

# Brian R. Clack BA, MSc, PhD

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## Personal

Name: Brian Richard Clack  
Email: [clack@sandiego.edu](mailto:clack@sandiego.edu)  
Country of Birth: United Kingdom

## Education

- 2003-2005 University College London (University of London): **MSc**  
Theoretical Psychoanalytic Studies, Distinction
- 1990-1994 King's College London (University of London): **PhD**  
Thesis: "Wittgenstein, Frazer and Religion."
- 1987-1990 King's College London (University of London): **BA (First Class Honours)**  
Religious Studies, First Class Honours  
Prizes: First Shelford Prize for History and Philosophy of Religion, 1990.  
Betty Wood Prize, 1990.

## Current Position

September 2007-present: Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of San Diego.

## Previous Academic Positions

- September 2004-August 2007: Lecturer in Liberal Arts and Assistant Director of Senior Courses, St Clare's, Oxford.
- September 1996-August 2004: Tutor in Philosophy, St Clare's, Oxford.
- 1995-1996: Lecturer in Philosophy (p/t), Heythrop College, University of London.
- 1994-1996: Tutor in Philosophical and Systematic Theology (p/t), University of Birmingham.

## Publications

### Books:

- *The Philosophy of Religion: A Critical Introduction* (with Beverley Clack), Oxford: Polity Press, 1998.
- *Wittgenstein, Frazer and Religion*, Basingstoke & London: Macmillan, 1999.
- *An Introduction to Wittgenstein's Philosophy of Religion*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999.
- *The Philosophy of Religion: A Critical Introduction (Revised and Fully Expanded Second Edition)* (with Beverley Clack), Cambridge & Malden: Polity Press, 2008.
- *Love, Drugs, Art and Religion: The Pains and Consolations of Existence*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 2014.

### Articles:

- 'D.Z.Phillips, Wittgenstein and Religion', *Religious Studies* vol.31 no.1, 1995, pp111-120.
- 'Wittgenstein and Expressive Theories of Religion', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* vol.40 no.1, 1996, pp47-61.
- 'Wittgenstein and Magic', in Robert Arrington and Mark Addis (eds.), *Wittgenstein and Philosophy of Religion*, London: Routledge, 2001, pp12-28.

- ‘Nietzsche’, ‘Scapegoat’ & ‘Wittgenstein’, in J.L. Houlden (ed.), *Jesus in History, Thought, and Culture: An Encyclopedia*, Oxford: ABC-Clio, 2003, pp.656-658, 752-755, 885-887.
- ‘Response to Phillips’, *Religious Studies*, vol.39 no.2, July 2003, pp203-209.
- ‘Paley’s Happy Fish: The Design Argument and Theistic Belief’, *Dialogue*, issue 21, November 2003, pp3-7.
- ‘Scapegoat Rituals in Wittgensteinian Perspective’, in Kevin Schilbrack (ed.), *Thinking through Rituals: Philosophical Perspectives*, London: Routledge, 2004, pp97-112.
- ‘Postscript’ (to Cyril Barrett’s ‘The Wittgensteinian Revolution’), in Harriet Harris and Christopher Insole (eds.), *Faith and Philosophical Analysis*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 2005, pp71-75.
- ‘The Philosophy of Religion in an Age of Terror: What is to be Done?’, *Religion Compass Exchanges*, 2008.
- ‘Freud and Religion: Dreams, Slips and the Unconscious’, *Dialogue*, issue 30, April 2008, pp13-19.
- ““At Home in the Uncanny”: Freud’s Account of *das Unheimliche* in the Context of his Theory of Religious Belief”, *Religion*, vol.38 no.3, 2008, pp250-258.
- ‘Freud and Religion: Wishes, Illusions and the Oedipus Complex’, *Dialogue*, issue 31, November 2008, pp13-17.
- ‘Cannabis and the Human Condition’, in Dale Jacquette (ed), *Cannabis and Philosophy*, Oxford: Blackwell, 2010, pp90-99
- ‘Religious Belief and the Disregard of Reality’, in Joseph Carlisle, James Carter & Daniel Whistler (eds.), *Moral Powers, Fragile Beliefs*, New York & London: Continuum, 2011, pp261-288.
- ‘Anthropology’, in Hans-Johann Glock & John Hyman (eds.), *The Blackwell Companion to Wittgenstein*, Oxford: Blackwell (forthcoming in 2014).
- ‘Belief/s’, in Robert Segal & Kocku von Stuckrad (eds.), *Vocabulary for the Study of Religion*, Leiden: Brill (forthcoming in 2014).

### **Reviews:**

- Donald Wiebe, *The Irony of Theology and the Nature of Religious Thought* (*Religious Studies* vol.31 no.1, 1992, pp120-122).
- Cyril Barrett, *Wittgenstein on Ethics and Religious Belief* (*Religious Studies* vol.31 no.4, 1992, pp577-579).
- Richard Worsley, *Human Freedom and the Logic of Evil* (*Reviews in Religion and Theology* 1996/3, pp43-46).
- Dinesh Bhugra (ed), *Psychiatry and Religion* (*Reviews in Religion and Theology* 1996/3, pp95-96).
- Graham Harvey & Charlotte Hardman (eds), *Paganism Today* (*Reviews in Religion and Theology* 1996/4, pp97-98).
- D.Z. Phillips (ed), *Rush Rhees on Religion and Philosophy* (*Modern Believing* 1998, pp66-67).
- Douglas Davies with Clare Drury, *Themes and Issues in Christianity* (*Expository Times* vol.109 no.8, 1998, pp248-249).
- Michael Palmer, *Freud and Jung on Religion* (*Religious Studies* vol.34 no.3, 1998, pp353-354).
- Thomas Best & Martin Robra (eds), *Ecclesiology and Ethics* and Reinhard Hutter & Theodor Dieter (eds), *Ecumenical Ventures in Ethics* (*Expository Times* vol.110 no.2, 1999, p62).
- Marcel Lieberman, *Commitment, Value and Moral Realism* (*Expository Times* vol.110 no.8, p268).
- Brian Davies (ed), *Philosophy of Religion: A Guide to the Subject* (*Modern Believing*, 1999).
- Keith Yandell, *Philosophy of Religion: A Contemporary Introduction* (*Expository Times* vol.111 no.1, 1999, p34).

- R.J.Hollingdale, *Nietzsche: The Man and his Philosophy* and Alistair Kee, *Nietzsche Against the Crucified* (*Expository Times* vol.111 no.9, 2000, p317).
- D.Z.Phillips, *Recovering Religious Concepts* (*Theology* vol.CIV no.818, 2001, pp141-142).
- Philip Clayton, *The Problem of God in Modern Thought* (*Expository Times*, vol.112 no.10, 2001, p355).
- Eugene Rogers (ed), *Theology and Sexuality* (*Expository Times* vol.114 no.3, 2002, pp103-104).
- Gwen Griffith-Dickson, *Human and Divine* (*Theology*, vol.CV no.823, 2002, pp61-62).
- Giles Fraser, *Redeeming Nietzsche* (*Theology*, vol.CVI, 2003).
- Robert Gibbs & Elliot Wolfson, *Suffering Religion* (*Expository Times* vol.115 no.5, 2004, pp177-178).
- William Lad Sessions, *Reading Hume's Dialogues* (*Expository Times* vol.115 no.7, 2004, p247).
- D.Z.Phillips & Mario von der Ruhr (eds), *Religion and Wittgenstein's Legacy* (*Ars Disputandi* vol.5, 2005).
- Andrew Dole & Andrew Chignell (eds), *God and the Ethics of Belief* (*Ars Disputandi* vol.6, 2006).
- T.W.Mawson, *Belief in God* (*Ars Disputandi* vol.6, 2006).
- Terrance Klein, *Wittgenstein and the Metaphysics of Grace* (*Theology*, vol.CXII no.866, 2009, pp155-156).
- Linda Zagzebski, *Philosophy of Religion: An Historical Introduction* (*Ars Disputandi*, vol.10, 2010).
- Charles Taliaferro & Chad Meister (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Philosophical Theology* (*Theology*, vol.CXIII no.876, 2010, pp466-467).
- M.W.F.Stone (ed.), *Reason, Faith and History: Philosophical Essays for Paul Helm* (*Modern Believing*, vol.52 no.4, 2011, pp71-72).
- Luigi Perissinotto and Vicente Sanfelix (eds), *Doubt, Ethics and Religion: Wittgenstein and the Counter-Enlightenment* (*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2011).
- Earl Stanley Fronda, *Wittgenstein's (Misunderstood) Religious Thought* (*Religious Studies*, vol.48, no. 1, 2012, pp. 269-273).
- Mikel Burley, *Contemplating Religious Forms of Life: Wittgenstein and D. Z. Phillips* (*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2013).
- ‘Book Notes’ in *Religious Studies*, vols.30-33, 1994-1997.

