

Emily McKendry-Smith

University of West Georgia
Department of Sociology
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PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2018-** **University of West Georgia**
Associate Professor of Sociology
- 2013-2018** **University of West Georgia**
Assistant Professor of Sociology

EDUCATION

- 2013** **PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Sociology**
Dissertation: “Old Gods, New Religions, and Modern Marriages in Nepal.”
Dissertation Committee: Lisa Pearce (chair), Jacqueline Hagan, Kenneth (Andy) Andrews, Philip Cohen, Christian Smith
Comprehensive Exams: Religion (with Distinction), Family
- 2007** **MA, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Sociology**
Thesis: “Social Context and the Subjective Importance of Religious Faith in the Lives of American Teenagers: An Exploration of Family, School, and Community.”
Thesis Committee: Lisa Pearce (chair), Christian Smith, Jacqueline Hagan
- 2005** **BA, Knox College, Anthropology/Sociology, Political Science**
Magna cum laude with College Honors in Anthropology/Sociology

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2018. “‘New Congregationalism’ in Nepal: The Brahma Kumaris and the Rationalization of Hindu Religious Practice.” Pp. 305-319 in *Religion im Kontext | Religion in Context: Handbuch für Wissenschaft und Studium*, edited by Annette Schnabel, Melanie Reddig, and Heidemarie Winkel, Baden-Baden, Germany: Nomos.
- McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2017. “‘Enjoy the Heat of the Log and Heed the Advice of the Elders’: Religious, Educational, and Neighborhood Determinants of Parental Influence on Spousal Choice in Nepal.” Pp. 1-26 in *Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, Vol. 11. Intimate Relationships and Social Change: The Dynamic Nature of Dating, Mating, and Coupling*, edited by Christina L. Scott and Sampson Lee Blair, Bingley, UK: Emerald.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "'Baba Has Come to Civilize Us': Developmental Idealism and Framing the Strict Demands of the Brahma Kumaris." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 55(4): 698-716.

Guo, Guang, Jessica Halliday Hardie, Craig Owen, Jonathan K. Daw, Yilan Fu, Hedwig Lee, Amy Lucas, Emily McKendry-Smith, and Greg Duncan. 2009. "DNA Collection in a Randomized Social Science Study of College Peer Effects." *Sociological Methodology* 39(1): 1-29.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, BOOK REVIEWS, AND OTHER WRITING

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2018. "Review: *Cousin Marriage: Between Tradition, Genetic Risk, and Cultural Change* edited by Alison Shaw and Aviad Raz." *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 24(4): 851-852.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2018. "Review: *Religion vs. Science: What People Really Think* by Elaine Howard Ecklund and Christopher P. Scheitle." *Reading Religion*.
<http://readingreligion.org/books/religion-vs-science>

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2017. "Review: *Religion, Secularism, and Ethnicity in Contemporary Nepal* by David N. Gellner, et al." *Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/religion-secularism-and-ethnicity-contemporary-nepal>

Gezon, Lisa L., Emily McKendry-Smith, and Anne Kristen Hunter. 2016. "The Health Benefits of a Bicycle-Pedestrian Trail." *Parks & Recreation* December: 16-17.

Reprinted as: Gezon, Lisa L., Emily McKendry-Smith, and Anne Kristen Hunter. 2017. "People for Parks: The Health Benefits of a Bicycle-Pedestrian Trail." *West Georgia Living Commemorative GreenBelt Edition*: 65-67.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "Review: *New Monasticism and the Transformation of American Evangelicalism* by Wes Markofski." *Contemporary Sociology* 45(4): 478-479.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "Cross-Cousin Marriage." Pp. 487-488 in *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies, Vol I. A-C*, edited by Constance L. Shehan, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "Sati." Pp. 1723-1725 in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies, Vol. IV. Q-Z*, edited by Constance L. Shehan, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

McKendry-Smith, Emily and Tiffany Jenkins. 2016. "Wife Capture." Pp. 2054-2056 in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies, Vol. IV. Q-Z*, edited by Constance L. Shehan, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "Review: *From Jicama to Jackfruit: The Global Political Economy of Food* by Kimberly A. Weir." *International Sociology* 31(2): 174-175.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2015. "My Debt to the Nepali People." *Contexts* 14: 76.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McKendry-Smith, Emily, Anne Kristen Hunter, and Lisa L. Gezon. 2018. "Gender Differences in the Health Benefits of a Pedestrian Trail." Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, March 2018, Minneapolis, MN.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2017. "Communicating Outside the Academy: Stories and Guidance II." Presented at the Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Refereed Roundtables at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August 2017, Montreal, Canada.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2017. "Becoming a Brahma Kumari: Gender Differences in Understanding Participation in a New Religious Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2017, Montreal, Canada.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "Public Puja, Private Ashram: Using Brahma Kumaris in Nepal to Rethink Public/Private Religion." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2016, San Antonio, TX.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2016. "From Hindu to Secular and Halfway Back: Non-Affiliation Amidst Social and Political Change in Nepal." Presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, April 2016, Atlanta, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily and Winston Tripp. 2014. "Fish in the Sea, Birds in the Sky, Beasts of the Field: The Relationship between God Images and Attitudes toward Climate Change." Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2014, San Francisco, CA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2011. "Religious 'Nones' in Nepal." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2011, Milwaukee, WI.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2010. "'We Have Been Mistaken to Worship Stone': Religious Change and Modern Self-Identity in Nepal." Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2010, Atlanta, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2009. "Public Puja, Private Ashram: The Brahma Kumaris and Public/Private Religion in Nepal." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2009, Denver, CO.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2008. "Social Context and Subjective Importance of Religious Faith in the Lives of American Teenagers: An Exploration of Family, School, and Geography." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, August 2008, Boston, MA.

Smith, Emily. 2006. "U.S. Roman Catholic Teenagers and the Importance of Religious Faith." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2006, Portland, OR.

Smith, Emily. 2005. "'One Foot In and One Foot Out': Positional Identity and Catholic Youth." Presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society, April 2005, Miami, OH.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Hunter, Anne Kristen, Emily McKendry-Smith, and Lisa Gezon. 2018 "Gender Differences in the Health Benefits of a Pedestrian Trail." Presented at the annual Interdisciplinary Conference in the Social Sciences, October 2018, Carrollton, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2018. "Gender Differences in Joining a Religious Community: Recruitment Narratives of the Brahma Kumaris in Nepal." Presented at the annual Interdisciplinary Conference in the Social Sciences, October 2018, Carrollton, GA.

Smallwood, Amber, Emily McKendry-Smith, and Jennifer Beggs Weber. 2017. "Go Clubbing and Turn Up: Book Club Style, Two Ways." Presented at the annual Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, May 2017, Carrollton, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2017. "An Introduction to Atlas.ti." Presentation for the UWG Data Analysis and Visualization Lab's "Data Analysis Workshops" event, February 2017, Carrollton, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2015. "Thoroughly Modern Meditation: Religion in Rural Nepal." Presentation at the University of West Georgia – Newnan "College for a Day" event, August 2015, Newnan, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2015. "Brahma Kumaris in Chitwan." Presentation to the Rotary Club of Bharatpur, August 2015, Bharatpur, Nepal.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2015. "Participant Observation and Interview Research Methods." Presentation at the Institute for Agriculture and Animal Sciences, July 2015, Rampur, Nepal.

McKendry-Smith, Emily. 2015. "Public Household, Private Congregation: Situating the Religious Experiences of Nepali Women." Presentation for the UWG Women's Studies Program's "Multicultural Conversations Series" event, March 2015, Carrollton, GA.

McKendry-Smith, Emily and Tiffany Parsons. 2014. "Using Pinterest.com to Curate Online Media for Instructional Use." Presented at the annual Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, May 2014, Carrollton, GA.

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2018	UWG College of Social Sciences, Outstanding Service Award
2018	UWG Sociology Department, Outstanding Service Award
2017	UWG College of Social Sciences, Outstanding Junior Faculty Award
2017	UWG Sociology Department, Outstanding Mentorship Award
2017	Global Religion Research Institute, Course Development Grant
2016	UWG, Faculty Research Grant (with Lisa L. Gezon)
2015	UWG, Faculty Research Grant
2015	UWG College of Social Sciences, Outstanding Service Award
2008	Religious Research Association, Constant H. Jacquet Research Award
2008	Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Student Research Award
2008	Cornell University, Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant (Nepali)
2005-2006	UNC-CH, Scholars for Tomorrow Fellowship
2005	Knox College, Phi Beta Kappa

COURSES TAUGHT

FA 2018	SOCI 3293: Marriage and Family SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 6013: Social Research XIDS 2002: Shangri-La and Ideas of Utopia
SU 2018	SOCI 3001: Communicating Sociology (online)
SP 2018	SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 4999: Religion and Global Social Problems SOCI 6305: Advanced Sociological Theory
FA 2017	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 6286: Graduate Internship
SU 2017	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory (online) SOCI 4386: Internship
SP 2017	SOCI 3543: Sociology of Religion SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 6286: Graduate Internship SOCI 6305: Advanced Sociological Theory

FA 2016	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 6182: Graduate Sociology of Religion
SU 2016	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory (online) SOCI 4999: Special Topics – Global Families (online)
SP 2016	SOCI 3001: Communicating Sociology SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory (online) SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 4982: Capstone Internship SOCI 6286: Graduate Internship
FA 2015	SOCI 3543: Sociology of Religion SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 4982: Capstone Internship SOCI 6013: Graduate Social Research
SU 2015	CRIM 4286: Criminology Internship SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory (online) SOCI 4386: Internship
SP 2015	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 4982: Capstone Internship SOCI 6286: Graduate Internship SOCI 6305: Advanced Sociological Theory
Fall 2014	SOCI 3001: Communicating Sociology SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory SOCI 4386: Internship SOCI 4982: Capstone Internship SOCI 6013: Graduate Social Research
SU 2014	SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory
SP 2014	SOCI 3543: Sociology of Religion SOCI 4053: Sociological Theory SOCI 6305: Advanced Sociological Theory SOCI 6286: Graduate Internship

DIRECTION OF STUDENT WORK

Griffin, Vicki, J. "Domestic Violence: Perceptions of Educators on the Educational Outcomes of Youth in Georgia." MA Thesis, completed Fall 2018.

Moore, Lacey Byram. "The Equalization of Education: How School Type and Public Service Influence Educational Outcomes and Social Mobility." MA Thesis, completed Spring 2018.

Beaver, Victoria. "Social Media Sister: Applying Interaction Ritual Chain Theory to Sorority Women and their Social Media Usage." MA Thesis, completed Spring 2016.

West, Kelsey. "Chaco Christianity: How Millennials Redefine and Reinforce Religion in Campus Ministries." MA Thesis, completed Spring 2016.

McDaniel, John. "What it Means to Have a Spiritual Awakening in Alcoholics Anonymous." MA Thesis, completed Fall 2015.

Pitts, Jennifer. "Women at Risk: Examining the Relationship between Health Capital and Health Risk on Women's Sexual Health Risk Behavior." MA Thesis, completed Fall 2015.

Neupane, Suresh Nath. "Political Opportunity Structure and Framing of Nepal's Madhesi Ethnic Conflict." MA Thesis, completed Spring 2014.

SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

2018 Presider for the "Considering Geographic and Social Media Spaces and Health" panel at MSS

2017 Convener for the "Constructing Gender Identities" panel at ASR

2014 Presider for the "Everyday Religion" panel at ASA

2014 Convener for the "Religion and Societal Engagement" panel at ASR

2017-present ASA's Sociologists for Trans Justice Committee, member

Ad hoc reviewer for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, and *Violence Against Women*.

SERVICE AT UWG

2018-present UWG Interfaith Initiative, co-founder with Center for Diversity and Inclusion

2016-present UWG Faculty Senate liaison to UWG LEAP Committee

2015-present UWG Asian Studies Committee, member

2015-present UWG Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee, member

2018-present, member

2016-2018, chair

2015-2016, member

2014-present UWG Faculty Senate, Sociology Department representative

2014-2015 UWG Community Engagement Task Force, member

2014-2015 UWG Faculty Senate Budget Committee, member

2014-2016 UWG College of Social Sciences Research Day, organizer

2018 UWG Sociology Department Promotion & Tenure Committee, chair
2017-present UWG Sociology Department Undergraduate Programs Committee, chair
2016 UWG Sociology Department Chair Search Committee, member
2014-present UWG Sociology Department Internship Coordinator
2014-2015 UWG Sociology Department Faculty Search Committee, member
2013-2016 UWG Sociology Department Alpha Kappa Delta Honors Society, faculty advisor
2013-2016 UWG Sociology Department *SociNews* Newsletter, faculty advisor
2013-2014 UWG Sociology Department Faculty Search Committee, member
2013-2014 UWG Sociology Department Promotion and Tenure Revisions Committee, chair

2016-present UWG Models and Business club, faculty advisor
2013-2016 UWG Sociological Collective club, faculty advisor

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Sociological Association (*Sections*: Religion, Family, Global & Transnational)
Midwest Sociological Society
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
Religious Research Association
Association for the Sociology of Religion
American Academy of Religion