

Third Annual Graduate Conference on Religion

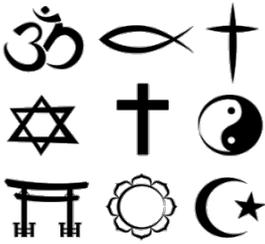
Saturday, October 14, 2017

Going Viral: Religion and Health

Do religion and healthcare operate in two distinct worlds? Might religious traditions bring insights and perspectives to health care practice, and vice versa? What practical, legal and ethical dilemmas do public health or healthcare practitioners face when it comes to the religion, faith, and spirituality of their patients, clients, or communities?

Boston University’s doctoral students in religious studies, theology, and public health, invite **current students**, to submit abstract and presentation proposals to the Fall 2017 Conference, **“Going Viral: Religion and Health”** to explore these and other questions like them. Possible paper topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Conceptions of the body
- Autonomy in religion and health care
- Bioethics
- Purity and cleanliness
- Secular/Religious dichotomy
- End of Life practice and issues
- Death and Health
- Quarantine and outbreak
- Moral explanations of sickness, disease, suffering, and death
- Religious freedom, policy, and law



- Faith healing
- Women’s health
- Trauma and abuse
- Sex, drugs, and medicine
- Moral explanations of sickness, disease, suffering and death
- Lessons from the field: religion, faith, spirituality, public health, and medicine
- Engagement of health between religious and secular institutions

Requirements for submission: Please submit a written abstract or description of a 15-20 minute PowerPoint or Poster presentation clearly outlining a topic that intersects religion, spirituality, faith, and public health, community health, or healthcare. **There are two ways to approach your presentation: (1)** talk about your public health or

healthcare topic and then provide personal commentary via reflections or observations about how this topic intersects with faith/spirituality/religion (e.g., working with children who have had adverse childhood experiences and sharing observations or reflections about child or family faith, religion, or spirituality), **or (2)** choose to present a topic that directly speaks to this intersection (e.g., the role of condom use among Catholic communities in African countries). You may choose a topic that is not listed in the box of suggestions above. **In addition to an abstract of your presentation, please also send a short bio** including your name; current student or alumni status; current title/role, if applicable; and current location.

Electronic submissions are due by 5:00 PM EDT, JULY 21st 2017
to BUreligionconference2017@gmail.com

Thanks to the generosity of Boston University School of Public Health and New England and Maritime Region American Academy of Religion, we are pleased to announce the keynote speaker for this conference will be **Dr. Ellen Idler, PhD**. Dr. Idler is the Director of the Religion and Public Health Collaborative, Samuel Candler Dobbs Chair of Sociology in Emory College, joint faculty in the Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, and a Senior Fellow at the Emory Center for Ethics. Her interdisciplinary training in sociology, religion, and public health strengthens the cross-discipline bridging relationships that characterize Emory's Strategic Initiatives. Dr. Idler is known for her research on religion as a social determinant of health, health perceptions, disability, and quality of life, particularly in aging populations. For more on Dr. Idler's current work, please visit: <http://www.rphcemory.org/about-us-1/idler/>



Conference Date: October 14th 2017 at Boston University
745 Commonwealth Ave. Boston, MA