

Andrew J. Pottenger

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Personal Profile

Internationally experienced teacher-scholar in history, skilled in serving traditional and online learning environments with a student-focused approach that emphasizes personal well-being and academic success. Dedicated to all forms of diversity so that every student is welcomed and safe to inquire and pursue a transformative learning experience.

Education

Ph.D., Church History

University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom. Thesis (80,000 words): 'Developing Imperial Doctrines of Power in the Rhetoric of Constantine the Great on Internal Ecclesiastical Conflicts'. Defended 18 December 2018. Graduated 5 October 2019.

Supervisors: Geordan Hammond (Nazarene Theological College) and Andrew T. Fear (University of Manchester).

Examiners: Mark Humphries (Swansea University) and Thomas A. Noble (Nazarene Theological College).

M.A., Theological Studies (Christian Thought and History)

Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri. Graduated December 2009.

B.A., Religion

MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe, Kansas. Graduated August 2003.

Experience

Kansas Christian College, Overland Park, KS

Adjunct Instructor, 2023-Present

Courses taught:

Philosophy & Worldview

Teaching the Christian Faith

Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colorado

- *Adjunct Instructor, 2020-Present*

Courses taught:

Examining Our Christian Heritage I/The Western World in Ancient and Medieval Times

Examining Our Christian Heritage II/The Western World and Emerging Modern Society

Frequently recognized in students' evaluations as highly knowledgeable, communicative, fair, and effective in helping them experience transformative learning in a safe and respectful environment.

Hours per week: 15-20

Supervisor: Alan Lyke (Vice President for Academic Affairs)

Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, United Kingdom

- *Freelance Instructor, 2019-2020*

Led an undergraduate-level directed study in the lives and thought of 18th-century British evangelicals John and Charles Wesley (Fall 2019).

Edited and proofread a colleague's Ph.D. thesis on early 20th-century Chinese evangelist John Sung just prior to its submission to the University of Manchester (March-April 2020). This thesis was not in any condition to be seen by examiners when I received it, but it passed the examination at the second-highest level following the student's incorporation of my corrections and suggestions.

Graded undergraduate research papers in Early Church and Modern Church courses for the main lecturer.

Hours per week: 15-20

Supervisors: Geordan Hammond (Senior Lecturer in Church History) and Peter Rae (Vice Principal)

- *Teaching Assistant in Church History and Theology, 2014-2018*

Occasional teaching duties in substitution for the regular lecturer in individual sessions of courses including Church History, Early Church, Christian Doctrines, Theology and Culture.

Graded and audited the grading of other instructors of undergraduate research papers in Church History, Early Church, and Medieval Church and Reformation (2014-2019).

Taught a six-hour intensive session in a Church History class in Belfast, Northern Ireland (Fall 2015).

Audited the grading of another instructor on a B.A. dissertation (Spring 2018).

Facilitated post-lecture discussion groups in Introduction to Theology (Fall 2017, Fall 2018).

Hours per week: 10-15

Supervisors: Geordan Hammond (Church History) and Steve Wright (Theology)

- *Resident Assistant, 2015-2017*

Oversaw the community life and needs of undergraduate students in the residence halls. Handled occasional interpersonal conflicts or any medical emergencies among these residential students in a calm, effective manner.

Hours per week: 10-15

Supervisor: Julie Lunn (Chaplain)

European Nazarene College, Büsingen, Germany

- *Freelance Instructor, 2019-2020*

Developed and led an undergraduate-level directed study on the topic of Women in Early Christianity (Romania Learning Centre, May-July 2020).

Created and taught a semester-length online course in History & Polity of the Church of the Nazarene (Spring 2020).

Hours per week: 10-15

Supervisor: Alan Schrock (Director of Information Technology and Library Services)

- *Visiting Faculty (Volunteer), 2010-2014*

Assisted the continued development of EuNC's decentralized education model by creating and teaching various online courses, including: Church History I (Beginnings to 1500), Church History II (Reformation to the Present), History & Polity of the Church of the Nazarene.

Co-taught European History by leading students in discussion of the content provided in lecture format by the main instructor (Spring 2011).

Taught History & Polity of the Church of the Nazarene twice as a three-day intensive course at learning centres in Razgrad, Bulgaria (2013) and Montana, Bulgaria (2014).

Hours per week: 30-35

Supervisor: Alan Schrock (Director of Information Technology and Library Services)

Publications

Book

Power and Rhetoric in the Ecclesiastical Correspondence of Constantine the Great (Routledge, 2022). For information, see: tinyurl.com/yriba28wp.

Articles

“‘An Insult to the Incarnation?’: Online Technology and Christian Worship After COVID-19”, *Didache: Faithful Teaching* 20:1 (Summer 2020). Available online at: <http://didache.nazarene.org/index.php/filedownload/didache-volumes/vol-20/1274-didache-v20n1-03-online-tech-and-worship-pottenger>.

‘Power and Rhetoric in the Letters of Constantine the Great’ (Dissertation Spotlight), *Ancient Jew Review*, 29 July 2019. Available online at: <https://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2019/7/12/dissertation-spotlight-power-and-rhetoric-in-the-letters-of-constantine-the-great>.

‘The “Servant of God”: Divine Favour and Instrumentality under Constantine, 318-25’, *Studies in Church History, Vol. 54: Church and Empire* (Stewart J. Brown, Charlotte Methuen, and Andrew Spicer, eds.; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), 31-45.

Book Reviews

'Bridging Center and Periphery: Administrative Communication from Constantine to Justinian' (Book Review), *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (14 January 2022). Available online at: <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2022/2022.01.14>.

'The Rise of the Early Christian Intellectual' (Book Review), *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (30 March 2021). Available online at: <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2021/2021.03.59>.

'Gaining and Losing Imperial Favour in Late Antiquity: Representation and Reality' (Book Review), *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (24 October 2020). Available online at: <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2020/2020.10.24>.

'The Donatist Church in an Apocalyptic Age' (Book Review), *Ancient Jew Review* (26 August 2019). Available online at: <https://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2019/7/12/book-note-the-donatist-church-in-an-apocalyptic-age>.

Professional Blogs

'COVID-19: We've Been Here Before', Nazarene Theological Seminary (4 May 2020). Available online at: <https://www.nts.edu/covid-19-weve-been-here-before>.

'The Past is a Foreign Country: Reflections on Travelling and the Study of History', Ecclesiastical History Society, 16 October 2017. Available online at: <https://eccleshistsoc.wordpress.com/2017/10/16/the-past-is-a-foreign-country-reflections-on-travelling-and-the-study-of-history>.

Papers Presented

'Sufficient Orthodoxy': Constantine's Adherence to the Council of Nicaea as Ecclesiastical, AD 325-337', AAR-SBL Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Regional Meeting, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, 20 March 2021. Conference held online via Zoom due to COVID-19.

'Aesthetic Argument as a Tool of Persuasion in Early Letters of Constantine on the "Arian Controversy"', Research Seminar, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, 15 November 2018.

'Sufficient Orthodoxy': Constantine's Adherence to the Council of Nicaea as Ecclesiastical Law, 325-37', One-Day Theology Conference, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, 15 June 2018.

'Constantine the "Physician": Sickness and Healing in the Emperor's Rhetoric on Ecclesiastical Unity', Postgraduate Colloquium, Ecclesiastical History Society, Cambridge University, 10 March 2017.

'The "Servant of God": Divine Favour and Instrumentality under Constantine, 318-25', Annual Summer Conference, Ecclesiastical History Society, University of Edinburgh, 26 July 2016.

'The Good Fight: Holiness as Spiritual Combat in Three Writers of Late Antiquity', M.A. Seminar, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, 6 January 2015.

Public Engagement

'Examining Our Christian Heritage II'. Colorado District Church of the Nazarene. 6-7, 13-14 August 2021. An intensive course in the history of Christianity from the Reformation to the present day, offered specifically for ordination-seeking ministers as part of their education requirements.

'The Cross and the Plague: Christian Hope and Hospitality in Times of Pandemic'. International Anglican Church, Colorado Springs, CO, 22 April 2020. Conducted online via Zoom due to COVID-19.

'A Gospel for All: Faith and Politics in the Empire of Constantine the Great'. International Anglican Church, Colorado Springs, CO, 18 August 2019.

Conference Attendance

American Academy of Religion, 2021 Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Regional Meeting, online via Zoom due to COVID-19, 20 March 2021.

Association of Ancient Historians, 2020 Annual Conference, online via Zoom due to COVID-19, 23-25 April 2020.

American Academy of Religion, 2019 Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, 23-26 November 2019.

One-Day Theology Conference, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester (United Kingdom), 15 June 2018.

Ecclesiastical History Society, Postgraduate Colloquium, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), 10 March 2017.

Ecclesiastical History Society, Annual Summer Conference, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), 26-28 July 2016.

Languages

Greek, Latin