Suzanne van Geuns
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

2022	Ph.D., Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto
2016	M.A., Highest Cum Laude Honors, Comparative Literary Studies, Utrecht University
2014	B.A., Highest Cum Laude Honors, Dutch Language and Literature, Utrecht University

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2025-present	Assistant Professor of Religion and Technology, Religious Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison
2025-2026	Anna Julia Cooper fellowship, Religious Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison
2022-2025	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Culture, Society, and Religion, Princeton University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

under contract	*Computational Creep: Sex and Success in the Intelligence Age*. University of Chicago Press, Class 200 series.

Refereed journal articles

under review	"Eugenics as Power Law: Success and Fatalism in Manosphere Biology." *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*.
2025	"Jordan Peterson's Hollow Core." *Celebrity Studies* 16, no. 14 (2025): 611-616.
2019	"Reading is Believing: Online Evangelical Testimonies on Emotion." *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 34, no. 1 (2019): 97-115.
2014	"Mothers for a Christian Nation: The Quiverfull Take on the Future of American Christianity." *Exchange* 43, no. 2 (2014): 192–206.
2014	"Performance en Affect: Een uitbreiding van de theorie over de poëzievoordracht." *Tijdschrift Vooys* 32, no. 2 (2014): 37–47. ["Performance and Affect: Extending the Theoretical Framework for Poetry Recital"]

2012 "Geweld en Ritueel: Dierenoffers in Drie Verhalen van Jan Wolkers." *Tijdschrift Vooys* 30, no. 4 (2012): 30–40. ["Violence and Ritual: Animal Sacrifice in Three Short Stories by Jan Wolkers"]

Book chapters

2025 "Attraction to the Sequence: The Algorithmic Approach to Success on Seduction Forums." In *American Examples: New Conversations about Religion, Volume Four*, edited by Candace Lukasik, Joshua Urich, and Michael Altman, p. 9-35. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2025.

2022 Co-authored, with Pamela Klassen as second author. "Promiscuous Affiliation: Evangelical Women, Biblical Mediation and Digital Infrastructures of Conversion." In *Digital Humanities and Material Religion*, edited by Emily Clark and Rachel McBride Lindsey. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022.

Public scholarship projects

2024 "Ruinations: Violence in these times," forum on The Immanent Frame, co-curated with Mona Oraby. https://tif.ssrc.org/category/ruinations-violence-in-these-times/

2024 "Religion and the Moment of War," podcast series produced by graduate students, Center for Culture, Society and Religion, Princeton University. https://open.spotify.com/show/7cWLn7ombcA0qakcHklwzU?si=b061ba3dd54d476f

2024 "Religion in Two Minutes or Less," video series by graduate students, Center for Culture, Society and Religion, Princeton University. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGGaPnAQJmyvs9X-HQrs_gccm4TBWyzAx

2023 Does Not Compute, educational module with videos and annotated bibliographies, Center for Culture, Society and Religion, Princeton University. https://suzannevangeuns.com/does-not-compute/

Public scholarship – individual contributions

Essays

2026 "Beginning the Intelligence Age." *The Immanent Frame*, August 12, 2026. http://tif.ssrc.org/2026/08/12/beginning-the-intelligence-age/.

2024 "Rabid for a peace." Essay for "Ruinations: Violence in these times," a forum on *The Immanent Frame*, co-curated by Suzanne van Geuns and Mona Oraby. https://tif.ssrc.org/2024/09/25/rabid-for-a-peace/

2024 "Peacocking: Religion as 'Loud Piece' in Masculinity Influencing." Part of Fashioning Masculinities, a public-facing journal supplement commissioned by *American Religion*. https://www.american-religion.org/fashioning-masculinities/peacock

2023 "Pipeline ironies: the colonial religious history behind online hate." In *Eaten by the Internet*, Meatspace Press.

2022 "The Sticky Cookies of Biblical Womanhood." *MAVCOR Journal*, Object Narratives. https://mavcor.yale.edu/mavcor-journal/object-narratives/sticky-cookies-biblical-womanhood

2022 "What does it mean to consider religion when thinking about AI?" *Schwartz-Reisman Institute for Technology and Society* (blog), March 22. https://srinstitute.utoronto.ca/news/what-does-it-mean-to-consider-religion-and-ai

2020 Co-authored, with Corinne Cath-Speth as second author. "How Hate Speech Reveals the Invisible Politics of Internet Infrastructure." Brookings Institute. *Techstream* (blog), August 20. https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/how-hate-speech-reveals-the-invisible-politics-of-internet-infrastructure/.

2020 "The History of Seduction from the Enlightenment to #Metoo." Review in *Ethics of AI Journal*, Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto. https://c4ejournal.net/2020/04/19/suzanne-van-geuns-the-history-of-seduction-from-the-enlightenment-to-metoo-2020-c4ej-6-book-review/

2017 "The New Normaal: 'Black Pete,' Muslims and Whiteness in the Netherlands." *Religion Dispatches*, December 6, 2017. http://religiondispatches.org/blasphemy-in-the-netherlands-white-norms-and-black-pete/.

2017 Co-authored, with Kambiz GhaneaBassiri as first author. "Trump's 'Muslim Ban': A Symptom of White Nationalism in US Politics." *E-International Relations*, August 1, 2017. http://www.e-ir.info/2017/08/01/trumps-muslim-ban-a-symptom-of-white-nationalism-in-us-politics/.

Podcasts

2023 "Why do protests feel so electric?" *Religion and the Moment of War*, April 24, 2024, produced at Center for Culture, Society and Religion, Princeton University. https://sptfy.com/RccE

2023 "The smoothness of success." *Machines in Between*, episode 8, John and Libby Modern for the Luce Foundation. https://www.machinesinbetween.com/episodes/topsy

2023 "Example #4: Seduction Forums." *American Examples*, May 4, 2023. Ciara Eichhorst, Department of Religion, University of Alabama. https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/ep-26-example-4-seduction-forums/id1210939134?i=1000611756225

2021 "Complotdenken." [Conspiracy thinking] *Het Redelijke Midden*, January 25, 2021. Farah Bazzi and Annelot Prins, Boris Noordenbos as fellow guest. https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/33-complotdenken-is-volkomen-logisch-als-je-geen-controle/id1493177824?i=1000506584501

2019 "Redpilling, Antifeminism, and the Internet." *Let's Get Ethical*, December 18, 2019. Markus Dubber, Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto. https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/lets-get-ethical/id1486420135.

2018 "Motivations of Far Right Online Communities and Racism in the Netherlands." *Democracy, Disrupted*, November 26, 2018. Erik Martin, Oxford

University. https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/motivations-far-right-online-communities-racism-in/id1441226567?i=1000424578551.

Other publications

2017 "Betogers Virginia 'gekken' noemen is niet productief." *Volkskrant*, August 14, 2017. https://www.volkskrant.nl/columns-opinie/opinie-wat-drijft-witte-nationalisten-die-vraag-wordt-na-charlottesville-nog-urgenter~ba30d3cfb/. ["Calling Virginia protesters 'crazy' is not enough," op-ed]

2015 Kinderen van Adam: Preken over de Zondeval." *Woord en Dienst*, 2015. ["Children of Adam: Sermons on the Fall of Man," magazine]

AWARDS AND HONORS

2023 American Religion Dissertation Prize, awarded by the journal *American Religion* and sponsored by Indiana University's Center for Religion and the Human.

2021 American Examples fellowship, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, Department of Religious Studies at the University of Alabama.

2021 Graduate Fellowship, Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society, University of Toronto.

2020 Mary H. Beatty Fellowship, University of Toronto.

2019 Finalist for Society for the 2019 Society for the Anthropology of Religion Graduate Student Paper Prize.

2019 Research grant for "Conservative Christian Futures and Pasts: Infrastructures of Sovereignty and Display in the US Capital," Connaught Entangled Worlds Initiative, group research project with Kyle Byron, Saliha Chattoo, Christina Pasqua.

2019 Graduate Fellowship, Ethics of AI Lab, University of Toronto.

2019 Mary H. Beatty Fellowship, University of Toronto.

2018 Mitacs Globalink Research Award, Canadian Centres of Excellence.

2018 Ontario Graduate Fellowship, University of Toronto.

2017 Ontario Graduate Fellowship, University of Toronto.

2016 Jackman Junior Fellowship for incoming doctoral students, University of Toronto.

2016 Vice-Chancellor's Award, Cambridge University. (declined)

2016 Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) fees-only EU studentship, Cambridge University. (declined)

INVITED TALKS

2026	"Seeking Alignment: Religious Imaginaries in the Past and Future of AI." Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society, University of Toronto, April 8, 2026.
2025	"Women Love Card Tricks: Magic, Algorithms, and Seduction." Day Memorial Lecture, Department of Religious Studies, University of Alabama, April 15, 2025.
2025	"Intelligent Artifice: Seduction Algorithms, Magic, and Computational Modernity." Department of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, February 27, 2025.
2023	"Intelligent Artifice: Algorithmic Solutions." Science, Technology, and the Public in a Postsecular Age, University of Arizona, April 28, 2023.
2019	"'Building Power' Online: Therapeutic Antifeminism and Self-Improvement on Reddit." Yale Sensory Cultures of Religion Research Group, Yale University, October 29, 2019.

CONFERENCES

Panels organized

2022	Speculative Technologies. Critical Theory and Discourses in Religion Unit. American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, November 20, 2022.
2019	"I Learned It From the Internet": Online Knowledge Consumption and Embodiment. Co-organized with Saliha Chattoo. Panel at the Society for the Anthropology of Religion: Biennial Meeting, University of Toronto, May 23, 2019.

Papers presented

2025	"Eugenics as Power Law." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Roundtable on eugenics. November 24, 2025.
2025	"Algorithms and Deduction." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Roundtable on freedom and expertise. November 22, 2025.
2023	"Doomed by Their Jawlines: Involuntary Celibacy and Data Fatalism." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Panel: Religion and Sexuality. November 19, 2023.
2023	"Peacocking: Religion as 'Loud Piece' in Masculinity Influencing." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Panel: Fashioning Masculinities. November 20, 2023.
2022	"A Very Brief History of the Incel." Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life. Online, September 15, 2023.
2022	"The Numbers Game: Incels and Luck." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Panel: Speculative Technologies. November 20, 2022.

2022 "'How to Get the Women You Desire': Psychotheology, Seduction, and the Rise of Method." Entangled Worlds: Sovereignty, Sanctities, and Soil. Connaught Global Challenge Initiative. Panel: Opposed or Allied Magisteria?: Theologies, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences. Online, March 25, 2022.

2021 "Conversion and/as Influence: Reformed Wives and Monetized Links on Biblical Womanhood Blogs." American Academy of Religion. Panel: Virtual Conversions? Identity Reified through Digital Community. Online, November 20, 2021.

2021 "Online Ascent: A Historical Analysis of Seduction and Its Infrastructure." Joint Conference for Institute for Research on Male Supremacism and Berkeley Center for Right-Wing Studies. Panel: Misogynist Incels and Pickup Artists. Online, May 11, 2021.

2021 "Scripts, Scores, and Sexual Strategy: Algorithms and Self-Fashioning in Seduction Instructions." Society for the Anthropology of Religion: Biennial Conference. Online, May 14 to May 16, 2021.

2021 Discussant at roundtable for *The Divine Institution: White Evangelicalism's Politics of the Family*, Sophie Bjork-James. Society for the Anthropology of Religion: Biennial Conference. Online, May 14 to May 16, 2021.

2020 "Computational Surveillance, Secular Method." American Academy of Religion. Roundtable: Machines that Surveil and Enchant. Online, December 8, 2020.

2019 "'Building Power' on Reddit: Red Pill Instruction, Self-Improvement, and Antifeminist Generativity." American Academy of Anthropology: Annual Meeting. Panel: The Contours of Conservatism: Ethnographic Approaches to Shifting Political Climates. Vancouver, November 22, 2019.

2019 "Coding Biblical Womanhood." American Academy of Religion: Annual Meeting. Panel: #CaptioningReligion: Characterizing the Material Economies of Religion in the Americas. San Diego, CA, November 24, 2019.

2019 "'Building Power' on Reddit: Red Pill Instruction, Self-Improvement, and Antifeminist Generativity." University of Tübingen, Problematizing Morality Summer School. Tübingen, Germany, September 25, 2019.

2019 "Religious Instruction and Affiliate Links: Evangelical Women's Blogs as Infrastructures of Online Aspiration." Society for the Anthropology of Religion: Biennial Conference. University of Toronto, May 23, 2019.

2018 "Rational Virtuosity and Religious Promise: Aspiring toward Jordan Peterson in Reddit Debates." Affect and Social Media Conference: Notifications from the Technological Unconscious. University Square Stratford, November 7, 2018.

2017 "White Nationalist Civic Religion: Mirroring Multicultural Remembrance." R.F. Harney Annual Graduate Research Conference in Ethnic and Pluralism Studies. University of Toronto, January 26, 2017.

2016 "Grieving June Cleaver: Fifties Nostalgia in Biblical Womanhood Blogging." Graduating Conference Comparative Literary Studies. Utrecht University, June 27, 2016.

2015 "Reading is Believing: Online Evangelical Testimonies on Emotion." Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Science and Religion. Harvard University, October 23, 2015.

CAMPUS TALKS

2025	"Incels." Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College, December 1, 2025.
2023	"Finding Your Way into the Web." Toolkit event. Center for Culture, Society, and Religion, Princeton, April 13, 2023.
2023	"The Numbers Game: Incels and Computational Patriarchy." Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College, November 2, 2023.
2022	"What Makes Us Human?: AI, Spirituality, and Race." Roundtable participant. Hart House, University of Toronto, February 2, 2022.
2020	"Seduction, Scripts, and Self-Improvement: Antifeminist Forums and the Cultural Legacy of AI." Emerging Scholars in AI. Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto, February 12, 2020.
2018	"Launching Right-Wing Futures: Religion and Aspiration on the Internet." Brown Bag Seminar. Oxford Internet Institute, October 31, 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Princeton

Graduate Workshop in Culture, Society, and Religion	Instructor of record.

University of Toronto

Advanced Topics in Media and Religion: Digital Religion	Instructor of record. Department of Historical Studies, Summer 2020.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fellowships

2023	Affiliate Researcher, Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life, University of North Carolina.
2018	Recognised Visiting Student, Digital Ethics Lab, Oxford Internet Institute, Oxford University. Michaelmas term.
2017	Student participant, Digital Methods Winter School, University of Amsterdam. January 2017.
2015	Visiting Graduate Student, Anthropology, UCLA. Fall semester.

Employment

2024-2025	Editorial assistant, *The Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council.
2021-present	Editorial consultant, Dr Corinne Cath-Speth, Ford Foundation.
2019	Editorial consultant, Prof. Sally Promey, Yale University.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Review

2026	*Journal of American Religion*.
2026	*Social Semiotics*.

Miscellaneous

2025-present	Board member, *The Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Divisional Working Group on AI, Arts and Humanities, 2026.
Curriculum Committee, Religious Studies, 2026.

LANGUAGES

Dutch	Native proficiency.
English	Full professional proficiency.
French	Good in speaking and writing, excellent in reading.
German	Good in speaking and writing, excellent in reading.
Ancient Greek	Six years of study.
Latin	Six years of study.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2017-present	Contributing member, Material Economies of Religion in the Americas, Yale University.
2017-present	American Academy of Religion.

2017-2021	American Anthropological Association.

REFERENCES

Pamela Klassen	Professor, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto 170 St George Street Toronto, ON M5R 2M8 Canada e: p.klassen@utoronto.ca
Jonathan Gold	Professor of Religion at the Religion Department and Director at the Center for Culture, Society, and Religion, Princeton University 242 - 1879 Hall Washington Road Princeton, NJ 08544 United States e: jcgold@princeton.edu
John Lardas Modern	Arthur and Katherine Shadek Professor of the Humanities and Religious Studies at the Religious Studies Department, Franklin & Marshall College 931 Harrisburg Ave Lancaster, PA 17603 United States e: john.modern@fandm.edu
Sally Promey	Caroline Washburn Professor of Religion and Visual Culture at the American Studies and Religious Studies Departments, Yale University 320 York Street New Haven, CT 06511 United States e: sally.promey@yale.edu