



Bishop Walter F. Sullivan Catholic Studies Speaker Series

Wednesday, Sept 28, 2016 | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. | VCU Commonwealth Ballroom B



Dr. Jalane D. Schmidt

"A Virgin in the Streets: Religion, Race, and Revolution in Cuba"

Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Religious Studies Department
University of Virginia
<http://religiousstudies.virginia.edu/faculty/profile/jds7b>

Education:
Ph.D. Harvard University
M.Div. Harvard Divinity School
B.A., Bethel College (N. Newton, KS)

Jalane Schmidt received her Ph.D. in the Study of Religion from Harvard University. She specializes in religions of the African diaspora in Latin America and the Caribbean; popular Catholicism; the history of colonialism, slavery and religion; and studies of race, religion, and cultural politics. Her current project examines performances of the history of slavery in the possession trance rituals of Cuban spiritist mediums. Schmidt conducts field research in Cuba, and she teaches courses on Latin American festivals, the history of religions in the New World from pre-Columbian times through early 19th Latin American independence movements, African diaspora religions, magic and witchcraft, and how religious practices and precepts formed the racial category now known as whiteness.

Recent Publications:

Book:

Cachita's Streets: The Virgin of Charity, Race, and Revolution in Cuba
(Duke University Press, 2015).

Book chapter:

"Cuba's Virgin of Charity: Sanctity, Caribbean Creolization, and the Color Continuum" in Molly Bassett & Vincent Lloyd, eds., *Sainthood and Race: Marked Flesh, Holy Flesh*, (Routledge, 2015), pp. 102-123.

Article:

"The 'Antidote to Wall Street'? Cultural and Economic Mobilizations of Afro-Cuban Religions," *Latin American Perspectives* (forthcoming).

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