

# Jenn Lindsay

## Social Scientist and Documentary Filmmaker

+39 347 459 5994 (Italy)

+1 (619) 697 1793 (USA)

[lindsay.jenn@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.jenn@gmail.com)

[www.JennLindsay.com](http://www.JennLindsay.com)



## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Social Science of Religion. Boston University, Department of Religion. Adviser: Nancy T. Ammerman. Dissertation title: “*Pluralismo Vivo: Lived Religious Pluralism and Interfaith Dialogue in Rome.*” Animation of Ph.D. dissertation: <https://youtu.be/wfJ-haXCi3Y>. 2018.

Advanced Master’s Diploma, Sociology: Method and Theory. Università Roma Tre, Faculty of Sociology. Thesis: “Comparison of Interreligious Dialogue in Rome and Bethlehem.” 2017.

M.Div., Interfaith Relations. Columbia University / Union Theological Seminary. Thesis: “Your Neighbor as Yourself: A Comparison of Anthropological and Theological Approaches to Otherness through the Lens of Catholic/Muslim Relationships in Jogjakarta, Indonesia.” 2011.

Arts Management certificate. Yale University, School of Drama. 2005.

B.A., Playwriting. Stanford University. 2001.

Study abroad, Playwriting and Directing. Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts. 2000.

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

### I. TEACHING AND RESEARCH<sup>1</sup>

National Lead Researcher (Italy) for the Networks Overcoming Antisemitism (NOA) Project, coordinated by CEJI/Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe.

Professor of Sociology and Communications, John Cabot University. Rome, Italy.

Courses taught: *Intercultural Communications* (FA18, FA19)  
*Foundations of Digital Media Production* (SP19, FA19, SP20)  
*Introduction to Sociology* (FA18, FA19, SP20)  
*Global Media* (SP19, SP20)  
*Sociology of Religion* (FA18)  
*Research Study Director* (SP20)

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<sup>1</sup> Online Teaching Self-Introduction video: <https://vimeo.com/401898913> (Spring 2020)

Adjunct Professor, Saint John's University. Rome, Italy.

Course taught: *Religions of the World* (FA18, SP19, FA19, SP20)

Adjunct Professor, University of California Rome Study Center. Rome, Italy.

Course taught: *Religious and Social Diversity in Rome Today* (SM18, SP20)

Guest Faculty, Richmond University. Rome, Italy, *ongoing*.

Guest Lecturer, *World Religions*, December 2017, March 2018, January 2019.

The Modeling Religion Project, Center for Mind and Culture. Boston, MA, 2015-2018.

The Lived Religion Research Group, Università Roma Tre. Rome, Italy, 2016-2017.

Teaching Fellow and Research Assistant, Boston University. Boston, MA. 2011-2016. Led multiple weekly discussion sections, held office hours, graded exams and research papers, delivered thematic lectures.

- *Spring 2014*: "Death and Immortality." Professor Stephen Prothero. 230 undergraduates.
- *Fall 2013*: "The Holocaust in Historical Context," a seminar on Germany's Final Solution and Western antisemitism. Professor: Steven T. Katz. 105 students.
- *Spring 2013*: "Eastern Religions." Professor Teena Purohit. 81 undergraduates.
- *Fall 2012*: "Introduction to Religion." Professor Thomas Michael. 83 students.
- *Research Assistant*, ongoing semesters: Prof. Nancy Ammerman and Prof. Hillel Levine (sociologists of religion)

Hebrew School Teacher, Workmen's Circle, Brookline Massachusetts. 2011-2013.

Freelance Tutor. Subjects: English, Religion, writing, Standardized test preparation. 2001-2018.

Music Director, B'nei B'rith Youth Organization. Milwaukee, WI. Summer 2008.

Artistic Production Intern, San Diego Repertory Theater. San Diego, CA. 2003-2004.

Singer-Songwriter and Freelance Teaching Artist, No Evil Star Records. North America. 2001-2010. Workshop locations: Oregon State University, Vassar College, SUNY Binghamton, Columbia University, Liverpool University, Staten Island High, Northern Arizona University.

Assistant to the Director of Drama Department, Menlo School. Menlo Park, CA. 1997-2000

## **II. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

So Fare Productions and Get Thee to a Nunnery Productions, independent film production administration. 2005-present.

Conference Planning Committee, Agape Centro Ecumenico. 2010-2014.

Network Coordinator, Boston University Social Science and Religion Network. 2012-2014.

No Evil Star Records, independent music production and administration. 2001-2011.

Development Associate, Union Theological Seminary. 2008-2010.

Development Associate, Congregation Beth Simchat Torah. 2007-2008.

Management Associate, Yale Repertory Theatre. 2004-2005.

Executive Assistant, Zazendi (luxury linens and crafts company). 2002-2004.

Program Assistant, Lights in Action. 2001-2003.

### **III. FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE**

Video Documentarian and Communications Specialist, Center for Mind and Culture (Boston, MA). 2014-2018.

Producer / Director / Editor, So Fare Productions (Rome, Italy). 2016-present.

Promotional Video Producer, KAICIID Interreligious Dialogue Center (Austria, Vienna), 2017-2018.

Videojournalist (freelance), Religion News Service, 2017.

Producer / Director / Editor, Get Thee to a Nunnery Productions. 2009-2014.

Assistant Story Editor, *Trek Nation* (feature documentary), Atmosphere Productions (Brooklyn, NY), 2006-2011.

Assistant Editor, *The Garden* (documentary series), Swete Films (New York City, NY), 2005-2011.

Video Producer, Union Theological Seminary (New York City, NY), 2009-2011.

Promotional Video Producer, Sasha Bruce Youthwork (Washington, DC), 2008.

Segment Producer, Plus Media (New York City, NY), 2006-2007.

Assistant Editor, *Nimrod Nation* (documentary series), Sundance Channel (New York City, NY), 2007.

Promotional Video Producer, Seeing Through the Hands Studio (Brooklyn, NY), 2007

Assistant Story Editor, *8th & Ocean* (documentary series), MTV (New York City, NY), 2006.

Composer, PricewaterhouseCoopers (2 industrial films), 2006.

## PUBLICATIONS

### I. PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Growing Interreligious and Intercultural Competence in the Classroom.” *Teaching Theology & Religion*, vol. 23, no. 1, 5 Mar. 2020, pp. 17–33., doi:10.1111/teth.12527.

“Creative Dialogue in Rome, Italy: Thinking Beyond Discourse-Based Interfaith Engagement.” *Dialogue Studies* (forthcoming in Fall 2020).

### II. BOOK CHAPTERS

“Confronti: A Case Study of Institutions Fostering Religious Pluralism in Rome.” *Interfaith Networks and Development*, Ed. Eztra Chitando. Palgrave MacMillian New York, forthcoming (2020).

“Meaningful Interpersonal Contact: Interreligious Dialogue as a Religious Response to the Cognitive and Social Dynamics of Bias.” *Religious Perspectives on a Secular World*. Ed. Uzma Ashraf and Simone Raudino. Palgrave, forthcoming (2020).

“Modeling Models: Documentary Filmmaking as a Purposeful Abstraction of the Modeling Process.” *Human Simulation*, Ed. Saikou Diallo and Wesley J. Wildman. Springer Press, 2019.

“What Kind of Activist Are You? Identities and Motivations of Youth Activists.” *Towards a Global Christian Movement for Eco-Justice*, Ed. Shantha Ready Alonso. Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (ISPCK), 2015.

### III. BOOKS

*Pluralismo Vivo: Lived Religious Pluralism and Interfaith Dialogue in Rome*. LIT Verlag, Munich. Forthcoming, 2020.

### IV. ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

“Religion in Italy.” *World Christianity Encyclopedia*, Ed. Todd M. Johnson and Gina A. Zurlo. Edinburgh University Press, 2020.

Encyclopedia entries: Case, Shirley Jackson; Channing, William Ellery; Gilkey, Langdon Brown; Lind, Jenny; Marty, Martin E.; *Mujerista* Theology; Womanist Theology; Christian Bioethics; Relations with Judaism and Other Religions; and Tracy, David. *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*. Ed. George Thomas Kurian and Mark A. Lamport. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016.

## V. TRANSLATIONS AND COPYEDITING

- *Impact assessment of the Humanitarian Corridors Program in Italy and France* (original Italian text by Antonio Ricci and Claudio Paravati, Confronti and IDOS Study and Research Center, Roma, Italy 2020) (translation and copyediting)
- *Confronti Magazine*, Rome: publicity materials, online and print copy (translation)
- *Istituto Tevere*, Rome: publicity materials, online and print copy (translation)
- *The Other Side of Italy: Immigration in a Changing Country* (original Italian text by Franco Pittau, IDOS Study and Research Center, Roma, Italy 2015) (translation and copyediting)
- *The ineffective power. The Catholic Church and the Italian Crisis 2011-2014* (translation of original Italian text by Paolo Naso)
- *The Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola* by Dr. Roger Haight, S.J. at Union Theological Seminary (research précis compositions and manuscript copyediting)

## VI. ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

Contributing Writer, *State of Formation*. Fall 2010-present.

<http://www.stateofformation.org/author/jenn-lindsay/>

“Sulla condanna a morte dell’attentatore di Boston. On the Death Penalty for the Boston Bomber.” *Confronti Magazine* (online edition). 23 June 2015.

<http://www.confronti.net/confronti/2015/06/sulla-condanna-a-morte-dellattentatore-di-boston/>

"Sapere Ascoltare è Terapeutico / Listening as Therapy." *Confronti Magazine* Dec. 2014: 19.

"Does the Pope's Resignation Matter to Non-Catholics?" *Washington Times Communities*. Washington Times, 24 Feb. 2013.

"Union Seminary Reflects on the Parliament at Parliament of the World's Religions." *Parliament of the World Religions RSS*. The Council for a Parliament of the World Religions, 9 June 2010.

## SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY: PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR

*QUARANTINED FAITH: Rome, Religion and Coronavirus* (short documentary about the suspension of religious gatherings in Rome during the COVID-19 lockdown).

<https://vimeopro.com/jennlindsay/quarantinedfaith> (Password: neelix)

- Honorable Mention for Best Short Documentary: Florence Film Awards
- Honorable Mention for Best Documentary: Madras International Film Festival
- Award Nomination (pending): 23<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the Religion Today Film Festival, Special Jury award for the theme of “Migrations and Coexistence.” Official Selection confirmed.
- Official Selection: Rome Prisma International Film Awards, The Vesuvius International Film Festival, The Varese International Film Festival, Impact DOCS Awards, Venice Film Awards.
- Screening: 2020 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association

*ShalOM* (documentary about historical interfaith summits between Hindu and Jewish leaders in 2007 and 2008; in production).

*Minding Shadows* (feature documentary, in production). <https://www.mindingshadows.com/>

*Simulating Religion* (documentary miniseries, in production).  
<https://vimeopro.com/jennlindsay/simulating-religion-project>

*Il Presepe di Calcata* (documentary short). 2016.  
<https://vimeopro.com/jennlindsay/portfolio/video/152967796>

Screenings

Visual Fest, Università Rome Tre, Rome 2016

Intimalente Annual Ethnographic Film Festival, Caserta Italy (CM), January 2016

*IBCSR* (feature documentary). 2015. <https://vimeo.com/album/3283985>

Screenings

International Congress on Science and/or Religion, Vienna Austria 2015

*From Alef to Zayin: A Secular Jewish Education* (documentary short). 2012.

<http://vimeo.com/54737646>

Screenings

Visual Fest, Università Rome Tre, Rome 2016

International Society for the Sociology of Religion, panel on Visual Sociology, Louvain-la-Neuve Belgium July 2015

Society for Psychological Anthropology/Anthropology of Children and Youth Interest Group Annual Meeting, San Diego 2013.

*Jilbab* (feature documentary). 2013. <http://vimeo.com/31991952>. 20 Minute classroom/educational cut:  
<https://vimeo.com/38278232>.

Screenings

Visual Fest, Università Rome Tre, Rome 2016

Intimalente Annual Ethnographic Film Festival, Caserta Italy (CM), January 2016

Religion and Gender Workshop Series, Boston 2013

International Society for the Sociology of Religion Film Series, Finland 2013

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting Film Series, Chicago 2012

American Academy of Religion Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, Rutgers NJ 2012

Muslim Women and the Challenge of Authority Lecture Series, Boston 2011

*Agape International Political Camp* (documentary short). 2012. <http://vimeo.com/54736209>

*Occupy Religion* (feature documentary). 2011. <http://vimeo.com/31439106>

*Holy Wisdom Monastery* (documentary short). 2009. <http://www.vimeo.com/6485069>

## PRESENTATIONS

Accepted for Presentation at the 2020 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association (pending due to COVID-19):

*Panel 1:* Growing Interreligious and Intercultural Competence in the Classroom

*Panel 2:* Meaningful Interpersonal Contact: Interreligious Dialogue as a Religious Response to the Cognitive and Social Dynamics of Bias

Invited Speaker, “Religious Healing and Sacred Health Curing: Online Documentary Film Program and Debate.” Organized by the Network of the Anthropology of the Middle East and Central Eurasia of EASA in collaboration with the Religion and Society Research Cluster, Western Sydney University. July 2020.

Invited Speaker on the topic “DOCUMENTARY DEBIASING: Can Documentary Films Change Minds Across Social Divides?” Web Platform for Dialogue, July 2020.

International Society for the Sociology of Religion, Barcelona, July 2019. Panel sessions on Religion and Migration (“Christian missionaries evangelizing Syrian refugees at European crisis centers”) and Religious Pluralism in Europe (“The state of intercultural and interreligious dialogue in Rome, Italy”).

Invited Speaker, panel on “Role of the civil society and coalition building to address anti-Semitism and all forms of intolerance and discrimination.” Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Conference on Combating Anti-Semitism in the OSCE Region. Bratislava, Slovakia. February 2019.

Videographer, “Future Directions on the Evolution of Rituals, Beliefs, and Religious Minds,” Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture. Erice, Sicily, Italy. May 2018.

Featured Lecturer, “Interreligious Love and Marriage,” Centro Interconfessionale per La Pace. Rome, Italy, April 2018.

American Academy of Religion, panel session on Cognitive Science of Religion, San Antonio 2016: “Engaging Media to Explain Modeling and Simulation of Religion to Non-Specialists.”

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, panel session on Religion and Relationships, Atlanta GA, October 2016.

Panel 1: Religious Divides and Bonds in Europe. Presentation title: “Levels of Interfaith Engagement in Rome, and Their Interconnections”

Panel 2: Prayer, Ritual and Identity. Presentation title: “The Interfaith Society: A Durkheimian Moral Community Sharing Practices and Totems.”

6th Ethnography and Qualitative Research Conference, Bergamo Italy June 2016.

Panel 1: NGOs, grass-root activism and social movements: understanding novel entanglements of public engagements. Presentation title: “Levels of interfaith engagement in Rome, and their interconnections. An ethnographic study.”

Panel 2: Young people practicing everyday multiculturalism: an ethnographic look. Presentation title: “A secular Jewish Bar Mitzvah. How young Jews explain being a different kind of Jew” (*From Alef to Zayin* screening and discussion)

Panel 3: Lived religion: an ethnographical insight. Presentation title: “*Il Presepe di Calcata*. Lived religious objects and art forms”

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, panel session on Religion and Relationships, Newport Beach 2015: “Interfaith Dialogue in Rome.”

Psychology and the Other, Cambridge MA 2015: “Alterity and Mutual Recognition in Rome.”

International Association for the Psychology of Religion, panel on Religious Pluralism, Istanbul Turkey 2015. Presentation title: “Alterity and Mutual Recognition in Rome.”

Featured Lecturer, “Religion and Film Series.” Boston University Film Society, Spring 2013.

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston 2013. Presentation title: “Comparative Content Analysis of Literatures on Interreligious Relationships.”

Agape Centro Ecumenico, Prali Italy 2012: “Howard Thurman, Mysticism, and Social Action.”

## FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2020 Faculty Development Fund, John Cabot University. To support production of the documentary *ShalOM*. Chosen by university peer committee.

2019 Interfaith Project Microgrant, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID). To support production of the documentary *ShalOM*.

2016-2017 International Fellowship, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)

2016 Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Fellowship

2015 Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Fellowship

2014 Boston University Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship to support dissertation research in Rome

2014 Lindamood Fellowship to fund work for the BU Institute for the Biocultural Study of Religion

2012 Lemelson / Society for Psychological Anthropology Pre-Dissertation Fellowship



2012 Boston University Department of Religion, Intensive Language Study Scholarship

2012 Auburn Theological Seminary and the American Jewish Committee Fellowship to attend the Christian-Jewish Seminar Program on Israel and the Palestinian Territories

2011-2012 Tuition Fellowship from Boston University Division of Religious and Theological Studies

2010 World Student Christian Foundation and American Waldensian Society Residency Fellowship at Agape Centro Ecumenico.

2010 Henry Luce Foundation Cultural Exchange Fellowship, Indonesian Center for Religious and Cross-Cultural Studies, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

2009 Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions Delegate Fellowship. Melbourne, Australia.

2008 Academic Merit Grant, Columbia University

2008 Joseph Hough Scholarship, Union Theological Seminary

2001 Stanford University Gay and Lesbian Alumni Fellowship

2000 Stanford University Humanities Major Grant

1999 Stanford University Chappell-Lougee Research Fellowship

## **AWARDS**

2020 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Jack Shand International Scholar Award

2017 Boston University Center for the Humanities Dissertation Award

2016 Boston University Department of Religion, Scholarly Travel Award

2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Graduate Student Research Award

2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: Graduate Student Travel Award

2015 International Congress on Science and/or Religion: Merit Award for Outstanding Research

2013 Boston University Department of Religion, Scholarly Travel Award

2012 *Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue* Outstanding Contributing Scholar Award

2004 Third Wave Feminist Foundation Activist Award

2001 British National Student Drama Festival: Commendations for Playwriting and Acting

2001 American College Theater Festival: Meritorious Contribution to Playwriting

2000 British National Student Drama Festival: Commendation for Excellent Drama Criticism

1997 Robert F. Lucas International Award for Excellent Lieutenant Governorship

1996 National Council of Teachers of English: Excellence in Writing

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Peer review of submitted articles: *Teaching Theology and Religion*; *Social Compass*; *Journal of Religion and Demography*

Board Member, Interconfessional Center for Peace (CIPAX, Centro Interconfessionale per Pace), Rome, Italy (2018-2019)

Faculty Co-Adviser, John Cabot University Interfaith Club (2018-2019)

Convener of Religion and Society Colloquium for BU Division of Religious and Theological Studies (2013-2015)

Boston University Graduate Student Organization Representative for the Division of Religious and Theological Studies (2012-2014)

Union Theological Seminary Student Senate Third-Year MDiv Student Representative (2010-11)

Guest Musician, World Without Empire Conference at Union Theological Seminary (April 2010)

Co-Chair of the Union Interfaith Caucus (2009-10)

Union Student Senate Student Activities Coordinator (2009-10)

Summer 2009 Volunteer in environmental justice at Holy Wisdom Monastery, WN

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion

American Anthropological Association

International Society for the Sociology of Religion

Society for Psychological Anthropology

Academy of American Religion

The Society for Italian Historical Studies

American Association for Italian Studies

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

## **ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELDWORK**

Rome, Italy (religious practice and coronavirus, 2020)  
Sicily, Italy (cognitive studies on religious violence, 2018)  
Kristiansand, Norway (computational scholars of religion study, 2016-2017)  
Rwanda and Uganda (mindfulness and trauma recovery study, 2017)  
Lesvos, Greece (Refugee-Townspeople relations study, 2017)  
Rome, Italy (Interfaith dialogue study / Dissertation, 2014-2016)  
Israel and the Palestinian Territories (Interfaith dialogue study / Dissertation, 2014-2016)  
Boston, USA (Medicine and Spirituality study, 2011)  
Yogyakarta, Indonesia (Interfaith families and marriage study / Master's thesis fieldwork, 2010)  
Chavín de Huantar, Peru (Ethnoastronomy and religious syncretism / Bachelor's fieldwork, 1999)

## **RELATED SKILLS**

**Languages:** Strong speaking and writing skill in Italian and Spanish. Basic reading skills in Hebrew, French. Conducted fieldwork using Bahasa Indonesian and Quechua.

**Technical Proficiencies:** Canon DSLR and Cinema EOS cameras. Microsoft Office suite (plus Publisher), Adobe Creative Cloud, Quickbooks, HTML code, Pilotware, Final Cut Pro, Final Draft, Motion, DVD Studio Pro, Chaverware, LiveType, Wordpress, NVivo, Garageband. Lighting and audio for documentary film. Lindsay owns full suite of production equipment.

**Personal Strengths:** Enthusiastic and creative visionary and with honed leadership skills; demonstrated ability to meet deadlines and objectives. Excellent writer and productive researcher. Demonstrable teaching excellence. Experienced investigative anthropological/journalistic interviewer in varied political and cultural contexts, valuable team-member, dependable in high-pressure conflict scenarios. Superb public speaking and presentation skills. Physically strong and athletic. Hobbies include gardening and Zen meditation.

## **WEB LINKS**

Personal Website: [www.JennLindsay.com](http://www.JennLindsay.com)

Wikipedia Page: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenn\\_Lindsay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jenn_Lindsay)

YouTube Channel: <http://youtube.com/jennlindsay>

Filmmaking portfolio: <https://vimeopro.com/jennlindsay/portfolio>

IMDB profile: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2212943/>