

Curriculum Vitae

NATHAN SAMAYO

Ph.D. Student, Religion and Society
Princeton Theological Seminary
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EDUCATION

Princeton Theological Seminary

Doctor of Philosophy, Religion and Society, 4th year Ph.D. Candidate

Dissertation: “Indigenous Sovereignty and Ecological Sustainability in 21st Century Guam”

Harvard University Divinity School

Master of Divinity, Spring 2023

Seattle Pacific University

B.A. Sociology; Minors: Mathematics, History; Honorary Degree: Culture Studies, Spring 2020

RESEARCH INTERESTS

religious studies; Ethnic Studies; Indigenous Studies; Asian American and Pacific Island Studies; decolonial and postcolonial studies; continental philosophy; environmental humanities, environmental anthropology, and political ecology; political economy

PUBLICATIONS

Chapter, Edited Volume: “Animism in a Marxist Metabolic Rift Perspective” in *Animistic Variations: Philosophy of Religion in and beyond the Pacific* edited by Michael Mawson. NYC: Lived Places Publishing (forthcoming August 2027).

Chapter, Edited Volume: “A Cultural History of St. Joseph Devotion in Inalåhan, Guåhan” in *Moana Spiritualities and Wellbeing* edited by Therese Lautua and Brian Kolia. NYC: Lived Places Publishing (forthcoming April 2027).

Chapter, Edited Volume: “Giant Clams and Plundered Worlds: Learning with Hima at Sagan Kotturan CHamoru, Guahan” in *Pacific Frameworks and Paradigms in Turtle Island (U.S.), Hawai’i, and U.S. Territories* edited by Aida Cuenza-Uvas, Dion Enari, Ruth Faleolo, ‘Inoke Hafoka and Lagipoiva Cherelle Jackson. Berlin: Springer Nature (forthcoming January 2027).

Collaborative Article: *An Independent Guåhan: A Roundtable Discussion with Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua and Monaeka Flores on Indigenous Resistance & Self-Determination in the Face of U.S. Imperialism*, with Michael Lujan Bevacqua, Monaeka Flores, Aren Kerr, and Anlin Wang. *Michigan Quarterly Review* vol. 64, no. 2 (2025): 346-373.

Book Review: Choa, Sophie. *In the Shadow of the Palms: More-Than-Human Becomings in West Papua*. Duke University Press, 2022. *The Journal of Pacific History* vol. 60, no. 1, 2025.

Book Review: Kreitman, Paul. *Japan’s Ocean Borderlands: Nature and Sovereignty*. Cambridge University Press, 2023. *The Journal of Pacific History* vol. 59, no. 4, 2024.

Book Review: Wenger, Tisa and Sylvester A. Johnson, ed. *Religion and U.S. Empire: Critical New Histories*. New York University Press, 2022. *The Journal of Presbyterian History* vol. 102, no. 1, Spring/Summer 2024.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Animistic Variations: Philosophy and Religion in and beyond the Pacific

American Academy of Religion, Global-Critical Philosophy of Religion Unit, Denver, CO. November 2026.

Micronesian Canaanites: US National Security Discourse and Military Expansion in the 21st Century Western Pacific

Society of Biblical Literature, Islands, Islanders, and Scriptures Seminar Unit, Denver, CO. November 2026.

Self-Determination Process of Guam: Challenges and Prospects

Self-Determination and Decolonisation: Role of Churches and Faith Communities, Papeete, Tahiti, Māohi Nui (French Polynesia). March 2026.

Colonial vs. Indigenous Politics of Conservation

American Academy of Religion, Indigenous Religions and Religion & Ecology, Boston, MA. November 2025.

Religion and Indigeneity in Asian Pacific American Religions

Association for Asian American Studies, Boston, MA. April 2025.

An Independent Guåhan: Indigenous Resistance and Self-Determination in the Face of US Imperialism

Socialism Conference, Chicago, IL. September 2024.

Religion and Indigeneity: Roundtable Response

Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative Conference, Berkeley, CA. June 2024.

Raising Indigenous Youth Voices in Pursuit of Self Determination

United Nations, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York City. April 2024.

Nuclear Detonations and Ecological Catastrophe in the Marshall Islands

Graduate Conference of Religion & Ecology, Yale University. February 2024.

Indigenous Oceanic Ways of Knowing

Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C. June 2023.

American Nostalgia and the Conservation of Guåhan

Climate Justice as Racial Justice Conference, Harvard Divinity School. April 2023.

SELECTED EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Assistant Archivist, Sagan Kotturan CHamoru Cultural Museum in Guam, *May 2025-Present*.

Researcher, *Lach'u Ts'itsatna* (Truth of Our Elders in Dena'ina): Boarding School History Research Project, Alaska Native Heritage Center and Princeton Theological Seminary, *September 2024-Present*.

Intern, Micronesian Climate Change Alliance, *June-August 2024*.

Cataloger, Harvard University Law School Library, *May 2022-June 2023*.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies Working Group Coordinator, Committee for Ethnicity, Migration, and Rights, Harvard University, *July 2021-May 2023*.

Researcher, Oceanic Collections, Harvard Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, *September 2020-June 2021*.

TEACHING ASSISTANT COURSES

Christian Theology and Justice, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, FA26

Christian Theology and Politics, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, SP26

Theologies of Nonviolence and Just Peacemaking, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, FA25

Social Justice and the Bible, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, SP25

Empire & Capital: Theological Considerations, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, FA24

Text, Ideology, and Power in Theology, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, SP24

Race, Ethnicity, and the New Testament, Graduate Course, Princeton Theological Seminary, FA23

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Vaughan Park Resident Scholarship Programme, Residency Scholarship, Aotearoa New Zealand, 2027.

Dissertation Research Fellowship, Asian Theological Institute, 2026.

Asian Theological Institute Fellowship Award, United Lutheran Seminary, 2026.

Animistic Variations: Philosophy and Religion in the Pacific Fellow, University of Auckland, 2026-27.

Religion and the Arts Travel Grant, American Academy of Religion, 2025.

Research Grant, Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative, 2025.

Working Group Grant, Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative, 2024.

Forum for Theological Educators Award, Forum for Theological Exploration, 2024.

Princeton Trustees Merit Scholarship, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2023.

Burman Rappaport Flagship Scholarship, The Point Foundation, 2023.

Ministry Exploration Grant, Forum for Theological Exploration, 2022.

MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMITTEES

Member, Society of Biblical Literature, *March 2026-Present*.

Steering Committee Member, Asian North American Religion and Cultures Unit, American Academy of Religion, *September 2025-Present*.

Accreditation Committee, Princeton Theological Seminary, *March 2025-Present*.

Graduate Student Chair, Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative, *October 2024-June 2026*.

Member, American Academy of Religion, *April 2024-Present*.

Member, Association for Asian American Studies, *February 2024-Present*.

Member, American Studies Association, *September 2022-September 2024*.