

*Curriculum Vita*  
Marianne Parrish Florian, Ph.D.

## Education

- 2021 Doctor of Philosophy, American Religious Cultures  
Emory University Graduate Division of Religion  
Graduate Certificate in Mind, Brain, and Culture  
Concentration in Contemplative Studies  
Dissertation: Adopting and Adapting Compassion Practice: An Analysis of Novice Meditators' Experiences
- 2014 Master of Theological Studies, Modern Religious Thought and Experience  
Emory University Candler School of Theology  
Thesis: Cognitively-Based Compassion Training: Buddhist-Inflected Meditation in a Secular Mode
- 2012 Master of Arts, French  
University of South Carolina Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
Thesis: Depictions of Widow Immolation in Montaigne, Voltaire, Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, and Verne
- 2005 Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, French  
University of South Carolina Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
Language and Cultural Immersion: Bamako, Mali in Spring 2002

## Awards

- Mellon Humanities PhD Interventions Project Dean's Teaching Fellowship*  
*Emory University Laney Graduate School Woodruff Fellowship*  
*National Merit Scholarship*  
*University of South Carolina Leiber Scholarship*  
*University of South Carolina Janice and Robert C. McNair Scholarship*

## Appointments

- 2022 Visiting Assistant Professor of Instruction, Dept. of Religious Studies, University of South Florida
- 2022 Consultant, Mascaro Lab in Family and Preventive Medicine, Emory School of Medicine
- 2019-2020 Instructor, Advanced Certificate in Theological Studies, Lee-Arrendale State Prison
- 2018 Adjunct Instructor, Historical and Doctrinal Studies, Columbia Theological Seminary
- 2017 Program Assistant, Tibetan Mind-Body Sciences semester abroad in India, Emory University Office of International and Summer Programs
- 2016-2017 Project Manager, Laney Colloquium in Religion, Emory University Graduate Division of Religion
- 2015-2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Religion, Emory College
- 2008, 2012 Adjunct Instructor, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of South Carolina
- 2007-08 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of  
& 2010-11 South Carolina

- 2009-2012 Corporate Trainer, French Language, Michelin USA
- 2009-2010 GRE and SAT Instructor, Kaplan Test Prep & Admissions

## Publications

- Mascaro J.S., Florian M.P., Ash M.J., Palmer P.K., Sharma A., Kaplan D.M., Palitsky R., Grant G., Raison C.L. Learning Compassion and Meditation: A Mixed-Methods Analysis of the Experience of Novice Meditators. *Front Psychol.* 2022 Apr 5;13:805718. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.805718. PMID: 35450333; PMCID: PMC9017646.
- Mascaro, J.S., Palmer, P.K., Willson, M. Ash M.J., Florian M.P., Srivastava, M., Sharma, A., Jarrell, B., Walker, E.R., Kaplan, D.M., Palitsky, R., Cole, S.P., Grant, G.H., Raison, C.L. The Language of Compassion: Hospital Chaplains' Compassion Capacity Reduces Patient Depression via Other-Oriented, Inclusive Language. *Mindfulness* (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12671-022-01907-6>.
- Mascaro, J.S., Florian, M.P., Ash, M.J., Palmer, P.K., Frazier, T., Condon, P., Raison, C., 2020. Ways of Knowing Compassion: How Do We Come to Know, Understand, and Measure Compassion When We See It? *Front. Psychol.* 11,2467
- Ash, M.J., Walker, E.R., DiClemente, R.J., Florian, M.P., Palmer, P.K., Wehrmeyer, K., Negi, L.T., Grant, G.H., Raison, C.L., Mascaro, J.S., 2021. Compassion Meditation Training for Hospital Chaplain Residents: A Pilot Study. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy* 0, 1–16.
- Palmer, P.K., Wehrmeyer, K., Florian, M.P., Raison, C.L. Idler, E., & Mascaro, J.S. “The Prevalence, Grouping, and Distribution of Stressors & Their Association with Anxiety among Hospitalized Patients.” *PLOS ONE* (under review)
- Mascaro, J.S., Florian, M.P., Palmer, P.K., Ash, M.J., and Raison, C.L. “Experiences of Compassion and Compassion Meditation: A Mixed-Methods Study” *Frontiers in Psychology*, Special Issue: The Varieties of Contemplative Experiences (under review)

## Conference Presentations

- “Compassion-Centered Clinical Pastoral Education, a Contemplative and Interdisciplinary Practice”  
Mind and Life Institute’s International Symposium for Contemplative Research  
George Grant and Maureen Shelton co-presenters (unable to attend)
- “Evolution is not Big Ontogeny & Not All Reductionism Is Bad: How Phenomenology Warms to Cognitive Science”  
Society for Phenomenology & the Human Sciences (October 20, 2017)
- “Anthropology of Experience and Evolutionary Cognitive Science: A Micro-Consilience Proposal”  
Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences (October 21, 2017)
- “Perfecting Communion: Contemplative and Ecstatic Practices in the Caribbean Spiritual Baptist Mourning Ritual,”  
Presentation for the Southeastern Committee on the Study of Religion (March 4, 2017)

## University Level Teaching

- Dean’s Teaching Fellow, Emory University Laney Graduate School (2019-20)  
*Introduction to Buddhism*, designed and taught  
*Research and Writing Seminar*, co-designed, taught with Aruni Mahapatra

Adjunct Instructor, Columbia Theological Seminary 2018

*History of Health and Healing in American Religious Cultures HD579* - designed and taught

Program Assistant, Emory Tibetan Mind-Body Sciences Study Abroad India (2017)

*Healing Cultures of Buddhist Tibet REL331/ANT385* - teaching assistant to Lobsang Tenzin Negi

*Mind, Medicine, and Healing REL258/HLTH358* - teaching assistant to Lobsang Tenzin Negi

*Buddhist Meditation and Debate REL370* - teaching assistant to Lobsang Tenzin Negi

Woodruff Graduate Fellow, Emory University (2014-19)

*Contemplative Science and Human Health HLTH385* - codesigned, taught with Jennifer Mascaro

*Socially Engaged Buddhism WR614* - codesigned, taught with Tara Doyle

*American Religious History & Culture REL209*-codesigned, taught with B. Patterson & T. Rainey

*Religion and Sexuality REL322* - teaching assistant to Gary Laderman

*Death and Dying REL323* - teaching assistant to Gary Laderman

*Black Christian Thought REL326* - teaching assistant to Theophus Smith

*Secular Ethics, the Dalai Lama's Approach REL354*, teaching assistant to Lobsang Tenzin Negi

Graduate Assistant, Graduate Associate, and Adjunct Instructor, University of South Carolina (2008-12)

*Elementary French I FREN122* - designed and taught (two sections)

*Beginning French II FREN110* - designed and taught

*Beginning French FREN109* - designed and taught (two sections)

*Elementary French II FREN121* - teaching assistant to Brigitte Guillemin-Persels

Guest Lectures

“Alternative Religions and Sexual Cultures in 19<sup>th</sup>-century America,” for *American Religious History*,  
taught by Charles E. Barber and Barbara A.B. Patterson, Emory College

“Interfaith Dialogue with Buddhists,” for *Interfaith Dialogue as Congregational Mission*, taught by Arun  
Jones, Candler School of Theology

“CBCT® an Analytic and Contemplative Practice,” for *Contemplative Science and Human Health*, taught  
by Jennifer S. Mascaro, Emory College

“Cognitively-Based Compassion Training Eight-Day Survey,” for *Introduction to Buddhism*, taught by  
Patrick McNamara, Candler School of Theology

## Professional Training and Accreditation

Emory University Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics  
Teacher Certification, Cognitively-Based Compassion Training (CBCT®)

Life University Center for Compassion, Integrity, and Secular Ethics  
Compassionate Integrity Training Certificate

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program)  
Human Subjects Research Track Certifications in Basic Clinical Practice, Basic Biomedical Research  
Social/Behavioral Human Subjects Protection, and Biomedical Human Subjects Protection

## Professional Affiliations

*American Academy of Religion Member*

*Life University Center for Compassion, Integrity, and Secular Ethics Working Group Member*

*Emory University Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics Affiliate*

*Emory University Center for Mind, Brain, and Culture Affiliate*

*Mind and Life Institute Member*

*Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences Member*

## University Service

Emory University Buddhist Club, President, Secretary, and Executive Board Member

Life University Center for Compassion, Integrity, and Secular Ethics – Working group for the design of the Compassionate Integrity Training Program

Office of Spiritual and Religious Life, Emory University Campus Life – Buddhist Religious Life Advisor

Office of Spiritual and Religious Life, Emory University Campus Life – Café Unity Coordinator

University of South Carolina Meditation Society (Defunct) – Founder

University of South Carolina Preston Residential College – Graduate Associate

University of South Carolina Preston Residential College – Peer Coordinator

## Language Proficiencies

English - Native

French - Fluent

Spanish - Conversational

Italian, Tibetan, and Hindi - Beginner