

## Curriculum Vitae

**Thomas J. Coleman III**

Brain, Belief, and Behaviour Research Laboratory  
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### **Personal Information**

Born: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1984 – Annapolis Maryland  
Citizenship: United States of America

### **Education**

- Ph.D. candidate, Psychology, Coventry University, September 2016 to Sept-Oct 2020 (expected)
  - Thesis: *Testing Psychological Surrogates for Supernatural Belief*
  - Academic advisors: Jonathan Jong, Miguel Farias, and Valerie van Mulukom
- M.S., Psychology, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, August 2016
  - Thesis: *The Social Brain in Human and Religious Evolution: Elucidating the Role of Theory of Mind in (Non)Religious Belief*
  - Academic advisors: Ralph W. Hood Jr., Catherine Caldwell-Harris (Boston University), Jill T. Shelton, and Jenny M. Holcombe.
- B.S., *magna cum laude*, Psychology, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, May 2014

### **Honors and Awards**

- Graduate Student Co-Representative for the American Psychological Association Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Division 36 August 2015 – August 2017
- Assistant Editor for the journal *Secular Studies* April 2018 – present
- Assistant Editor for the journal *Secularism & Nonreligion* July 2014 – present
- Managing Editor for The Religious Studies Project, January 2016 – 2019
- Associate Editor for The Religious Studies Project, August 2019 – present
- Editor for The Religious Studies Project, 2015 – 2016
- Assistant Editor for The Religious Studies Project, December 2013 – 2015

- Graduate Advising Editor for the journal *Modern Psychological Studies* July 2014 – August 2015
- Director of the Ralph W. Hood Jr. Psychology of Religion Lab at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga December 2013 – July 2016
- Member - PSI CHI International Honor Society in Psychology
- Assistant Project Manager Position on the Bielefeld International Spirituality Research Study 2012 – 2014
- 2013 Duke University scholarship awardee for the Summer Research Course on Religion, Spirituality and Health
- 2013 International Association for the Psychology of Religion student scholarship fee waiver
- 2013 Center For Inquiry Student Leadership Conference travel scholarship
- 2012 Richard Dawkins Foundation scholarship awardee for the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry Convention

### **Research Interests**

Exploring multiple methodologies in the domains of qualitative and quantitative research focusing in the psychology and cognitive science of religion and atheism/nonbelief. Specific interests include theory of mind, philosophy and history of science, causal cognition, horizontal/vertical transcendence, terror management theory, spirituality, secularization, nonbelief, evolutionary psychology, narrative/biographical analysis and philosophical psychology.

### **Publications and Papers**

- Uzarevic, F., & Coleman, T. J. III. (2021) The psychology of nonbelievers. *Current Opinion in Psychology*.
- Coleman, T.J. III, Messick, K. J., & van Mulukom, V. (2021). New Cognitive and Cultural Evolutionary Approaches to Atheism. In J. Lane & Y. Lior (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Evolutionary Approaches to Religion*. Routledge.
- Coleman, T. J. III., Silver, C. F., & Jong, J., (in press) Serpent Handling: Toward a cognitive account. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*. [special issue in honor of Ralph E. Hood Jr.]
- Coleman, T. J. III & Jong, J. (2020). Counting the Nonreligious: A critical survey of new measures. In A. Ai, P. Wink, R. Paloutzian & K. Harris (Eds.), *Assessing spirituality and Religion in a Diversified World: Beyond Mainstream Perspective*. New York: Springer
- Farias, M., & Coleman III, T. J. (in press). Nonreligion, atheism, and mental health. In A. Moreira-Almeida, B. Mosqueiro & D. Bhugra, (Eds.) *Spirituality and Mental Health Across Cultures*. Oxford University Press.
- Coleman, T. J. III., Bartlett, J. E., Holcombe, J. M., Swanson, S. B., Atkinson, A., Silver, C. F., & Hood, R. W. Jr. (2019) Absorption, Mentalizing, and Mysticism: Sensing the presence of the Divine. *Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion*. doi: 10.1558/jcsr.37551 [special issue on religion and imagination edited by Valerie van Mulukom].

- Charles, S., Bartlett, J. E., Messick, K. J., & **Coleman, T. J. III.**, & Uzdavines, A. (2019) Researcher degrees of freedom in the psychology of religion. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 29:4, 230-245. doi:10.1080/10508619.2019.1660573
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Sevinç, K., Hood, R. W. Jr., & Jong, J. (2019). An atheist perspective on self-esteem and meaning making while under death awareness. *Secular Studies*. 1(2), pp 204-228. doi: 10.1163/25892525-00102002
- Coleman, T. J. III** & Messick, K. J. (2019) Keeping the secular deck intact. *Implicit Religion*. 22(1), pp 58-65. doi: 10.1558/imre.40119 [Peer commentary on the paper “Is Secularism A World Religion?” by D. Schaefer and C. Cotter].
- Ambasciano, L. & **Coleman, T. J. III**. (2019) History as a Canceled Problem? Hilbert Lists, du Bois-Reymond’s Enigmas, and the Scientific Study of Religion. *Journal for the American Academy of Religion*. doi: 10.1093/jaarel/lfz001
- Langston, J., Speed, D., & **Coleman, T. J. III**. (2020) Predicting age of atheism: Credibility enhancing displays and religious importance, choice, and conflict in family upbringing. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2018.1502678>
- Sevinç, K., **Coleman, T. J. III**, & Hood, R. W. Jr., (2018). Non-belief: An Islamic perspective. *Secularism & Nonreligion*. <https://doi.org/10.5334/snr.111>
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Jong, J., Van Mulukom, V. (2018) What are religious beliefs?. [editorial] *Contemporary Pragmatism*. (15) 3, pp. 279-283 doi:10.1163/18758185-01503001
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Hood, R. W. Jr., & Streib, H. (2018). An Introduction to Atheism, Agnosticism, & Non-Religious Worldviews. [editorial] *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*. 10 (3) doi: 10.1037/rel0000213
- Farias, M., **Coleman, T. J. III**, Bartlett, J., Oviedo, L., Soares, P., Santos, T., & Bas Cerdá, M. (2019). Atheists on the Santiago Way: Examining motivations to go on pilgrimage. *Sociology of Religion*. (80) 1, pp. 28-44 doi:10.1093/socrel/sry019
- Speed, D., **Coleman, T. J. III**, & Langston, J. (2018). What Do You Mean, “What Does It All Mean?” Atheism, Nonreligion, and Life Meaning. *SAGE Open*, 8(1), 215824401775423. doi:10.1177/2158244017754238
- Sevinç K., Metinyurt T., **Coleman, T. J. III** (2016). “What is Nonbelief?” An empirical research on the concept of nonbelief. *Turkish Journal of Religious Education Studies*, 4, pp 23-40.
- Sevinç, K., Hood, R. W. Jr., **Coleman, T. J. III**, (2017). Secularism in Turkey. In Zuckerman, P., & Shook, J. R., (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Secularism*. Oxford University Press.
- Arrowood, R. B., **Coleman, T. J. III**, Swanson, S. B., Hood, R. W. Jr., & Cox, C. R., (2018) Death, Quest, and Self-Esteem: Reexamining the role of self-esteem and religion following mortality salience. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2016.1238843>
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Silver, C. F., & Hood, R. W. Jr. (2016). “...if the universe is beautiful, we’re part of that beauty.” – A ‘Neither Religious nor Spiritual’ Biography as Horizontal Transcendence In Streib, H. & Hood, R. (Eds.) *Semantics and Psychology of Spirituality*. Dordrecht, NL: <sup>[1]</sup>~~Springer~~Springer. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-21245-6\_22
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Swahajor-Biesemann, A., Giamundo, D., Vance, C., Hood, R. W. Jr., & Silver, C. F. (2016). “Experimenting with ideologies...” – A “More Spiritual than Religious” Zen Buddhist In Streib, H. & Hood, R. (Eds.), *Semantics and Psychology of Spirituality*. Dordrecht, NL: Springer. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-21245-6\_21
- Keller, B., **Coleman, T. J. III**, & Silver, C. F. (2016). Narrative Reconstruction and Content Analysis in the Interpretation of “Spiritual” Biographical Trajectories for Case Studies In

- Streib, H. & Hood, R. (Eds.), *Semantics and Psychology of Spirituality*. Dordrecht, NL: Springer.
- Klein, C., Silver, C. F., Streib, H., Hood, R. W. Jr., **Coleman, T. J. III** (2016). Mysticism (the M-Scale) and “Spirituality” In Streib, H. & Hood, R. (Eds.), *The Semantics and Psychology of Spirituality*. Dordrecht, NL: Springer.
- Coleman, T. J. III**, & Hood, R. W. Jr., (2015). Reconsidering everything: From folk categories to existential theory of mind. [Peer commentary on the paper “From Weird Experiences to Revelatory Events” by A. Taves]. *Religion and Society: Advances in Research*, 6(1), 18–22.
- Coleman, T. J. III**, & Arrowood, R. B., (2015). Only We Can Save Ourselves: An atheists ‘salvation’. In Bacon, H., Dossett, W., & Knowles, S. (Eds.), *Alternative Salvations: Engaging the Sacred and the Secular* (pp. 11–20). London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Coleman, T. J. III**, (2015). Does the Atheist have a Theory of Mind? *Scientia Salon*. Retrieved from <https://scientiasalon.wordpress.com/2015/08/13/does-the-atheist-have-a-theory-of-mind/>
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Hood Jr., R., & Shook, J. (2015). An Introduction to Atheism, Secularity, and Science. *Science, Religion and Culture*, 2(3), 1-14.  
[doi:10.17582/journal.src/2015/2.3.1.14](https://doi.org/10.17582/journal.src/2015/2.3.1.14)
- Altınlı-Macić, M., & **Coleman, T. J. III**, (2015). Spirituality and Religion: An Empirical Study Using a Turkish Muslim Sample. In Z. Agilkaya-Sahin, H. Streib, A. Ayten & R. Hood (Eds.), *Psychology of Religion in Turkey* (pp. 161–176). Leiden: Brill. doi: 10.1163/9789004290884\_008
- Silver, C. F., **Coleman, T. J. III**, Hood, R. W. Jr., & Holcombe, J. M., (2014) The Six Types of Nonbelief: A qualitative and quantitative study of type and narrative. *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*. 17 (10), pp. 990-1001.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13674676.2014.987743>
- Silver, C. F., **Coleman, T. J. III**, & Hood, R. W. Jr. (2015) Legacy: Who is Jack Shand? [Invited]. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.
- Coleman, T. J. III**, Silver, C. F., & Holcombe, J. (2013) Focusing on Horizontal Transcendence: much more than a “non-belief”. *Essays in The Philosophy of Humanism*. 21 (2), pp. 1-18. doi:10.1558/eph.v21i2.1
- Coleman III, Thomas J.** (2013) The Secular Reality: A Response to Pratt’s “Durkheimian Dread”. The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series.  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2013/02/06/the-secular-reality-by-thomas-jcoleman-iii/>

### **Under Review**

- Speed, D., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, Galen, L., & Hwang, K. (under review) In Doubt and Disbelief – How Mrdjenovich 2018 Misunderstands the (Non)Religion and Health Relationship
- van Mulukom, V., Baimel, A., Maraldi, E., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, & Farias, M. (under review) Dual-processing and supernatural beliefs: The relationship between intuitive thinking and belief in psychic ability.
- van Mulukom, V., Turpin, H., Purzycki, B. G., Haimila, R., Bendixen, T., Kundtová Klocová, E., Řezníček, D., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, Maraldi, E., Sevinç, K., Schjoedt, U., Rutjens, B.,

Farias, M. (2020). *Secular Worldviews*. Manuscript in preparation. Retrieved from [osf.io/9ma5u](https://osf.io/9ma5u)

Sevinç, K., **Coleman, T. J. III.** & Farias, M. (under review) Exploring perceptions of religion and science among Turkish academics

### **Grants Awarded**

- American Psychological Association Division 36 Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality 2017 Research Seed Grant for *Theory of Mind and the Psychological Surrogates of Supernatural Belief* PI: Thomas J. Coleman III. Funding: \$964
- Sir John Templeton Foundation - *Developmental Change in Spirituality: Longitudinal study of faith biographies, religious schemata and their psychological correlates and predictors* (Project Manager for the U.S.) PI: Heinz Streib, October 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017. Funding: €158,932 #52249
- Sir John Templeton Foundation - *Discerning Jesus in the Mind's Eye* (Lab Manager) PI: Jeff Larsen, August 1, 2014 – January 1, 2017. Funding: \$253,305 #51968
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) for 2014 SSSR Conference Funding: \$9,000 (Ralph W. Hood Jr., Christopher F. Silver, & Thomas J. Coleman III)

### **Courses Taught**

- Grand Valley State University, 2019-2020 Visiting Professor of Psychology, Introduction to Psychology 101 and Research Methods in Psychology 300, August 2019–May 2020
- Chattanooga State Community College, Introduction to Psychology 1030, January–May 2019
- The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Introduction to Psychology 1010, August–December 2018
- Coventry University, Research into Human Behaviour workshop 1003PY, January–April 2018
- Coventry University, Investigating Psychological Approaches to Crime workshop 1003PC, January–April 2018
- Coventry University, Qualitative Techniques and Research Design for Psychologists 256PY, January–May 2017
- Coventry University, Research and Academic Skills 122PY, September–December 2016
- Coventry University, Sciences of the Mind workshop 250PY, September–December 2016
- The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Modern Psychological Studies PSY 3580R, August 2014–May 2015
- United States Sailing Association Level II Certified Instructor (2003–2015) (Taught beginning through advanced sail boat racing to children and young adults)

### **In Preparation**

- Modelling Analytic Atheism (Coleman, Lindeman, Lane, & Shults)
- Analytic Atheism (Project lead: Marjaana Lindeman, with [in alphabetical order] Thomas J. Coleman III; Tom Flynn; Justin E. Lane; F. Leron Shults)
- Misattributions of belief in religiously motivated morality. (Galen, Coleman, & Corker)

- Toward Godlessness: A confirmatory coding scheme of how and why people become atheists (Project lead: Joseph Langston, with [in alphabetical order] Robin Allen; Melanie Brewster; Thomas J. Coleman III; Dan Delaney; Karen Hwang; John Marriott; and Sally Swanson)
- The construction and preliminary validation of the “H-Scale”: Measuring humanism as a nonreligious worldview. (Coleman, Holcombe, Silver, Swanson, van Mulukom, Jong, & Hood)

### **Book Reviews**

- Coleman, T. J. III, (2019). (Review) Psychological Perspectives on Religion and Religiosity. *Science, Religion & Culture*
- Coleman, T. J. III (2016) Review of Settling the Earth: The Archaeology of Deep Human history by Clive Gamble. *Journal of Cognitive Historiography*, doi: [10.1558/jch.34137](https://doi.org/10.1558/jch.34137)
- Coleman, T. J. III (2016) [Review of *Can science explain religion: The cognitive science debate* by James W. Jones]. *Review of Religious Research*. doi:10.1007/s13644-016-0257-2
- Coleman, T.J. III, (2014). Review of Big Gods: How Religion Transformed Cooperation and Conflict. *Secularism and Nonreligion* 3:2, doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/snr.an>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2013). (Review) Mental Culture: Classical Social Theory and the Cognitive Science of Religion. Edited by D. Xygalatas and W. McCorkle Jr., Durham: Acumen Publishing Ltd., 2013, *British Association for the Study of Religions BASR Bulletin*, No. 123, 20-21
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2015). (Review) The Evolving God: Charles Darwin on the Naturalness of Religion. *Science, Religion & Culture* 2:2, 39-41

### **Refereed Online / Newsletter Publications**

- Coleman, T. J. III, Bradley, D. F., & Uzdevaines, A. W. (2016) Towards a psychology of nonreligion within a psychology of religion? American Psychological Association Division 36, Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Newsletter. <http://www.apadivisions.org/division-36/publications/newsletters/religion/2016/03/nonreligion.aspx>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2015) Religion as a cognitively natural universal: “religion” and “science” aren’t that interesting. Bulletin for the Study of Religion blog. <http://www.equinoxpub.com/blog/2015/01/religion-as-a-cognitively-natural-universal-religion-and-science-arent-that-interesting/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2015) Theory & Religion Series: Ann Taves’ Religious Experience Reconsidered in the study of atheism. Bulletin for the Study of Religion blog. <http://www.equinoxpub.com/blog/2015/01/theory-religion-series-ann-taves-religious-experience-reconsidered-in-the-study-of-atheism/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2013) Implicit Frameworks: The Tyrannical Hegemonic Discourse. The Nonreligion & Secularity Research Network Official Blog, Methods and Methodologies. <http://blog.nsrn.net/2013/11/01/implicit-frameworks-the-tyrannical-hegemonic-discourse/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2014) The 2014 SSSR Annual Meeting: A Testament to the Growing Popularity and Importance of Secularism and Nonreligion Research. The Nonreligion & Secularity Research Network Official Blog, Upcoming Event.



<http://blog.nsrn.net/2014/07/09/the-2014-sssr-annual-meeting-a-testament-to-the-growing-popularity-and-importance-of-secularism-and-nonreligion-research/>

### **Refereed Conference Presentations**

- Bradley, D. F. & **Coleman, T. J. III.**, (2020, August) Perceptions of the well-being of atheists and religionists. Poster, 2020 meeting of the American Psychological Association, Division 36 Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality, Washington D.C.
- Coleman, T. J. III, Jong, J., Preston, J. L., van Mulukom, V., & Farias, M., (2018, August) The salutary effects of “nonreligious” beliefs: Empirical problems for the scientific study of “religion”? Presentation conducted at the 2018 7<sup>th</sup> biennial meeting of the International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion, Boston, USA.
- Coleman, T. J. III, Galen, L., Maley, M., & Skubick, S., (2018, august) Endorsement of religious prosociality stereotypes predicts attributions of religious moral motivation. Poster, 2018 7<sup>th</sup> biennial meeting of the International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion, Boston, USA
- Shults, F. L., Lindeman, M., **Coleman, T.J. III.**, & Lane, J. (2018, July) Analyzing analytic worldviews: Particularizing nonreligion through computer modeling and simulation. Presentation conducted at the 2018 Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network conference, London, United Kingdom.
- Coleman, T. J. III, Jong, J., van Mulukom, V., & Farias, M., (2017, August) What do nonbelievers believe?: Exploring the belief replacement hypothesis. In K. Messick and M. Farias (organizers) Understanding Unbelief Symposium conducted at the 2017 International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Hamar, Norway.
- Uzdavines, A., Hill, P., **Coleman, T.J. III.**, Gibson, N. J., & Stauner, N. (2017, August) Open Science Ideals, Practices, and Dissemination within the International Psychology of Religion Community. Presentation conducted at the 2017 International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Hamar, Norway.
- Coleman, T. J. III, Speed, D., & Langston, J., (2017, April) God don’t make a difference: Atheism, theism, and meaning in life. In J. Grubbs and A. Sedlar (organizers) *Struggle and the Skeptical Mind: Examining Nonbelief, Religious and Spiritual Struggle, and Meaning* Symposium conducted at the 2017 American Psychological Association, Division 36 Midyear Conference, Chattanooga, TN.
- Coleman, T. J. III., van Mulukom, V., Holcombe, J., Silver, C. F., Swanson, S., Hood., R. W. Jr., & Jong, J., (2017, March) The Humanism Scale: Measuring nonreligious worldviews. In T. Coleman and V. van Mulukom (organizers) *Whence Atheism? Beliefs, Reasons, and Control in Nonbelief* Symposium conducted at the 2017 International Convention for Psychological Science, Vienna, Austria
- Coleman, T. J. III., Silver, C. F., & Jong, J., (2016, October) Good Heavens! Cognitive Explanations for why on Earth Anyone Would Handle Serpents. In T. Coleman (organizer) *Poison, Fire, and Venom: Multidisciplinary perspectives on ‘sign following believers’* Symposium conducted at the 2016 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Atlanta, USA
- Coleman, T. J. III., Swanson, S. B., & Guevara, C., (2016, October) Framing Special Experiences: A longitudinal study of nonreligious worldviews. In B. Keller (organizer)

- Faith Development and Religious Styles 1: Results from Longitudinal Research* symposium conducted at the 2016 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Atlanta, USA
- Coleman, T. J. III., Hood, R. W. Jr., Holcombe, J. M., Swanson, C. J., & Giamundo, D. (2016, August) When Shiva Talks Back: Absorption, mentalizing, and mysticism. Poster session presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> biennial meeting of the International Association for the cognitive Science of Religion, Vancouver, Canada.
- Jong, J., van Mulukom, V., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, & Farias, M. (2016, July) What do atheists believe? Some meaningful answers to a silly question. Paper presentation for the conference "A Postsecular Age? New Narratives of Religion, Science, and Society," Oxford, United Kingdom.
- Arrowood, R. B., Swanson, S. B., Weber, J., Nida, A., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, & Hood, R. W. Jr. (2016, March) Dead Tired: Too Depleted for Worldview Defense. Poster session presented at the 2016 Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Coleman, T. J. III., Caldwell-Harris, C., Arrowood, R. B., & Hood, R. W. Jr. (2015, December) Can CSR explain atheism, using theory of mind? Contributing speaker for the "Workshop: Explaining Religion. Cognitive Science of Religion and Naturalism," Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Arrowood, R. B., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, & Hood, R. W. Jr., (2016, January) Self-esteem and meaning making while under death awareness: An atheist perspective. Poster session presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Arrowood, R. A., **Coleman, T. J. III.**, Swanson, S. B. (2015, October) Death Induced Optimism: The Effects of Mortality Salience on Optimistic Religious Belief and Religious Adherence. In R. Arrowood (organizer), *Religion's Role in Terror Management Theory*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Newport Beach, CA.
- Coleman, T. J. III., Hood, R. W. Jr., Caldwell-Harris, C., Arrowood, R. B., Silver, C. F. (2015, October) Mentalizing and Atheism: Does Theory of Mind Matter? In T. Coleman (organizer) *Belief and Nonbelief are Complex: Longitudinal, Demographical, and Cognitive Perspectives*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Newport Beach, CA.
- Coleman, T. J. III., (2015, October) Identity is Complex: On Becoming a "Spiritual" and "Religious" "Atheist." In B. Keller (organizer) *Changes in Religion and Worldview: Longitudinal Perspectives*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Newport Beach, CA.
- Coleman, T. J. III. (Chair; 2015, August) Atheism: Psychological Perspectives - Secularism & Nonreligion Journal Symposia. Symposium conducted at the 2015 International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Istanbul, Turkey.
- Coleman, T. J. III. (2015, August) Changes in Mystical and Special Experience: Case study of an atheist and a believer. In R. Hood (Chair), *Change in Spiritual Self-Identification, Mysticism, and Psychological Well-Being*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Istanbul, Turkey.
- Coleman, T. J. III & Arrowood, R. B. (2015, April) Only We Can Save Ourselves: An atheists 'salvation.' In L. miles (Chair), *From Serpents to Spirituality: Religion and Cultural Change in the South*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the Southern Anthropology Society, Athens, GA.



- Coleman, T. J. III, Hood, R. W. Jr., Caldwell-Harris, C., & Durham, M. (2015, March) Inside the Atheist Mind: Theory of mind and mentalizing in nonbelievers. In A. Uzdavines (Chair), *Religious and Spiritual Cognition: Not Just for Believers! Hypothetical Divine Images, Theory of Mind, and Spiritual Struggles among Nonbelievers*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Division 36 Midyear Conference, Provo, UT.
- Cognitive Science, Memory, and Religion (2014, November 20: Thomas J. Coleman III - Convener) Symposium at the Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network 3rd International Conference, Claremont, CA
- Nielsen, M., Coleman, T. J. III, Wulff, D., (2014, November) *Author-Meets-Critics: Psychological Perspectives on Religion and Religiosity (Routledge, 2015)*, by Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi. Presented at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, October) Nailed with No Cross: Exploring Atheism in the Cognitive Science of Religion. In B. Kosmin (Chair), *Secularism & nonreligion Journal—Panel on Atheism and Secularism*. Symposium conducted at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Holcombe, J., Sticher, M., Vance, C., Coleman, T. J. III., Silver, C., (2014, October) *More Human than Human: Psychometric Validation of a Short Form Humanism Scale, Findings and Implications*. Paper presented at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Sevinc, K. & Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, October) *Non-Religion: An Islamic Perspective*. Paper presented at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Wollert, M., & Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, November) Growing in Faith: case Studies of Religious Spiritualities. In R. Hood (Chair), *The Semantic Surplus of Self-Attributed "Spirituality."* Symposium conducted at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Silver, C., Hood, R., Keller, B., Klein, C., Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, November 1) Reframing "Spirituality": Mystical Experience, Openness to Experience, and Religious Styles as Characteristics of Spiritual Self-Identification. In R. Hood (Chair), *The Semantic Surplus of Self-Attributed "Spirituality."* Symposium conducted at the 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Guthrie, S. E. (2014, May 11) (Coleman, T. J. III, Chair), *A cognitive theory of religion: Biology, anthropomorphism and evolutionary epistemology*. Plenary lecture presented at the Cognitive science of religion, philosophy and theology conference, Oxford, United Kingdom.
- Silver, C. F. & Coleman, T. J. III (2013, July 31) Empirical Explorations of Spirituality Panel presented at the American Psychological Association 2013 Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI.
- Silver, C. F., Coleman, T. J. III, Keller, B., Klein, C, Hood, R. W. Jr. & Streib, H (2013, August) Religious and spiritual identity within the domain of "spiritual but not religious", psychometric comparisons and theoretical implications. In R. Hood & B. Keller (Chairs), *"Spirituality" in Germany and the United States: New Results on the Semantic, Psychological and Biographical Perspectives*. Symposium conducted at the 2013

International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Coleman, T. J. III, Hood, R. W. Jr & Silver, C. F. (2013, August) *Horizontal and Vertical Transcendence; A theory, the paradigm, and research*. Paper presented at the 2013 International Association for the Psychology of Religion World Congress, Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **Invited Presentations**

Coleman, T. J. III, (2017, February) *Theory of Mind and the Psychological Surrogates of Supernatural Belief*. Invited symposia, at the Center for Psychology of Religion, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

Coleman, T. J. III, (2016, February) *Why Religion is Natural and Atheism is Not (And what does this really mean anyhow?)*. Invited presentation, at The Chattanooga Humanist Assembly, Chattanooga, TN.

Coleman, T. J. III, (2015, September) *The Six Types of Nonbelief*. Invited presentation, Heritage Homeschool Group, Thompson Station, TN.

Coleman, T. J. III, (2015, July) *The Cognitive Science of Belief and Non-belief*. Invited presentation, Rationalists of East Tennessee Freethought Advance, Townsend, TN.

Silver, C. F. & Coleman, T. J. III, (2014 November) *Legacy: Who was Jack Shand?* Invited plenary address, 2014 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, May) *The Six Types of Nonbelief*. Invited presentation for the Psychology Seminar Series, Glyndwr University, United Kingdom.

Coleman, T. J. III, (2014, April) *Outside the In-Group: Prayer, Politics and the Separation of Church and State in Hamilton County, Tennessee*. Invited presentation at The Chattanooga Humanist Assembly, Chattanooga, TN.

### **Current Projects and Research**

- Research Assistant, Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Oxford February 2018 – April 2018 (on contract; supervisor Jonathan Jong
- The Understanding Unbelief Programme, hosted at University of Kent. December 2018, Conducted qualitative interviews for project (supervisor Stephen Bullivant).
- Research Assistant, Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Oxford August 2017 – November 2017 (on contract; supervisors Michael Buhmester and Martha Newson)
- Primary Investigator for the USA, [Bielefeld-Chattanooga](#) Longitudinal Study of Religious Development December 2014–present.
- Guest Editor, “Special Issue: Atheism, Secularity, and Science” in the journal *Science, Religion & Culture*, 2 (3) with Co-Editors John R. Shook and Ralph W. Hood Jr.
- Statistician for United Theological Seminary D.Min. candidate, Harold Wetherbee, for “Inner Healing (Divine Prayer) with Inmates in Jail” May 2015–June 2015
- Co-investigator with Kenan Sevinc, Formation and Development of Religious Unbelief in the Psychosocial Perspective. September 2014–January 2015

- Assistant to 2014 Society for the scientific Study of Religion Program Chair Ralph W. Hood Jr.
- Faith Development Research Consultant for Liberty University PhD. candidate, Winnie Gray White, for “Christian music experiences in the faith development of adolescents: A phenomenological study”, January 2014–May 2014.
- Teaching Assistant for Dr. David Ross social psychology 3310 University of Tennessee at Chattanooga spring 2014 semester.
- Project Manager for “Islamic Acculturation in America” with UTC graduate researcher Hadia Ghazi, May 2013–2016.
- Research Coordinator for “The Effects of Cognitive Load and Stereotypic Thinking on the Interpretation of Religious Experience” with Matthew C. Durham and Christopher F. Silver, May 2013–present.
- Project Manager for a study of “Non-Belief in America” with Christopher F. Silver, November 2012–June 2013.
- Project Manager for the USA, conducting research on spirituality and altruism in blood donors for visiting Turkish scholar Sevdenur Duzguner with Ralph W. Hood Jr., April 2013–August 2013.
- Assistant Project manager for the USA, “The Semantics and Psychology of Spirituality” with Heinz Streib, Barbara Keller and Ralph W. Hood Jr., June 2012–August 2014.

### **Conference Reports**

- Coleman, T. J. III, Event Report: Atheism research at the 2015 IAPR World Congress (2015, October 19), The Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network Blog.  
<http://blog.nsrn.net/2015/10/19/event-report-atheism-research-at-the-2015-iapr-world-congress/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, Back in the SSSR: Reflections on the 2013 SSSR/RRA (2013, November 20), The Religious Studies Project.  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/2013/11/20/back-in-the-sssr-reflections-on-the-2013-sssr-r-r-a-conference-by-thomas-j-coleman-iii/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, Back in the SSSR: Reflections on the 2013 SSSR/RRA (reprinted, May 2014), British Association for the study of Religions, BASR Bulletin No. 124  
[http://basr.religiousstudiesproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/BULLETIN\\_124.pdf](http://basr.religiousstudiesproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/BULLETIN_124.pdf)

### **The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series**

- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), David Speed (interviewee) (2019, April) “Nonreligion, Religion, and Public Health,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*,  
<https://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/nonreligion-religion-and-public-health/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Ingela Visuri (interviewee) (2018, February) “Autism, Religion, and Imagination,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*,  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/autism-religion-and-imagination/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Luke Galen (interviewee) (2017, April) “Misplaced Faith? A theory of supernatural as misattribution,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*,  
<http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/misplaced-faith-a-theory-of-supernatural-belief-as-misattribution/>

- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Jonathan Jong (interviewee) (2016, April) "DEATH, Religion, and Terror Management Theory," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/death-religion-and-terror-management-theory/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Bob McCauley (interviewee) (2016, February) "Method and Theory in the Cognitive Sciences of Religion," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/method-and-theory-in-the-cognitive-sciences-of-religion/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Claire White (interviewee) (2016, February) "See You in the Next Life? Cognitive Foundations of Reincarnation Beliefs," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/see-you-in-the-next-life-cognitive-foundations-of-reincarnation-beliefs/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Luke Galen (interviewee) (2015, June) "Is Religion Special? A Critical Look at Religion, Wellbeing and Prosociality," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/is-religion-special-a-critical-look-at-religion-wellbeing-and-prosociality/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Jonathan Lanman (interviewee) (2015, May) "'Practice What You Preach': CREDs and CRUDs," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/practice-what-you-preach-creds-and-cruds/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), David Sloan Wilson (interviewee) (2015, April) "Religion as an Evolutionary Organism," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/religion-as-an-evolutionary-organism/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Will Gervais (interviewee) (2015, April) "God's Mind, Your Mind, and Theory of Mind," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/gods-mind-your-mind-and-theory-of-mind/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Phil Zuckerman and John Shook (interviewees) (2015, January) "Understanding the Secular, with Phil Zuckerman and John Shook," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/understanding-the-secular-with-phil-zuckerman-and-john-shook/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Tanya Luhrmann (interviewee) (2014, December) "Prayer, Pretense, and Personification: How God becomes real, with Tanya Luhrmann," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/prayer-pretense-and-personification-how-god-becomes-real-with-tanya-luhrmann/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Andrew Johnson (interviewee) (2014, September) "Os serés matáves: An Interview on Pentecostalism in the Prisons of Rio," with Dr. Andrew Johnson, *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/os-seres-mataves-pentecostalism-in-the-prisons-of-rio-with-dr-andrew-johnson/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Kevin Ladd (interviewee) (2014, May) "The Psychology of Prayer: An interview with Kevin Ladd," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/the-psychology-of-prayer-an-interview-with-kevin-ladd/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Dimitris Xygalatas (interviewee) (2014, April) "The Burning Saints, Fire-Walking Rituals of the Anastenaria: An interview with Dimitris Xygalatas," *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*,

- <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/the-burning-saints-fire-walking-rituals-of-the-anastenaria-an-interview-with-dimitris-xygalatas/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Tatjana Schnell (interviewee) (2014, April) “Sources of Meaning and Meaning in Life – An interview with Tatjana Schnell,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/sources-of-meaning-and-meaning-in-life-an-interview-with-tatjana-schnell/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Harold Koenig (interviewee) (2014, March), “‘Religion, Spirituality and Health’ – An interview with Dr. Harold Koenig,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/religion-spirituality-and-health-an-interview-with-dr-harold-koenig/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Ara Norenzayan (interviewee) (2014, March), “Ara Norenzayan on ‘Big Gods: How Religion Transformed Cooperation and Conflict’,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/ara-norenzayan-on-big-gods-how-religion-transformed-cooperation-and-conflict/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Robert N. McCauley (interviewee) (2014, February), “‘Religion is Natural and Science is Not’, an interview with Robert McCauley,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/religion-is-natural-and-science-is-not-an-interview-with-robert-mccauley/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Stewart Guthrie (interviewee) (2014, February), “‘Religion as Anthropomorphism’, an interview with Stewart Guthrie,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/religion-as-anthropomorphism-an-interview-with-stewart-guthrie/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Tom Flynn (interviewee) (2014, January), “Tom Flynn on ‘Secular Humanism,’” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/tom-flynn-on-secular-humanism/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, (interviewer), Russell T. McCutcheon (interviewee) (2014, January), “Russell McCutcheon on ‘religion’ as ‘sui generis’,” *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/russell-mccutcheon-on-religion-as-sui-generis/>
- Coleman, T. J. III, Silver, C. F. (moderators), Brandt, P. Y., Hood, R. W. Jr., & Streib, H. (discussants) (2013, August). “RSP Psychology of Religion Participatory Panel Special,” conducted at the 2013 International Association for the Psychology of Religion world congress in Lausanne, Switzerland. *The Religious Studies Project Podcast Series*, <http://www.religiousstudiesproject.com/podcast/rsp-psychology-of-religion-participatory-panel-special/>

### **Ad-hoc Peer Review**

- *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*
- *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*
- *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*
- *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*
- *Journal for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*
- *Secular Studies*

- *Secularism & Nonreligion*
- *Sage Open* [reviewer and Article Editor]
- *Religio: Revue pro religionistiku*
- *Critical Research on Religion*
- *Science, Religion & Culture*
- *Review of General Psychology*
- *Contemporary Pragmatism*
- *Springer Publishing*

### **Other service work and public engagement**

- Co-host of the Unlikely Academics Podcast: <http://www.theunlikelyacademic.com/>
- Moderator for the “Psychology and Religion in the UK” Listserv
- Co-Moderator for the cognitive science of religion (CSR) Listserv

### **Professional Associations (student memberships)**

- American Psychological Association
- Association for Psychological Science
- International Association for the Psychology of Religion
- International Association for the Cognitive Science of Religion
- Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality division 36
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

### **Media Interviews**

- *Humanist Matters*, hosted by Dr. John R. Shook on the New Covenant Group, June, 9<sup>th</sup> 2014  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fS3aE1BFgz4&list=UUaNdPSgemrUrr4yO\\_8AQsww](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fS3aE1BFgz4&list=UUaNdPSgemrUrr4yO_8AQsww)
- International Association for the Psychology of Religion Newsletter, January 2014, featured in ‘*Spreading the news*’ section <http://psychology-of-religion.com/newsletter-1/>
- Dr. Ralph W. Hood Jr. & Thomas Coleman on *The Place* hosted by Dr. Michael Jones, Dr. John R. Shook & Christopher Maute February 9<sup>th</sup> 2013  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXnzerUbN5o>
- "The naturalness of religious beliefs" *Meeting of the Minds* hosted by Christopher Maute (John Shook and Thomas Coleman) [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_1YhFv2qsoY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1YhFv2qsoY)
- "The six types of non-belief" *Meeting of the Minds* hosted by Christopher Maute (Christopher Silver and Thomas Coleman) <https://www.youtube.com>
- CNN<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup><http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2013/07/15/the-six-types-of-atheists/>  
<sup>2</sup><http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2013/07/18/the-story-behind-the-six-types-of-atheists-study/>
- The Raw Story  
<http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2013/07/02/atheism-study-authors-congratulations-non-believers-youre-just-like-everybody-else/>
- The Christian Post



- <http://www.christianpost.com/news/researchers-ritual-atheists-and-agnostics-could-be-sitting-next-to-you-in-church-99373/>
- University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Public Relations Office  
<http://blog.utc.edu/news/2013/07/professor-and-student-label-six-types-of-non-believers/>
- WTVC News Channel 9  
<http://www.newschannel9.com/news/top-stories/stories/utc-professor-defines-6-types-atheism-6313.shtml>
- Times Free Press  
<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2013/jul/30/study-finds-diverse-world-of-atheism/>

### **Media Contacts**

- Real Clear Science  
[https://www.realclearscience.com/quick\\_and\\_clear\\_science/2018/02/01/where\\_do\\_atheists\\_get\\_meaning\\_in\\_life.html](https://www.realclearscience.com/quick_and_clear_science/2018/02/01/where_do_atheists_get_meaning_in_life.html)
- PsyPost  
<https://www.psypost.org/2018/08/how-parents-act-on-their-religious-beliefs-linked-to-the-onset-of-atheism-in-their-children-52058>  
[https://www.psypost.org/2011/04/life-expectancy-discourages-religious-5072?utm\\_source=TrendMD&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=PsyPost\\_TrendMD\\_0](https://www.psypost.org/2011/04/life-expectancy-discourages-religious-5072?utm_source=TrendMD&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=PsyPost_TrendMD_0)
- Religion News Service  
<http://www.religionnews.com/2014/06/09/academic-activist-apatheist-kind-unbeliever/>
- The Huff Post  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/13/atheist-study\\_n\\_3587748.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=religion](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/13/atheist-study_n_3587748.html?utm_hp_ref=religion)
- The Guardian  
[http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2013/jul/15/six-types-of-atheist?post\\_id=1381390701\\_10200221457284066#\\_](http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2013/jul/15/six-types-of-atheist?post_id=1381390701_10200221457284066#_)
- Alternet  
<http://www.alternet.org/belief/6-types-atheists-and-non-believers-america>
- Freethought Today  
<http://ffrf.org/publications/freethought-today/item/19310-where-do-you-fall-on-the-%E2%80%98nonbelief%E2%80%99-scale>
- The Washington Post <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/on-faith/wp/2013/07/31/varieties-of-atheist-experience/>