

Dr. Mindi Thompson

*Director of Distance Education
Associate Professor, Graduate School of Theology*



Dr. Melinda (Mindi) Thompson grew up in north central Iowa. Her love for languages and Bible translation took her to Minnesota Bible College (BA), Emmanuel School of Religion (MAR), and Luther Seminary (Ph.D). After six years at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, God called her south to help the GST launch their online programs. She misses her family, but not winters in Iowa. Mindi loves travel, teaching, and helping people interpret the Bible in more faithful, life-giving ways.



Melinda Thompson

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ACADEMIC PREPARATION:

Ph.D. in Scripture, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, 2005

Concentrations: Old Testament, Biblical Languages

Ph.D. Thesis: *A Literary Study of Relationship in Leviticus 19*

M.A.R. in Old Testament, Emmanuel School of Religion, Johnson City, TN, 2000

Concentration: Languages

M.A.R. Thesis: *Holiness in Leviticus*

B.A. in Biblical Studies and Theology, Minnesota Bible College, Rochester, MN, 1997

Minors: Missions and Music

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Associate Professor of Old Testament, Director of Distance Education, 2011-present

Abilene Christian University Graduate School of Theology, Abilene, TX

Courses: Foundations of the Theology of Ministry, Biblical Theology, Hebrew I and II, Greek I and II, Critical Interpretation of the Old Testament, Biblical Exegesis

Administrative oversight for all online degree programs.

Academic advisor for MA in Christian Ministry and MA Theological Studies degrees.

Adams Center Research Fellowship, 2012

Director of Instructional Design, 2012-2013

Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX

Supervise instructional design staff in providing course design and support for all ACU faculty teaching courses in residence, online, or blended.

Primary coordinator for implementation of enterprise-level learning management system.

Chair, Online Learning Working Group, 2012

Adams Center representative to University Undergraduate Academic Council and University Graduate Education Council.

Director of Distance Education and Assistant Professor of Old Testament, 2007-2011

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA

Administrative oversight for all distance programs.

Teach courses in residence and online as a member of the Bible Division.

Member, Distance Education Committee (ex-officio) and Institutional Advancement Committee.

Instructor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages, 2005-2007

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA

Courses: Introduction to the Old Testament, New Testament Greek I and II, Priesthood in Israel, Hebrew Readings, Elijah/Elisha, Ezra/Nehemiah, Language Independent Studies

Faculty Advisor, Gathering of Other Denominations (GOOD) Table lunch fellowship.

Member, Admissions and Distance Education Committees

Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages, 2002-2003

Crossroads College (formerly Minnesota Bible College), Rochester, MN

Courses: Elementary Hebrew, Koiné Greek Exegetical Method, Biblical Theology of Missions, Old Testament History, Hebrew Exegesis, Exegesis of New Testament Texts, Biblical Criticism, Reading and Research in Koiné Greek

Supervised senior projects for Intercultural Studies majors

Member, Assessment and Library Committees

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Society of Biblical Literature – member since 2004

ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators – member since 2007

Secretary of Executive Committee, 2010-2012

Vice President of Executive Committee, 2012-2015

President of Executive Committee, 2015-current

Technology in Theological Education Group (ATS) – member since 2010

Council of Distance Learning Directors in Theological Education – founding member, 2014

Communication Secretary, 2014-2017

PUBLICATIONS:

- Review of Leo G. Perdue, *Reconstructing Old Testament Theology: After the Collapse of History*. Word & World: Theology for Christian Ministry 26/4 (2006) 440-441.
- Review of Victor H. Matthews, *Old Testament Turning Points: The Narratives That Shaped a Nation*. Word & World: Theology for Christian Ministry 27/1 (2007) 112, 114.
- "If You Build It... Distance Education at Dubuque Seminary." *Presbyterian Outlook*, September 14, 2008.
- Review of Richard N. Boyce, *Leviticus and Numbers (Westminster Bible Companion)*. Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology 64/2 (2010) 199.
- "Open Minds, OpenClass – Choosing a New LMS." *Inside OpenClass* blog, September 2012. <http://blog.pearsonhighered.com/openclass/category/inside-openclass/mindi-thompson/>
- "Getting Educators and Students Ready for OpenClass." *Inside OpenClass* blog, September 2012. <http://blog.pearsonhighered.com/openclass/category/inside-openclass/mindi-thompson/>
- Review of Mark J. Mangano, *Power and Grace: A Theology of the Psalms*. Restoration Quarterly 55/3 (2013) 183-184.
- "OpenClass Implementation Study Finds Communication is Key." *Inside OpenClass* blog, October 2013. <http://blog.pearsonhighered.com/openclass/category/inside-openclass/mindi-thompson/>
- "Teaching with OpenClass: Where the Rubber Meets the Road." *Inside OpenClass* blog, October 2013. <http://blog.pearsonhighered.com/openclass/category/inside-openclass/mindi-thompson/>
- Review of R. Mark Shipp, *Timeless: Ancient Psalms for the Church Today, vol 1: In the Day of Distress (Psalms 1-41)*. Restoration Quarterly 56/2 (2014) 125.

- "Continuing Education for Faculty: 5 Strategies That Won't Break the Bank." *Colloquy Online*, posted March 2014. <http://www.ats.edu/uploads/resources/publications-presentations/documents/continuing-education-for-faculty.pdf>
- "Reading Leviticus 19: Issues for Interpretation." *Restoration Quarterly* 57/2 (2015) 95-108.
- Review of J. Daryl Charles, *Reading Genesis 1-2: An Evangelical Conversation*. *Restoration Quarterly* 57:4 (2015) 245-246.
- "Tech Tools and the Gospel." *The Future of Faith: Technology and the Cross* series, Siburt Institute for Church Ministry, posted June 2015. <http://char.is/2015/06/18/tech-tools-and-the-gospel/>
- Co-authored with Meri MacLeod. "To the Ends of the Earth: Cultural Considerations for Global Online Theological Education." *Theological Education* 49:2 (2015) 113-125.
- Co-authored with Meri MacLeod. "Global Online Seminary Programs: Learning Across Cultures Online, At Home and Abroad." *Colloquy Online*, posted May 2015. <http://www.ats.edu/uploads/resources/publications-presentations/documents/global-seminary-programs.pdf>
- "Patriarchs, Prostitutes and Potiphar's Wife: A Study of Genesis 38-39. *Leaven: A Journal of Christian Ministry* 24:4 (2016) 210-213.
- Review of Richard S. Briggs, *Theological Hermeneutics and the Book of Numbers as Christian Scripture*. *Theology Today* 76:2 (2019) 179-180.
- "Athens Visits Jerusalem: Community of Inquiry for Theological Educators." *Didaktikos Journal of Theological Education* 4:1 (2020) 37-38.
- Review of Daniel Y. Wu, *Honor, Shame, and Guilt: Social-Scientific Approaches to the Book of Ezekiel*. *Missio Dei Journal* 11 (2020) posted October 2020. <http://missiodeijournal.com/issues/md-11/authors/md-11-thompson>
- Review of S. Tamar Kamionkowski, *Wisdom Commentary, volume 3: Leviticus*. *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* 74:4 (2020) 394-395.

PRESENTATIONS and PAPERS:

- "Whose Promised Land is it? Reading Between the Lines of Ezra-Nehemiah." Old Testament/Hebrew Bible section, Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Society of Biblical Literature, and American Schools of Oriental Research, April 2007.
- ~~Putting~~ Keeping the 'Theological' in Distance Theological Education." Teaching and Learning section, Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Society of Biblical Literature, and American Schools of Oriental Research, April 2008.
- Co-presented with Nicole Story. "A Look Inside Online Learning: How Distance Education Can Work for You." Spring Renewal, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, April 2008.
- "Communicating Theology Using Technology." Presbyterian Communicators Network conference, August 2008.
- "Wisdom Literature." Wendt Center for Character Formation, University of Dubuque, October 2008.

- "Technology and Spiritual Formation." Association of Theological Schools webinar, May 2009.
- Co-presented with Mary Anne Knefel and Jonathan Helmke. "Faculty/Librarian Collaboration in Creating a Research Assignment for Distance Education Students." American Theological Library Association annual meeting, June 2010.
- "Distance Theological Education: An Overview." Synod of Lakes and Prairies annual conference, January 2011.
- "What We've Learned About Distance Learning." Synod of Lakes and Prairies annual conference, January 2011.
- "Technology in Ministry: Not a Toy, Not a Tyrant." Disciplefest, Florida Presbytery, January 2011.
- "Technology in Ministry: Tools for Worship, Outreach, and Education." Disciplefest, Florida Presbytery, January 2011.
- "More Than Just a Talking Head: Using Lecture Capture to Enhance Online Learning." ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2011.
- Co-presented with Michael Willis. "Using MediaSite at the University of Dubuque." Iowa Distance Learning Association annual conference, March 2011.
- "Best Practices for Assessment of Online Learning." ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2012.
- "Not a Toy and Not a Tyrant: A Biblical Theology of Technology." Summit, Abilene Christian University, September 2012.
- "What's in a Grade? Designing Meaningful Assessment of Student Learning." Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, October 2012.
- "Courageous Legacy: Impacting Future Generations." Hawley (TX) Church of Christ, November 2012.
- "Finding Her Voice: Women in Leadership." Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, November 2012.
- "Now What? Next Steps for OpenClass Course Conversion." Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, November 2012.
- "Recipe for Success: Using Communication Tools in Online Learning." ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2013.
- "ACU and OpenClass." CITE Online Learning Conference, April 2013.
- Co-presented with Lloyd Goldsmith, Karen Maxwell, and Bruce Scott. "Faith and Learning Integration: A Conversation." Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, November 2013.
- "Love Your Neighbor, Love Leviticus: A Christian Reading of Torah." Jewish Scriptures as Christian Scriptures section, Stone-Campbell Journal conference, March 2014.
- "MOOCS and Theological Education." ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2014.
- Co-presented with David Christianson. "Recipe for Success: Using Communication Tools in Online Learning." CITE Online Learning Conference, April 2014.
- "Best Practices in Online Teaching: Collaborative Team Translation." Adams Center for Teaching Excellence, April 2014. <http://blogs.acu.edu/adamscenter/2014/04/28/collaborative-team-translation/>

- “Love Your Neighbor, Love Leviticus: A Christian Reading of Leviticus 19.” Summit, Abilene Christian University, September 2014.
- “Culture Counts: Designing Online Courses for International Audiences.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2015.
- Panel with Robert Oglesbee, Jr. and Trevor Thompson. “The Future of Faith: Technology and the Cross.” Siburt Institute for Church Ministry, April 2015.
- “Promised to Whom? The Land, Identity, and Justice in Ezra-Nehemiah.” Old Testament – The Bible, Law, and Justice section, Christian Scholars Conference, June 2015.
- Co-presented with Gabe Etzel. “Is Online Education Really Institutional Cheap Grace? A Response to Paul House’s *Bonhoeffer’s Seminary Vision*.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2016.
- “Thinking Globally, Acting Locally.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2016.
- Co-presented with Tim Westbrook, Rollin Guyden and Andrew Arroyo. “The e-Quality Project: Highlighting Matters of Race, Gender, and International Participation in Online Learning Communities.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2016.
- “Culture Counts: Online Learning For International Students.” Memory, Tradition and the Future of Distance Learning. Online Learning section, Christian Scholars Conference, June 2017.
- “To All The World: Leveraging Online Learning for International Students.” Council for Christian Colleges and Universities International Forum, February 2018.
- “From Oddity to Ubiquitous: Looking Back at Our Experiences Teaching and Learning With Technology.” Teaching, Learning and Technology section (co-chair and panelist), Christian Scholars Conference, June 2018.
- “Forging Ahead With Care: Looking Ahead at Emerging Truths and Challenges.” Teaching, Learning and Technology section (co-chair and panelist), Christian Scholars Conference, June 2018.
- “ACCESSible Partnerships: Opening Doors to Collaboration.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2019.
- “Engaging the Difficult, Unengaged, or Struggling Student.” Liberty University online faculty enrichment webinar, April 2019.
- “The Student Becomes the Master: Designing Classroom Culture for Optimal Inclusion.” Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Diversity Conference, October 2019.
- “Building Blocks for Lifelong Learning.” ACCESS Association of Christian Distance Educators annual conference, March 2020.
- “Building Blocks for Lifelong Learning.” Competency-Based Theological Education International Conference, November 2020.

CONSULTATIONS:

- Discerning Vision, Framework, and Designs for Lifelong Clergy Education and Learning: Conversations and Consultations of the Alban Institute with Knowledgeable and Experienced Church Leaders and Educators. January 29, 2009.

- Distance Education consultation with the Educator Certification Council of the Presbyterian Church (USA). April, 2009.
- Utilizing Technology workshop with the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of the General Assembly. April, 2009.
- International Distance Education consultation with faculty and Executive Leadership Team, Grace School of Theology. October, 2015.

AWARDS:

- Shared with Scott Hamm. Best-in-Track Recognition, Teaching and Learning. “Mobile Devices and Blended Learning: Co-Integrating Pedagogy with Emerging Environments.” Sloan Consortium Blended Conference, April 2012.
- Inaugural Cohort, Breakthrough Models Academy. Educause Institute, July 2013.
- Outstanding Faculty of the Year, College of Biblical Studies. Abilene Christian University, May 2015.
- Awarded tenure with promotion (Associate Professor). Abilene Christian University, September 2016.
- Invited as guest-editor and contributor. Leaven: A Journal of Christian Ministry 24(4) 2016.
- Outstanding Graduate Faculty of the Year, College of Biblical Studies. Abilene Christian University, May 2020
- Awarded Faculty Renewal Leave, fall semester 2020.

REFERENCES: available upon request.