

# J. CAROLINE TOY

## Curriculum Vitae

### EDUCATION

- 2020            Ph.D., Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University  
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization: Folklore Studies  
Examination Areas: Cultural Studies, Religious Studies, Pilgrimage Studies  
  
Dissertation: “Wizarding Shrines and Police Box Cathedrals: Re-Envisioning Religiosity Through Fan and Media Pilgrimages”  
  
Committee: Dr. Hugh Urban (advisor), Dr. Katherine Borland, Dr. Merrill Kaplan, Dr. Isaac Weiner, Dr. Ross Garner (Cardiff University)
- 2016            M.A., Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University.
- 2009            M.Ed., Outdoor Education Administration, Georgia College & State University.
- 2006            B.A., American Studies and Religion, Williams College. *Magna cum laude*.

### APPOINTMENTS

- 2025-present   Principal, Green Mountain Instructional Consulting
- 2022-present   Adjunct Faculty, Core Division, Champlain College, Burlington, VT
- 2023-2025       Learning Experience Manager, Champlain College, Burlington, VT
- 2020-2023       Learning Experience Designer, Champlain College, Burlington, VT

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2017            “Constructing the Fannish Place: Ritual and Sacred Space in a *Sherlock* Fan Pilgrimage.” *Journal of Fandom Studies*. 5:3, 251-266.

#### Book Chapters

- 2023            “Understanding Ritual through *Harry Potter* Fan Pilgrimage.” *Understanding Religion and Popular Culture*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Routledge.

#### Book Reviews

- 2018            *Participatory Memory: Fandom Experiences Across Time and Space*, by Liza Potts, Melissa Beattie, Emily Dallaire, Katie Grimes, and Kelly Turner [book review]. *Transformative Works and Cultures*. Vol. 28.

#### Other

- 2022            DeRogatis, A., Weiner, I., Toy, J.C., Furlong, A., Pond, L., Topham, K., and Schnell, J.  
“American Religious Sounds Project Site Coordinator Manual.” Humanities Commons.  
<https://doi.org/10.17613/h9s2-jv31>.

## In Preparation

“Sacralizing Fan Geographies: Mediating Space and Siting the Sacred in Fan Pilgrimage”  
(article manuscript in preparation)

## AWARDS

2020	Graduate Student Service Award, Department of Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University
2019	Margaret Lynd Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University
2019	Honorable Mention, Outstanding Writing Instruction Award, Writing Across the Curriculum, The Ohio State University
2017	Richard Bjornson Award, Department of Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University, for “The Construction of a Time Lord: Meaning-Making, Seriality, and <i>Doctor Who</i> ”
2017	Robert L. and Phyllis J. Iles Award for the Graduate Study of Myth, Center for the Study of Religion, The Ohio State University (cash prize of \$4000 funding research)
2016	Patrick B. Mullen Prize, Center for Folklore Studies, The Ohio State University, for “As I Was Going to St. Bart’s: The Performance and Implications of a <i>Sherlock</i> Fan Pilgrimage”
2015	Richard Bjornson Award, Department of Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University, for “‘The Right to Charity’: The Alternative Economies of Pilgrimage”
2009	Phi Kappa Phi, Georgia College & State University
2006	Phi Beta Kappa, Williams College
2006	Arthur B. Graves Essay Prize in Religion, Williams College, for “A Living Boundary: Amish <i>Rumspringa</i> and the Delineation of a Separatist Community”

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2024 – 2025	College Competencies Fellow (Information Literacy), Davis Educational Foundation Grant, Champlain College
2023 – 2025	National Science Foundation EPSCoR Track-1 sub-award (primary award to the University of Vermont), as Co-Investigator with Primary Investigator Jonathan Banfill and Co-Investigator Katheryn Wright (\$350,000)
2019 (fall)	Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant, OSU
2019 (spring)	Career Development Grant, Council of Graduate Students, OSU
2018 (fall)	Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant, OSU
2017 (fall)	Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant, OSU
2016 (fall)	First-time Conference Presenter Grant, American Folklore Society
2016 (spring)	Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant, OSU
2015 (fall)	Career Development Grant, Council of Graduate Students, OSU
2015 (spring)	Arts & Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant, OSU

2014-2015      University Fellow, OSU

## INVITED TALKS

- 2024              Sounds of Religion Roundtable Discussion, Billings Library, University of Vermont, October 28, Burlington, VT
- 2020              “Departing Now from Platform 9 ¾: Harry Potter Movie Fan Pilgrimages,” Guest lecture for Anthropology 257 Magic, Myth, and Religion, The University of Akron, October 5, virtual

## CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2024              Colloquium on Narrative & Belief, Public Narrative Collaborative at The Ohio State University, March 23-24, Columbus, OH.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Pending              “Ethics and Effective Experiential Learning Design,” Experiential Learning Summer Institute: Montreal, Champlain College, Burlington, VT and Montréal, Canada. *Postponed*
- 2024              “‘Shut up, I’m piloting the freaking TARDIS’: Ostension and the Real Lives of Secondary Worlds,” Colloquium on Narrative and Belief, The Ohio State University, March 22-23, Columbus, OH
- 2022              Panel chair, “Finding What Works in Faculty-to-Faculty DEI Development,” What Works in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Conference, Kenyon College, June 2-4, virtual
- 2022              Panelist, “Teaching with the American Religious Sounds Project,” American Religious Sounds Project Symposium, Ohio State University, May 23-25, Columbus, OH
- 2021              “Lessons from Expedition Design: Experiential Learning as Course Design Cornerstone,” Experiential Learning Symposium, Champlain College, June 1-4, Burlington, VT
- 2019              “Inventive Religious Communities: Religiosity and Fictionality in Fan Pilgrimage,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 23-26, San Diego, CA
- 2019              Panelist, roundtable on *The Story of Myth* by Sarah Iles Johnston, American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, October 16-20, Baltimore, MD
- 2019              “To do auto-ethnography or not to do auto-ethnography: Navigating Methodologies in the Study of Fan Pilgrimages,” Popular Culture Association National Conference, April 17-20, Washington, DC
- 2018              “‘Faith in the legend, even if it’s fiction’: Emergences of Religiosity in *Doctor Who* Fan Commentary,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 17-20, Denver, CO
- 2018              “Proximity, Mediation, and Sacred Spaces: Toward a Typology of Fan Pilgrimage Sites,” Fan Studies Network North America Conference, October 25-27, Chicago, IL
- 2018              “Departing Now from Platform 9 ¾: Harry Potter Movie Fan Pilgrimages,” Popular Culture Association National Conference, March 28-31, Indianapolis, IN

- 2018 “The American Religious Sounds Project: An Auditory Exploration of Vernacular Religious Life” (Roundtable Chair), IU/OSU Student Conference in Folklore and Ethnomusicology, February 23-24, Columbus, OH
- 2017 “Sacred Shouting in the Square: Sound, Protest, and Communicating Religion in Public Life,” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, October 18-21, Minneapolis, MN
- 2017 “There and Back Again: Materializing Fictional Worlds through Fan Pilgrimages and Pilgrim Narratives,” Fan Studies Network Conference, June 24-25, Huddersfield, UK
- 2017 “Faith in the Legend, Even if It’s Fiction’: *Doctor Who*, Fan Commentary, and Religiosity,” Midwest American Academy of Religion, March 3-4, Muncie, IN
- 2016 “Imagining St. Bart’s: The Performance and Implications of a *Sherlock* Fan Pilgrimage,” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, October 19-22, Miami, FL
- 2016 Fan Studies Roundtable, OSU/IU Folklore Conference, April 22-23, Columbus, OH
- 2016 Religious Soundmap Project of the Global Midwest Roundtable (Co-Chair), Midwest American Academy of Religion, April 1-2, Muncie, IN
- 2016 “Journeys into the Fictional: *Sherlock* Fan Pilgrimage and Embodied Narratives,” Popular Culture Association National Conference, March 22-25, Seattle, WA
- 2016 “Making (Fictional) Sacred Space: Fan Pilgrimage and Embodied Narratives,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, March 17-20, Cambridge, MA
- 2015 “Fan Language as Folklore: *Star Trek*’s Tamarian Strategy in Everyday Use,” Popular Culture Association National Conference, April 1-4, New Orleans, LA
- 2012 “Art-splosion! A Community-Oriented View of Staff Development” (with Josh Rosenstein), Association for Experiential Education Mid-Atlantic Conference, March 23-25, Radford, VA
- 2011 “Art-splosion! A Community-Oriented View of Staff Development” (with Paige Lester-Niles), 39<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference of the Association for Experiential Education, November 3-6, Jacksonville, FL
- 2010 “Backcountry Meal Planning” (with Justin Doroshenko, Greg Paninski, and Crystal Weaver), Association for Experiential Education Southeast Conference, April 9-11, Black Mountain, NC
- 2008 “Where Am I? Helping Participants Discover Place” (with Greg Paninski), 36<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference of the Association for Experiential Education, November 7-9, Vancouver, WA
- 2008 “Backcountry Meal Planning” (with Justin Doroshenko, Greg Paninski, and Crystal Weaver), Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education Annual Conference, October 30 – November 1, San Diego, CA
- 2008 “Where Am I? Helping Participants Discover Place” (with Greg Paninski), Association for Experiential Education Southeast Conference, March 14-16, Cedar Mountain, NC

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Champlain College**

#### As Instructor of Record:

Interdisciplinary Perspectives: Religion and Popular Imagination (in-person and online synchronous)  
Connecting Place and Identity

#### Faculty Development Workshops Designed and Taught (partial list):

Introduction to Canvas  
Canvas Gradebook Setup  
Balancing Asynchronous and Synchronous Remote Learning  
Estimating Course Workloads  
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in Course Design (three-part series)  
Reading group: *The Leader Who Is Hardly Known*

#### Other Faculty Development

New Faculty Orientation – designer and facilitator  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Faculty Training – implementation project manager and content writer

#### Additional Course Development

Interdisciplinary Perspectives (Contributor, Core Division curriculum redesign)

### **The Ohio State University**

#### As Instructor of Record:

Religious Diversity in America  
Introduction to Popular Culture  
Introduction to the Humanities: Cross-Cultural Perspectives (online asynchronous)

#### As Teaching Assistant:

Introduction to Comparative Religion  
Comparative Sacred Texts

#### Additional Teaching and Facilitation:

Introduction to Teaching and Learning - Graduate Teaching Associate Orientation, University Center for the Advancement of Teaching (Summer 2017 and 2018)  
Introduction to the Humanities – online course development and design (Summer and Autumn 2019)

### **Georgia College & State University**

#### As Teaching Assistant

Outdoor Pursuits: Land  
Outdoor Pursuits: Facilitation and Management  
Small Group Facilitation

#### Additional Teaching and Facilitation

Program Coordinator and Lead Facilitator, GCSU Outdoor Education Center Challenge Course

*Documentation of additional teaching experience in experiential and outdoor education at Georgia Institute of Technology, Williams College, and K-12 settings is available on request*

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2022-2025 Co-Investigator, “Experiencing Place in Vermont: Narratives of Noise, Material Culture, Infrastructure, and Rural-Urban Relations over Time,” Champlain College (sub-project of “Harnessing the Data Revolution for Vermont: The Science of Online Corpora, Knowledge, and Stories [SOCKS],” University of Vermont)
- 2017-2024 Lead Researcher, “There and Back Again: A Fan Pilgrimage Research Project” (independent dissertation research under supervision of Dr. Hugh Urban through spring 2020), The Ohio State University
- 2015-2019 Graduate Project Manager, The American Religious Sounds Project (under supervision of Dr. Isaac Weiner and Dr. Amy DeRogatis), The Ohio State University and Michigan State University
- 2017-2018 Ethnographic Researcher, Ohio Field Schools (under supervision of Dr. Katherine Borland and Dr. Cassie Patterson), Center for Folklore Studies, The Ohio State University

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- 2018-2022 Advisory Committee, The Ohio Field Schools
- 2019 Graduate Student Advisory Committee to the President, Popular Culture Association
- 2012 Workshop proposal reviewer, 40<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference of the Association for Experiential Education

Manuscript Reviewer: *Transformative Works and Cultures*, *Leisure Studies*

## **DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- 2025 NECHE Accreditation Self-Study preparation team member, Champlain College
- 2021-2025 Staff Ambassador, Champlain College
- 2016-2020 Center for the Study of Religion Oversight Committee, OSU
- 2016-2017 Departmental Review Committee, Department of Comparative Studies, OSU
- 2014-2015 Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Comparative Studies, OSU

## **EXTRACURRICULAR SERVICE**

- 2015-2020 President, Religious Studies Roundtable (*graduate student organization*)
- 2015-2020 President/Co-Founder, Fan Studies Student Association (*graduate student organization*)

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- 2022-present Volunteer, Vermont Archaeological Society Emergency Field Crew

- 2021-present Festival merchandise chair, volunteer, and internationally competitive dragon boat racer, Dragonheart Vermont
- 2018-2019 Volunteer fieldworker and community engagement facilitator, Ohio Field Schools

## **MEDIA APPEARANCES**

- 2024 Featured guest, Episode 61, “Academic J. Caroline Toy Takes a Fan Pilgrimage.” *Contents May Vary* [podcast]
- 2018 Featured guest, Episode 13, “Harry Potter Fan Pilgrimages.” *Reading, Writing, Rowling* [podcast], MuggleNet.com

## **PROFESSIONAL AND PEDAGOGICAL DEVELOPMENT**

- 2024 Building and Developing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Program, Northeast Regional Computing Program (10 hours)
- 2023 Certified ScrumMaster, Scrum Alliance (expires April 2025)
- 2022 Abenaki Ways of Knowing Immersion Institute, Abenaki Arts and Education Center, hosted by Champlain College (20 hours)
- 2019 Inclusive Teaching Endorsement (10 hours), University Institute for Teaching and Learning, OSU
- 2018-2019 Fellow, Preparing Future Faculty Program, OSU and Kenyon College
- 2018 Sustaining DH: A National Endowment for the Humanities Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities, University of Pittsburgh (15 hours)
- 2018 Teaching Through Writing Endorsement (15 hours), University Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing, OSU
- 2017 Digital Media and Composition Institute (60 hours), Department of English, OSU

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

Instructional design and technology: Canvas (course design, teaching, and faculty coaching), WordPress, HTML/CSS

Digital humanities: audio archive and metadata management, sustainability best practices, audio recording, basic audio and video production

Organizational administration: staff development, policy development, accreditation and review coordination, risk management

Youth education (K-12): experiential and outdoor program development, leadership training facilitation, summer program administration

## **SELECT NON-ACADEMIC WORK**

- 2025-present Associate Director of Operations for Digital Products, iMarket Solutions, Burlington, VT
- 2010-2014 Assistant Camp Director and Foundation Risk Manager, Eagle’s Nest Foundation, Pisgah Forest, NC

2009-2010	Lead Facilitator, Georgia Tech Leadership Challenge Course and Outdoor Recreation Georgia Tech, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
2008-2009	Program Coordinator, Georgia College Outdoor Education Center, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA

## **LANGUAGES**

English	Native speaker
Spanish	Basic ability (speaking and reading)
German	Read with use of a dictionary

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion  
American Folklore Society  
Fan Studies Network  
Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education