

# David Z. Kratz, PhD

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*Né* David B Kratz II

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Missouri Western State University

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## DEGREES AWARDED:

**MAT: Secondary Education. May 2025.**  
Missouri Western State University, St Joseph, Mo.

**PhD: Philosophy of Religion (Religious Studies). May 2008.**  
Division of Religious and Theological Studies, Boston University, Boston, Mass.

**MATS: Theology and Ethics. May 1995.**  
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

**BA: English and Mathematics. Aug. 1989.**  
Goshen College, Goshen, Ind.

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

### Adjunct Faculty

Dept. of Social Sciences & Humanities, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 2021-present.

### Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Dept. of Social Sciences & Humanities, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 2020-2021.

### Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Dept. of Philosophy & Religion, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 2015-2020.

### Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion

Dept. of Philosophy & Religion, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 2009-15.

### Adjunct Faculty

Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va. 2008-09.

**Adjunct Faculty**

Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va. Fall 2008.

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion**

Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va. 2007-08.

**Adjunct Faculty**

Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va. 2006-07.

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion**

Dept. of Bible and Religion, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va. 2005-06.

**Adjunct Faculty**

Dept. of Theology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass. 2004-05.

**PUBLICATIONS:****Book:**

*Common Grounds without Foundations: A Pragmatic Approach to Ethical Disagreements across Cultural, Philosophical, and Religious Traditions.* Gorgias Press, 2015.

**Journal Articles:**

‘Should I Help the Empire with my Hand? Confucian Resources for a Paradigm of Just Peacemaking’. *Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace*. 4.2 (Spring 2011). [Published 12 March 2012]. Available <http://www.religionconflictpeace.org/node/96>

“‘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 (Fall 2007): 68-85. Available <https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/publications/conrad-grebel-review/issues/fall-2007/holding-fast-principles-or-drawing-boundaries-exclusion-use>

‘Reading the Moral Law: A Hermeneutical Approach to Religious Moral Epistemology’ *Conrad Grebel Review*. 23.3 (Fall 2005): 74-84. Available <https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/publications/conrad-grebel-review/issues/fall-2005/reading-moral-law-hermeneutical-approach-religious-moral>

‘Does the Ballot Box Lie Outside the Perfection of Christ?’ *Conrad Grebel Review*. 21.2 (Spring 2003): 106-13. Available <https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/publications/conrad-grebel-review/issues/spring-2003/does-ballot-box-lie-outside-perfection-christ>

**PRESENTATIONS:**

‘Pacifist Epistemology: Does Nonviolent Resistance Have a Bias Towards Justice?’

The Pacific Northwest Political Science Association annual meeting, Peace & Conflict Studies Panel, Seattle, Wash., 12-14 October 2017.

‘Analogues, Embeddedness, and Comparative Soteriologies: An Outline for a Global-Critical Philosophy of Religion Textbook’

The American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Session on the theme ‘Toward an Undergraduate Textbook in Global-Critical Philosophy of Religion: Learning Objectives, Content, Structure’, sponsored by the Global-Critical Philosophy of Religion Seminar, San Antonio, Tx., 19-22 November 2016.

Invited panelist for the Roundtable on Applied Learning in Peace and Conflict Studies

8th Annual Conference on Applied Learning in Higher Education (CALHE), Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Mo. 22 March 2013.

‘Inequality and a Just Political Order: Roles and Principles in Classical Confucian Texts’

The American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Panel on ‘Scriptural Texts and a Just Political Order’, sponsored by the Scriptural/Contextual Ethics Consultation, Chicago, Ill. 16-20 November 2012.

‘Shining Heaven’s Light on the Qualities of Maya: The Purpose and Pursuit of Equanimity in the *Bhagavad Gita* and the *Zhuangzi*’

The American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Panel on ‘Engagement of *Bhagavad Gita* and Chinese Thought’, sponsored by Religions in Chinese and Indian Cultures: A Comparative Perspective Consultation, San Francisco, Cal., 19 November 2011.

‘Should I Help the Empire with My Hand? Confucian Resources for a Paradigm of Just Peacemaking from the *Book of Mencius*’

The American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Panel on ‘Scriptural Resources for a Global Just Peacemaking Ethic’, sponsored by the Scriptural/Contextual Ethics Consultation, Atlanta, Ga., 31 October 2010.

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

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS:**

*Pacifist Hermeneutics: Reading Scripture Like a Satyagrahi*. [Book manuscript in progress]

*A Relational Theory of Atonement: An Understanding of the Bible's Good News with Roots in Anabaptist Theology, Restorative Justice, and the Ethics of Care.* [Book manuscript in progress]

*'Serendipitous Creativity': Gordon Kaufman's Conception of God in a Comparative Context.* [Book outlined, research in progress]

## **COURSES TAUGHT:**

### Missouri Western State University

Religions of the World (*previously* Comparative Religions)  
Addams, Weil, Day: Women Peace & Social Justice Activists  
Perspectives on Evil  
*Satyagraha*: Nonviolent Strategies for Social Justice  
Chinese Philosophy  
The Radical Reformers  
Contemporary Political Philosophy  
Metaethics  
Mysticism & Transcendence  
Indian Philosophy  
American Pragmatism  
The Axial Age  
Socially Engaged Buddhism  
War, Peace, & Religion  
Philosophy of Religion  
Religion & Nature  
Religions of South Asia and Africa (*previously* Comparative Religions: Southern Traditions)  
Tolstoy, Gandhi, King  
Religions of the West (*previously* Comparative Religions: Western Traditions)  
Introduction to Philosophy  
Humanities: Ancient and Medieval  
Women & Religion  
Religions of East Asia and Oceania (*previously* Comparative Religions: Eastern Traditions)  
Humanities: American Revolution to the Present  
Ethics

### James Madison University

War, Peace, and Religion  
God, Meaning, and Morality  
Chinese Philosophy  
Introduction to Philosophy  
Religions of the World

### Bridgewater College

Conflict Transformation  
The Classical Mind  
Christian Perspectives on Violence and Peace  
Christian Social Ethics  
Religions of the Far East  
Contemporary Moral and Political Problems  
Logic

Introduction to the New Testament  
Topics in Philosophy and Religion

Eastern Mennonite University  
Comparative Asian Religions  
Sociology of Religion  
Living Faith  
Anthropology and Christian Mission  
Introduction to Philosophy  
World Religions

Boston College  
The Religious Quest II: Christianity, Hinduism, and Confucianism  
The Religious Quest I: Christianity, Hinduism, and Confucianism