

Curriculum Vitae (short version)

JOHN D. BARBOUR

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I. Personal

Address: Religion Department  
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II. Education

Ph.D. The University of Chicago Divinity School, 1981  
Field: Religion and Literature  
M.A. The University of Chicago Divinity School, 1975  
B.A. Oberlin College, 1973 (Religion Major)

III. Teaching Positions

1994-present	Professor of Religion, St. Olaf College
2004-08	Martin Marty Regents Chair of Religion and the Academy
1988-94	Associate Professor of Religion, St. Olaf College
1985-90	Tutor in the Paracollege, St. Olaf College
1982-88	Assistant Professor of Religion, St. Olaf College
1980-82	Lecturer in Religion and Literature; Junior Fellow in the Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion, The University of Chicago Divinity School

IV. Publications

Work in progress:

Family Conscience: A Memoir of Four Generations

A book-length scholarly study of religious and ethical dimensions of modern travel narratives.

Renunciation, a novel about new religious movements in the 1970s

Books:

The Value of Solitude: The Ethics and Spirituality of Aloneness in Autobiography. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2004.

Versions of Deconversion: Autobiography and the Loss of Faith.  
Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1994.

The Conscience of the Autobiographer: Ethical and Religious Dimensions of Autobiography. London: Macmillan, and New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992.

Tragedy as a Critique of Virtue: The Novel and Ethical Reflection. Chico: Scholars Press, 1984.

Scholarly articles, essays, and chapters of books (since 2000):

“The Consolations and Compensations of Exile: Memoirs by Said, Ahmed, and Eire.” Journal of the American Academy of Religion (forthcoming, 2011).

“Tribal Religions in Modern Travel Narratives by Greene, Levi-Strauss, and Chatwin.” Auto/Biography and Mediation, ed. Alfred Hornung, pp. 397-407. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag, 2010.

“Students Abroad as Pilgrims and Tourists.” In Transformations at the Edge of the World: Forming Global Christians through the Study Abroad Experience. Ed. Ronald J. Morgan and Cynthia Toms Smedley. Abilene: Abilene Christian University Press, 2010, 47-58.

“Characterization” in The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception (Berlin: de Gruyter, forthcoming)

“Edward Said and the Space of Exile.” Literature and Theology 21 (2007), 293-301.

“The Ethics of Intercultural Travel: Thomas Merton’s Asian Pilgrimage and Orientalism.” Biography 28.1 (2005), 15-26.

“Thomas Merton’s Pilgrimage and Orientalism” in Literature, Religion, and East-West Comparison: Essays in Honor of Anthony C. Yu, ed. Eric Ziolkowski, pp. 243-59. Newark, DE: University of Delaware Press, 2005.

“Religious Autobiography.” The Encyclopedia of Religion, second edition. Ed. Lindsay Jones. New York: Macmillan, 2004.

“Solitude, Writing, and the Father in Paul Auster’s The Invention of Solitude,” a/b:Auto/Biography Studies 19 (2004), 19-32.

“Judging and Not Judging Parents,” in The Ethics of Life Writing. Ed. Paul John Eakin. Ithaca, N. Y.: Cornell University Press, 2003.

“Introduction” to Personal Faith and Institutional Commitments. Ed. Harvey Hill and Lawrence Barmann. Scranton, Penn: University of Scranton Press, 2001.

“Spiritual Autobiography” in Encyclopedia of Life Writing, ed. Margaretta Jolly. London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2001.

“The Bios of Autobiography and the Bios of Bioethics,” in Caring Well: Religion, Narrative, and Health. Ed. David H. Smith. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2000.

Other publications:

“The Place of Personal Faith in the Classroom.” The Chronicle of Higher Education, January 25, 2008, p. B24. Reprinted in Religious Studies News 24 (March 2009), p. 21.

“Grading on the Guilty-Liberal Standard.” The Chronicle of Higher Education Review, June 22, 2007, p. B16.

“The Moral Ambiguity of Study Abroad,” Chronicle of Higher Education Review, October 6, 2006, p. B24. Reprinted in Student Lawyer 35, 5 (2007).

Book reviews and notes in The Journal of the American Academy of Religion, The Journal of Religion, Life Writing, Religious Studies Review, The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion, and Biography.

#### V. Scholarly Presentations and Professional Activities (off-campus, since 2000)

“Thinking from Below: The Place of the Everyday in Contemporary Scholarship,” Participant in the Lutheran Academy of Scholars Summer Seminar on the theme of Harvard University, June 2011

“When the Memoired Object.” International Auto/Biography Conference, University of Sussex, England, June 2010

“The Consolations and Compensations of Exile,” International Auto/Biography Association conference, Honolulu, June 2008.

“Edward Said and the Space of Exile,” Sterling University, Scotland, October 2006.

“Tribal Religions in Travel Narratives by Greene and Levi-Strauss,” IABA conference, Mainz University, Germany, July, 2006

“Tribal Religions in Modern Travel Narratives: Graham Greene, Claude Levi-Strauss, and Bruce Chatwin.” The University of Chicago, April 12, 2005.

“Biography, Autobiography, and Family Dynamics.” Indiana University, March 2005.

“The Ethics of Intercultural Travel.” International Society for Travel Writing, Milwaukee, October 2004

“Thomas Merton’s Pilgrimage and Orientalism.” International Autobiography and Biography Association, Chinese University of Hong Kong, March 2004.

“Solitude and Spirituality,” United Theological Seminary, Minnesota, February 21, 2003

“Solitude, Writing, and the Father,” International Autobiography and Biography Association, Melbourne, Australia, July 2002

#### VI. Other Professional Activities

Steering Committee, Arts, Literature, and Religion Section of American Academy of Religion, 2007-09.

Participant in two Lilly-funded workshops on “Poetry, Prose, and Prayer” and “Believing in Writing,” Collegeville Institute, St. John’s University, June 2006 and June 2007

Invited presenter in collaborative project on “The Ethics of Life Writing,” Indiana University, October 2002

Invited presenter in collaborative project on Religion, Ethnography, and Professional Ethics, Indiana University, 1997-99: two seminars, public forum, and contribution to a collection of essays.

Member of jury for American Academy of Religion Awards for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Constructive-Reflective Studies, 1998-2000.

Editorial Board, The Journal of the American Academy of Religion, 1995-

Chair, Consultation on "Autobiography and Religious Studies," American Academy of Religion, 1994-96.

N.E.H.-funded Documentary Workshops on Native American Sacred Texts and Autobiography, the Newberry Library, Chicago, August 1991 and 1992.

Steering Committee, Arts, Literature and Religion section of the American Academy of Religion, 1987-90.

External reviewer for tenure and promotion candidates, The University of Chicago, Davidson College, Bowdoin College, Temple University, Rutgers University, University of Northern Iowa, University of San Francisco, University of South Carolina, University of Virginia.

Referee for book manuscripts for the University of Chicago Press, Pennsylvania State University Press, Blackwell, Wadsworth, University of North Carolina Press, Scholars Press, Cornell University Press, University of Virginia Press.

Referee for essays for The Journal of Religion and The Journal of the American Academy of Religion and Literature and Theology.