

# Conference: Phenomenology, Religious Experience, and Spiritual Practices

June 15-18, 2025

Fordham University, Rose Hill Campus, Bronx, New York

*Spiritual practices are central to practically all religious traditions. They often serve as a pathway to religious experience, a way to prepare oneself for revelation or illumination by the divine. Religious practices can shape a self that is open to revelation and thus able to experience the transcendent. Liturgical and ritual practices provide patterns of communal gathering that prepare participants for shared prayer and celebration. Sacramental practices communicate the holy by purifying, feeding, and sanctifying. Rites of repentance and forgiveness enable the processing of failure and guilt. Devotional practices open the self to hearing the divine voice. Ascetic practices sharpen the focus on repentance in the combat with passions and distracting thoughts. Regardless of tradition, personal and communal religious practices—often deeply affective and corporeal—direct, guide, shape, and transform people to be open to the holy other and the human (and nonhuman) neighbor.*

For a more detailed CFP, visit the conference website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/phenomreligiousspiritpract2025/home>

Contact  
[gschwandtner@fordham.edu](mailto:gschwandtner@fordham.edu)  
for more information

## PLENARY SPEAKERS

**Hent de Vries**  
New York University

**Sarah Hammerschlag**  
University of Chicago

**Anthony J. Godzieba**  
Villanova University

Proposals are to be sent by  
**October 15, 2024** to  
[gschwandtner@fordham.edu](mailto:gschwandtner@fordham.edu)  
in the following format:

- The *body* of the email should contain your full name (as you wish for it to appear on the program), institutional affiliation, title of proposed paper, and preferred email address.
- An *attachment* (PDF or Word document) to the email should contain the proposal itself (**500-750 words**) without any identifying information, suitable for blind review.

## ORGANIZERS

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