

# Brian L. McPhail

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## EDUCATION

(in progress) Ph.D. in Sociology, *Purdue University* (expected 2022)

Dissertation Title: “The Ecological Effects of Religion on Health and Mortality in China”

Dissertation Committee: Fenggang Yang (Chair), Shawn Bauldry, Christopher G. Ellison, Daniel V.A. Olson

Abstract: My dissertation investigates how the religious characteristics of local geographic areas impact the physical health and mortality of China’s rapidly aging population. Using geographic data of religious sites in China merged with official Chinese census reports and a nationally representative longitudinal survey of older adults, I identify patterns in self-rated health, chronic illness, functional limitations, and mortality associated with the religious composition and religious diversity of local Chinese areas.

M.S. in Sociology, *Purdue University* (2018)

M.A. in Theology/Crosscultural Studies, *Fuller Theological Seminary* (2013/2010)

B.A. in Sociology/Psychology, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill* (2005)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Religion, Health and Aging, Family, East Asia

## PUBLICATIONS

**McPhail, Brian L.** 2019. “Religious Heterogamy and the Intergenerational Transmission of Religion: A Cross-National Analysis.” *Religions* 10(2): 109. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel10020109>.

**McPhail, Brian L.** & Fenggang Yang. 2020. “Religious Heterogamy and the Intergenerational Transmission of Religion in China.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 59(3): 439–54. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jssr.12667>

## WORK IN PROGRESS

### UNDER REVIEW

**McPhail, Brian L.** “Does Religion Buffer the Effect of Childhood Abuse on Adult Sleep Quality? Differences by Race.”

### IN PREPARATION

**McPhail, Brian L.** & Fenggang Yang. “Measuring Multiple Religious Belonging (and Belief and Behavior) among East Asians.”

Olson, Daniel V.A., **Brian L. McPhail**, Miao Li, & David Voas. “Does Religious Diversity Affect Religious Commitment? Some New Answers to an Old Question”

Yang, Fenggang & **Brian L. McPhail**. “Is there a Secularization Trend in the Global East?”

Yang, Fenggang & **Brian L. McPhail**. “Asian International Students, Democratic Values, and Trust in Government during the COVID-19 Pandemic.”

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McPhail, Brian L. 2020. “Does Religion Buffer the Effect of Childhood Abuse on Adult Sleep Quality? Differences by Race.” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.

Yang, Xiaozhao & Brian L. McPhail. 2020. “Using Network Scale-up Method to Estimate Hidden Religious Population and Religious Networks among Asians.” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (Accepted for presentation, canceled due to COVID-19).

McPhail, Brian L. & Fenggang Yang. 2019. “Is there a Secularization Trend in the Global East?” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, M.O.

Olson, Daniel V.A. & Brian L. McPhail. 2019. “The Influence of Your Neighbors’ Religions on Your Attitudes toward Government Spending.” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, M.O.

McPhail, Brian L. & Fenggang Yang. 2018. “Religious Heterogamy and the Intergenerational Transmission of Religion in China.” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Las Vegas, N.V.

McPhail, Brian L. 2018. “Religious Heterogamy and the Intergenerational Transmission of Religion: A Cross-National Analysis.” Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, Philadelphia, P.A.

McPhail, Brian L. 2018. “Religious Heterogamy in China.” Annual Meeting of the East Asian Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Singapore.

McPhail, Brian L., 2017. “Atheist Privilege, Religious Penalty: The Socioeconomic Consequences of Being Religious in Mainland China.” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Washington, D.C.

McPhail, Brian L., 2012. “The Hermeneutical Circle and the Significance of the Reader’s Context: A Comparison of the Biblical Interpretation of Chinese and American Christians in the Twentieth Century.” Conference on “Sacred and Classical Texts in Cross-Cultural Context”, Minzu University of China, Beijing, P.R.C.

McPhail, Brian L., 2011. “Towards A Global Theology of Revelation: The Significance of Human Experience and History.” Colloquium at Nanjing Union Theological Seminary, Nanjing, P.R.C.

## TEACHING

### INSTRUCTOR

*Purdue University*, Department of Sociology – West Lafayette, IN

- Introduction to Sociology (Summer 2019)
- Introduction to Statistics for Sociology (online, Summer 2020)

*Minzu University of China*, School of Foreign Studies – Beijing, P.R.C.

- Advanced Graduate Academic English: Reading and Writing Skills (2014-2016)
- Advanced Graduate Academic English: Oral Communication Skills (2014-2016)
- Advanced Undergraduate English: Oral Communication Skills (2013-2014)

## TEACHING ASSISTANT

*Purdue University*, Department of Sociology – West Lafayette, IN

- *Graduate Courses*
  - Categorical Data Analysis (Fall 2019)
  - Advanced Social Research Methods (Spring 2020)
- *Undergraduate Courses*
  - Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)
  - Social Problems (Spring 2017)
  - Introduction to Statistics for Sociology (Fall 2020)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant**, Center on Religion and the Global East, *Purdue University*, 2020-present.

**Research Assistant**, Center on Religion and Chinese Society, *Purdue University*, 2017-2020.

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

**Editorial Assistant**, *Review of Religion and Chinese Society*, 2017-present.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Program Coordinator**, *Fuller Theological Seminary China Initiative*, Beijing, P.R.C., 2012-2016.

- Developed and conducted programs of academic exchange for students, scholars, organizational leaders, and government officials.
- Represented Fuller to organizations, universities, training centers, alumni, and prospective students in China.

**Graduate Admissions Counselor**, *Fuller Theological Seminary*, Pasadena, CA, 2010-2012.

- Advised prospective students applying to master's and doctoral programs.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Manuscript Reviewer, *The Sociological Quarterly*, *Review of Religion in Chinese Society*, *Current Sociology*, 2018-present

Senator, Purdue Graduate Student Government Senate & Sociology Graduate Organization, *Purdue University*, 2018-2019

Staff Administrator of the Diversity Council, *Fuller Theological Seminary*, 2012-2013

Co-President of the School of Intercultural Studies Graduate Union, *Fuller Theological Seminary*, 2009-2010

Member of All-Seminary Student Council, *Fuller Theological Seminary*, 2009-2010

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Student Travel Grant (\$670) (conference cancelled due to COVID-19), 2020

School of Intercultural Studies Scholarship (\$20,000), *Fuller Theological Seminary*, 2009

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Sociological Association (ASA) (Sections: Asia and Asia America, Sociology of Religion, Medical Sociology), 2016-present

Member, Society for the Social Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR), 2017-present

Member, Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR), 2018-present

Member, East Asian Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (EASSSR), 2018-present

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

### CERTIFICATIONS

- Certificate of Foundations in College Teaching, Center for Instructional Excellence, *Purdue University*, West Lafayette, Indiana, 2019
- CertTESOL, Level 5 Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, *Trinity College London & Oxford TEFL*, Prague, Czech Republic, 2013
- Mandarin Chinese, 2-year Language Certificate, *Yunnan University of Finance and Economics*, Kunming, P.R.C., 2007

### WORKSHOPS

- “Survey Experiments Testing Causality in Diverse Samples,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2019
- “Survey Design: How to Implement Best Practices Using Qualtrics,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2018
- “Workflow Best Practices: Fundamentals of Research Organization and Data Management,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2018
- “Workflow Best Practices: Stata Programming Tools & Tricks for the Applied Analyst,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2018
- “Data & Model Visualization,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2018
- “Missing Data: Best Practices for Analyzing Incomplete Data,” Trenton Mize, Advanced Methods at Purdue, 2017

### STATISTICAL SOFTWARE

R, Stata

### LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese, HSK III (Intermediate), May 2012