

# Justin D. Poché, Ph.D.

Department of History  
College of the Holy Cross  
1 College Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01610

Contact Info:  
[jpoche@holycross.edu](mailto:jpoche@holycross.edu)  
Office Phone: 508-793-3448

---

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, University of Notre Dame, May 2007; Dissertation: "Religion, Race, and Rights in Catholic Louisiana, 1938-1970," directed by R. Scott Appleby  
M.A., History, University of Notre Dame, May 2004  
B.A., *summa cum laude* with College Honors in History, Louisiana State University, May 2000

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2015-present Associate Professor of History  
2008-2015 Assistant Professor of History and Alexander F. Carson Faculty Fellow in the History of the United States, College of the Holy Cross  
2007-2008 Lecturer in Humanities and History, Christ College, Valparaiso University  
2006-2007 Adjunct Instructor in History, Tulane University  
2006. Instructor in History and Freshman Writing, University of Notre Dame  
2005-2006 Senior Graduate Assistant, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, University of Notre Dame  
2004 Adjunct Instructor in History, Our Lady of Holy Cross College (New Orleans, Louisiana)

## PUBLICATIONS

"Catholicism and Race in American History," (8000-word entry), *Oxford Encyclopedia of Religion in America* (8000-word entry), Oxford University Press, February 2018 (online); Summer 2018 (print).

"How Southern Jesuit Universities Handled Racism in the Past," *Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education* 51 (Spring 2017), 10-11.

"John LaFarge, S.J.," "Horace McKenna, S.J.," "Peter John de Smet, S.J.," and "Civil Rights Movement, U.S." Thomas Worcester, S.J., et. al., editors, *Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Jesuits* (Cambridge University Press, 2017).

"Catholic Like Me: The Conversions of John Howard Griffin," *U.S. Catholic Historian* (Summer 2014), 94-118.

"Bonfires on the Levee: Place, Memory, and the Sacred in River Road Catholicism," in Michael Pasquier, ed., *Gods of the Mississippi* (Indiana University Press, 2013), 161-181.

"Stemming the Tide: Urban Catholic Education in New Orleans from Desegregation to Disaster" in Thomas Hunt and Timothy Walch, eds., *Urban Catholic Education: The Best of Times, The Worst of Times* (Peter Lang, 2013).

“Separate But Sinful: The Desegregation of Louisiana Catholicism,” in Michael Martin, ed., *The Civil Rights Movement in Louisiana: New Perspectives and Interpretations* (Lafayette, Louisiana: University of Louisiana Press, March 2011).

“Crescent City Catholicism: Catholic Schooling in New Orleans,” in Thomas Hunt, ed., *Catholic Urban Education: A Tale of Twelve Cities* (Alliance for Catholic Education Press, University of Notre Dame Press, 2010).

“Religious Thought: Roman Catholic,” in *The Encyclopedia of American Religion* (Sage Publications, 2010).

“The Catholic Citizens’ Council: Religion and Massive Resistance in Post-War Louisiana,” *U.S. Catholic Historian* 24, no. 4 (Fall 2006): 47-68.

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

*Separate but Sinful: Catholics, the Color Line, and Civil Rights in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Louisiana* (under contract with Louisiana State University Press.)

*Somos Worcester*, a co-authored history of the Latinx community in Worcester to be published by the Worcester Historical Museum in conjunction with the 2021 exhibit.

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS and PRESENTATIONS**

“The Priests and the Panthers: The Catholic Social Apostolate and Black Nationalism in New Orleans’ War on Poverty,” American Catholic Historical Association Winter Meeting, January 5, 2020, New York, NY.

“Towards a ‘Human Relations’ Approach: The Sin of Sociology in Postwar Catholic Interracialism,” Social Science History Association, Annual Conference, November, 22, 2019, Chicago, Illinois.

“Toward a ‘Human Relations’ Approach: Sin and Sociology in Postwar Catholic Interracialism,” American Catholic Historical Association 2018 Spring Meeting, April 12-14, Mount Saint Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Panel Respondent, “Religion and Immigration,” November 15, 2017, McFarland Center for Religion, Ethics and Culture Conference: “Religion, Protest, and Social Upheaval, November 15-17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Panelist on “American Religion in the College Classroom,” Boston College semi-annual Conference on Religion and History, April 2, 2016.

Panel organizer and participant, “Beyond the Lecture/Discussion: The American Religion Classroom and the Future of Catholic History Pedagogy.” American Catholic Historical Association Annual Spring Meeting, March 26-28, 2015, University of Notre Dame.

“Race, Authenticity and Authority in Vatican II Louisiana,” Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism conference on The Lived History of Vatican II, April 24-26, 2014.

Panel Respondent, "Post-Disaster Activism and (In)Activism in New Orleans," 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association, Mobile, Alabama, November 1-4, 2012.

"The Politics of Reconciliation in New Orleans Catholic Schools, 1962-1972," American Catholic Historical Association, affiliate meeting of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2012 (Chicago, Illinois).

"Finding the 'Negro Apostolate': Catholic Missionary Ideology and Black Community in Jim Crow Louisiana," Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association, March 17-19, 2011, Lafayette, Louisiana.

Panel respondent, "Catholic Ecumenism in the Twentieth Century," American Catholic Historical Association Spring Meeting, March 13, 2010 (Princeton University)

"'Real Men' and False Prophets: The Catholic Priesthood and Southern Masculinity in Jim Crow Louisiana," paper for American Society for Church History, affiliate of the American Historical Association, Annual Meeting, January 9, 2010 (San Diego, California)

"Bonfires on the Levee: Sacred Space and Cultural Memory in Cancer Alley," American Catholic Historical Association Spring Meeting, April 17, 2009 (LaSalle University, Philadelphia, Pa.)

"'Friendly Priests' and 'False Prophets': The Roman Catholic Clergy in the Jim Crow South," American Historical Association (panel organized by the *American Catholic Historical Association*), January 2007 (Atlanta, Georgia)

"Integrating the Mystical Body: Catholic Social Thought in Post-War Louisiana," American Catholic Historical Association Spring Meeting, University of Dayton, April 2005.

"Religion, Race, and Rights in Catholic Louisiana, 1938-1970," Louisville Institute Annual Winter Seminar, Louisville, Kentucky (presenter and respondent), January 2005.

"Separate But Sinful: The Desegregation of New Orleans Catholicism," *American Academy of Religion* (panel organized by the Roman Catholic Studies Section), Annual Conference, November 2003.

"American Catholic Thought and the Testing of Atomic Weapons," presented to the *Graduate Student Roundtable on Peace and Violence in History*, University of Notre Dame, November 2000.

### **INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

"Lo Sagrado," individual lecture and moderator of panel of community practitioners, for the Latino History Project of Worcester, Worcester Historical Museum, October

"The Great Brook Valley Riots in Historical Context," Presentation at the Worcester Historical Society and the Latino History Project of Worcester, September 20, 2018.

Understanding the Protestant Reformation, Lecture to Men's Prayer Breakfast, First Church of Sterling, Sterling Massachusetts, November 5, 2017.

"The Ghost of Pere Antoine: Afro-Creole Traditions and the Making of New Orleans Catholicism," February 23, 2012, Worcester Art Museum Presentations for Black History Month.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Mark Adams, Minerva Carcaño, Gerald Kicanas, Kirk Smith and Stephen Talmage, *Bishops on the Border: Pastoral Responses to Immigration*, (New York: Morehouse Publishing, 2013), *Theological Studies* (2015).

James M. Woods, *A History of the Catholic Church in the American South: 1513-1900* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2011), *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 28:2 (2013), 343-344.

Harvard Sitkoff, *Toward Freedom Land: The Long Struggle for Racial Equality in America* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2010), *Journal of Southern Religion* 13 (2011): <http://jsr.fsu.edu/issues/vol13/poche.html>.

James M. O'Toole, *The Faithful: A History of Catholics in America*, for *Theological Studies* (forthcoming, March 2011).

Andrew Moore's *The South's Tolerable Alien: Roman Catholics in Alabama and Georgia, 1945-1970* (LSU Press, 2007), in *American Catholic Studies*, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism (Fall 2007).

"Baptizing Jim Crow," a review of James B. Bennett, *Religion and the Rise of Jim Crow in New Orleans*, *American Catholic Studies Newsletter*, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism (Spring 2006).

R. Laurence Moore, *Touchdown Jesus: The Mixing of Sacred and Secular in American History*, for the *American Catholic Studies Newsletter* (Spring 2004).

Dan R. Frost, *Thinking Confederates: Academia and the Idea of Progress in the New South*, in *The Southern Historian* (April 2003).

## **COURSES OFFERED AT HOLY CROSS**

MONT 108S: Restless Souls (Fall 2018); Solitude (Fall 2019)

MONT 109S: Righteous Lives (Spring 2019); Solidarity (Spring 2019)

History 275: U.S.-Mexico Border: History and Culture

History 124: Religion and Society: American History

History 140: Nature and Society in US History

History 128: U.S. Latino/a History

History 200: Historians Craft

History 317: Pain & Suffering in American Thought and Culture

History 224: Catholicism in the U.S.

History 399: Black Freedom Struggle

History 101: American Themes: Religion and Politics: 20c U.S.

History 401: Religion and Race in American History

### Independent Student Research Advising:

AY 2018-2019: Advisor for Senior History Honors Thesis Project (Benjamin MacDougald)

AY 2018-2019: Advisor for Senior History Honors Thesis Project (Deirdre Shephard)

Spring 2019: DC Semester Thesis Advisor for Joselyn Ruiz Zuniga  
 Summer, 2018: Advisor for Weiss Summer Research Program in the Humanities (Nora Springer)  
 Summer, 2017: Advisor for Mellon Summer Research Program in the Humanities (Michael DeSantis)  
 AY 2016-2017: Advisor for Senior Thesis Project (Jeremy Berry, "Lift Up Every Voice")  
 AY 2015-2016: Advisor for Senior Thesis Project (Gage Salicki)  
 AY 2014-2015: Advisor for Senior Thesis Project (Thomas Dess)  
 AY 2013-2014: Advisor for Senior Thesis Project (Cameron Hyde)  
 AY 2012-2013: Senior Thesis Advisor (Malik Neal)

### **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS**

2019	Co-Recipient of Mellon Scholarship in Action Grant for the Latino History Project of Worcester
2015	Summer Faculty Course Development Fellowship for "Catholic History at Holy Cross as a Community-Based Learning Opportunity," College of the Holy Cross
2011	Bachelor Ford Summer Faculty Fellowship, College of the Holy Cross
2010	Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Louisiana Publishing Initiative Grant
2007-2009	Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Lilly Fellows Program, Valparaiso University
2006-2007	Teaching Fellowship, Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Notre Dame (Host institution: Tulane University)
2005	Vincent P. DeSantis Prize for best unpublished paper by a graduate student, History Department, University of Notre Dame
2005-2006	Graduate Teaching Fellowship from the University Writing Program, University of Notre Dame
2004-2005	Dissertation Fellow, Louisville Institute
2003	Graduate Fellowship to Collegium's annual Summer Colloquy on Faith and Intellectual Life, Sponsored by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
2003	Clements-DeGolyer Research Travel Grant, Clements Center for Southwest Studies, Southern Methodist University
2000	College Honors in History, LSU
1999	Phi Beta Kappa

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Summer 2018-present	Latino History Project of Worcester Steering Committee
June 2018	Mentor for Collegium's Annual Colloquy on Faith and the Intellectual Life
June 2017	Planning Committee for Collegium's "Pause at 25" Conference, June 21-24, 2017.
Fall 2017	Writer for Collegium's Fall Newsletter, main feature on the "Pause at 25" Conference

*American Catholic Studies* (2008 and 2013), Journal referee  
 Journal of Louisiana History (2012), referee  
 Journal of Behavioral and Neuroscience Research (2010), referee

### **COLLEGE SERVICE**

AY 2018-2019	First Year Advisor for Class of 2021
--------------	--------------------------------------

College Representative for Lilly Fellows Program  
 Co-Chair of Brooks-Mulledy Committee on Racial Reconciliation  
 Executive Committee for Environmental Studies (including search committee for postdoc hire in Environmental Studies; curriculum reform)  
 Cluster Director for Montserrat Self Cluster  
 CABA Committee (Campus Advisory Board on Alcohol)  
 Writing Assessment Camp Member for Montserrat (August 2018)

March 2017	Holy Cross Alumni Day Lecture: "Imag(in)ing Pain: Social Reform Photography and the Transformation of Humanitarianism in Early Twentieth Century America."
AY 2016-2017	Academic Affairs Committee (including subcommittee to revise mandate of the Committee on Study Abroad)
Fall 2015-present	Campus Advisory Board on Alcohol (CABA) ( <i>Co-chair of the weekly meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous on campus.</i> )
Summer 2016	Advisor (3 Students), Summer Research Program.
Summer 2015	Advisor, Gateways Program for Class of 2019
Fall 2015-2018	Chair of Subcommittee on Interfaith Engagement, College Mission and Identity Committee
2014-2015	Expert Committee on Writing Assessment, College of the Holy Cross
2012-2014	Faculty Compensation Committee
2013-2014	Selection Committee for Mellon Summer Research Program
2011-2014	Advisory Committee for Center for Religion, Ethics and Culture
Spring 2012	Keynote Speaker for Annual TEP Awards Banquet (May, 2012)
Fall 2011	Center for Religion, Ethics and Culture (CREC), respondent for inaugural conference on Catholics and Cultures (Presentation by Robert Orsi)
2009-2018	Mission and Identity Committee, College of the Holy Cross (Subcommittee on Faculty Development and Subcommittee on Interreligious Dialogue)
Spring 2009	Guest Speaker for Campus Ministry-sponsored student mission trip in New Orleans, Louisiana
2008-2015	Alexander F. Carson Faculty Fellow in the History of the United States

### **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

AY 2018-2019	Edward F. Wall Prize Committee Crowley Prize Committee Department Liaison to the American Antiquarian Society Search Committee for Tenure Track Hire in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century American Capitalism
May 2017	Assessment Committee on Senior Capstone Projects
Spring 2016	Selection Committee for postdoctoral position in Chinese History
Spring 2015	Selection Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor position in early American History
Fall 2008-present	Department liaison and advisor for the Teacher Education Program, College of the Holy Cross

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2013-2014  
Fall 2009  
Summer 2009

Communications Director, Worcester Area Masters Swimming  
Humanities Scholars Collaborative participant, Worcester Schools  
ESL Instructor for Lutheran Social Services, Unaccompanied Minors Program  
(working with unaccompanied minors from Honduras and El Salvador)