



HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL

Program for the Evolution of Spirituality
2024 Conference Schedule
April 24-27, 2024

Alternative Spiritualities of Celebration, Resistance, and Accountability: Engaging Our Colonial and Decolonial Contexts

Schedule Notes:

All presentations are Zoom accessible (unless otherwise noted). Clicking on the room name will take you to the corresponding Zoom room and abstracts are similarly linked. Recordings of past sessions will be similarly linked in the corresponding room name.

Each session will be held in Harvard Divinity School's Swartz Hall (45 Francis Ave., Cambridge, Massachusetts).

Wednesday (April 24, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/24/2024	2:00pm - 2:30pm	Sperry Room			Opening Reflections
4/24/2024	2:30pm - 3:30pm	Sperry Room	Performance	Delores (Lola) Mondragón, Deborah J. Guerrero, Carolyn Hartness, Sinai Soriano	Contemporary Revitalization of Indigenous Spiritualities in Prisons, Treatment Centers, and Veteran Retreats: Using Drumming and Storytelling as Forms of Witnessing the Violence Away
4/24/2024	4:00pm - 6:00pm	Sperry Room - Plenary 2	Paper Session	Sanskriti Chattopadhyay	Being a Devotee: Image to Decolonial Decentralisation
4/24/2024	4:00pm - 6:00pm	Sperry Room - Plenary 2	Paper Session	Yinuo Norah Chen	Detaching from the Western Lens: Decolonizing Tantric Sex
4/24/2024	4:00pm - 6:00pm	Sperry Room - Plenary 2	Paper Session	Patricia Tillman	All Glories to the Assembled Devotees: Spiritual Names and Cultural Appropriation in Yoga and Devotional Culture in the West
4/24/2024	4:00pm - 6:00pm	Sperry Room - Plenary 2	Paper Session	Jagannath Adhikari	Recreating spiritual practices in new locations among migrants – The case of Pokhara, Nepal and Perth, Australia.
4/24/2024	6:15pm - 7:15pm	Sperry Room - Plenary 3	Performance	Kythe Maryam Heller	Vision Lab Collective (Works 2018-2023)

Wednesday Supper (7:15pm - 8:15 pm)--Braun Room with Overflow in Rockefeller Hall Lounge

Thursday (April 25, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:45am	Multiple Locations (Meet at James Room East)	Workshop-IN-PERSON ONLY	Sarah Kariko	Wisdom of Webs Workshop
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:45am	James Room West	Paper Session	Adetola Elizabeth Umoh	Sacredness and ancestral connection to Africa; Osun Osogbo Grove & its festival in Nigeria
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:45am	James Room West	Paper Session	Deogratias Fikiri	Decolonizing Religions in Africa: The Profound Role of African Spirituality of Ubuntu
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:45am	James Room West	Paper Session	Umoh Samuel Uwem	African Tailor Made and Shembe Movement in South Africa
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:45am	James Room West	Paper Session	Ijeoma Iruka Forchu	Ala, the Eagle and the Kite: Narratives of Ecological Justice in Igbo Songs
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:30am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Mathieu Colin	Hail Resistance: Spiritual Resistance to Christian Hegemony Within The Satanic Temple
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:30am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Rune Hjørnø Rasmussen	Policing Whiteness through Pagan Studies
4/25/2024	9:00am - 10:30am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Rayner Jae Liu	Sacred Rage, Sacred Trickster: The Role of Eris in Decolonial Resistance and Celebration
4/25/2024	11:00am - 12:00pm	James Room East	Workshop	Christopher Freimuth	Decolonizing Garden Design: A Workshop on Ecological and Spiritual Resistance
4/25/2024	11:00am - 12:00pm	James Room West	Workshop	Sudarshan Sundar, Judy Rodgers, Rita Cleary	Inner decolonization for a better world - Experimentation with the Brahma Kumaris philosophy for a return to self-sovereignty, dignity, and solidarity
4/25/2024	11:00am - 12:00pm	Sperry Room (no recording)	Workshop	Shir Lovett-Graff, Francesca Rubinson	Storytelling As Tool for Dismantling Embedded Theologies: Wrestling with Zionism

Thursday (April 25, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/25/2024	11:00am - 12:30pm	HDS Garden (Meet at Garvin Room)	Workshop-IN-PERSON ONLY	Tamara Litke	Place-Based Learning: Decolonizing Ecology: Native Plants and Settler Action
Thursday Lunch (12:00pm - 1:30 pm)--Braun Room with Overflow in Rockefeller Hall Lounge					
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session, Artistic Display	Susan Farist Butler	Eco-Restoration and Regeneration as Decolonization
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session, Artistic Display	José Sherwood González	Reimagining the Codex Tezcatlipoca (Fejérváry-Mayer): A Transdisciplinary Approach to Decolonizing Mesoamerican Cultural Heritage
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session, Artistic Display	Jayita Sengupta	Exploring Spirituality as an Academic, Painter and Seeker
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Samir Ravi	Slippery Relationality, Queer Buddhisms, and Liberatory Praxis
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Amber L. Voiles	The Benefits of Surrogate Interviewers in Research with Indigenous Peoples: Fostering Cultural Appreciation
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Maria Fernanda Gebara, Nani Kateyuve Yawanawá and Isku Kuá Yawanawá	What is medicine? Integrating indigenous with scientific ontologies in ayahuasca research
4/25/2024	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	tayla shanaye	DISRUPTION, RECLAMATION AND DELIGHT: A CRITICAL ORGANIC AUTOETHNOGRAPHY OF A BLACK MOTHER'S CHILDBIRTH AS LIBERATORY TRANSPERSONAL CONSCIOUSNESS
4/25/2024	1:30pm - 3:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Jessica Beaudette	Mindful Conservation: Contemplative Discourses in Conservation Science
4/25/2024	1:30pm - 3:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Jenellen Good	Spirituality, Degrowth and the Earth
4/25/2024	1:30pm - 3:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Russell C. Powell	Pantheism's Violent Depths: Spinoza, Pragmatism, and Authoritarianism in Dark Green Religion

Thursday (April 25, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30 pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Philip Goldberg	Light and Shadow in the Transmission of Indigenous Indian Spirituality to the West
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30 pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Jac O'Keeffe	Exploring the Influence of Colonialism on Ethics and Accountability in Alternative Spiritual Teaching and Proposing a New System of Accountability
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30 pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Snehapriya Rao	Why the Guru Came to the West: Rethinking the Transnational Guru from an Indigenous Perspective
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30pm*	American Academy of Arts and Sciences (Meet at Garvin Room)	Workshop-IN-PERSON ONLY	Kimberly A Knight	Rewilding Spirituality
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Laura Cohen	Diasporic Mysticism, Psychology, & Tarot: A Path to Decolonizing Intuitive Development
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Denise Lombardi	Native fascination and neo-shamanism in Europe
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Melissa MacDonald	Praying in the cracks: postactivist animism and the (r)evolving worship of the Unknown
4/25/2024	3:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Maheswar Ghimire	Animism and Ecological Restoration (Century Old Tradition of Indigenous Community)
4/25/2024	6:00pm - 7:00pm	James Room West	Performance	Reginald Hubbard	Pure Sound to Ground - An Exploration of Sonic Spiritual Practice
4/25/2024	6:00pm - 7:00pm	Sperry Room	Performance	Ricky Ray	Cultivating Kinship: The Art of Becoming an Ecosystem

Friday (April 26, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/26/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	Garvin Room	Workshop	Rituparna Das	The Coiled Snake: The Goddess of the East and the Satan of the West A Workshop on Jungian Psychoanalysis and Kundalini Yoga
4/26/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	James Room East	Workshop	Alberto Quifuta Pereira, Naohito Miura	Glorifying God in Angola and Japan: Decoloniality in Igreja Mundial do Messias through Prayer, Song, and Breath
4/26/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	James Room West	Performance	Reksi Adiwiguna, Napol Riel, Ahmad Syahrul, Lacahya, Barrbalion Victoria Hanzael	Keloid Reflections
4/26/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Dilsa Deniz	Conference Title: Unveiling and decolonizing Monotheism: Rediscovering the One-Goddess Era
4/26/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Mary Louise Stone	The Andean Mother Pachamama: A Mothering Community Paradigm
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Ara Gargiulo	Of Fairies, Fairy Doctors, and Witches: Witch trials in Spanish Sicily
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Chelsea Irys Rendlen	A New Approach to a Traditional Girls' Summer Camp at YWCA VT Camp Hochelaga: Embracing Spirituality while Centering Anti-Racism and Women's+ Empowerment
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room East	Paper Session	Laura Rademaker	'A relationship with the land that western culture knows nothing of': sacred claims of First Nations Australia, 1960-1990
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Abin Abraham, Sharon Elizuba Koshy, Thomas Athanasius	Reaffirming the Great 'Little Tradition' – the need of "Dalithnography," in Decolonizing Dalit Culture from the Hegemonic Multiple Coloniality
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Ikechukwu Anthony Kanu	COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:00pm	James Room West	Paper Session	Pesach Chaniah	Pathways of Teshuvah: Repentance, Return, and Reconciliation Across Time and Place

Friday (April 26, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:30pm	paper cancelled	Paper Session	Dr Camilla Mørk Røstvik	Hag Mountain: A History of the Absence of Witch Memorials in Kristiansand, Norway (or, why Kristiansand is not Salem)
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Matilde Carbajo	The making of the mainstream and the alternative: the colonial dimensions of spirituality during the Spanish colonisation of Tàno' Lāguas yan Gáni (the Mariana Islands)
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Taimaya Ragui	Decolonizing Spirituality of the Nagas in Northeast India
4/26/2024	10:30am - 12:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Joel Tejedo, Carolyn Soliven Tejedo	Eco-theology, Spirituality, and Eco-farming of Spirit-filled Religion in the Philippines
Friday Lunch (12:00pm - 1:30 pm)--Braun Room with Overflow in Rockefeller Hall Lounge					
4/26/2024	1:00pm - 2:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Rituparna Das	Revival of the Ancient Vedic Practices in India: The Old 'Oriental' Wine in a New 'Occidental' Bottle
4/26/2024	1:00pm - 2:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Sivakumar Venugopal	The Contemporary revitalization of Indigenous Spiritualities
4/26/2024	1:00pm - 2:30pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Urvashi Mohinani, Premchand Hombal	Embodied Spirituality in Bharatanatyam: Unveiling the Symbiotic Relationship between Physicality and the Divine in Classical Indian Dance
4/26/2024	1:30pm - 2:30pm	James Room East	Workshop	Jemarc Axinto	Recovering from ReActivism in The Spiritual Playground
4/26/2024	1:30pm - 2:30pm	James Room West (no recording available)	Workshop	Alka Arora	The Politics of the Intimate in Alternative Spiritual Communities
4/26/2024	1:30pm - 2:30pm	Garvin Room	Workshop	Eduardo Viezca, Hector Zaragoza Valentin, Manuel Dominguez	Decolonial Journeys: Queer Chicano therapists alchemizing suffering

Friday (April 26, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/26/2024	3:00pm - 4:00pm	James Room East	Workshop	Kimberly J. Davis	Soulistic Healing: (Re)membering Black Women's Bodies
4/26/2024	3:00pm - 4:00pm	James Room West	Workshop	James Mixon	The Elephant: Conservation, Spirituality and Peacebuilding in Laikipia, Kenya
4/26/2024	3:00pm - 4:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Simon Magus	Rider Haggard and the Imperial Occult: Christian Egyptosophy, Romanticism, and Theosophy
4/26/2024	3:00pm - 4:00pm	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Mateusz Kucab	'In the name of the Bee'. Emily Dickinson and Earth Spiritualities
4/26/2024	4:30pm - 5:30pm	James Room East	Workshop	Auds H Jenkins (she/her), Deung Myoung Sunim	The Collective Voice: Chanting for Liberation
4/26/2024	4:30pm - 5:30pm	James Room West	Workshop	Tanya Rodriguez	Decolonization. A guidebook to settlers living on stolen land
4/26/2024	4:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room (no recording available)	Paper Session	Ruhail Andrabi	The Political Life Of Dead Bodies, Divine Sovereignty, and Indian Empire: The Question of Islam in Kashmir.
4/26/2024	4:30pm - 5:30pm	Sperry Room (no recording available)	Paper Session	Ummel Khair Fatima	Sufi Traditions and Spiritual Resistance: Mapping South Asian Muslim Alternative Spiritualities
4/26/2024	6:00pm - 7:00pm	James Room West	Performance	Bart Everson, George Cawley	Decolonizing the Mind Through Gaian Song
4/26/2024	6:00pm - 7:00pm	Sperry Room	Performance	Rev. Gail Seavey Azura the Bard	Robin Hood takes the Sheriff of Nottingham Deep into Sherwood Forest: a journey in story and song

Saturday (April 27, 2024)

Date	Time (EDT)	Location (Zoom in Link)	Presentation Type	Full Name(s)	Title
4/27/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	James Room West	Workshop	Suzy Balliett, Kathleen McGoey, Momo Freehill	Beyond Colonial Entanglements: Embracing Daoist Philosophy & Qigong for Liberating the Mind
4/27/2024	9:00am - 10:00am	HDS Garden (Meet at Sperry Room)	Workshop-IN-PERSON ONLY	Lisa Jane Davis	The Botanical Mind: A Workshop in Animism, Art, and Resisting Anthropocentrism
4/27/2024	10:00am - 12:00pm	James Room East	Workshop	Daniela Luna, Juan Pablo Sánchez King, Anna Mirgazizova, Diego Durazzo Cejudo, Sarai Cortés, Robert Hartz	Revisiting Mexico's Ancient Spiritual Traditions: A Path to Inspire Modern Life and Overcome Colonialism and Patriarchy
4/27/2024	10:30am - 11:30am	James Room West	Workshop	Bhai Baldeep Singh, Francesca Cassio, Nirinjan Khalsa-Baker	Voicing Sikh spiritual sovereignty in musical practices and indigenous knowledges
4/27/2024	10:30am - 11:30am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Dionne A. Mohammed	Indigenous Intergenerational Trauma and Stories of Healing Through Jesus - Decolonizing The Gospel of Christ
4/27/2024	10:30am - 11:30am	Sperry Room	Paper Session	Ryan Smith	Confronting White Supremacy in Nordic Spirituality
4/27/2024	12:00pm - 1:00pm	Sperry Room	Performance	Eve Woldemikael	Who Broke the Sun Child's Heart? A lyric, musical essay
4/27/2024	1:00pm - 1:30pm	Sperry Room	Closing Reflections		