

**David Kratz Mathies, PhD**

birth name: David B Kratz II

**Dept. of History, Philosophy, & Geography**  
**Missouri Western State University**  
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**Specialization: Comparative Religious Ethics—and correlates: Asian Religions, Ethical Theory, Philosophy of Religion, Comparative Philosophy**

**Competencies: World Religions, Theological Ethics, Philosophical Theology, Anabaptist History and Theology, Peace and Conflict Studies**

**EDUCATION:**

**Degrees:**

**PhD: Philosophy of Religion (Religious Studies). May 2008.**

Division of Religious and Theological Studies, Boston University, Boston, Mass. 1997-2008.

Research Foci: Comparative Religious Ethics

+ Comparative Philosophy

Qualifying Exams: Philosophy of Religion

History of Philosophy

Philosophical Ethics

Dissertation Title:

‘Common Grounds without Foundations: A Pragmatic Approach to Ethical Disagreements Across Cultural, Philosophical, and Religious Traditions’

Defended: 6 November 2007

Defense Committee:

*First Reader:* John H. Berthrong

*Second Reader:* Francis X. Clooney

*Third Reader:* Stephen Angle

*Committee Chair:* Robert Neville

*Other Members:* Gordon Kaufman

Garth Green

**MATS: Theology and Ethics. May 1995.**

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind. 1991-93, 1995.

**BA: English and Mathematics. Aug. 1989.**

Goshen College, Goshen, Ind. 1984-89, 1991-93.

**Other Studies:**

Undergraduate studies in German language and literature.

University of Maryland at College Park, College Park, Md. 1996-97.

Graduate studies in philosophy.

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill. 1989-91.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Assistant Professor of Religion and Humanities**, Dept. of History, Philosophy, and Geography,  
Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 2009-present.

Courses: *Comparative Religions*

*Ethics*

*Humanities: American Revolution to the Present*

*Women and Religion*

**Adjunct Faculty**, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison Univ., Harrisonburg, Va. 2008-09.

Courses: *Religions of the World*

*God, Meaning, and Morality*

*War, Peace, and Religion*

**Adjunct Faculty**, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va. 2008.

Courses: *Introduction to the New Testament*

*The Classical Mind*

*Conflict Transformation*

*Logic*

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion**, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion,  
Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va. 2007-08.

Courses: *Topics in Philosophy and Religion*

*Introduction to the New Testament*

*Religions of the Far East*

*Contemporary Moral and Political Problems*

*Christian Social Ethics*

*Christian Perspectives on Violence and Peace*

*Logic*

**Adjunct Faculty**, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison Univ., Harrisonburg, Va. 2006-07.

Courses: *Introduction to Philosophy*

*Religions of the World*

*Classical Chinese Philosophy*

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion**, Dept. of Bible and Religion, Eastern Mennonite Univ.,  
Harrisonburg, Va. 2005-06.

Courses: *Introduction to Philosophy*

*World Religions*

*Comparative Asian Religions*

*Sociology of Religion*

*Anthropology and Christian Mission*

*Living Faith*

**Adjunct Faculty**, Theology Dept., Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass. 2004-05.

Courses: *The Religious Quest I: Christianity, Hinduism, and Confucianism*

*The Religious Quest II: Christianity, Hinduism, and Confucianism*

**Adult ESL Teacher**, American Chinese Christian Educational & Social Services (ACCESS), Chinatown, Boston, Mass. 2001-04.

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**Teaching Fellow**, Religion Dept., Boston Univ. 1998-2001.

Courses: *Religion and Culture*  
*Death and Immortality*  
*Chinese Philosophy*  
*Religions of the World: Eastern*

supervising faculty: Alan Olson  
Livia Kohn  
John Berthrong  
David Eckel  
Stephen Prothero

**Student Grader**, Bible, Religion, and Philosophy Dept., Goshen College. Fall 1991.

Courses: *Introduction to Philosophy*  
*Christian Ethics*

**Teaching Assistant**, Dept. of Philosophy, Northern Illinois Univ. 1990-91.

Courses: *Contemporary Moral Issues*  
*The Philosophy of Art*

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

*Common Grounds without Foundations*. Dissertation accepted for publication. Forthcoming.

“‘Holding Fast’ to Principles or Drawing Boundaries of Exclusion? The Use and Misuse of the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*’. *Conrad Grebel Review*. 25.3 (2007): 68-85.

‘Reading the Moral Law: A Hermeneutical Approach to Religious Moral Epistemology’ *Conrad Grebel Review*. 23.3 (2005): 74-84.

‘Does the Ballot Box Lie Outside the Perfection of Christ?’ *Conrad Grebel Review*. 21.2 (2003): 106-13.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

“‘Holding Fast’ to Principles or Drawing Boundaries of Exclusion?”

The Institute of Mennonite Studies Consultation on the Mennonite Confession of Faith: ‘Holding Fast to the Confession of Our Hope: The *Confession of Faith* Ten Years Later’. Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind., 8-10 June 2006.

‘*Loka-samgraha, Tianming, and Nachfolge Christi: Comparative Lessons for a Christian Peace Theology*’ The Third Boston College Graduate Student Conference on Comparative Theology: ‘Engaging Particularities III’. Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass., 1-3 April 2005.

‘Reading the Moral Law: A Hermeneutical Approach to Religious Moral Epistemology’

The Second Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Graduate Student Conference: ‘Reading Religious Texts’. Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind., 18-20 June 2004.

‘Does the Ballot Box Lie Outside the Perfection of Christ?’

The Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Graduate Student Conference: ‘The Future of Anabaptist Scholarship’. Toronto School of Theology, Toronto, Ont., 21-22 November 2002.

**INTERNATIONAL AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE:**

Search Committee for Biblical Studies Position. Bridgewater College. 2007-08.

Working with recent Chinese immigrants at ACCESS, Boston. 2001- 2004.

Assistant Host, International Guest House, Washington, D.C. Voluntary service under Allegheny Mennonite Conference. Fall 1994, 1995-96.

Trainee in Germany and Switzerland with Intermenno Trainee Program. 1993-94.

Graduate School Colloquium Committee (Student Member). NIU. 1990-91.

Study-Service Term in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, People's Republic of China. Co-taught conversational English; studied Chinese language and culture. Fall 1987.

**ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS:**

Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP)

Society of Christian Ethics (SCE)

Anabaptist-Mennonite Scholars Network (A-MSN)

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

American Philosophical Association (APA)