

# Jessica Wai-Fong Wong

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## EMPLOYMENT

**Azusa Pacific University**, Azusa, NC 2015 - Present  
Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology

## EDUCATION

**Duke University**, Durham, NC 2015  
Ph.D. in Religious Studies  
Major: Christian Theology and Ethics  
Minors: Religion and Modernity, Literature  
Advisor: Willie Jennings  
Dissertation: "The Anti-Iconicity of Blackness: A Theological Reading of the Modern Racial Optic"

**Duke University**, Durham, NC 2009  
Masters of Divinity, *Summa cum Laude*

**Baylor University**, Waco, TX 2006  
B.A. in University Scholars (Religion, Philosophy, English, Classics)  
*Magna cum Laude*  
Thesis: "The Prophetic Voice of Job: A Social Reading of the Book of Job and Its Prophetic Implications"

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Academic Publications**

Response to Grace Ji-Sun Kim, *Embracing the Other* Forthcoming  
Syndicate Theology

"Christianizing and Civilizing The Immigrant Body," Forthcoming  
*Strangers in this World*, Vol. 2  
Fortress Press

The Christian Criteria for Assimilation: Racially Reading Christianity, Under Review  
Civility, and Social Belonging in the Modern Western World  
Open Theology

### **Popular Publications**

"Racism in America Hasn't Disappeared" 2013  
(The Herald-Sun: Durham, NC, October 29)

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

### **Conferences**

Panel Discussion: Grace Ji-Sun Kim's *Embracing the Other: The Transformative Spirit of Love.* 2015  
Postcolonial Roundtable  
(AAR: American Academy of Religion: Atlanta, GA, November 21)

- “Iconic Humanity, Anti-Iconic Inhumanity: Understanding the Racial Optic Through Byzantine Theology”  
Christian Systematic Theology Section  
(AAR: American Academy of Religion: San Francisco, CA, November 23) 2014
- “Christianized Bodies, Civilized Bodies: From Immigrant to Cultural Citizen”  
Interreligious Reflections on Immigration Seminar  
(AAR: American Academy of Religion: San Francisco, CA, November 23) 2014
- “Christian Image of Humanity: The Transition from Immigrant to Cultural Citizen”  
SECSOR: Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion  
(Marriott Century Center: Atlanta, GA, March 9) 2014
- "Embodying Disordered Economy: A Study in Byzantine Theology"  
Graduate Religious Studies Conference  
(Brown University: Providence, RI, March 1) 2014
- “Visualizing Subjects”  
Invited lecture for the Teacher-Scholars Fellowship  
(Elon University: Elon, NC, November 20) 2013
- “Anti-Icon: Monstrous and Divine Embodiment in the Middle Ages”  
Arizona Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies  
Interdisciplinary Conference  
(Renaissance Hotel: Phoenix, AZ, February 15) 2013
- “Coming Face to Face”  
Moberg Lecture on Christianity and Sociology:  
Christian Sociological Perspective on Reconciliation  
(Bethel University: St. Paul, MN, February 20) 2009
- Campus and Departmental**
- Faith Matters I: “Black Lives Matter: The Debate”  
(Azusa Pacific University: Azusa, CA, October 27) 2016
- Coram Deo: “Theology of Creation & the Environment”  
(Azusa Pacific University: Azusa, CA, February 9) 2016
- 2015-2016 Winter Colloquium  
(Azusa Pacific University: Azusa, CA, January 28) 2016

**ACADEMIC HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

**Azusa Pacific University**

External Awards

- Wabash Workshop for Early Career Religion Faculty  
at Colleges and Universities 2016-2017  
(Wabash Center, Wabash University: Crawfordsville, IN.)

Internal Awards

Early Career Writers Retreat	2016
School of Theology Scholar-Teacher Fellowship	2016-2017
Center for Research on Ethics and Values Research Fellowship	2016-2017

**Duke University, Department of Religious Studies**

External Awards

Elon University Pre-Doctoral Teaching Fellowship (\$37,980 – Declined)	2014-2015
North American Doctoral Fellowship (\$15,000)	2011-2012
Awarded by The Forum for Theological Exploration, Formerly The Fund for Theological Education	

Internal Awards

Gurney Harris Kearns Fellowship (Religious Studies Departmental Award)	2009-2014
Summer Research Fellowship (\$10,000)	2011, 2013

**Duke University, Divinity School**

External Awards

Baptist Scholarship (\$2,000)	2008-2009
Baptist House Scholarship (\$1,000)	2008-2009
Baptist Women in Ministry North Carolina Scholarship (\$500)	2008-2009

Internal Awards

The Duke Scholarship (\$47,600)	2006-2009
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**Baylor University, Honors College**

External Awards

Phi Beta Kappa	2006
Mortar Board National Honor Society	2005

Internal Awards

Presidential Scholarship	2002-2006
Deans List	2002-2006

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Undergraduate Teaching**

Theology from the Margins, Azusa Pacific University	F2016
Theology and the Christian Life, Azusa Pacific University	F2015, S2016
Contemporary Christian Thought, Azusa Pacific University	F2015, S2016, F2016

**Graduate Teaching**

Christian Ethics, Stanley Hauerwas	S2014
Christian Ethics, Allen Verhey	S2013
Christian Theology, Edgardo Colón-Emeric	F2012

Modern Christian History Introduction, Sujin Pak	S2012
Christian Identity and the Formation of the Racial World, Willie Jennings	2010- 2011
Doctrine of Creation and Theological Anthropology, Willie Jennings	F2011

**Invited Lectures**

“Race and the Church,” First Wednesday Adult Education (Knox Presbyterian Church: Pasadena, CA, May 4)	2016
“Race, Gender, and Class in Christian Ethics,” Introduction to Christian Ethics (Duke Divinity School: Durham, NC. March 18)	2014
“Pictures and Stories: Navigating Christian Identity in the Modern World” Adult Forum (Duke Chapel: Durham, NC, March 3)	2012
“The Fallen Imago Dei and Broken Relationality,” Introduction to Christian Theology (Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC, September 28)	2012

**TEACHING CERTIFICATES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Workshops**

Workshop for Early Career Religion Faculty at Colleges and Universities (Wabash Center, Wabash University: Crawfordsville, IN.)	2016-2017
Early Career Writers Retreat (Azusa Pacific University: Jesuit Retreat Center: Malibu, CA. June 14-17)	2016

**Certificates**

Certificate in College Teaching, The Graduate School, Duke University	2015
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**Teaching-Related Courses**

Teaching in Religion	2013
College Teaching and Course Design	2013
Teaching Triangles, Peer Review Group	2013
Theorizing Religion	2010

**EDITORIAL POSITIONS**

Editorial Board, Syndicate Theology Journal Systematic Theology Editor	2016
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**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Faculty Research Council (Azusa Pacific University: Azusa, CA.)	2016
AAR Session Moderator: Constructive Theologies Session (AAR SECSOR: March 6-8)	2015

Executive Committee, Graduate Program in Religion (Duke University, The Graduate School: Durham, NC.)	2012-2015
Visual Theory and Theology Graduate Student Colloquia Founder and Co-Chair (Duke University, Graduate Program in Religion: Durham, NC.)	2012-2015
Alumni Council Consultant (Duke University, Duke Divinity School: Durham, NC.)	2006-2009
Faculty Search Committee (Duke University, Duke Divinity School: Durham, NC.)	2008
Student Council Class Representative (Duke University, Duke Divinity School: Durham, NC.)	2006-2007
Race Dialogue Facilitator (Duke University, Duke Divinity School: Durham, NC.)	2007

#### **ACADEMIC GROUPS AND COLLOQUIA**

Visual Theory and Theology Graduate Student Colloquia, Duke University  
 Graduate Theology Colloquia, Duke University  
 Graduate Studies Theory Group, Duke University and UNC  
 Graduate Scholars Colloquia, Women's Studies Department, Duke University

#### **MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

American Academy of Religion	2008-Present
National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion	2012-Present
Society of Christian Ethics	2012-Present

#### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish, German, French, Biblical Hebrew, Koine Greek

#### **NON-PROFIT WORK**

Refugee Center, Organization and Administration Sojourner Help, Advocacy, Development Education, NGO (Cape Town, SA)	2008
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