

CURRICULUM VITAE

DR. NANCY C. LEE

Professor, Department of Religious Studies
Elmhurst College
190 S. Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Union Theological Seminary (Virginia) (2000) [advisor: William Brown]
Fulbright Fellow (Croatia, 1996/97; with additional work in Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Th.M., Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia (1993) [advisor: Walter Brueggemann]
Doctoral courses, Emory University (1992)
Ordained to the ministry (1987)
M.Div. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina (1987)
B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1983)
Dissertation: *The Singers of Lamentations: Cities under Siege, from Ur to Jerusalem to Sarajevo . . .* (published, Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2002)

TEACHING POSITIONS & VISITING LECTURES

Professor of Religious Studies (Hebrew Bible), Elmhurst College (2009—)
Extraordinary Visiting Professor, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (two appointments; 2012-2018)
Visiting Professor, Western Carolina University (June, 2011)
Visiting Lecturer, the University of KwaZulu-Natal Divinity School in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa (2010);
Visiting Lecturer, the Jos ECWA Theological Seminary in Nigeria (online) (2010);
Visiting Lecturer, the Jahangirabad Institute of Technology in India (2010);
Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Elmhurst College (2004-2009)
Assistant Professor of Theology & Religion, Elmhurst College (Fall, 1999–2004)
Founding Director, Niebuhr Center and *Callings for the Common Good* program, Elmhurst College (2001—2007) (\$2 million Lilly Endowment funded academic & vocational program)
Visiting Professor, Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO (summer 2005), “The Book of Lamentations”
Visiting Fulbright Instructor, “Introduction to Hebrew Bible” (three sections), Josip J. Strossmayer University, Osijek, Croatia (1996-97)
Visiting Fulbright Instructor, “Intermediate Hebrew Reading,” Evandeoski teološki fakultet (Seminary), Osijek, Croatia (1996-97)
Visiting Instructor, “Christianity, Racism, and Genocide,” Union Presbyterian Seminary in Virginia (1999)
Visiting Lecturer, “Literature of the Holocaust,” Randolph-Macon College, Virginia (1998)

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming Book

Invited commentary, *Lamentations and Song of Songs* (Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary; Macon, Ga.: Smyth and Helwys).

Books

Hannevi'ah and Hannah: Hearing Women Biblical Prophets in a Women's Lyrical Tradition (Wipf & Stock, September 2015).

Hebrew Sound Patterns and Women's Biblical Composing (Kindle Books, 2014).
Lyrics of Lament: From Tragedy to Transformation (Fortress Press, 2010) [with
 online links to lament performances: www.fortresspress.com/lee]
 Nancy C. Lee and Carleen Mandolfo, editors, *Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary
 Cultural Contexts* (2008; SBL Symposium series; Brill).
The Singers of Lamentations: Cities under Siege, from Ur to Jerusalem to Sarajevo . . . Biblical
 Interpretation Series (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2002).
 Nancy C. Lee, editor, *Between Despair and Lamentation*, war poetry by Borislav Arapović
 (Bosnian Croat); translated by I. P. Jerić (EC, Elmhurst, IL: B. Arapović, 2002).

Contributions to Books: Essays

Invited essay, "Female Biblical Prophets," forthcoming, *The Bible and Women: An
 Encyclopaedia of Exegesis and Cultural History* (Society of Biblical Literature/Brill).
 Invited Lesson Plan, "Lamentations," for *Oxford Biblical Studies Online* (forthcoming, 2017).
 Invited essay, "Biblical Hebrew Poetry," in the *Oxford Encyclopaedia of the Bible and the Arts*,
 ed. Timothy Beal (Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press, 2015).
 Invited essay, "Listening for Hannevi'a in First Isaiah: Prophetic Imagination by a Women's
 Lyrical Tradition," in *Imagination, Ideology, and Inspiration: Echoes of Brueggemann in a
 New Generation*, eds., Jonathan Kaplan and Robert Williamson (Sheffield Phoenix,
 2015).
 Invited essay, "Lamentations and Gender in Biblical Cultural Context," for international,
 multilingual, interdisciplinary, multivolume, *The Bible and Women: An Encyclopaedia of
 Exegesis and Cultural History* (Society of Biblical Literature/Brill, 2013).
 Articles ("Daughters of Philip," "Bat-Ammi," "Noadiah") for the *Dictionary of the Bible
 and Western Culture: A Handbook for Students* (Sheffield, 2012).
 Invited essay, "Lamentations" in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Books of the Bible* (Oxford,
 2011).
 "Lessons Learned: Establishing Successful Domestic and International Community-Campus
 Service-Learning Partnerships" [South Africa, Jamaica, Australia, England, U.S.], Nancy
 C. Lee co-author with Savage, M., Wehman, T., White, J., Grimes, J. in Lin, P. (ed),
Service Learning in Higher Education: Educators, Communities and Students
 (Indianapolis, In.: University of Indianapolis Press, 2010).
 "The Singers of Lamentations: (As)scribing (De)Claiming Poets and Prophets," in *Lamentations
 in Ancient and Contemporary Cultural Contexts* (Atlanta: SBL, Symposium series; Leiden:
 Brill, 2008).
 Invited essay, "Introduction and critical notes on "Lamentations" in *NRSV Discipleship Study
 Bible* (Westminster/John Knox, 2008).
 Invited essay, "Prophet and Singer in the Fray: The Book of Jeremiah," in a *festschrift* for Leslie
 Allen (Sheffield, 2007).
 Invited essay, "Introduction and Critical Notes on "Amos" in *Renovare Spiritual Formation Study
 Bible (NRSV)* (HarperSanFrancisco, 2005).
 Articles, "Dirge" and "Mourning" in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible* (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2000).
 Invited essay, "Exposing a Buried Subtext in Jeremiah and Lamentations: Going After Baal and
 . . . Abel" in *Troubling Jeremiah*, eds., A. R. Pete Diamond, Kathleen O'Connor and Louis
 Stulman (JSOTS 260, Sheffield Press, 1999).
 Invited essay, "Genocide's Lament: Moses, Pharaoh's Daughter, and the Former Yugoslavia" in
God in the Fray: Essays in Honor of Walter Brueggemann (Fortress Press, 1998).

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Invited article, "Lamentations and Polemic: The Rejection/Reception History of Women's Lament...and Syria" *Interpretation* (April, 2013).
- Co-author with T. Wehman, M. Savage, J. White, and J. Grimes (2011). "Making Learning Meaningful: International Perspectives on Teaching Children Considered to be 'At-Risk' for School Failure." In *International Research and Review Journal of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars* 1/1 (Fall, 2011), 19-36.
- Invited essay, "Prophetic 'Bat-'Ammî' Answers God and Jeremiah," in *Lectio difficilior*, European Electronic Journal for Feminist Exegesis (Dec. 2009).
- Invited essay, Co-author with Borislav Arapović, "The Bible in Political Context: New Republics of Old Yugoslavia and Former Soviet Union," *Interpretation* 55 (Oct., 2001).

Poems

- "A Plea from Pain," in *Lyrics of Lament: From Tragedy to Transformation* (Fortress Press, 2009).
- Invited poem, "To Lament a Nation's Lost Soul" (written August 2007), in *Prayers for the New Social Awakening* (Westminster/John Knox, 2008).

Book Reviews

- Review of Adele Berlin, *Lamentations*, Old Testament Library (2002), for *Interpretation* (Oct. 2003).
- Review of F.W. Dobbs-Allsopp, *Lamentations*, *Interpretation* (2002).
- Review of Adele Berlin, *Lamentations*, Old Testament Library (2002), for *Horizons in Biblical Theology*.
- Review of Tod Linafelt, *Surviving Lamentations* (2000), for *Interpretation* 55/3 (2001).

Other Article

- "Vratimo se biblijskom naslijeđu: slavopojima . . . i tužaljka" ["Returning to the Biblical Heritage: Songs of Praise . . . and Lament"] in *Izvori*, Croatian popular journal (Jan/Feb 1998).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

- Visiting Extraordinary Professor, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (2012-18)
- Niebuhr Distinguished Chair, Elmhurst College (2010-2014)
- Fulbright Fellow to Croatia (and Bosnia, 1996/97): dissertation research on the biblical book of Lamentations in light of the role of lament poetry composed in Croatia and Bosnia in the war contexts of cities and villages under siege; also Visiting Instructor in Croatia, as above
- Elmhurst College faculty research grant (2012): "The Cherokee Language Surviving King James: Sequoyah and the Cherokee Bible Translations, a Post-Colonial Examination"
- Invited to present "Reinhold Niebuhr and a 'Prophetic Realist' Approach for Today," on Panel at the Elmhurst College Forum on Religion & Society/Centennial of Niebuhr's Graduation from Elmhurst (October 2010).
- National Collegiate Honors Council grant award for curricular development with technology—live, online video component with South Africa for Prophets honors course (2008).
- Grant Writer, Lilly Endowment, Sustaining Grant (\$500,000 matching grant) for Niebuhr Center
- Founding Director, Niebuhr Center and *Callings for the Common Good* program, Elmhurst College (2002-2007); Grant Co-writer, Lilly Endowment Inc. (\$2,000,000) (PTEV)

Founding Director and Co-writer, Lilly Planning Grant, Elmhurst College, 2002 (Program for Theological Exploration of Vocation) (\$50,000)
 Listed in *Who's Who in America* (2008—)
 Elmhurst College faculty grants (interdisciplinary and intercultural) to co-develop live video exchange for the classroom with Jos ECWA Theological Seminary, Nigeria (2010).
 Elmhurst College faculty research grant in Native American Studies (2008/09; culture/spiritual traditions of the Cherokee; Native American traditions, justice and U.S. policy; lament forms and traditions in Native American communities; use of the Bible by colonial cultures and impact on Native Americans & indigenous world cultures)
 Elmhurst College course development grant in Native American Studies (2008/09; “Native American Traditions, Justice and Public Policy”)
 Elmhurst College faculty grant (2008) for research and fieldwork on how schools and teachers provide for at-risk children in Chicago, South Africa, Australia, England, and Jamaica.
 Member of *Phi Beta Delta* (honor society for International Scholars)
 Member of *Phi Kappa Phi* (academic honor society)
 Member of *Theta Alpha Kappa* (theological honor society)
 Faculty Research Grant, Elmhurst College; for research on the prophetic influences on, and of, Desmond Tutu; research on women prophets in biblical and ANE contexts (2007/08)
 Associated Colleges of Illinois (ACI) grant, research and fieldwork on how schools and teachers provide for at-risk children in South Africa (2007/08)
 Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) faculty development seminar grant to Croatia (“Historical and Future Perspectives on the Balkans,” 2000)

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS/PRESIDING

Invited presenter, “Female Biblical Prophets,” Colloquium for *The Bible and Women: An Encyclopaedia of Exegesis and Cultural History*, Graz, Austria, 2017.
 Presented paper, “Soundplay Repetition Patterns in Exodus 1 and Judges 4: A Women’s Composing Tradition?”, International Meeting of the National Assoc. of Professors of Hebrew, Memphis, Tennessee (June 2015).
 Presented paper, “A Signature Feature of a Women’s Indigenous Lyrical Tradition: Matriarchal Freedom Influencing Biblical Texts and Culture (Exod 15 & Micah texts),” (San Diego, November 2014), joint session of Feminist Criticism of Bible and Women in the Biblical World groups.
 Presented paper, “A Signature Feature of Women’s Lyrical Tradition in the Bible” (Hannah’s Song and the Song of Songs) (San Diego, Nov. 2014), Performance Criticism session.
 Lectures to graduate seminar and M.Div. class at Stellenbosch University, on my book (*Hannevi’ah and Hannah*) and lament research, respectively; July 2014.
 Presented paper, “Listening for Hannēvî’â, the Woman Prophet, in First Isaiah: A Signature Feature of Biblical Women’s Lyrical Tradition” at the SBL Annual Meeting (Chicago, 2012), Formation of Isaiah session.
 Presented invited paper, “In Lamentations, Method Matters: Female Lamenters, Prophets, and Metaphors in Cultural Context,” for *Women and the Bible. An Encyclopaedia of Exegesis and Cultural History* - Volume on Scriptures. Research Colloquium, Philipps-University Marburg, Germany, July, 2011.
 Co-presenter, “Using Technology to Deconstruct Privileged Readings: Scholars & Activists Bring African Perspectives to Biblical Interpretation,” African Biblical Hermeneutics section,

SBL annual meeting, Atlanta, 2010.

Presiding, Lament in Sacred Texts and Cultures group, SBL annual meeting, Atlanta, 2010.

Collaborative work presented: Savage, M., Wehman, T., White, J., Grimes, J. and Lee, N. (in absentia) "Establishing Successful Domestic and International Community-Campus Service Learning Partnerships," and "Using Research to Enhance Service Learning Courses: An International Perspective on the Pedagogy of Teaching Children 'At-Risk'," Third International Symposium on Service Learning, Athens, Greece; November, 2009.

Respondent to Poets of New Orleans on Hurricane Katrina experience, Lament in Sacred Texts and Cultures group; SBL annual meeting; New Orleans, 2009.

"Prophetic 'Bat-'Ammî' Answers Jeremiah?" Women in the Biblical World group, SBL annual meeting; Boston, 2008.

Co-presenter, "Strategies for Schools and Teaching for At-Risk Children (South Africa)," Associated Colleges of Illinois research; co-presented at Elmhurst College (2008)

Co-presenter, "Strategies for Schools and Teaching for At-Risk Children (South Africa)," Associated Colleges of Illinois Conference, grant research (2007)

"Women Biblical Prophets in Context: Miriam, a Case Study," Faculty Women's Research Forum, Elmhurst College (2007)

"Lament in Biblical and Cross-Cultural Contexts," presentation to faculty and students at the School of Religion & Theology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa (2006)

Presiding, Lament in Sacred Texts and Cultures group, SBL annual meeting, 2006.

Invited Respondent to Panel (to papers by Kathleen O'Connor, Erhard Gerstenberger, et al), co-session with Lament in Sacred Texts and Cultures group and Biblical Poetry group, SBL annual meeting, 2006.

"Non Sequiturs in the 'Order' of Retributive Justice ('*ayin . . . pe . . . tsaddiq?*): Acrostic Reversals in Lamentations," paper presented, SBL annual meeting, Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts group; San Antonio, 2004.

Co-chair/organizer of presentation, Afghani woman (Najia) from the Revolutionary Association of Women of Afghanistan to perform songs of lament at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature, Lamentations in Ancient & Contemporary Contexts group; Toronto (Nov 2002). [*canceled due to visa problems*]

"Comparisons of Lament Poetry in Biblical and Croatian Literature in Contexts of War," at the Croatian Slavistics Conference, Zadar, Croatia (October 2002).

Panel presenter in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina as editor of poetry volume in English by Borislav Arapović, *Between Despair and Lamentation*, with the Croatian Writers Association (July 2002).

Presiding, Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts consultation, SBL annual meeting, Denver (2001).

"The Singers of Lamentations: Oral Poets in Context," Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts consultation, Nashville (2000).

Presiding, Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts consultation, SBL annual meeting, Boston (1999).

"Reading Context, Hearing Rhetoric in Jeremiah and Lamentations," presented at SBL annual meeting, Composition of Jeremiah Group, Orlando (1998).

- “Moses, Pharaoh’s Daughter, and Children of the Former Yugoslavia: Paradigmatic Responses to the Lament of Genocide,” presented at the SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, National Association of Professors of Hebrew Group (NAPH) (1996).
- “Defiled with Blood in Lam 4:12-19,” presented at the SBL regional meeting in Gainesville, FL (1995).
- “Exposing a Buried Subtext in Jeremiah: Going After Baal and . . . Abel” presented at the SBL Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL (1994).
- “Excavating a Latent Subtext in Jeremiah: Going After Baal and . . . Abel,” presented at the SBL Southeast Regional Meeting in Charleston, SC (1993).

SCHOLARLY PROFESSIONAL WORK

Founding Co-Chair (1999) with Tod Linafelt of the Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts SBL group (1999-2010), (new name effective 2005: Lament in Sacred Texts and Cultures), for Society of Biblical Literature (steering committee members have included: Nancy Lee, Tod Linafelt, Mishael Caspi, F.W. Dobbs-Allsopp, Kathleen O’Connor, Wilma Ann Bailey, Carleen Mandolfo, William Morrow, Amy Cottrill, Scott Ellington, Robert Williamson, Monica Melanchthon, Archie C.C. Lee).

Member, Steering Committee (2009, 2010), Orality, Textuality, and Formation of Hebrew Bible.

Member, National Association of Professors of Hebrew

Presenter, in SBL groups:

- Feminist Hermeneutics of the Bible
- Women in the Biblical World
- National Association of Professors of Hebrew (national & international meetings)
- Performance Criticism of Biblical & Other Ancient Texts
- Composition of Book of Jeremiah
- Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts
- African Biblical Hermeneutics
- Formation of Isaiah.

Member, American Academy of Religion (1990-1995)

Member, Society of Biblical Literature (1990—present)

Blind peer reviewer for *Biblical Interpretation* journal.

Referee for faculty promotion, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Referee for faculty promotion, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Divinity School, South Africa.

Co-led EC’s international service course to South Africa numerous times (2004 to present).

Edited children’s library book (unpublished) with drawings and indigenous culture storytelling by an elder in the Xhosa language, for the Mokone Primary School in Langa township, Cape Town, South Africa (summer 2011).

Edited two children’s books of artwork and multilingual biblical translations as service project for Chris Hani Primary School, Langa township, Cape Town, South Africa, 2005; 2006.

Invited visit to Nyayagrah organization in Ahmedabad, India, regarding Gujarat massacres; Visiting Lecturer, Jahangirabad Institute of Technology in India that serves minority students; met with the translator of a Dalit poem, and shared my book containing their work (March 2010).

Visit to Nigeria to collaborate with faculty and administrators on an international live, video exchange for the classroom with Jos ECWA Theological Seminary and Elmhurst (2010).

Visit to South Africa to continue collaboration with service-learning and community contacts both for our EC international service course and for other projects; visited faculty and staff at University of Kwazulu-Natal Divinity School, attended technology presentation of EC colleague at University of Cape Town (Aug, 2010).

Collaborated with many international poets, lyricists, translators, and scholars regarding permissions and follow up on works included in my book (*Lyrics of Lament*; e.g., from India, Sudan, South Africa, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Afghanistan, China, Tibet, Iraq, Rwanda, and from Palestine and Burma) (2009/10).

Seminar participant, "Advances in Treating Complex Psychological Trauma and PTSD"; American Psychological Association for Psychologists (2002)

Invited Plenary Panel Presenter, Lilly Endowment Conference of 39 colleges and universities; Indianapolis. (2003)

Council on Higher Education meeting, United Church of Christ, Elmhurst College representative, New Orleans (2003).

Invited workshop presenter, "Reclaiming the Text: Rediscovering the Language of Lament," PCUSA pastors conference at Montreat, NC (2002).

Parliament of World Religion Summit participant, Chicago (2002)

Fulbright Alumni Conference participant with International Fulbright Fellows, Washington (1998).

[Revised October, 2017]