

ROBERT H. STOCKMAN

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South Bend, IN 46615
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EDUCATION:

- Th. D.**, March 1990, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA.
Field: History of Religion in the United States
Dissertation topic: *The Bahá'í Faith and American Protestantism*
General examinations: Early Christianity, 25-325 CE; American Religious History; Religion and American culture, 1875-1925.
- M. T. S.**, 1982, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA.
Concentration: World Religions and American Religion
- M. Sc.**, 1977, Brown University, Providence, RI.
Field of Study: Geology
- B. A.**, 1975, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.
Majors: Geology and Archaeology

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Instructor of Religion, Indiana University South Bend**, South Bend, IN, 2013-present. See list of courses taught below.
- Instructor of Religion, DePaul University**, Chicago, IL, 1990-1995, 1996-1998, 1999-2012. See list of courses taught below.
- Assistant Professor of Religion, DePaul University**, Chicago, IL, 1995-96.
- Teaching Assistant, Harvard University**, 1986-1989.
Led discussion sections and lectured in "Christian-Muslim Dialogue" and "West and Nonwest: Perceptions of Each Other."
- Instructor of Geology and Astronomy** and operator of the Astronomy Observatory, 1983-1990, **Bentley College**, Waltham, MA.
Taught two sections of the two-semester introductory geology course, two sections of a two-semester introductory astronomy course, and tutored students in telescopic astronomy in the observatory.
- Instructor of Geology, University of Lowell**, Lowell, MA, 1983-84. Taught a two-semester introductory geology sequence for one hundred twenty undergraduates.
- Instructor of Geology, Boston State College**, Boston, MA, 1980-82.
Taught one or two courses each semester, both introductory geology and a course for geology majors.
- Instructor of Geology and Oceanography, Community College of Rhode Island**, Lincoln, RI, 1977-80.
Taught a two-semester sequence of introductory geology and a two-semester sequence of introductory oceanography.

Graduate Research Assistant, Brown University, Providence, RI, 1975-77.

COURSES TAUGHT AT DEPAUL UNIVERSITY, 1990-2012:

Religious Studies 100: Introduction to Religion
Religious Studies 103: Comparative Religious Worlds
Religious Studies 143-201: The Buddhist Experience
Religious Studies 200-601: Debates About God
Religious Studies 203-302: Comparative Religions Worlds
Religious Studies 210-101: The Christian Experience
Religious Studies 211-101: The American Religious Experience (also cross-listed as History 278-101: History of American Religion)
Religious Studies 217: Islam in Global Contexts
Religious Studies 222-401: Western Religious Traditions and Contemporary Moral Issues
Religious Studies 233-601: Jesus and Christian Origins
Religious Studies 243-402: Buddhism: An Intensive Introduction
Religious Studies 263-101: Religions of the Middle East
Religious Studies 265-101: The Islamic Experience
Religious Studies 266-201: Islam in America

COURSES TAUGHT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND, 2013-2021:

REL-R 153: East Asian Religions
REL-R 152: Jews, Christians, and Muslims
REL-R 257: Introduction to Islam
REL-R 160: Introduction to Religion in America
REL-R 210: Introduction to Old Testament
REL-R 220: Introduction to the New Testament
PHIL-P 374: Early Chinese Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

The World of the Bahá'í Faith (Abingdon, U.K.: Routledge, forthcoming 2022)

The Bahá'í Faith, Violence, and Non-violence (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2020)

The Bahá'í Faith: A Guide to the Perplexed (London, U.K.: Bloomsbury, 2012).

'Abdu'l-Bahá in America (Wilmette, Ill.: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 2012)

Thornton Chase: The First American Bahá'í (Wilmette, Ill: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 2002).

A Resource Guide for the Scholarly Study of the Bahá'í Faith (Wilmette, Ill: Bahá'í Research Office, 1997),
coauthored by Jonah Winters.

The Bahá'í Faith in America, Vol. 2, Early Expansion, 1900-1912 (Oxford, U.K.: George Ronald, 1995).

The Bahá'í Faith in America, Vol. 1, Origins, 1892-1900 (Wilmette, Ill: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 1985).

The Bahá'í Faith and American Protestantism. Th. D. dissertation, Harvard University, 1990 (unpublished).

Articles:

Review of Louis Venters, *No Jim Crow Church: The Origins of South Carolina's Bahá'í Community* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2015), in *Nova Religio*, vol. 21. No. 1 (Aug. 2017), 118-20.

Review of Nader Saiedi, *Gate of the Heart: Understanding the Writings of the Báb* (Waterloo, Ont: Wilfrid Laurier Press, 2008) in *Nova Religio*, vol. 14, no. 1 (Aug. 2010), 124-27.

"Bahá'í Faith," in *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*, ed. J. Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann, 2d ed. (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2010).

"Bahá'u'lláh," in *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*, ed. J. Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann, 2d ed. (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2010).

Review of Peter Smith, *An Introduction to the Bahá'í Faith* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2008) and of William Garlington, *The Bahá'í Faith in America* (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2008) in *Journal of Religion*, Jan. 2010.

"Bahá'í Faith," in *Encyclopedia of African American Religious Culture*, ed. Anthony Pinn (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2009).

Review of "In Service to the Common Good: The American Bahá'í Community's Commitment to Social Change," in *World Order*, vol. 37, no. 3 (2006), 45-48.

"The Baha'í Faith and Globalization, 1900-1912," in a peer-reviewed volume on globalization and the Bahá'í Faith (Aarhus, Den.: Aarhus University Press, 2005).

"The Bahá'í Faith in New York State," in the *Encyclopedia of New York State* (Syracuse: Syracuse Univ. Press, 2005).

"The Bahá'í Faith," in the *Worldmark Encyclopedia*.

Review of Peter D. Ward and Donald Brownlee, "Life and Death of Planet Earth," in *World Order*, vol. 34, no. 3 (Spring 2003), 42-47.

"The Bahá'í Faith and Interfaith Relations: A Brief History," in *World Order*, vol. 33, no. 4 (Summer 2002), 19-33.

"Bahá'í Faith," in *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*, ed. J. Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2002), 102-114

"True, Corinne Knight," in *Women Building Chicago, 1790-1990*, ed. Rima Lunin Schultz and Adele Hast (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2001), 891-93.

"Bahá'í faith," in *Encyclopedia of American Religious History*, ed. Edward L. Queen, II, Stephen R. Prothero, and Gardiner H. Shattuck, Jr. (New York, NY: Facts on File, 2001), 53-55.

"The Unity Principle: Ideas of Social Concord and Discord in the Bahá'í Faith," in Joseph Gittler, ed., *Research in Human Social Conflict, Volume 2* (Westview, CT: JAI Press, 2000), pp. 1-19.

Response to Juan R. I Cole, "Race, Immorality, and Money in the American Bahá'í Community: Impeaching the Los Angeles Spiritual Assembly," *Religion* (2000) 30, 133-39.

“Bahá’í Faith,” in James R. Lewis, *The Encyclopedia of Cults, Sects, and New Religions* (Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 1998), 64-71.

“Revelation, Interpretation, and Elucidation in the Bahá’í Writings” in Moojan Momen, ed., *Scripture and Revelation* (Oxford: George Ronald, 1998).

The Bahá’í Faith section of *The Pluralism Project* (CD Rom, Columbia Univ. Press, 1997).

“The Bahá’í Faith in England and Germany, 1900-1913” in *World Order* magazine, vol. 27, no. 3, (Spring 1996), 31-42.

“The Vision of the Bahá’í Faith,” in Martin Forward, *Ultimate Visions: Reflections on the Religions We Choose* (Oxford: One World, 1995), 266-74.

“The Bahá’í Faith in the 1990s,” article in Dr. Timothy Miller, ed., *America's Alternative Religions* (Albany: State Univ. of New York Press, 1995)

“The Bahá’í Faith: A Portrait,” in Joel Beversluis, ed., *A Sourcebook for the Earth's Community of Religions*, 2d ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: CoNexus Press, 1995).

“Paul Johnson's ‘Theosophical Influence in Bahá’í History: Some Comments’” in *Theosophical History*, vol. 5, no. 4 (October 1994): 137-43.

“The Bahá’í Faith in America: One Hundred Years,” in *World Order*, vol. 25, no. 3 (Spring 1994): 9-23.

“Women in the American Bahá’í Community, 1900-1912,” in *World Order*, vol. 25, no. 2 (Winter 1993-94): 17-34.

“Jesus Christ in the Bahá’í Writings,” in *The Bahá’í Studies Review*, vol. 2, no. 1 (1992): 33-41.

Review of John S. Hatcher's *The Purpose of Physical Reality*, in *Encyclopedie Universelle Philosophique* (Presses Universitaires de France, 1991).

Review of Marzieh Gail's *Summon Up Remembrance*, in *Iranian Studies*, 22.4 (1989): 118-20.

Review of R. Jackson Armstrong-Ingram's *Music, Devotions, and Mashriqu'l-Adhkár*, in *The Journal of Bahá’í Studies*, vol. 1, no. 2 (1988-89): 71-78.

“Passing of the First American Bahá’í,” in *Bahá’í News*, no. 679 (Oct. 1987): 4-9.

“The Bahá’í Faith: Beginnings in North America,” *World Order* magazine, vol. 18, no. 4 (Summer 1984): 7-27.

Co-authored Articles:

Stockman, Robert H., and Betty J. Fisher, “Persecution of the Bahá’ís in Iran and Egypt: An Update,” in *World Order*, vol. 37, no. 3 (2006), 7-38.

Articles Edited or Compiled:

“The American Defense of Iran’s Bahá’í Institute for Higher Education” in *World Order*, vol. 30, no. 4 (Summer 1999), 7-28.

Thornton Chase, “Impressions of `Abdu'l-Bahá and His Station,” in *World Order*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Fall 1993): 13-22.

RESEARCH PROJECTS COORDINATED:

Models of Unity: Racial, Ethnic, and Religious, A Project of the Human Relations Foundation of Chicago and the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States (Wilmette, IL: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 1992).

Models of Unity II: Interracial and Interreligious Contacts and Interaction in Atlanta, Georgia (Wilmette, IL: Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 1995).

[Note: In both cases my role was coordinator of the research, editor and compiler of partial drafts written by others, and overall author and editor of the booklets. The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States is considered the author of the publications.]

Coordinator of Bahá'í involvement in CCSP (Cooperative Congregational Studies Project), 1997-2016. CCSP is an on-going project which had as its first goal to survey at least 700 congregations in each of forty denominations in 2000, so that the resulting data would be comparable with the decennial United States government census. Attended annual CCSP coordinating meetings, pulled together a team of four Bahá'ís to modify the survey instrument to fit Bahá'í terminology and teachings, oversaw the data collection and assisted with the analysis. In the end, 770 local Bahá'í communities across the United States participated in the survey in 2000 and a similar number in 2010. CCSP is based at the Hartford International University of Religion and Peace (formerly Hartford Seminary), Hartford, CT, involved about 80 researchers and analysts, and received \$2 million of grants from the Lilly Endowment.

PROFESSIONAL TALKS:

“Coordinating and Editing *The World of the Bahá'í Faith*,” online presentation at Bahá'í Studies Unit of the American Academy of Religion, Nov. 20, 2021.

“The Bahá'í Faith: An Overview,” presentation to the staff of the American Theological Library Association, Chicago, IL, January 2019.

“Constructive Engagement and Constructive Resilience as a Response to Persecution of the Iranian Bahá'í Community,” American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Denver, CO, November 2018.

“The Development of Online Bahá'í Courses by the Wilmette Institute,” Association for Bahá'í Studies annual conference, Orange County, CA, August 2017.

“The Bahá'í Faith, Violence, and Nonviolence,” Bahá'í Studies Academic Seminar, Oxford University, Oxford, U.K., July 2017.

“Advancing the Life of the Mind Online: Twenty Years of the Wilmette Institute Experience,” Association for Bahá'í Studies annual conference, Orange County, CA, August 2015

“Examining the Impact of `Abdu'l-Bahá's Visit,” panelist on plenary session panel, Association for Bahá'í Studies, Montreal, QC, August 2012.

“`Abdu'l-Bahá's Visit to North America, 1912: Analysis of Impact,” Baha'i Studies Colloquy, American Academy of Religion, Montreal, QC, October 31, 2010.

“`Abdu'l-Bahá's Visit to North America, 1912: Nature and Purpose,” Irfán Colloquium, Louhelen Bahá'í School, October 9, 2010.

“Cycles of Membership Growth in the American Bahá'í Community, 1894-2009,” Baha'i Studies Colloquy, American Academy of Religion, Montreal, QC, November 2009.

“Persian and American Bahá’í Biblical Interpretation, 1895-1912,” Baha’i Studies Colloquy, American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, November 2008.

“Abdu'l-Bahá’s Tour of North America, 1912, and its Impact on the American Bahá’ís,” Baha’i Studies Colloquy, American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November 2004.

“An Examination of `Abdu'l-Bahá’s Tour of North America, 1912,” talk given at the Association for Bahá’í Studies annual conference, Calgary, Alb., Canada, September 2004.

“The American Bahá’í Community and Globalization,” Baha’i Studies Colloquy, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA, November 2003.

“Bahá’í Community Building in North America: An Historical Perspective,” talk given at the Association for Bahá’í Studies annual conference, San Francisco, CA, August 2003.

“The Bahá’í Faith and Interfaith Dialogue,” presentation on a panel discussion, Association for Bahá’í Studies annual conference, Toronto, ON, Canada, September 2002.

“The Bahá’í Faith and Globalization, 1900-1912,” Conference on “Bahá’í and Globalisation,” University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark, Aug. 2001.

“The Bahá’í Mechanism for Religious Adaptation and its Operation in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries,” First International Conference on Modern Religions and Religious Movements in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and the Bábí and Bahá’í Faiths, Dec. 2000, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

“The Bahá’í Concept of Unity and its Implications for External and Internal Dialogue,” CESNUR Conference, Philadelphia, June 1999.

“The Bahá’í Concept of Unity as an Ethical Principle,” Bahá’í Studies Colloquy of the American Academy of Religion, November 1998.

“The Baha’i Position on Christianity,” Twentieth `Irfán Colloquium, Louhelen Bahá’í School, October, 1998.

“The Development of the American Bahá’í Community, 1892-1912,” a seminar class given at the University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark, December 1995.

“The North American Visits of `Abdu'l-Bahá and Swami Vivekananda: Some Comparisons,” talk at the Bahá’í Studies Colloquy of the American Academy of Religion, November 1995.

“Concepts of Revelation, Interpretation, and Elucidation in the Bahá’í Scriptures,” talk at fourth Haj Mehdi Arjmand Scripture Studies Colloquium, DePoort, Netherlands, November 1994.

“Religion’s Contribution to Civilization,” a series of four lectures delivered to the public and to the religious studies faculty of Kiev-Mohila Academy, Kiev, Ukraine, December 1993.

“The Bahá’í Faith,” presentation to the Religious Studies Department, Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia, December 1993.

“The Bahá’í Faith and Higher Biblical Criticism,” semiannual meeting of the Religious Studies Seminar of the Association for Bahá’í Studies for English-speaking Europe, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, U.K., December 1993.

“The Bahá’í Faith and Interreligious Dialogue,” Parliament of the World's Religions, Chicago, August 1993.

“The Bahá’í Faith in the Nineties,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 1992.

“American Bahá’í History, 1921 to the Present,” semiannual meeting of the Religious Studies Seminar of the Association for Bahá’í Studies for English-speaking Europe, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, U.K., July 1992.

“American Bahá’í Identity, 1894-1921,” semiannual meeting of the Religious Studies Seminar of the Association for Bahá’í Studies for English-speaking Europe, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, U.K., December 1991.

“Sisters in the Spirit: American and Iranian Bahá’í Women,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 1991.

“Redeemer Nation Revisited: American Bahá’ís and the Destiny of America,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 1990.

“The Role of the Bible in the Bahá’í Scriptures,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 1988.

“The Challenges of Bahá’í-Christian Dialogue,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November, 1987.

“A Survey of Scholarship in American Bahá’í History,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 1985.

“The Bahá’í Faith and the Bible in the United States, 1892-1900,” annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, December 1984.

DISTANCE-LEARNING COURSES CREATED AND/OR COORDINATED FOR THE WILMETTE INSTITUTE, 1998-2007:

Abdu'l-Bahá: The Exemplar	Hinduism for Deepening and Dialogue
The Bábí Faith, 1844-63	How to Study the Bahá’í Writings
The Bahá’í Faith and the Establishment of World Peace	Islam for Deepening and Dialogue
The Bahá’í Faith: A Comprehensive Introduction	Judaism for Deepening and Dialogue
Bahá’í Administration and Community Development	Kitáb-i-Aqdas and Related Tablets
Bahá’í Theology	Kitáb-i-Íqán and Related Tablets
Bahá’u’lláh’s Early Mystic Writings	The Ministry of Shoghi Effendi
Bahá’u’lláh’s Revelation: A Systematic Survey	One Common Faith
The Bible	Preparing for Interfaith Dialogue
Buddhism for Deepening and Dialogue	The Qur’án
Call to Remembrance: The Life of Bahá’u’lláh in His Own Words	The Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, 1853-63
Century of Light	The Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, 1863-68
Chinese Religions for Deepening and Dialogue	The Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, 1868-73
Christianity for Deepening and Dialogue	The Revelation of Bahá’u’lláh, 1873-92
The Dispensation of Bahá’u’lláh	The Secret of Divine Civilization
The Destiny of America	Summons of the Lord of Hosts
Epistle to the Son of the Wolf	Tabernacle of Unity
	Tablets of Bahá’u’lláh Revealed after the Kitáb-i-Aqdas

The courses were 7 to 15 weeks in length and were designed to accommodate students who could apply to their universities to take the courses for credit through the university. Since 2007 the list has grown considerably longer, with more faculty developing new courses and my role focusing more on coordination.

SUMMER COURSES CREATED AND COORDINATED FOR

THE WILMETTE INSTITUTE, 1996-2005:

- A. World Religions, Philosophy, and Bahá'í Theology
- B. Development of the Individual and the Creation of Strong Bahá'í Marriages and Families
- C. Concepts of Community and Governance
- D. Carrying Forward an Ever-Advancing Civilization
- E. Bahá'í History and Community Development
- F. Bahá'í Authoritative Texts
- G. Development of Skills

Note: I taught much of courses A and E at different times, and small parts of courses C and F. My principal role was in organizing the courses, consulting with experts to plan the sequence of topics, and finding faculty to teach them.

EDITORIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS:

Member of the Board of Scholars and Practitioners, *Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*, Feb. 2009-2013 (the Board served as a Board of Advisors and peer reviews articles submitted to the journal).

Member of Executive Committee of ASARB (Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies), 2006-2016; President, 2012-2014

Chair of Bahá'í Studies group at the American Academy of Religion, 1991-2020 (the exact name of the "group" has changed several times)

Director of the Wilmette Institute, Jan. 2000-present

Acting Director of the Wilmette Institute, February 1995-Dec. 1999

The Wilmette Institute is an agency of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States that conducts courses and classes on Bahá'í subjects, both in the classroom and over the internet, and offers free web video lectures.

Member of the Editorial Board of the Bahá'í Encyclopedia Project, May 1995-2008.

The Bahá'í Encyclopedia Project is an effort of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States to publish encyclopedic works and eventually an entire encyclopedia on the Bahá'í Faith.

Coordinator of Institute for Bahá'í Studies, October 1994-2008.

Coordinator of Research Office, Bahá'í National Center, May 1990-2008.

Member of Editorial Board, *World Order* magazine, September 1990-2009.

World Order magazine was an intellectual quarterly published by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States.

Member of Executive Committee of the Association for Bahá'í Studies and Liaison Officer between Association for Bahá'í Studies and Bahá'í National Center, September 1990-November 1998.

Recording Secretary of Executive Committee of Association for Bahá'í Studies, 1994-1998

Member of Editorial Board, *Journal of Bahá'í Studies*, Sept. 1992-July 1998.

The Association for Bahá'í Studies is an organization to promote study of and research and publishing on the Bahá'í Faith. The *Journal of Bahá'í Studies* is its peer-reviewed journal.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Board of Trustees, United Religious Community of Saint Joseph County, Indiana, Jan. 2009-present (the URC is the interfaith council for greater South Bend); President of URC, 2012-13

Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies (ASARB), 2005-present
Advisory Board of the Pluralism Project, Harvard University, 1998-present
American Academy of Religion (AAR), 1984-present
 member of the Bahá'í Studies group, 1985-present
Editorial Board, *World Order* magazine, a Bahá'í intellectual and literary magazine, 1990-2008.
Association for Bahá'í Studies (ABS), 1978-present
Study of Religions Section of the Association for Bahá'í Studies, 1989-2004
Association for the Study of Persianate Societies, 2019-present

LANGUAGES: French; some Persian; a little reading ability in Spanish, German, and Latin.

REFERENCES:

Dr. Roy Mottahedeh, Gurney Professor of History, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
617-495-1036 (secretary)
mottahed@fas.harvard.edu
(Dr. Mottahedeh served on my dissertation committee at Harvard)

Dr. James Halstead, O.S.A. Ph.D., S.T.D., Associate Professor of Religion and Chair of Religious Studies Department,
DePaul University, Chicago, IL.
773/325-7386
jhalstea@depaul.edu
(Dr. Halstead was chair of the department where I taught part time for nineteen years)