

Andrew Chalfoun

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Positions

2026-2027 **Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology**, Ripon College

Education

2026 **PhD in Sociology**, University of California, Los Angeles.
Dissertation: “Acting Outward While Looking Inward: Southern Baptist Missionaries Since the Conservative Resurgence.”
Committee: Stefan Timmermans (chair), Omar Lizardo, Melani McAlister, Edward T. Walker

2020 **MA in Sociology**, University of California, Los Angeles

2018 **BA in Sociology**, Haverford College

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Giovanni Rossi, Tanya Stivers, **Andrew Chalfoun**. “Turning the Tide in Request Negotiations: The Role of Accounts and Reasonableness.” Accepted at *Social Problems*.

Giovanni Rossi, Tanya Stivers, and **Andrew Chalfoun**. 2026. “When Requests Are Unarticulated: Accountability and Social Action Ascription.” *Research on Language and Social Interaction* 59(1):65-84. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08351813.2026.2624345>

Andrew Chalfoun. 2026. “The Limits of Cooperation inside the Christian Right: James Robison, James T. Draper, Jr., and the Southern Baptist Convention.” *Church History*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009640726103229>

Andrew Chalfoun. 2026. “Differentiating Regulative and Constitutive Normativity: Talcott Parsons, Harold Garfinkel, and the Sticky Problem of Meaning.” *Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour* 56(1): e70033. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jtsb.70033>

Andrew Chalfoun, Giovanni Rossi, and Tanya Stivers. 2026. “Incurable Optimism about Getting What We Want: Anticipating Success in Everyday Requests.” *The*

Sociological Quarterly 67(1):1-26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2025.2568214>

Andrew Chalfoun. 2025. "Picking Winners? Candidate Selection and Representatives' Performance in the Southern Baptist Conservative Movement." *Social Currents* 12(3):251-268. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23294965251322870>

Andrew Chalfoun, Giovanni Rossi, and Tanya Stivers. 2025. "The Magic Word? Face-Work and the Functions of 'Please' in Everyday Requests." *Social Psychology Quarterly*. 88(1):66-88. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01902725241245141>.

Andrew Chalfoun. 2025. "Shifting Responsibility onto Coparticipants: Disaffiliative Accounts in Request Sequences." *Discourse Studies* 27(1):64-81. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14614456241252950>

Tanya Stivers, **Andrew Chalfoun,** and Giovanni Rossi. 2024. "To Err is Human but to Persist is Diabolical: Toward a Theory of Interactional Policing." *Frontiers in Sociology* 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2024.1369776>.

Andrew Chalfoun. 2023. "When God Calls: Temporality in Southern Baptist Calls to Missions." *Review of Religious Research* 65(2):213-235. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0034673X231186329>.

Andrew Chalfoun. 2023. "Biblical Authority in Interaction: How Do Evangelicals Use the Bible?" *Journal of Pragmatics* 208:19-32. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2023.02.010>.

- 2024 Graduate Student Paper Award, *ASA Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section*.
- 2023 Student Paper Award—Published, *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

Tanya Stivers, Giovanni Rossi, and **Andrew Chalfoun.** 2023. "Ambiguities in Action Ascription." *Social Forces* 101(3):1552-1579. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soac021>.

Manuscripts Under Review

Andrew Chalfoun. "Learning to Count Souls: The Decision to Bring David Barrett to the Foreign Mission Board, 1981-1985." Provisional Acceptance at *Baptist History and Heritage*.

Working Papers

Andrew Chalfoun. "Resisting the Innovator but Embracing the Innovation: When Do Incumbents Seek to Capture New Organizational Practices?"

Andrew Chalfoun. "Centralization without a Centralizer: The Unintended Consolidation of Authority at the International Mission Board, 1979-2010."

Andrew Chalfoun. “How Many Things Can We Do with Language? Toward a Taxonomy of Speech Acts.”

Books

Preaching in the Shadows: International Missionaries in the Age of Covert Evangelism (In progress)

Book Reviews and Other Short Writing

Andrew Chalfoun. 2026. Review of *Christianity and Politics in Tribal India: Baptist Missionaries and Naga Nationalism* by G. Kanato Chophy. *Reading Religion*. [\[Link\]](#)

Gordon Chang, J.R. Osborn, **Andrew Chalfoun**, Tad Skotnicki, and Aminda M. Smith. 2025. “Review Symposium: Interactionism Meets Historical Analysis: An Author-Critic Dialogue on ‘Revolution and Witchcraft: The Code of Ideology in Unsettled Times.’” *Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung/Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 26(3). <https://doi.org/10.17169/fqs-26.3.4480>

Andrew Chalfoun and SLNC Government and Heritage Library. 2025. Revision of “Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary” (original by Glenn Jonas, 2006). *NCpedia*. [\[Link\]](#)

Andrew Chalfoun. 2025. Review of *Mission Manifest: American Evangelicals and Iran in the Twentieth Century* by Matthew K. Shannon. *Reading Religion*. [\[Link\]](#)

Andrew Chalfoun. 2024. Review of *Heathen: Religion and Race in American History* by Kathryn Gin Lum. *Reading Religion*. [\[Link\]](#)

Andrew Chalfoun. 2024. Review of *Baptizing Burma: Religious Change in the Last Buddhist Kingdom* by Alexandra Kaloyanides. *Reading Religion*. [\[Link\]](#)

Andrew Chalfoun. 2024. “Jerry Rankin.” *The Mississippi Encyclopedia Online*. [\[Link\]](#)

Fellowships and Grants

2025-26	Dissertation Year Award. <i>UCLA</i> (\$51,000).
2024	Student Research Grant. <i>Society for the Scientific Study of Religion</i> (\$1200)
2022	Lynn E. May Study Grant. <i>Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives</i> (\$500)
2021	Graduate Student Research Mentorship. <i>UCLA</i> (\$6000)

2020	Graduate Summer Research Mentorship. <i>UCLA</i> (\$6000)
2016	Hurford Center Summer Research Fellow, <i>Haverford College</i> (\$4000)

Honors and Awards

2024	Graduate Student Paper Award, <i>ASA Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section</i>
2023	Student Paper Award—Published, <i>Society for the Scientific Study of Religion</i> .
2022	Department of Sociology Service Award, <i>UCLA</i>
2020	Department of Sociology Excellence in Teaching Award, <i>UCLA</i>
2018	Inducted Phi Beta Kappa, <i>Haverford College</i>
2018	Graduated Magna Cum Laude, <i>Haverford College</i>
2017	Hurford Center Undergraduate Fellow, <i>Haverford College</i>

Presentations

Invited Talks

Mar 2025	“How Many Things Can We Do with Language: Thinking with (and against) Searle’s Taxonomy of Speech Acts.” <i>Communication Department Colloquium Series, University of New Hampshire</i> .
Mar 2024	“Shifting Responsibility onto Coparticipants: Disaffiliative Accounts as an Interactional Practice.” <i>Language, Interaction, and Social Organization, University of California, Santa Barbara</i>
Sep 2019	“(Meta)Physicians: The Religious Foundations of Alternative Medicine” (with Benjamin Kaplow). <i>Comparative Research Working Group, Yale University</i>

Conference Presentations

Aug 2026	“Differentiating Regulative and Constitutive Normativity: Talcott Parsons, Harold Garfinkel and the Sticky Problem of Meaning.” <i>American Sociological Association. New York</i> .
Aug 2025	“Centralization without a Centralizer: The Unintended Consolidation of Authority at the International Mission Board (1979-2010).” <i>American Sociological Association. Chicago</i> .
Aug 2025	“Learning to Lie: Southern Baptists Working with and against the Chinese State, 1979-1992.” <i>Association for the Sociology of Religion. Chicago</i> .
Aug 2025	“Typical Expectations and the Moral Order: Talcott Parsons, Harold Garfinkel, and the Sticky Problem of Meaning.” <i>Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. Chicago</i> .

- Nov 2024 “Incurable Optimism about Getting What We Want: Anticipating Success in Everyday Requests” (with Giovanni Rossi and Tanya Stivers). *National Communication Association. New Orleans.*
- Nov 2024 Critic for *Revolution and Witchcraft: The Code of Ideology in Unsettled Times* by Gordon C. Chang. *Social Science History Association. Toronto.* [\[Link to Published Remarks\]](#)
- Nov 2024 “Don’t Over-Spiritualize It: Identifying the Relevance of Religion within Institutional Change Processes.” *Social Science History Association. Toronto.*
- Oct 2024 “What Do Missionaries Do All Day? Precarious Work in the Age of Covert Evangelism.” *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Pittsburgh.*
- Aug 2024 “Resisting the Innovator but Embracing the Innovation: Organizational Battles for Control over Novel Institutions.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Roundtable. Montreal.*
- Aug 2024 “Is the Mission Field a Liberalizing Work Environment?” *Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting. Montreal.*
- Nov 2023 “Blinded by the Light: How Movement Success Leaves Targeted Organizations Vulnerable to Unexpected Failures.” *Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC.*
- Aug 2023 “Who Will Represent Us? Disentangling the Sources of Disloyalty among Southern Baptist Conservatives, 1979–1993.” *Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting. Philadelphia.*
- Aug 2023 “The Magic Word? Oh Please: The Interactional Functions of Please in Requests” (with Giovanni Rossi and Tanya Stivers). *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia.*
- July 2023 “Shifting Responsibility onto Coparticipants: Disaffiliative Accounts as an Interactional Practice.” *International Conference on Conversation Analysis. Brisbane, Australia.*
- Nov 2022 “Biblical Authority in Interaction: The Case of an Evangelical Call-In Radio Show.” *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Baltimore.*
- Aug 2022 “God’s Time: Temporality in the Organization of Calls to Missions in the Southern Baptist Convention.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Roundtable. Los Angeles, California.*
- Aug 2021 “Ambiguities in Action Ascription” (with Tanya Stivers and Giovanni Rossi). *American Sociological Association. Online.*
- Nov 2019 “(Meta)Physicians: The Religious Foundations of Alternative Medicine” (with Benjamin Kaplow). *Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Chicago.*

Feb 2019 “The Birth of the Clone: The Development of Gay Masculinity in the United States, 1900-1980.” *Hawaii Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu.*

Teaching

Instructor

Introduction to Sociology (Ripon College)
Power and Privilege in the Workplace (Ripon College)
Sociology of Religion (Ripon College)
Sociology of Violence (Ripon College)

Teaching Assistant

Classical Social Theory (Haverford College)
Economic Sociology (UCLA)
Historical Sociology (UCLA)
Medical Sociology (UCLA)
Social Movements (UCLA)
Sociology of Gender (UCLA)
Sociology of Violence (UCLA)
Talk and Social Institutions (UCLA)

Reader

Contemporary Sociological Theory (UCLA)
Sociology of Family (UCLA)

Research Experience

2022-2024	Graduate Student Researcher, Sociology Department, <i>UCLA</i> Research Supervisors: Tanya Stivers and Giovanni Rossi.
2024	Graduate Student Researcher, Sociology Department, <i>UCLA</i> Research Supervisor: Stefan Timmermans.
2019	Graduate Student Researcher, Sociology Department, <i>UCLA</i> Research Supervisor: Stefan Timmermans.
2017	Student Research Assistant, Sociology Department, <i>Haverford College</i> Research Supervisor: Mark Gould.

Service

2025-2026	Distinguished Article Award Committee, <i>ASA Religion Section</i>
2025-2026	Volunteer—Policy Team. <i>Francesca Hong for Governor</i>

2022-2024	Information Officer, <i>ASA Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis Section</i>
2022-2023	Editorial Board Member. <i>Berkeley Journal of Sociology</i>
2021-2022	Student Coordinator, Conversation Analysis Working Group, Sociology Department, <i>UCLA</i>
2020-2021	Sociology Representative, Social Sciences Council, <i>UCLA</i>
2020-2021	Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, <i>UCLA</i>
2016	Student Representative, Sociology Faculty Search Committee, <i>Haverford College</i>
2015	Co-head, Sexuality and Gender Alliance, <i>Haverford College</i>

Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology; Humanities and Social Sciences Communications; Journal of Communication; Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour; Research on Language and Social Interaction; Review of Religious Research; Sociological Theory; Symbolic Interaction*

Media Appearances

Commentary or coverage of my research has appeared in Reader's Digest; The Times of India; Yahoo Life; New York Post; Daily Mail; La Dépêche du Midi; RTBF; CJOB; "A Little More Conversation with Ben O'Hara-Byrne" (Corus Radio); "Connect with Sarah Crosbie" (QR Calgary); Focus (Φokyc); Midi Libre; Index.hr; Phys.org; PerthNow; Malay Mail; and Deutschlandfunk Nova.

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion

American Sociological Association (*Sections*: Collective Behavior and Social Movements; Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis; Organizations Occupations, and Work; Political Sociology; Social Psychology; Sociology of Religion)

Association for the Sociology of Religion

International Society for Conversation Analysis

National Communication Association (*Divisions*: Language and Social Interaction; Interpersonal Communication; Group Communication; Philosophy of Communication, Theory and Critique; Organizational Communication).

Social Science History Association

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion