

Call for Papers: Confluences: Religion, Health, and Communities in the American Heartland, October 15-16, 2021

Religion plays a role in almost every aspect of life in Missouri. We seek abstracts for single papers and paper sessions that examine religious diversity in Missouri the role of religion in healthcare in the Midwest for an interdisciplinary conference celebrating religious diversity. Hosted by the Department of Religious Studies and the Department of Black Studies at the University of Missouri, this two-day virtual conference is free and open to the public. Presenters should frame their research in a way that will be accessible to the general public. This conference seeks to examine the role of religion in Missouri, and will include sessions dedicated to exploring religion and health in the state. The conference is funded by a Tier 3 Grant from the University of Missouri System, and there is no cost to participants. Presenters will have the opportunity to publish their work in an edited essay collection. Early career researchers and graduate students are encouraged to participate.

Papers may address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Religion and health in Missouri, in contemporary or historical perspectives
- Religious diversity in Missouri in contemporary or historical perspectives
- Religion and traditional healing in Missouri
- Missouri folk medicine
- African-American healing traditions in Missouri
- Native American healing traditions in Missouri
- New Age healing traditions in Missouri
- Faith and healing in Missouri
- Religion and mental health in Missouri
- Religious responses to epidemics in Missouri
- Undergraduate research session

We welcome individual paper proposals as well as proposals for pre-arranged panels and paper sessions. Send 300 word abstracts including the paper title, the presenter's name, affiliation, a 250 word bio, audio-visual requests, and contact information to Dr. Rabia Gregory (gregoryra@missouri.edu) with the subject heading "Confluences Conference" by May 17, 2021. Applicants will be notified by June 14, 2021. Each presentation is limited to 20 minutes.