

O'NEIL VAN HORN

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

2021 PhD in Theological and Philosophical Studies in Religion
Graduate Division of Religion, Drew University, Madison, NJ

2017 Master of Arts (*Concentration in Religion and Ecology*)
Drew University, Madison, NJ

2015 B.A. in Biblical Studies, with Honors
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA
Summa Cum Laude

2015 B.A. in Spanish, with Honors
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA
Summa Cum Laude

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

XAVIER UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor of Theology 2023-present
Earth, Matter, Bodies, and Theology
Theologies of Food and Farm
Hope in Times of Crisis: Hope and Climate Change
Utopias

Teaching Professor Theological Foundations 2021-2023

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Lecturer of Moral Philosophy 2020-2021
Pursuit of Justice: Moral Philosophy
Ethical and Philosophical Foundations in Criminal Justice

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

DREW UNIVERSITY

Teaching Assistant	2016-2020
The Bible and its Interpreters	
Systematic Theology	
Immigration Justice and Theology Immersion Trip: AZ/MX Border	
Immigration Justice and Theology	
Cross-Cultural Ministry Immersion Trip: Colombia	
Cross-Cultural Ministry Pre-Departure: Colombia	
Environmental Justice Instructor	2017-2020
Experiential Learning Intensive Trip to Appalachia	

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2026 *Making Hope: Practices, Prayers, and Parables for a Changing Climate.*
 Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2026.

2024 *On the Ground: Terrestrial Theopoetics and Planetary Politics.* New York:
 Fordham University Press, 2024.

Refereed Journal Articles

2023 “The Paradoxes of Place: Cultivating Particularity and Planetarity Amid Climate Catastrophe.” *CrossCurrents* 73.1 (March, 2023): 25-41.

2021 “A Phenomenology of the Ground: Or, Notes on the Fallacy of Un-Earth-ing Philosophy.” *Environmental Philosophy* 17, no. 2 (2021): 253-270.

2019 “Dark Hope: Notes on Uncertain Futures.” *Literature and Theology* 33, no. 3 (September 2019): 278–291.

2019 “Fertile *Grund*: Rematerializing Tillich’s Ground as Soil.” *North American Paul Tillich Society Bulletin* XLV, no. 3 (2019): 8-17.

2019 “Promiscuous πορνεία...: A Queer, Imperial-Critical Analysis of Revelation and Rap.” *Biblical Interpretation* 27, no. 1 (2019): 130-149.

Book Chapters

2023 “On the Matter of Hope: Weaving Threads of Jewish Wisdom for the Sake of the Planetary,” in *Earthly Things: Immanence, New Materialisms, and Planetary Thinking*, edited by Karen Bray, Heather Eaton, and Whitney Bauman, 111-122. New York: Fordham University Press, 2023.

Book Reviews

2024 “Terra Schwerin Rowe, *Of Modern Extraction: Experiments in Critical Petro-theology*,” H-Environment, H-Net Reviews, 2024.

2021 “Paul Middleton, *The Violence of the Lamb: Martyrs as Agents of Divine Judgement in the Book of Revelation*,” *Biblical Interpretation* 29, 1 (2021): 107-109.

Electronic/Public Scholarship

2020 “Global Slowdown: COVID-19 & Climate Change.” *The Christian Century*. August, 12, 2020.

2019 “When the Well Runs Dry and Jesus Isn’t Born...” *Watershed Discipleship*. February 2, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

2023 “Kernels of Resistance: Seed-Saving, Extraction, and Ecotheological Possibilities.” Presented in the Religion and Ecology section of the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), San Antonio, TX, November 19, 2023.

2023 “The Vibrancy of Darkness: Soil and the Impossibilities of Hope.” Presented at the 50th Anniversary Conference of the Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA, February 16, 2023.

2020 “Undecidability & the Anthropocene: On Making Decisions in the Midst of Climate Crisis.” Presented at the Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium (TTC) at Drew University, Madison, NJ, October 16, 2020.

2019 “Wor(l)d Made Flesh: Political Theology, Climate Change, and Good-Enough Narratives.” Presented at the Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium (TTC) at Drew University, Madison, NJ, March 29, 2019.

2018 “Fertile *Grund*: Rematerializing Tillich’s Ground as Soil.” Presented in the North American Paul Tillich Society (NAPTS) section of the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Denver, CO, November 16, 2018.

2018 “Fluid Ethics: Water as Source and Symbol for Ethical Reimagination.” Presented at Graduate Conference in Religion & Ecology (GCRE): Ethos, Ethics, and the Environment, New Haven, CT, April 21, 2018.

2018 “Nesting: Process Philosophy, the Home, and an Ethics of Co/inhabitation.” Presented in the Society of the Study of Process Philosophies (SSPP) section at the American Philosophical Association (APA) Central Division Meeting, Chicago, IL, February 24, 2018.

2017 “Fertile *Grund*: Tillichian Ground Rematerialized as Soil.” Presented at Graduate Conference in Religion & Ecology (GCRE): Ethos, Ethics, and the Environment, New Haven, CT, April 21, 2017.

2017 “Common Home, Common Water, Common Good: A Fluid Ethics.” Presented in the “Special Session: Comparative Religion and Ecology “ at the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), New Brunswick, NJ, March 17, 2017

2016 “Catastrophe Then and Now: Mark 5 and Hurricane Floyd.” Presented in the “Reading, Theory, and the Bible” section at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), San Antonio, TX, November 21, 2016.

2016 “Revelation and Rap: An Imperial-Critical Analysis.” Presented in the “NT Johannine Writings and Revelation” section at the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), New Brunswick, NJ, March 11, 2016.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2024 Research Adviser, “Re-Wilding Domesticated Spaces as Spiritual Practice,” by Tess Dankoski, Xavier University.

2023 Research Adviser, “Transient Theology: A Trans+ Theology of Becoming,” by Soup Dempsey, Xavier University.

2018 Research Associate, GreenFaith’s “Religious Statements on Environmental Issues” Archive Report.

2017 Research Associate, Green Seminary Initiative’s “Religion and Ecology Syllabi” Archive Project.

2015 Research Assistant and Editor, Azusa Pacific University’s Dead Sea Scrolls Project.

2015 Principle Translator of Psychological Study (“The imagination inflation effect is moderated by the language bilinguals use to imagine events”), English to Spanish, Dr. Benjamin Marsh, Azusa Pacific University, Fall 2016.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2025 Lecture, *On the Ground* (2024), Arizona State University, April 15, 2025.

2025 Reading, “Eco-Grief Poetry Reading,” *Clocktower Review*, Xavier University, February 6, 2025.

2024 Presentation, “Solidarity and Friendship in the Midst of Adversity,” Interfaith Bridges, Xavier University, November 20, 2024.

2023 Presentation, “Eco-Spirituality,” Interfaith Bridges, Xavier University, November 16, 2023.

2023 Interview, “Theopoetics and Planetary Politics,” Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology Podcast, *Spotlights*, Episode 4.7, November 7, 2023.

2023 Presentation, “Hope Amid Ruins: Precarity, Undecidability, & Climate Change,” Reed College, January 27, 2022.

2022 Presentation, “Eco-Spirituality and Interfaith Dialogue,” for Interfaith Bridges, Xavier University, November 16, 2022.

2021 Presentation, “Hope During Climate Crisis,” for Bellarmine Chapel, November 11, 2021.

2021 Presentation, “Pandemic Pedagogy: Online Teaching, Alternative Media, and Creative Assignments,” for Seton Hall University Core Curriculum Department, January 19, 2021.

2018 Presentation, “Trashing Creation,” with Jennifer Maidrand, Brookside Community Church UCC, Brookside, NJ, July 22, 2018.

2015 Respondent, “The Age of Revolt” with Chris Hedges (*Truthdig*), Claremont United Church of Christ, Claremont, CA, March 22, 2015.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023-2025 Community-Engaged Early Career Faculty Member, Xavier University.

2021-2023 Louisville Scholar Fellowship, Louisville Institute.

2019	Maxine Clarke Beach Leadership Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Coursework, Drew University.
2018	North America Paul Tillich Society (NAPTS) Graduate Fellowship, NAPTS.
2018	The Graduate Student Community Action Award, Drew University.
2017	Robert F. Streetman Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper, Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Academy of Religion.
2017	Mary Louise Maser and Frederick E. Maser Scholarship, Drew University.
2017	Seminarian Scholarship, Claremont United Church of Christ
2015	Senior of the Year—Biblical Studies, Azusa Pacific University.
2015	Senior of the Year—Spanish, Azusa Pacific University.
2015	President's Scholarship, Azusa Pacific University.
2015	Trustee's Finalist Award, Azusa Pacific University.
2014	Pew College Society Scholarship, Azusa Pacific University.
2012	Honor's College Scholarship, Azusa Pacific University.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2024-present	Chair, Salary Study Taskforce, Faculty Assembly, Xavier University.
2024	Organizer, Eco-Grief Workshop, Brueggeman Center, Xavier University.
2023-present	Gender and Diversity Studies Advisory Board, Xavier University.
2023-present	Xavier Climbing Club Faculty Adviser, Xavier University.
2023	Outdoor Club Faculty Adviser, Xavier University.
2022-2024	First Year Experience Integration Taskforce, Xavier University.
2022-2024	Laudato Si' Sustainability Plan Steering Committee, Xavier University.
2021-2022	Sustainability Committee, Xavier University.
2020-2021	Online Course Design Committee, Drew University.
2017- 2020	Partnership for Religion and Education in Prisons Committee, Drew University.

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2025	Teaching Mentoring Pair (w/ Dr. Kristen Renzi), Center for Teaching Excellence, Xavier University.
2024-2025	Eigel Academy for Community-Engaged Learning, Xavier University.
2022	Ignatian Pedagogy for a Hope-Filled Future, Xavier University
2021	Race Work for the Next Round: Building Antiracist Colleges & Universities

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (AAR).
 Society of Biblical Literature (SBL).
 American Philosophical Association (APA).
 Sigma Delta Pi, National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society.

FORMAL LANGUAGE TRAINING

Spanish (Castellano), fluent.
Biblical Hebrew, proficient-advanced.
Biblical Greek, basic-proficient.
(Biblical) Aramaic, basic-proficient.
French, proficient (reading).

Updated: November 2025