

Paul Anthony Sanchez  
Ruth Dickinson Chair of Religion  
Assistant Professor of Religion and History  
Oklahoma Baptist University  
500 West University  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
paul.sanchez@okbu.edu

PERSONAL:

Born: January 18, 1984, San José, California  
Married: Joy Simmons, June 23, 2007

EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Church History & Historical Theology  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2020  
Dissertation: "Christianity at the Crossroads: William Louis Poteat and Liberal Religion in the Baptist South"  
Supervisor: Gregory A. Wills

Th.M., Historical & Theological Studies  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2020

Th.M., Church History & Historical Theology  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2014

M.A., Theology  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2012  
Thesis: "A Modern Analysis of John L. Dagg's *Manual of Theology*"

B.A., Major: Bible & Theology, Minor: History  
Evangel University (formerly Central Bible College), 2009

PUBLICATIONS:

*California Dreaming: Evangelical Christianity and American Culture in the Golden State*  
(forthcoming, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing)

*New Christianity for the New South: William Louis Poteat and Liberal Religion in the Baptist South.* Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2026

Chapter: "The Latino Church: A Story of Complexity and Its Challenges Today" in *Confronting Racial Injustice: Theory and Praxis for the Church.* Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2022

*The Spirituality of Love in Andrew Fuller's Ordination Sermons.* Louisville, KY: Andrew Fuller Center for Baptist Studies, 2018

PAPERS:

"Bible-Belt Baptists on the West Coast: California as a Southern Baptist State." Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, San Diego, CA, November 20, 2024

“Facing the Challenges of Modernity: William L. Poteat and Augustus H. Strong in Contrast.” Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, San Antonio, TX, November 15, 2023

“The Mission of Social Righteousness: the Social Gospel Impulse among Southern Baptists.” Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, Denver, CO, November 15, 2022

“A Spirituality of Love: Andrew Fuller and the Virtue of Love in Pastoral Ministry.” St. John Symposium, Center for Pastor Theologians, June 8, 2021

“A Southern Prophet for Evolution: Early Theistic Evolution Among Southern Baptists.” Southeastern Regional Conference of the Evangelical Theological Society, virtual meeting, March 19, 2021

“The Triumph of a Southern Baptist Liberal: William Louis Poteat and the Fundamentalist-Modernist Controversy in North Carolina.” Evangelical Theological Society, virtual meeting, November 16, 2020

“Pentecostalism’s Pioneering Doctrine: Charles Parham’s Theology of Holy Spirit Baptism.” Delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, Denver, CO, November 14, 2018

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES:

“To Love the Souls of the People: Andrew Fuller and the Virtue of Love in Pastoral Ministry.” *Bulletin of Ecclesial Theology*, Vol 9.1 (September 2022): 85-99

#### BOOK REVIEWS:

Daniel G. Hummel, *The Rise and Fall of Dispensationalism: How the Evangelical Battle over the End Times Shaped a Nation* (Eerdmans 2023) at London Lyceum (March 29, 2024)  
<https://thelondonlyceum.com/book-review-the-rise-and-fall-of-dispensationalism/>

Keith Harper, ed. *Southern Baptists Re-Observed: Perspectives on Race, Gender, and Politics*, in *Journal of Southern History* 89.4 (November 2023): 786-787

James C. Ungureanu, *Science, Religion, and the Protestant Tradition: Retracing the Origins of Conflict*, in *Fides et Historia* 42.2 (Summer/Fall 2022): 178-180

J. Stanley Lemons, *Retracing Baptists in Rhode Island: Identity, Formation, and History*, in *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 24.3 (Fall 2020): 167-170

Darren E. Grem, Ted Ownby, and James G. Thomas, Jr., eds, *Southern Religion, Southern Culture: Essays Honoring Charles Reagan Wilson*, in *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* 16.2 (Fall 2019): 104-106

Brian J. Arnold, *Cyprian of Carthage: His Life & Impact* for Books at a Glance (June 6, 2018)  
<http://www.booksataglance.com/book-reviews/cyprian-of-carthage-his-life-and-impact-by-brian-j-arnold/>

Peter J. Morden, *The Life and Thought of Andrew Fuller (1754-1815)*, Books at a Glance (March 6, 2017) <http://www.booksataglance.com/book-reviews/life-thought-andrew-fuller-1754-1815-peter-morden/>

John D. Wilsey, *American Exceptionalism and Civil Religion*, in *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* 13 (Fall 2016): 121-122

Matthew Avery Sutton, *American Apocalypse: A History of Modern Evangelicalism* for Books at a Glance (November 2015) <http://booksataglance.com/book-reviews/american-apocalypse-a-history-of-modern-evangelicalism-by-matthew-avery-sutton>

Adam C. English, *The Saint Who Would Be Santa Claus: The True Life and Trials of Nicholas of Myra*, in *Fides et Humilitas: The Journal for Ancient Christian Studies* 2 (Summer 2015): 65-68

Timothy J. Wengert, *Reading the Bible with Martin Luther*, Books at a Glance (February 2015) <http://booksataglance.com/book-reviews/reading-the-bible-with-martin-luther-an-introductory-guide-by-timothy-j-wengert>

#### LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS:

“What is an Evangelical?” Oklahoma Baptist University Philosophy Forum, Shawnee, OK, September 13, 2024

“Turning Points in American Baptist History,” Immanuel Baptist Church, Shawnee, OK, July 10, 2024

“What is an Evangelical?” Immanuel Baptist Church, Shawnee, OK, June 12, 2024

“Fundamentalism and Neo-Evangelicalism,” for Dr. Rafael Bello, History & Doctrine, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, April 26, 2024

“Fundamentalism and Neo-Evangelicalism,” for Dr. Rafael Bello, History & Doctrine, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, April 26, 2024

“The Development of the Biblical Canon,” for Dr. Keith Hess, Bible Difficulties, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, February 7, 2024

“Loving Your Neighbor in a Complex World: Insights from the Latino Church,” Neighbors Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, October 14, 2023

“How Has the Bible Shaped Politics?” for Dr. Mario Melendez, Intro to Biblical Studies, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, March 29, 2023

“What is Non-Denominationalism?” Mars Hills Apologetics Club, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, February 22, 2023

“A Fiery Ordeal: Southern Baptists during the Civil War” History & Politics Club, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, OK, December 1, 2022

“Reflections on the Latino Church: A Story of Complexity and Its Challenges Today” Breakout session, Center for Pastor Theologians Annual Conference, Oak Park, IL, October 19, 2021

Lectures on Christian theology for indigenous pastors, Reaching and Teaching International, Tambo, Ecuador, September 30–October 4, 2019

Guest lecture on theological liberalism for Dr. John Wilsey, Church History II (25120), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, April 15, 2019

Guest lecture on slave religion and the growth of the black church for Dr. John Wilsey, Church History II (25120), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, October 8, 2018

Lectures on preaching and leadership, Mt. Horeb Evangelical Church, San Juan Sacatepéquez, Guatemala, March 29-April 1, 2018

Guest lecture on John Calvin and the Reformed Tradition for Dr. Rick Durst, Church History II (L1112-81), Gateway Seminary, Fremont, CA, February 20, 2017

“The Problem of Evil,” Changing the Channel Collegiate Conference, Breakout session, Frankfort, KY, April 1, 2015

Lecture on theological liberalism, neo-orthodoxy, evangelicalism for Dr. Bruce Ware, Systematic Theology I (27060), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, Fall 2013

Lecture on Christianity in modern Europe for Dr. Rex Butler, History of Christianity: Reformation to Modern (HIST 5301), New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA, November 16, 2011

MEMBERSHIPS: Organization of American Historians, Southern Historical Association, Conference on Faith and History, Evangelical Theological Society (Co-Chair, American Christianity)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS: American religious history, modern thought, evangelicalism, Baptists history and thought, the American South, the American West, interwar American culture, Spanish and Mexican colonial North America

LANGUAGES: Spanish, Greek, Hebrew, Latin, German

FELLOWSHIPS:

St. John Fellowship – Center for Pastor Theologians, 2020–Present  
Archie K. Davis Fellowship of the North Caroliniana Society, 2019–2020

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Oklahoma Baptist University: Seven Who Care Award (awarded by OBU students), 2025  
Central Bible College: Outstanding History Student Award, 2009  
"Seven Who Care Award" presented by OBU students, 2025

REFERENCES:

David Bebbington, Distinguished Visiting Professor of History, Baylor University  
Paul Harvey, Professor of History, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
Matthew Hall, historian, Provost & Senior Vice President, Biola University

Dominick Hernandez, Professor of Old Testament and Semitics, Biola University

Paul Donnelly, Professor of Criminal Justice, Oklahoma Baptist University

Gregory Wills, Professor of Church History, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

John Wilsey, Professor of Church History & Philosophy, Chair of History Dept., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

#### COURSES TAUGHT:

Oklahoma Baptist University:



The Ancient World – HON 1013 – 3 hours

The Classical World – HON 2043 – 3 hours

The Modern World – HON 3013 – 3 hours

Baptist History & Theology – HTHE 3613 – 3 hours

Intro to Christian Theology & Ethics – BIBL 1023 – 3 hours

Western Civilization: History of European Civilization– HIST 2013 – 3 hours

Western Civilization: History of the Modern West – HIST 2023 – 3 hours

Honors Colloquium: Faith and Counterculture – HON 2719 – 1 hour

Honors Colloquium: Development of the Biblical Canon – HON 2719 – 1 hour

Honors Colloquium: Turning Points in American Christianity – HON 2719 – 1 hour

Honors Colloquium: Life & Thought of Dietrich Bonhoeffer – HON 2719 – 1 hour

History & Theology of Christian Missions – HON 3779 – 1 hour (independent study)

Gateway Seminary of the Southern Baptist Convention:



Fall 2017–Spring 2024

Church History I – L1111-81 – 3 hours

Church History II – L1111-93 – 3 hours

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary:



Spring 2015–Spring 2021

Herencia y Misión Bautista del Sur – 26200HWW – 3 hours

Baptist History – HS305WW – 3 hours

Integrative Seminar I: Leadership – 44790 – 6 hours

Integrative Seminar II: Proclamation – 44915 – 6 hours

Integrative Seminar III: Outreach – 44936 – 6 hours

**TEACHING RELATED EXPERIENCE:** Ruth Dickinson Chair of Religion and Assistant Professor of Religion and History, Oklahoma Baptist University, 2026–Present; Assistant Director of the Honors Program and Assistant Professor of Religion, Oklahoma Baptist University, 2022–2026; Adjunct Professor, Gateway Seminary, 2022–Present; Adjunct Professor, Boyce College Online, 2020–2022; Adjunct Professor for Online Hispanic Program, SBTS, 2020–2022; Instructional Designer for Online Education, SBTS, Dec. 2019–July 2020; Instructional Design Assistant for Online Education, SBTS, May 2019–Dec. 2019; Online Teaching Assistant (OTA) at SBTS, with

Don Whitney, Professor of Biblical Spirituality, 2019–2022; Previously served as OTA for Shawn Wright, John Wilsey, Matt Hall, Gregg Alison; Adjunct faculty, Gateway Seminary, 2017–2024; Instructor for Ministry Apprenticeship Program, SBTS, 2015–2018; OTA and Instructor for Spanish language program, SBTS, 2016–2017; Garrett Fellow for Gregory Wills, Professor Church History, SBTS, 2014; Garrett Fellow for Bruce Ware, Professor of Theology, SBTS, 2013-2014; Teaching Assistant for Rex Butler, Professor of Church History and Patristics, NOBTS, 2011–2012