



## SACRED WRITES

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP ON RELIGION

### SACRED WRITES EXTENDED PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP ON RELIGION FELLOWSHIP

Sacred Writes is pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for our inaugural **Extended Public Scholarship on Religion Fellowship Program**, funded by the Luce/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs. This fellowship will offer **nine** untenured scholars of religion, a **six-month training program in public scholarship** consisting of an in-person intensive training session (January 13-15, 2024, at Northeastern University in Boston), additional online programming with a series of editors, and one-on-one writing coaching and editorial feedback. **All fellows will receive a \$1000 stipend**; and the program will also cover travel, food, and accommodations for the three-day in-person training at Northeastern University in Boston, January 13-15, 2024. We welcome applications from untenured scholars, working on or off the tenure track, who are committed to sharing their research with non-academic audiences. If you have a PhD in religious studies, theology, or related fields, and have not already completed a Sacred Writes public scholarship training, you are eligible to apply. Independent scholars, contingent faculty, and scholars working in applied religious studies are encouraged to apply, as are scholars from groups traditionally marginalized within and beyond the academy. Applications, which consist of completing a short Google form and a CV, are **due on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023**.

### ABOUT OUR TRAININGS

Sacred Writes: Public Scholarship on Religion, hosted by Northeastern University, is designed to address a gap between disciplinary expertise and effective communication strategies. Scholars of religion are in a unique position to provide crucial textual, cultural, and historical context for pressing current issues like health care legislation, climate change, and immigration reform. But most of us lack the training to do that sort of public-facing work. The Sacred Writes in-depth, cohort-based training program provides scholars with opportunities to acquire skills, identify resources, and build the communities of support necessary to produce public scholarship on religion. Our curriculum asks you to reflect on scholarly "vocation" and purpose, as well as to practice concrete skills. There are eight units: Why Go Public?; Risks, Rewards and Responsibilities; Rethinking Your Expertise; Communicating with the Public; Social Media; Op-Eds and Explainers; Interviews; and Next Steps. Since our founding in 2018, we have equipped 104 scholars to do this work, resulting in the creation of more than 400 pieces of public scholarship. You can see examples of work by training alums on our website, [sacred-writes.org](http://sacred-writes.org). The Extended Fellowship Program builds on these successes, combining the in-person delivery of our interactive media training with opportunities to meet and network with journalists, and the one-on-one mentoring necessary to bring ideas into fruition.

The program will run from **January through June 2024**, kicking off with the three-day Public Scholars Workshop, led by Sacred Writes Director Liz Bucar, Associate Director Brook Wilensky-Lanford, and award-winning audio journalist Jeb Sharp, who will also **record and produce a 10-minute interview** with each trainee using Northeastern's professional recording studio. Following this workshop, fellows will attend five monthly online seminars, featuring editors experienced working with religion scholars, including **Paul O'Donnell (Editor in Chief, Religion News Service)**, **Brett Krutzsch (Editor, *The Revealer*, NYU Center for Religion and Media)**, **Kalpna Jain (Editor, *The Conversation*)**, **Evan Derkacz, (Editor, *Religion Dispatches*)**, and **Nichola Menzie (Editor, *Faithfully*)**. At the same time, **monthly one-on-one coaching sessions** with Sacred Writes staff to provide editorial feedback, pitching assistance, and support. By the end of the six-month period, fellows will each be expected to produce **2-3 pieces for mainstream media outlets** based on their scholarly expertise.

### TO APPLY:

Visit our website, [sacred-writes.org](http://sacred-writes.org), for a link to the online application, or apply directly using [this Google form](#) **by Monday, November 13th**. Questions about this program may be directed to Sacred Writes Associate Director Brook Wilensky-Lanford, at [sacredwrites.neu@gmail.com](mailto:sacredwrites.neu@gmail.com).