical Aid in Dying.

2019 – American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Paper: Live Long Enough to Live Forever: Performance, Power, and the Creation of Immortal Bodies.

2019 – Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SAR)

Paper: How to Live Forever: Competing Discourses and Practices Within Radical Life-Extension Communities.

2018 – American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Paper: Hope, Healing and Technological Progress at a Conference on Radical-Longevity.

2018 – Restorying Canada

Paper: Virtually Dead: The Life and Death of Digital Representations.

2017 – Crossing Over: Interdisciplinary Conference on Death

Paper: Digital Artifacts & Death: Understanding Post-Mortem Communication

CAMPUS TALKS

2023 –

McMaster Alumni Association Speaker Series “Conspiracy Theories and Religion.”

2022 –

SCAR 1SC3: The Big Questions – “Transhumanism and Cryonics”

2021 –

SCAR 1B03: What on Earth is Religion? – “Anthropology of Religion”

2020 –

SCAR 1B03: What on Earth is Religion? – “Transhumanism and Ethnography”

2019 –

ANTHROP 3P03: “Doing Ethnography: Theory and Research Methods”

RELIGST 2N03: Death & Dying: Western Experience – “Ethics of Immortality”

RELIGST 1B03: What on Earth is Religion? – “Transhumanism and Ethnography”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sessional Instructor, McMaster University

Death and Dying, Comparative Views (Winter 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021)

Teacher’s Assistant, McMaster University

Death and Dying, The Western Experience (2019)

Health, Healing and Religion (2018)

From Jesus to Apocalypse (2018)

Cults & New Religious Movements (2017)

Culture & Religion (2016)

Teacher’s Assistant, Concordia University

Death and Dying (2016)

Literature and the Holocaust (2015)

PROJECTS

Co-Founder, HARN (Human Augmentation Research Network)

Interdisciplinary working group for graduate students and early-career scholars studying human augmentation, science, religion, and transhumanism. HARN was hosted by the *Center for Religion and the Human* at Indiana University, within the Religion, Science and Technology division but is now independent. [Visit Website](#).

Co-Founder & Editor, TalkDeath.com

TalkDeath.com is an online resource, blog and multimedia website dedicated to fostering healthy conversations around death and dying. [Visit Website](#).

ReStoryingCanada.com

ReStorying Canada: Religion and Public Memory was a three-day interdisciplinary conference and art event. I built a website as an archive of abstracts, video, and audio from that event, built by me in collaboration with Hillary Kaell, Pamela Klassen, and Emma Anderson. [Website Archive](#).

Public Ethnographic Exhibit

Ethnography and public exhibit of the Sisters of Charity including recorded interviews, photographs and material documents in Montreal. [Visit Website](#).

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Undergraduate supervising

2024: Supervising one independent study project about the cult of relics.

2023: Supervising two independent study projects about religion and environmentalism.

2022: Supervising two independent study projects about transhumanism.

2023 – Chair of Communications

2021 – Undergraduate Affairs Committee

Committee member for Departmental Undergraduate Affairs Committee.

2017-2021 – Digital Communications Director

Digital marketing, and poster, [video](#), and website creation.

EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2024 – Faculty of Social Sciences Teaching Award Committee Member

2022 - President's Advisory Committee for Building an Inclusive Community (PACBIC)

Member of McMaster's Disability Inclusion, Madness, Accessibility, and NeuroDiversity (DIMAND) working group.

2019-2021 – President / Executive Committee Member

McMaster Graduate Student Association for Religious Studies (GSARS)

2019-2021 – Board Member

Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SAR)

2017-2019 – Vice-President

McMaster Graduate Student Association for Religious Studies (GSARS)

2016 – Invited Talk Organizer

Organized a lecture and Q&A event with former Westboro Baptist Church sisters, Megan and Grace Phelps-Roper on behalf of Concordia University Religious Studies Student Association.

2015 – President

Concordia University Religious Studies Student Association

2015 – Conference Organizing Committee

Concordia's Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference organizer

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2024 – American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Chair: "Violence and Interpretation: Conflicts of Values and Violation in Maxwell Kennel's Ontologies of Violence."

2023 – Steering Committee (AAR)

Steering committee member for the Transhumanism and Human Enhancement Unit.

MEDIA & PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

2023 – Cabin Radio

"The NWT and immortality: Explore the North's cryonic burials." [Print Interview](#).

2023 – Unscripted Moments Podcast

Episode 93: "Comply/Resist Part 2" – Interview about Christopher Hitchens and Propagandhi. [Visit Website](#).

2023 – The Great Fail Podcast (AdWeek)

Episode 57: “The Downfall of the Mars Hill Church” – A conversation about cults and new religious movements. [Visit Website](#).

2023 – Death Studies Podcast

Cohen, Jeremy. Interview on The Death Studies Podcast. [Visit Website](#). DOI: 10.6084/m9.figshare.22445221

2023 – Hamilton Spectator Op-ed

Cohen, Jeremy. “Advocating for a safer Ward 3 for everyone.” [Visit Website](#).

2022 – Coast to Coast AM (December 9th)

“Death Rituals Around the World.” [Radio Interview](#).

2022 –Inverse Magazine

Ward, Peter. “The Cults That Survive Even When the Prophecy Fails.” [Print Interview](#).

2022 – New York Post

“Day of the Dead 2022: The history and meaning behind the Mexican holiday.” [Article Quote](#).

2022 –The Price of Immortality

Interviewed and featured in journalist Peter Ward’s 2022 book, *The Price of Immortality*.

2022 – The Ernest Becker Foundation

“Let’s Talk About Death: An Interview with Mandy Benoualid and Jeremy Cohen” [Podcast Interview](#).

2022 – IMAMORTAL Podcast

“Death, Religion, and Technology” [Podcast Interview](#).

2021 – The Globe & Mail Op-ed

Cohen, Jeremy. 2021. “Online learning is worsening the already-uneven educational experience for neurodiverse students.” [Visit Website](#).

2020 – 900CHML Global News Radio

Radio interview on Scott Ridley Show about Coronavirus conspiracies.

2020 – Hamilton Spectator, Postmedia

Clarke, Katrina. “Conspiracy theories abound during the COVID-19 pandemic. Why?” - [Print Interview](#).

2020 – 900CHML Global News Radio

Radio interview about conspiracy theories and the novel coronavirus.

2018 – When You Die Podcast

“Death Salon with Mandy Benoualid and Jeremy Cohen from TalkDeath.com”