

**HESTER GOODENOUGH GELBER**

**ADDRESS:**

Department of Religious Studies  
Building 70, Room 72K  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California 94305-2165

**TELEPHONE AND E-MAIL:**

Office: (650) 723-0472  
Home: (650) 521-0539  
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**EDUCATION:**

Cornell University: B.A. History (medieval focus), 1965  
University of Wisconsin-Madison: M.A. Medieval History, 1967  
University of Wisconsin-Madison: Ph.D. Medieval History, 1974

Masters thesis: "The Humanist as Bureaucrat: Humanism at the Curia under Martin V."

Advisor: Kenneth M. Setton

Ph.D. Dissertation: "Logic and the Trinity: A Clash of Values in Scholastic Thought, 1300-1335."

Advisor: William J. Courteny.

**CURRENT POSITION:**

Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, 2006 to the present  
Chair, Department of Religious Studies, 2010-2013

**PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL HISTORY:**

T.A., Integrated Liberal Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1966-68  
Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1968-1969  
Lecturer, University of Santa Clara, History Department, 1974  
Lecturer, Stanford University, Philosophy Department, 1978-1982  
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, 1982-1990  
Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, 1990-2006

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:**

Ford Foundation Fellowship; 1967, 1968.  
Pew Foundation Grant, summer 1985.  
American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 1985-1986  
Stanford Humanities Center Fellowship, 1988-1989, and 2004-2005  
Coglan Fellow in Religious Studies, 1990-1992.  
University Medal, University of Helsinki, January, 1994  
John and Lydia Pearce Mitchell University Fellow in Undergraduate Education,  
2004-2009, renewed 2009-2014 (Bass Fellow)  
Hoagland Award (with Jennifer Summit and Philippe Buc) to develop new  
Crusades course—2007-2008

## CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Cusanus Society  
Medieval Academy of America  
Medieval Association of the Pacific  
American Academy of Religion

## PUBLICATIONS:

### BOOKS:

*Exploring the Boundaries of Reason: Three Questions on the Nature of God* by Robert Holcot, O.P., Studies and Texts 62 (Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, 1983)  
*Seeing the Future Clearly: Quodlibetal Questions on Future Contingents* by Robert Holcot, co-editor with William J. Courtenay. Principal editors: Paul A. Streveler and Katherine Tachau. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1995)  
*It Could Have Been Otherwise: Contingency and Necessity in Dominican Theology at Oxford, 1300-1350* (Leiden: Brill, 2004).

### ARTICLES:

"I Cannot Tell a Lie: Hugh Lawton's Critique of Ockham on Mental Language," *Franciscan Studies* 44 (1984): 141-179  
"A Theater of Virtue: The Exemplary World of St. Francis of Assisi," in *Saints and Virtues*, ed. John Stratton Hawley (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987), 15-35  
"The Fallacy of Accident and the *Dictum de omni*: Late Medieval Controversy over a Riciprocal Pair," *Vivarium* 25:2 (November, 1987): 110-145  
"Ockham's Early Influence: A Question about Predestination and Foreknowledge by Arnold of Strelley, OP," *Archives d'histoire doctrinale et littéraire du moyen âge* 55 (1988): 255-289  
"Eternal Questions--The Domincan Hugh of Lawton on the Eternity of the World," in *Knowledge and the Sciences in Medieval Philosophy*, Proceedings of the Eighth International Congress of Medieval Philosophy, vol. 3 (Helsinki, 1990), 71-78  
"Revisiting the Theater of Virtue," *Franciscan Studies* 58 (2000): 19-36.  
"Robert Holcot [Holcot]," in *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (July, 2001), <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/holcot/> (The librarians journal *The Charleston Advisor*, gave SEP the award for Best Content in its annual "Readers Choice" awards.)  
"Robert Holcot," *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Farmington Hills, MI: Thomson Gale, 2005).  
"Providence," *The Cambridge History of Medieval Philosophy*, ed. Robert Pasnau vol. II (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010): 761-772  
"Blackfriars London: The Late Medieval *Studium*," in *Philosophy and Theology in the 'Studia' of the Religious Orders and at Papal and Royal Courts*, ed. Kent Emery, Jr., William J. Courtenay, and Stephen M. Metzger, Acts of the xvth Annual Colloquium of the Société International pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale, University of Notre Dame, 8-10 October, 2008 (Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2012): 165-180.  
"Robert Holcot, Obligational Theology and the Incarnation," in *Utrum, Igitur etc.*, ed. William O. Duba, Russell L. Friedman and Chris Schabel, forthcoming  
"Laughter and Deception: Holcot and Chaucer Stay Cheerful," in *Uncertain Knowledge*, ed. Mishtooni Bose, Rita Copeland, Dallas Denery, Kantik Ghosh, and Nicolette Zeeman (Brepols, forthcoming 2013)

### BOOK REVIEWS:

Andre Goddú, *The Physics of William of Ockham*, in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 25 (April, 1987): 294-296  
Caroline Walker Bynum, *Holy Feast and Holy Fast: The Religious Significance of Food to Medieval Women*, in *Modern Language Quarterly* 48 (September, 1987): 281-285  
Marilyn McCord Adams, *William Ockham*, 2 vols. in *Faith and Philosophy* 7 (April, 1990): 246-252



- Linda Trinkaus Zagzebski, *The Dilemma of Freedom and Foreknowledge*, in *Speculum* 69 (January, 1994): 280-281
- M. J. F. M. Hoenen, *Marsilius of Inghen: Divine Knowledge in Late Medieval Thought*, in *Speculum* 71 (April, 1996): 433-435
- Maryanne Cline Horowitz, *Seeds of Virtue and Knowledge*, in *Speculum* 77 (2002): 557-558
- Caroline Walker Bynum, *Metamorphosis and Identity*, in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 70/4 (2002)
- Walter Burley, *On the Purity of the Art of Logic: the Shorter and the Longer Treatises*, trans. Paul Vincent Spade, *Speculum* (October, 2003): 1258-1259
- Paul Thom, *Medieval Modal Systems: Problems and Concepts*, *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 88 (2006): 232-236

#### PAPERS PRESENTED:

- "Robert Holcot and the Problem of 'Left -Wing Nominalism,'" Northern California Renaissance Conference, Santa Clara (May, 1973)
- "Haven for a Theological Outcast: The *Centiloquium theologicum* on God's Omnipotence," tenth Conference on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May, 1975)
- "Ockham's Ethics," Stanford Philosophy Colloquium (April, 1979)
- "The Early Social History of the Cathedral," University of California-Berkeley Extension Program: "Cathedral, Its History and Its Place in the Late Twentieth Century" (March, 1980)
- "Francis of Assisi's Conversion Experience," Stanford Religious Studies Colloquium (November, 1982)
- "The Fallacy of Accident, Accidental Fallacies and Other Abstractions," Conference on Medieval Philosophy and Science-Pomona College (April, 1983)
- "Future Contingents and Truth in the View of Some Oxford Dominicans: Arnold of Strelley, William Crathorn, and Robert Holcot," fifteenth International Conference on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May, 1984)
- "Francis of Assisi: A Psychological Interpretation of an Exemplary Self," American Society of Church History (December, 1984)
- "The Contingencies of Propositions as Contingent Facts in William Crathorn and Robert Holcot," The American Philosophical Association--Pacific Division Conference (March, 1985)
- "Finding Faces for Dominicans: Theology at Blackfriars in the Time of William of Ockham," sixteenth International Conference on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May, 1985)
- "The Contingencies of Propositions as Contingent Facts: The Dominicans William Crathorn and Robert Holcot," Religious Studies Colloquium, Stanford (May, 1985)
- "I Cannot Tell a Lie: Hugh Lawton's Critique of Ockham on Mental Language," International Colloquium on the Thought and Writings of William of Ockham, The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University (October, 1985)
- "Power and Maternity: Feminine Imagery in Medieval Christianity," Jing Lyman Lecture, Stanford University (February, 1986)
- "Modern Trends in Medieval Historiography: Data Analysis, Case Studies, Psychological and Anthropological Modeling," panel participant CARA session, Medieval Academy, Albuquerque (April, 1988)
- "The Limits of Lying: Fourteenth-Century Dominican Theories of Lying," Medieval Academy, Toronto (April, 1987)
- "Eternal Questions--Oxford Dominicans on the Eternity of the World from 1310-1335," Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale, Helsinki (August, 1987)
- "Late Medieval Views on Mental Language," Stanford Medieval Studies Workshop (May, 1988)
- "The Limits of Lying," University of California-Berkeley Medieval Studies lecture (February, 1989)
- "It Could Have Been Otherwise: Oxford Dominicans on Contingency--1310-1335," a four hour lecture series presented at the Università degli studi di Milano (April, 1989)
- "Theology De Obligationibus: Modal Theory and Theology among the Dominicans at Oxford--1325-1335," presented at the Università degli studi di Pisa (April, 1989)

- "Dominican *Nominalistae* and the *Ars obligatoria* at Oxford, 1325-1335," 24th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May, 1989) (Solicited at the last minute--not in the published program.)
- "*Obligatio* Form and its Influence on Theology in the Fourteenth Century," The Boston Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy, Boston College (March, 1990)
- "Induction and the Emergence of Probability--Almost," presented to the Philosophy Department, Ohio State University (April, 1990)
- "The *Ars Obligatoria* and Theories of the Incarnation," 25th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan (May, 1990)
- "The Virgin Mary in Medieval Moral Mythology," Colloquium for Religious Studies Department (December, 1990)
- Commentator: "God's Presence--Some Cusan Proposals," by Clyde Lee Miller, American Philosophical Association--Pacific Division (March, 1991)
- "Miscalculating the Calculators: Some Mertonians and the Merton Thesis," History of Science Society (November, 1991)
- "The Obedience that Binds in Late Medieval Thought," American Philosophical Association--Eastern Division, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy (December, 1992)
- "Logic and the Trinity in Late Medieval Theology," Keynote address for Conference on Logic and Theology in the Late Middle Ages at the University of Helsinki (January, 1994)
- Commentator: "The Logical Structure of Scotus' Formal Distinction," by Allan Bäck. American Philosophical Association--Central Division (1995)
- "Cultural Evolution in Medieval Europe--1100-1400," conference on "The Theory of Cultural Evolution," (August, 1997)
- "To Be or Not to Be: Fourteenth-Century English Reflections on Perplexity of Conscience," American Philosophical Association--Eastern Division, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy (December, 1997)
- "Revisiting the Theater of Virtue," The Franciscan School of Theology, April 7, 2000. Address to a conference celebrating the publication of *Francis of Assisi: The Early Documents*, April 6-7, 2000
- "Experiencing Medieval Childhood and Why it Mattered," for 2001-2002 Graduate Research Workshop: "Images and Concepts of Childhood," Stanford University, May 4, 2001
- "With Justice and Mercy: The Medieval Retributive Cosmos," Stanford Humanities Center presentation to the fellows, February 1, 2005
- "The Fate of Providence," Toronto Colloquium in Mediaeval Philosophy, University of Toronto, September 22, 2006
- Commentator at session for "Crossing boundaries at Medieval Universities: Intellectual moments, Academic Disciplines and Societal Conflict" conference, Madison, Wisconsin (May, 2008)
- "Blackfriars London: The Late Medieval *Studium*," Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale, Notre Dame, Indiana (October, 2008)
- "Robert Holcot, Obligational Theology and Incarnation," for "Medieval British Philosophy" conference held at Georgetown (March, 2009)
- "Laughter and Deception: Holcot and Chaucer Stay Cheerful," for "Uncertain Knowledge" conference held at Kings College, Cambridge (April, 2011)
- "Notre Dame and the Birth of the Retributive Cosmos," for Humanities West conference on Notre Dame Cathedral held in San Francisco (November, 2011)
- "Marriage as Metaphor in the Retributive Cosmos," given as CMEMS workshop, spring 2013

#### COURSES TAUGHT:

Introduction to Humanities: team-taught  
 Self-Reflections: The Examined Life  
 Finding Voices, Forging Selves

Introductory Medieval History  
 Western Culture-Middle Ages and Renaissance: team-taught  
 Medieval Culture: team-taught  
 Culture of the Renaissance



Introduction to Christianity  
Christianity to the year 1000  
History of Medieval and Renaissance Christianity  
Sex, Body and Gender in Medieval Religion  
Medieval Culture of England (Stanford Centre in Oxford)  
Medieval and Renaissance Religious Philosophy  
Philosophy of Religion  
Issues in Contemporary Ethics (dorm based course)  
Global Focus Current Affairs (dorm based course)  
Religion in Science Fiction and Fantasy

**The Crusades**

An experimental course team-taught with Jennifer Summit and Philippe Buc

**Freshman Seminars:**

Murder in the Cathedral  
Francis of Assisi

**Sophomore College Seminars:**

Religion in Science Fiction and Fantasy  
Just Who Are We? Science Fiction and the Futuristic Self

**Seminars:**

Augustine of Hippo  
Thomas Aquinas  
Model Selves--Francis of Assisi  
The Virgin Mary and Images of Power  
Science and Religion  
Origin of the Universities (Stanford Centre in Oxford)  
Majors Seminar  
Mystics and Mysticism

**Continuing Studies Courses:**

Philosophy of Religion  
Chaucer's England  
Masters in Liberal Arts Core Seminar: Medieval Culture

**Graduate Seminars:**

Theories and Methods of Religion  
Graduate Program in Humanities: Roman and Early Christian Culture  
Graduate Program in Humanities: Medieval Culture  
Mystics and Mysticism

**COMMITTEE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES:**

**For the Profession:**

Member of the Council for the Medieval Association of the Pacific 1984-1987, and again 1996-1999  
Member of the Council for the American Society of Church History 1990-93

**For Stanford University:**

Individually Designed Major Committee, 1982-1984, 1990-1991  
Chair, 1983-1984  
Western Culture Program Committee, 1984-1985, 1986-1988  
CIV Program Committee, 1988-1991  
Stanford Humanities Center Advisory Board, 1998-1994, 2003-2006 with a hiatus  
during 2004-2005 while on leave and in residence at the Center, 2006-2009.  
Stanford Humanities Center Supplementary Advisory Committee, 1990-1994  
Committee on Medieval Studies, 1982-1985, 1989-1998  
Chair, 1994-1995  
Graduate Committee for Humanities Special Programs, 1990-1996

Mellon Fellow Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, 1989-1991, 1995-1996  
 Danforth-Compton Graduate Fellowship for Minorities Selection Committee, 1989-1991  
 Chair, 1990-1991  
 Senate Committee on Education and Scholarship at Stanford:  
     Taskforce on Undergraduate Education at Stanford, 1991-1992  
 Ad-hoc Humanities Planning Group, 1991-1992  
 Faculty Resident Fellow--Twain House, 1991-1995  
 Advisory Committee for Continuing Studies, 1992-1994  
 Whiting, Lurcy and Danforth-Compton Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, 1992-1993  
 University Grievance Officer, Spring, 1993  
 Faculty Senate, spring, 1993, 1993-1994, 2003-2004  
     Senate Steering Committee 2003-2004  
     Vice-chair of the Faculty Senate 2003-2004  
 Budget Advisory Group for Residential Education, Fall, 1993  
     Sub-Committee on the Calendar, Winter, 1994  
 Mabelle McLeod Lewis Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, 1993-1995  
 Senate Committee on Academic Achievement and Appraisal (C-AAA), 1995-1996  
     Committee Chair, 1997-1999  
 Stanford Centre in Oxford, Fall, 1996  
 Sexual Harassment Advisor, 1997-2001  
 H & S 50th Anniversary Celebration Proposals--Selection Committee 1997-1998  
 The Institute for Research on Women & Gender—Fellows Selection Committee 1998-2000  
 Stanford Humanities Center Selection Committee, 1998-2000, 2002-2003, 2006-2007  
 Maryilyn Yalom Research Fund Selection Committee, 2000-2001  
 Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (C-US)  
     Committee Chair 2000-2002  
     C-US-C-USP Sub-Committee on General Education Requirements—chair 2000-2003  
 Undergraduate Advisory Council to the Vice-Provost on Undergraduate Education—ex-officio 2000-2002,  
 2007-2008  
 Area One Governing Board—ex-officio 2000-2002, 2007-2008  
 Stanford Judicial Affairs Faculty Panelist 2000-2002  
 Advisory Committee to the Master of Liberal Arts program 2001-2007  
 Stanford Sexual Harassment Policy Advisory Group 2001-2002  
 Awards Committee for the Arnice P. Streit Service of Excellence Award and the  
     H & S Dean's Award of Merit for H & S staff 2001-2002  
 Director of Medieval Studies, 2001-2003  
 Faculty Associate Director, Overseas Studies Program, 2002-2004  
 Faculty Resident Fellow—Castaño, 2004-2008  
 Senate Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP), 2005-2008, 2011-2014  
     Chair, spring 2007, 2007-2008  
     Chair, Sub-Committee on Exceptions to Educational Policy—2007-2008  
     Chair, Sub-Committee on General Education Requirements—2007-2008, 2011-2012  
     Chair, Sub-Committee on ROTC 2011-2013  
 Ethical Reasoning Oversight Board, 2005-2013  
 Bing Overseas Studies Program Executive Committee, 2005-2009  
 School of Humanities and Sciences, Appointments and Promotions Committee  
     2007-2008  
 Humanities and Sciences Chairs Steering Committee, 2007-2008  
 Senate Ad-hoc Committee on ROTC, 2010-11  
 Chair S-ROTC, 2011-2013

For the Stanford Department of Religious Studies:

Director of Department Colloquia, 1984-1985, 1994-1995  
 Director of Graduate Studies, 1986-1988, 1991-1993, 1997-2002, 2005-2006  
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Winter 1995  
 Chair: Search Committee for position in Hebrew Bible, 1990-1991

Chair: Search Committee for position in Religious Ethics, 1995-1996

Chair: Search Committee for position in Islamic Studies, 2005-2006

Department Chair, 2006-2009, 2010-2013

Chair, Search Committee for position in American Religion, 2008 [search cancelled at end of fall]

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

Book project: *With Justice and Mercy: The Medieval Retributive Cosmos, 1100-1535*. Begun during year (2004-5) of leave at the Stanford Humanities Center as a new project. Two chapters drafted.